



THE WINNING FINESSE

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March, 2012



President's Message

What a great turnout for the Winter Sectional-- 296 tables in the open game and 181.5 tables in the North American Pairs game. San Antonio players qualifying to play at the Spring National were: **Bill McCarty, Jerry Harrington, Gary Anziani, Karen Fillis and George Fillis**. Congratulations to each of you. Good luck to you in Memphis and be sure to wear your blue suede shoes.

Congratulations to **Jeri Tribo**, who was named Texas Star Award winner, and **Ann Weaver** and **Paula Wissman**, who were named Goodwill Members of the Year (See story below). Both Unit 172 and District 16 regard these awards as significant and publicize them accordingly. The Unit 172 Board of Directors voted at its last meeting to strengthen the recognition of the awards by creating a plaque for each award

which will display the names of the annual winners of the award. The plaques will be displayed at the San Antonio clubs on a rotating basis.

The schedule for the Kerrville Sectional is in this issue. Make your plans to be there. April is lovely in the hills. The Bridge Club of San Antonio will hold their Fiesta Sectional April 12-15. Kathleen always makes this a special tournament with lots of hospitality. You will enjoy being there.

Come out and join us at our clubs and tournaments. Please remember your mother's admonition to play well with others.

Tribo, Weaver, and Wissman Win Top Honors!

Jeri Tribo is the Texas Star Award winner for Unit 172. The award is sponsored by District 16 to allow each Unit within District 16 to recognize one individual for "exemplary service to the Unit and its members". Jeri was recognized for her outstanding work as Tournament Chair for the 2011 Regional and as Chair of the Mentor-Mentee Program for the past two years. District 16 recognizes the Texas Star Award winners at the Houston Regional each year and publishes pictures and the supporting rationale for each winner in the Scorecard. Check out the next issue of the Scorecard for more on this award.

Anymarie Weaver and **Paula Wissman** have been named as the **2012 Goodwill Members of the Year** for Unit 172. This award is presented to two individuals who "exhibit courtesy, kindness, and tactfulness" and who are "ambassadors of goodwill". Congratulations, **Ann** and **Paula**. Your recognition is well deserved.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb. 25	I35 Cup Qualifying, BCSA, 10 & TBA
Mar. 29-Apr.1	Kerrville Sectional (See complete schedule)
Apr. 12-15	BCSA Fiesta Sectional (See complete schedule)
Apr. 28	Awards Day Unit Championship; BCSA 11:30 food, 12:30 game time
May 12	I35 Cup Finals; Austin
May 19	Eight Is Enough Swiss Teams; Turtle Creek 11:30 food, 12:30 game time

Care & Comfort

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

Board Meetings.

The Unit 172 Board of Directors meets at 5 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Turtle Creek Bridge Club. Visitors are welcome.

George Fillis Captures Lewis Prize!

The Paul Lewis Prize is awarded to the player who begins the year below 300 masterpoints and wins the most masterpoints during the sectional tournaments held during the year. Congratulations to **George Fillis** as the 2011 Champ! The top ten finishers were: **George Fillis (35.38)**, **Karen Fillis (28.47)**, **Kathy Sinkin-Amor (28.25)**, **Brian Bankler (26.52)**, **Bob Steidel (22.23)**, **Jim Gorman (18.57)**, **Barbara Morgan (18.37)**, **Carol Zulich (17.51)**, **Polly McCamey (17.28)** and **Rowena Gorman (16.87)**.

Six Make Barry Crane Top 500 List; Others Claim National Bragging Rights!

The top ACBL masterpoint race is the Barry Crane Top 500 List. Unit 172 had six members make the list in 2011: **Dave Swarthout (#96 @ 926.04)**; **Donna Swarthout (#99 @ 908.03)**; **Ira Hessel (#176 @ 723.66)**; **Greg Hinze (#196 @ 690.42)**; **Ellen Hessel (380 @ 520.11)**; **Venkatrao Koneru (#491 @ 469.63)**.

Other major masterpoint races include the Mini-McKinney race (most masterpoints won in various masterpoint categories) and the Ace of Clubs race (most masterpoints won in club games by masterpoint category). The Unit will recognize the top Unit winners in these races at Awards Day on April 28. However, several Unit 172 members finished in the top 25 of their category nationally. In the Mini-McKinney for players with 200-300 points, **George Fillis** finished 16th and **Karen Fillis** finished 18th. In the 500-7500 category, **Dave Swarthout** was fourth. In the 7500-10000 category, **Donna Swarthout** was twelfth. **Dave and Donna** also finished 14th and 15th in points won at sectionals. In the Ace of Clubs competition, **Victor Press** finished 5th in the 20-50 category (winning 101.06 points), and **Ann Weaver** won 175.58 points to finish 23rd in the 500-1000 category. Congratulations to all these top dogs!

Winter Sectional and District 16 NAP Finals.

Unit 172 hosted the District 16 North American Pairs Finals in conjunction with the Winter Sectional at the Omni Jan. 13-16. There was a huge turnout. Thanks to tournament chair **Roxie Tom** and director **Tom Marsh** and his crew for running a great tournament. The NAP Finals is a tough event, with players competing over two days to qualify for the National Finals in Memphis in March. Unit 172 had two (and ½!) pairs who qualified. **Bill McCarty** (playing with a partner from outside Unit 172) was second in Flight B. **Gary Anziani-Jerry Harrington** were fourth in Flight B, and **Karen & George Fillis** were third in Flight C. Good luck in Memphis!

Unit 172 pair game winners in the Sectional included:

Friday Morning: **Ellen Hessel-Ira Hessel (A); Jeri Tribo-Fran Vanecko (B)**
Friday Evening: **Beth Gale-Becky Mosely (B); Sisir Sharma-Kenyon Daniel (C)**
Saturday Morning: **LaNelle Strickland-Jean Blilie (A); Jim & Carole O'Connor (B/C)**
Saturday Afternoon: **Don Mahoney-Diana Drenner (A/B/C)**
Saturday Evening: **Venkatrao Koneru (A)**
Monday Morning: **Beth Gale-Becky Mosely (B); Sisir Sharma-Don Marcott (C)**
Monday Afternoon: **Everette Lewis-Art D'Entremont (A); Sheryleen Grothus-Fran Vanecko (B)**

Team game winners included:

Friday Afternoon: **Ellen Hessel-Dave & Donna Swarthout-Ed Rawlinson (A); Venkatrao Koneru (A); Sherry Johnson-Tony Di Baggio-Dee Baker-Anyemarie Weaver (B); Barnet Bursak-Bernadine Abend-Dolores Reiley-Eleanor Bump (C)**
Saturday Compact: **Patty Lozano-Dave & Donna Swarthout-Ed Rawlinson**
Sunday Swiss: **Laurie Ann Levin-Bill Scarpero-David Morris-David Mitchell (B); John Hilbig-Carolyn Schafer-Cynthia Schwarz-Dolores Reiley (C)**

Monday Compact: **Gary Anziani-Dave & Donna Swarhout-Ed Rawlinson (Bkt 1); Hank Eng-Jerry Harrington (Bkt. 2)**
 Winners in the 299er pair games included: **Darla Barger-Dorothy Prater; Rowena Gorman-Jim Gorman; Jan Wingate-Catherine Supple; Geneva Johnson-Judy Thompson**
 Local players who placed in the top ten master point winners included: **1/2. Ed Rawlinson (28.20); 1/2. Dave Swarhout (28.20); 3. Donna Swarhout (25.46); 5. Venkatrao Koneru (21.81); 6. Ellen Hessel (18.53); 7. Art D'Entremont (13.95)**

Grand National Teams Unit Finals Results

Eleven teams competed in the Unit Finals of the GNT at Turtle Creek on Jan. 28 for bragging rights and for qualification for the District 16 Finals in Richardson in May. Flight B Winners included: **1. Forrest Gray-Fran Vanecko-Cecilia Zachar-Jeri Tribo; 2. Pat Prichard-Kay Laird-Rich Curtin-Roxie Tom; 3. Arline Rubin-Andy Villastrigo-Robert Barber-Susan Hernandez; 4. Becky Tanner-Betty Knaggs-Jo Kuehl-Janelle McArthur.** Flight C winners included: **1. David Herron-Steve Simpson-Cynthia Schwarz-Carolyn Schafer.** Good luck to the qualifiers in Richardson. Thanks to co-hosts **Steve Simpson and Roxie Tom** for their good work.

Membership Matters

We welcome the following new members: **Barbara Worrich, Dr. Steven Kassarjian, Richard Arnold, David Holcomb, Larry Rettinger, Marjorie Tucker, Joan Bennett, Arline Bolin, Helen Mundy, Bob Jonason, Dr. Ivars Leja.** Congratulations to all those who achieved higher ACBL rankings: new Junior Masters: **Jeanne Schott, Dean Groussman;** new Club Masters: **Nancy Cross, Marietta Allmond, Michael Stoffel;** new Sectional Masters: **Barbara Davis, Jim Hale, Geneva Johnson, Janet Moody, Barbara Boren;** new Regional Masters: **Jonathan Tramer, Carolyn Schafer, Marjorie Miller;** new NABC Master: **John Hilbig, Leslie Tramer;** new Life Masters: **Pam Bickerton, Jo Neesvig, Steve Simpson;** new Bronze Life Master: **Carolyn Martin, Jo Neesvig, Rich Curtin, Jacquelyn Aldredge, Rebecca Brown;** new Silver Life Master: **Mary Cooper;** new Gold Life Masters: **Tom Marsh;** new Diamond Life Masters: **Nell Morgan.**

Bridge Club of San Antonio Fiesta Sectional April 12-15, 2012

3195 Nacogdoches Rd. San Antonio, TX 78217
 210.590.9100 www.bridgeclubsasa.com

Thursday, April 12 Tournament Co-Chairs:

10:30 am Stratified Open Pairs
 10:30 am 299'er Pairs
 3:30 pm Stratified Swiss Teams
 3:30 pm 299'er Pairs

Rich Lampman
 210.659.4248
 210.867.4248
 Everette Lewis
 210.663.3545

Friday, April 13

10:30 am Stratified Open Pairs
 10:30 am 299'er Pairs
 10:30 am Bracketed KO
 3:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs
 3:30 pm 299'er Pairs
 3:30 pm Bracketed KO

Partnership Chair:
 Susan Hernandez
 210.710.8240

Hospitality Chair:
 Kathleen Pigott

Saturday, April 14

10:30 am Stratified Open Pairs
 10:30 am 299'er Pairs
 10:30 am Bracketed KO Final
 3:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs
 3:30 pm 299'er Pairs

Card Fees:

\$11/person/session
 \$96/Sunday Swiss Team
 Unpaid and non-ACBL
 members add \$1

Sunday, April 15

10:30 am & TBA Stratified Swiss
 Teams Meal between sessions

Stratifications:

A 2000+
 B 500-2000
 C 0-500



The Winning Finesse
c/o Ira and Ellen Hessel, Editors
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Kerrville Springtime In The Hills Sectional

March 29 April 1, 2011
Inn of the Hills

Thursday, March 29

Stratified Pairs 10 am
Stratified Swiss Teams 3:00 pm

Friday, March 30

Stratified Pairs 10 am & 3:00 pm
Wildflower Knockout Teams (sessions 1,2, & 3)
10 am, 3:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Fast Pairs (24 boards, finished approx. 10pm) 7:30 pm

Saturday, March 31

Stratified Pairs 10 am & 3:00 pm
Mesquite Knockout Teams (sessions 1,2, & 3)
10 am, 3:00 pm & 7:30 pm
Fast Pairs (24 boards, finished approx. 10pm) 7:30 pm

Sunday, April 1

Margaret Higgins Stratified Swiss Teams
10 am & TBA

Tournament Chair: David Ewing 830-285-4718

Partnership: Richard Hamm 830-895-2085

Director in Charge: Tom Marsh

299er Pairs will be held with a 3-table minimum
Card fees: \$11/person/session, \$120 /team Sunday
Swiss (includes lunch) \$8/player for teams more
than 4 players

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

All events will be based on average masterpoints