



THE WINNING FINESSE

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by Ed Rawlinson.*

In 2007, with \$110,000 in the bank, Unit 172 was in its best financial shape ever. Members frequently expressed the view that it was unnecessary to maintain that level of funding and that the Board should start spending it for the benefit of the membership. The Board responded to that message with a variety of actions: free Unit games, a \$500 prize budget for most Unit games, payment of entries for Unit 172 members at the District GNT and NAP competition, addition of three new Unit games, payment of ACBL dues for first-time new members, increased pay for directors of Unit games, and increased support to clubs (by increased rent for Unit games, increased allocation of sectional tournaments to clubs, increased reimbursement to clubs for the mentor program, and a payment to clubs as "reimbursement" of lost revenue during the regional).

Although it was, as the saying goes, "fun while it lasted", the financial result of these actions is that our fund balance is down to \$64,000. There is an established negative cash flow pattern. In 2010, expenditures exceeded revenue by \$19,000. In odd-numbered years, we have a regional which is our primary source of revenue. Even with this revenue, we would have a negative cash flow in 2011 of \$5,000 to \$10,000 if we maintained current practices. 2012 would be another year of \$19,000 red ink. In four or five years we would be totally broke.

So...at its last meeting, the Board took action to reverse this trend. Beginning with the March 26 Eight Is Enough Swiss Teams, Unit Games will have an entry fee of \$5/session(still a bargain). The prize budget will be reduced to \$250. Entry fees for Unit-sponsored sectional tournaments will increase by \$1/session starting with the New Braunfels Sectional. The payment of free entries to the District GNT and NAP will be discontinued. The subsidy to clubs for lost revenue during the regional will be reduced from \$1500 to \$1000 (Note: this subsidy applies only to the two commercial clubs. In some circumstances, a smaller subsidy to other clubs is provided.) A \$200 hospitality budget will be established for Unit Games (past expenditures sometimes exceeded this amount). The payment of ACBL dues for first-time members was quite effective in increasing ACBL membership (by over 100 members). The program has not been in place long enough to know what the attrition rate will be. It will be evaluated after the Regional to determine its long-term effectiveness.

Even these changes will not ensure that we will have a "balanced budget". However, it will put us much closer to that goal. The red ink will be light pink. Many Board members believe that it is important to maintain a fund balance in the \$50,000+ range. One reason is that the Unit may, at some point, want to apply to host a National. Unit 172 has hosted three nationals, the last being in 1999. In that event, a significant amount of "up-front" money is required. The Board will be considering this issue in the coming months.

Care & Comfort

Carmeline Squires sends get-well or sympathy cards for illness or death of members. Please notify Carmeline at 658-0249 .

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar. 26	Eight Is Enough Swiss Teams	Turtle Creek BC
Apr. 2	I35 Cup Finals	Turtle Creek BC
Apr. 7-10	Kerrville Sectional	Inn of the Hills
Apr. 28-May 1	Fiesta Sectional	BCSA
May 14	Awards Day	BCSA
June 2-5	Summer Sectional	Turtle Creek BC
June 28-July 4	4 th of July Regional	Omni

NAME AN EVENT! JULY 4TH REGIONAL

You can name an event in the upcoming regional (June 28-July 4) as a memorial or in appreciation for a friend, loved one, teacher, mentor, or volunteer. The rates are \$50 for a single session event, \$100 for a two-session event, or \$150 for a four-session KO or a five-session Side Game Series. Contact **Fran Vanecko** (602-614-4910 or f_vanecko@yahoo.com).

GOODWILL MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Within our Unit, we are fortunate to have many dedicated members. However, each year the Unit selects two standouts who deserve special accolades as Goodwill Members of the Year. This year's honorees are Laurie-Ann Levin and Carmeline Squires.

Laurie-Ann Levin was born and raised in South Africa (for those of you who have noticed her slightly non-Texas accent!) but fled the country's harsh apartheid regime with her husband and sons, choosing San Antonio as their new home. She is a woman of many talents and interests in addition to bridge, including jewelry design, creating gift baskets and dealing poker and blackjack for casino parties. She began teaching bridge in 1986 and teaches in various venues around San Antonio. Her dedication to bridge is evident, but she is especially noted for her friendly and enthusiastic manner with all players, both new and old. She is a pleasure to be with and is always willing to be of help, encouraging a friendly and competitive game--our own ambassador, of sorts. South Africa's loss—our gain!

Carmeline Squires makes a habit of public service. She served on the City Council for Universal City for a couple of years and then was elected Mayor, serving from '88-94. For more than twenty years she directed the duplicate games at Randolph AFB Officer's Club, without pay. For as long as any of us can remember, she has been the Caring & Sharing Chair for our Unit, sending notes and cards during our times of illness new players and is friendly to all! Carmeline's winning style and personality (not to mention her outfits) really pay big dividends for our Unit!

YAHOO!!!

ACBL sponsors two competitive programs to recognize those who win the most total masterpoints in various masterpoint classifications (Mini-McKenney Awards) and those who win the most masterpoints at clubs (Ace of Clubs). The Unit will recognize the winners within Unit 172 at the annual Awards Day May 14. However, it's not too early to applaud Unit 172 members who achieved national distinction in these races. **Anyemarie Weaver** ranked #1 in the entire ACBL in the Ace of Clubs competition for her category and #2 ACBL-wide in the Mini-McKenney race. Anyemarie will be featured in an upcoming issue of the ACBL Bulletin. Others in the top 10 nationally include **Dee Baker** (#6 in Mini-McKenney), **Dave Swarthout** (#6 in Mini-McKenney), and **Greg Hinze** (#8 in Mini-McKenney).

Karen and George Fillis won the Flight C North American Pairs Finals for District 16 in Austin in January. (District 16 covers most of Texas and all of Mexico.) There is tremendous competition to represent District 16 in the National Finals in Louisville in March. Karen and George have pulled off a rare coup in that they also won the District 16 Finals in the Grand National Teams last year. **Dee Baker-Anyemarie Weaver** (3rd in Flight C) and **Patty & Greg Hinze** (4th in Flight A) also qualified to play in the National Finals. Congratulations and good luck!

AUSTIN, HERE WE COME!

Twenty-one tables showed up to compete in the first stage of the I35 Cup. The top two teams in each flight qualified to represent Unit 172 in its showdown with Austin on Apr. 2. First- and second-place winners were Flight A: **Dave & Donna Swarthout-Bill Walker-Ed Rawlinson; Marilyn Arnold-Diane Olson-Richard & Jyme Schneider**; Flight B: **Tom Trudeau-Jerry Harrington-Brian Bankler-Hank Eng; Sam Williams-Andy Villastrigo-Terry Rice-Becky Mosely**; Flight C: **Tessa Bodnar-Kenyon Daniel-Rich Curtin-Gool Castleberry; Dee Baker-Ann Weaver-Bernadine Abend-Terry Sherman**; 199ers: **Timothy & Joshua Roberts-Bob Steidel-S.K. Sharma; John & Leslie Tramer-Julie Hogenauer-Stewart Windeler**. Thanks to **Fran Vancecko** for organizing and hosting this event.

UNIT GNT FINALS.

Twelve teams competed to advance to the District 16 GNT Finals in Richardson in May. **Pat Prichard-Kay Laird-Fran Vanecko-Roxana Tom 2** won first in Flight B, followed by **Arlene Rubin-Gool Castleberry-Susan Spencer-Jo Neesvig, Tom Trudeau-Jerry Harrington-Hank Eng-Cecilia Zachar** tied with **George-Fillis-Karen Fillis-Rebecca Brown-Carol Ellis**. Flight C was won by **George-Karen-Rebecca-Carol**, followed by **Clara Brinson-Delores Reiley-Cynthia Schwarz-Carolyn Shafer**. Four other Flight B teams and one additional Flight C team qualified to play in Richardson. Congratulations to all the qualifiers and good luck! Thanks to **Olivia Brown** and **Steve Simpson** for co-hosting the event.

Unit 172 Mini-McKenney 2010

0 to 5	50 to 100	300 to 500	2500 to 5000
1/ Sisir Sharma 50.47	1/ George Fillis 165.00	1/ Hank Eng 176.03	1/ C David Mitchell 377.77
2/ Richard Greenbauer 36.10	2/ Karen Fillis 155.23	2/ Kenyon Daniel 154.08	2/ Carolyn Riely 303.22
3/ Jan Wingate 30.89	3/ Kathy Sinkin-Amor 101.29	3/ Susan Hernandez 150.26	3/ Patty Hinze 291.32
4/ Kathryn Wandrisco 21.00	4/ Bob Steidel 85.83	4/ Gool Castleberry 137.47	4/ Ellen Hessel 283.75
5/ Mary McMullen 19.49	5/ Stewart Windeler 76.05	5/ Liane Tsai 137.38	5/ Marilyn Arnold 281.23
5 to 20	100 to 200	500 to 1000	5000 to 7500
1/ Sandra Press 50.22	1/ Anyemarie Weaver 380.64	1/ Fran Vanecko 309.86	1/ Ed Rawlinson 451.07
2/ Victor Press 40.77	2/ Dee Baker 284.55	2/ Pat Prichard 253.04	2/ Donna McBride 178.32
3/ Rena Lunke 40.22	3/ Richard Curtin 189.82	3/ Kay Laird 245.44	3/ Peggy Fritsch 42.59
4/ Earl Cutler 36.10	4/ Tessa Bodnar 168.41	4/ Alison Andrews 197.81	
5/ Timothy Roberts 31.60	5/ Stephen Hoffman 167.62	5/ Jay Thorne 182.64	
20 to 30	200 to 300	1000 to 2500	7500 to 10000
1/ Robert Berns 44.11	1/ Beth Gale 109.42	1/ Roxana Tom 317.37	1/ Greg Hinze 1,050.66
2/ Debbie Schweiss 34.33	2/ Stephen Simpson 88.82	2/ Jerrold Harrington 305.23	2/ Donna Swarthout 760.17
3/ Carrol Fournier 32.17	3/ William Moody 79.66	3/ Daniel Blaettler 240.92	3/ Diane Olson 361.82
4/ Darla Barger 29.42	4/ Brian Bankler 52.55	4/ Charles Jefferson 229.48	
5/ James Thigpen 28.81	5/ Barnet Bursack 51.87	5/ William Scarpero 226.79	
			Over 10000
			1/ Ira Hessel 882.40
			2/ Venkatrao Koneru 446.03
			3/ Terry Riely 285.29

Kerrville Springtime in the Hills Sectional April 7-10, 2011

Thursday, Apr. 7

10:30 AM Stratified Pairs*

3:30 PM Stratified Swiss Teams*

Friday, Apr. 8

10:30 AM Stratified Pairs*
Handicapped Compact Knockout Teams #1

3:30 PM Stratified Pairs*
Handicapped Compact Knockout Teams #1

Saturday, Apr. 9

10:30 AM Stratified Pairs*
Handicapped Compact Knockout Teams #2

3:30 PM Stratified Pairs*
Handicapped Compact Knockout Teams #2

Sunday, Apr. 10

10:30 AM & TBA Stratified Swiss Teams

*299er Pairs will be held with a 3-table minimum.

Inn of the Hills, 1001 Junction Hwy.; 1-800-292-5690

Bridge Rate \$92 (Cutoff date Mar. 8, 2011)

Tournament Chair: David Ewing 830-285-4718

Partnerships: Richard Hamm 830-895-2085

Hospitality: Donna McBride

Card Fees: \$10/person/session; \$88/team Sunday Swiss;
unpaid and non-ACBL members add \$1/session.

Flighting (Pairs and Teams): A: unlimited; B: 0-2000; C: 0-500.

Pairs flighting will be based on average masterpoints for the pair.

Teams flighting will be based on average masterpoints for the team.

Unit 172 Ace of Clubs 2010

0 to 5	1/ Sisir Sharma 43.17
	2/ Richard Greenbauer 32.87
5 to 20	1/ Sandra Press 43.08
	2/ Victor Press 38.62
20 to 30	1/ Robert Berns 41.62
	2/ Carrol Fournier 31.75
50 to 100	1/ Karen Fillis 92.20
	2/ George Fillis 87.54
100 to 200	1/ Anyemarie Weaver 258.84
	2/ Dee Baker 181.33
200 TO 300	1/ Stephen Simpson 76.92
	2/ William Moody 57.54
300 TO 500	1/ Liane Tsai 122.91
	2/ Kenyon Daniel 116.97
500 to 1000	1/ Fran Vanecko 194.98
	2/ Pat Prichard 175.10
1000 to 2500	1/ Charles Abbott 189.01
	2/ Roxana Tom 170.49
2500 to 5000	1/ David Mitchell 295.85
	2/ Nell Morgan 210.09
5000 to 7500	1/ Ed Rawlinson 135.65
	2/ Donna McBride 60.14
7500 to 10000	1/ Diane Olson 208.66
	2/ Donna Swarthout 179.79
Over 10000	1/ Terry Riely 126.11
	2/ Ira Hessel 45.59

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Bridge Club of San Antonio
Fiesta Sectional

April 28 - May 1, 2011

Thursday, April 28
11:00 am Stratified Open Pairs
11:00 am 299er Pairs
Meal between sessions
3:00 pm Stratified Swiss Teams
3:00 pm 299er Pairs
Tournament Chair:
Rich Lampman
210.659.4248
210.867.4248
Partnership Chair:
Everette Lewis
210.590.9100
Hospitality Chair:
Carol Campbell
210.659.7385

Friday, April 29
11:00 am Stratified Open Pairs
11:00 am 299er Pairs
Meal between sessions
3:00 pm Stratified Open Pairs
3:00 pm Bracketed KO Teams
(1 of 3)

Saturday, April 30
11:00 am Stratified Open Pairs
11:00 am 299er Pairs
11:00 am Bracketed KO Teams
(2 of 3)
Meal between sessions
3:00 pm Stratified Open Pairs
3:00 pm Bracketed KO Teams
(3 of 3)

Sunday, May 1
11:00 am & TBA
Stratified Swiss Teams
Meal between sessions

Card Fees:
\$10/person/session
\$88/Sunday Swiss Team
Unpaid and non-ACBL
members add \$1

Stratifications:
A 2000+
B 500-2000
C 0-500

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