



THE WINNING FINESSE

Volume 23 Number 4 Website: <http://d16acbl.org/U172>

September, 2014



President's Column

In the July/August issue of the SCORECARD, Jim Thurtell, district president, wrote a column we should all take to heart. I'm sure you all have heard the things he talks about before, but repetition is important in learning anything. Remember how you learned multiplication tables? All of us could stand to read his well written thoughts about bridge at least once more.

Speaking of the SCORECARD, Ira and Ellen Hessel layout each issue as well as write some of the articles. It's a big job. In addition, Ira and Ellen do the layout for the WINNING FINESSE. They do a lot for bridge in San Antonio. Tell them you appreciate them, I sure do.

The Luau had a great turnout---37 tables. Thank you for attending. Voting for the three vacancies on the board will take place at the clubs in early October and at the Election Sectional, October 9-12. Read what the candidates have to say and be sure to vote.

North American Pairs Unit Finals on Deck. The North American Pairs is an event which starts at the club level. NAP games have been going on most of the summer, and a few are still scheduled. Qualifiers from these games are eligible to play in a Unit Finals. The Finals for Unit 172 will be held Sept. 20 at BCSA (10:00 & TBA). Qualifiers from this event will be eligible to compete in the District Finals to be held in Austin in January. Qualifier from that event will be eligible to compete in the National Finals to be held at the Spring Nationals in New Orleans next March. There are separate winners for each flight (A, B, and C)

Alert!!! New Directory Coming!!! In the next few months, the Unit 172 Directory will be updated and published. It will provide names, addresses, and phone numbers of all Unit members. Roxie Tom is in charge of the project. The directory will use the addresses and phone numbers on file with ACBL. Thus, if you have changed your address or phone numbers and have not notified ACBL, please do so by Sept. 30. You can contact ACBL either by email (Addresschange@acbl.org) or phone (662-253-3132). If you do not want to be listed in the new Directory, please notify Roxie (rtom85@yahoo.com or 210-508-4697).

Care & Comfort

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

Board Meetings.

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

Calendar of Events

Sept. 4-7	New Braunfels Sectional	Civic Center
Sept. 12-13	NLM Sectional	BCSA
Sept. 20	NAP Unit Finals	BCSA
Oct. 9-12	Election Sectional	BCSA

Bill McCarty...National Champ...Again! Congratulations to **Bill McCarty** for winning the Grand National Team Flight B Championship at the Las Vegas Nationals. A year ago, Bill won the North American Pairs Flight B Championship. Bill submitted the following hand as the most interesting hand in the competition.

♠-QJ83		Bill was West. Bill thought his side might have slam, but was not sure where. He thought a double was the most flexible action. His partner, with no defense and tremendous offense, mysteriously chose to defend. NS made an over-trick. There were two unanticipated benefits from this result. First, Bill's teammates were in 6♥, so they won 11imps (+1430 vs. -850). Second, Bill learned that he was able to claim bragging rights for using the rare "striped-tailed ape double". This strategic move involves doubling the opponents at the 5 level to keep them from bidding their cold slam.	
♥-QJ5432			
♦-4			
♣-53			
♠-109654	♠-		
♥-K	♥-		
♦-A	♦-KJ1086532		
♣-AK9864	♣-QJ1072		
	♠-AK72		
	♥-A109876		
	♦-Q97		
	♣-		
N	E	S	W
2♥	3♦	5♥	X All Pass

Election of Members of Board of Directors. Unit 172 is managed by an 11-member Board of Directors elected to staggered 3-year terms. Three positions are up for election this fall. Voting will occur according to the following schedule:

Sept. 28 Gonzales (1:15)

- Oct. 1 Bridge Club of San Antonio (11:30)
- Oct. 3 Kerrville (12/30)
- Oct. 6 Fiesta Bridge Club (10:30)
- Oct 6 Fiesta Bridge Club (6:30)
- Oct. 7 New Braunfels (Noon)
- Oct. 9 Election Sectional @ BCSA (9:30 & 2:30)
- Oct 10 Election Sectional @ BCSA (9:30 & 2:30)
- Oct 11 Election Sectional @ BCSA (9:30 & 2:30)

A run-off, if necessary, will be held at 9:30 on Oct. 10 the Election Sectional @ BCSA.

Nominee Pictures and Statements

Ed Rawlinson



I've been on the Board for nine years, including several terms as Treasurer and President. If you hang around long enough, you accumulate little tidbits of knowledge about how the ACBL works, why certain policies were adopted and others weren't, what's not written down anywhere but shouldn't be forgotten, and what mistakes not to make all over again. While my wife would be amused at any claims I might make in the (institutional) memory department, that's my story and I'm sticking to it. One of my contributions to the Unit was having the idea for the hula hoop contest at the Luau. Another is preserving the integrity of the Tiki fertility idol. The current Board and the candidates are all hard workers, but someone has to provide occasional long-term memory and inspired quirkiness.

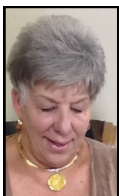
Gary Anziani



Gary recently retired from a successful 36-year career in hospital administration. Of note, he led his organization in becoming a finalist in the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. He is an accomplished classical pianist, having studied with a student of Claudio Arrau, the great Chilean pianist, and he and his wife, Mary Lou, also a health care professional and a new member of the ACBL, raised three sons over the last 34 years. The oldest is an attorney in Austin, the second a hedge fund co-owner in Los Angeles, and the youngest just graduated from St. Mary's Law School. Gary is an active member of various civic, art and charitable organizations, serving on several Boards. A

Gold Life Master, he loves to play bridge and has served as a member of the Unit 172 for the past three years. He has served as Unit Secretary, Recorder and Unit Game host. He has enjoyed playing bridge since the 60's when he and Mike Lawrence played at Berkeley, and would like to give back for all the pleasure he has derived playing this marvelous game.

Jo Ann Robertson



In March of this year I retired from Federal service after having served in multiple leadership positions culminating as Director of Civilian Human Resources for the US Army Medical Command. During the last twelve years I served on several Board of Directors, both at the Army and local levels. Having served in these positions, I gained insight and experience in guiding organizations while making sound decisions on the direction and future of the organization.

When asked if I would accept a nomination for Unit 172 Board of Directors, I immediately concurred. While I am a novice duplicate bridge player, I am totally committed to the advancement of bridge. If elected to the board, I would represent all Unit bridge players having a special interest in bringing new ideas and practices to the Unit as well as encouraging new players to join "the wonderful world of bridge". During the last six months, I have taken an active role in the San Antonio Bridge Club volunteering my time and effort in making this club a viable club. If elected to the Unit 172 Board of Directors, I will continue to increasing the partnership of both bridge clubs making Unit 172 an even stronger unit..

Beth Gale



Everyone has a story....permit me to share mine. My name is Beth Gale; married 42 years, 3 sons and 3 stepchildren, 14 combined grandchildren and 8 step great grandchildren. Holidays are crazy but fun!

I owned an interior design firm for 15 years before I sold it and continue to have real estate salespersons that work for me in real estate development. My hobbies include: bridge (of course!), Spanish lessons (si!), reading (old fashioned books even!), and raising exotic animals (zebras, camels, giraffes, bison, llamas, parrots and one Watusi bull) as well as chickens, pheasants, peacocks, miniature horses and donkeys, 2 dogs and one cat (whew!).

I believe it is important to "give back" to any organization I belong to, hence the decision to run for the board. I've been a member of a women's investment group for 14 years...3 of which I was the secretary and 6 of which I was the financial officer. My strengths lie in organization, reliability, hard work, creative ideas, and working well with others. I ask for your vote in October! Good bridge to one and all. Beth

Jan Wingate



My bridge experiences have spanned over 35+ years. Paula Warren introduced me to duplicate five years ago and graciously taught lessons weekly in her home, helping me to learn the basics. I also participated in the mentoring program for two years.

I live in New Braunfels and play duplicate every Tuesday and Thursday in our local club. I have also expanded my table time by playing in the San Antonio studios two to three times a week.

It is my desire to serve on the Unit 172 board, bringing with me the following qualifications: treasurer and banquet chairman of New Braunfels High School All Sports Booster Club; president of PTA; president of ladies' social club; 2-year president of Comal County Aggie Moms' Club; Bible Study Fellowship discussion group facilitator for fifteen years; and last, but not least, hospitality chairman for the New Braunfels Sectional for the last three years. I would appreciate your consideration and am prepared to serve our unit

Hank Eng



With your support, it would be a privilege to serve on the board and give back to the game that I so love. My goal is to help improve membership growth and increase the attendance at local tournaments. My bridge timeline: 1992 discovered bridge, 1993-97 majored in it at Texas A&M, 1995 ACBL member and Accredited Teacher, 1996 Director and member of the winning North American College Team Championship, 2014 somehow awarded the Unit's Goodwill Award, innumerable defeats at eleven NABCs, and currently a Silver Life Master. As for my non-bridge history: PhD in Chemistry from Ohio State; did research in Caen, France, and Davis, CA; taught chemistry in Flagstaff, Jacksonville, FL, and San Antonio; and currently working in the area of personal finance.

Luau Results. A big crowd (37 tables) showed up Aug. 23 for the Luau and Annual Membership Meeting. Co-hosts **Rebecca Brown and Ed Rawlinson**, with a little help from their friends, provided so much to eat there was some left over. **Jan Wingate and David Herron** were awarded prizes for the best Hawaiian outfits (they were a sight to behold). **Shirley Brooks** was the recipient of the coveted Tiki Fertility Idol. Shirley promises to give a report at next year's Luau about how Tiki behaves.

"The best-laid plans" arranged for the Luau results to be part of the STaC (Sectional Tournament at Clubs) hosted by Unit 172. Alas, these plans went "astray" when the wrong boards were put into play. We regret the error. Results were submitted as part of BCSA's games, and masterpoints will be awarded. Bragging rights for highest scores go to: **Dick Bragg-Steve Scott (1A, 1B)**, **George Fillis-Karen Fillis (2A, 2B)**, **Greg & Patty Hinze (3A)**, **Stewart Windeler-Andy Villastrigo (3B)**, **Marilyn Weinstein-Judy Taquino (1C)**, **Doris Salley-Koko Malley (2C)**, and **Dick Arnold-Marjorie Tucker (3C)**.

Membership Matters. We welcome the following new members and transfers: **Rod Lee, Mary Shipley, Robert Shipley, Teresa Labonte, Edward Tucker**. Congratulations to all those who received higher ACBL ratings: new Junior Masters: **Beth Watson, Robert Watson**; new Club Master: **Lenore Allred, Mike Vivian**; new Sectional Masters: **Fred Williamson**; new Regional Masters: **Kathryn Twite**; new NABC Masters: **Janice Fletcher**.

**PRESORTED STD
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT 595
 SAN ANTONIO TX**

***Electional Sectional
 October 9 – 12, 2014***

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

10:00 am Stratified Open Pairs
 10:00 am 299er Pairs
 3:00 pm Stratified Swiss Teams
 3:00 pm 299er Pairs

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

10:00 am Stratified Open Pairs
 10:00 am 299er Pairs
 10:00 am Bracketed KO Teams (2 of 3)
 3:00 pm Stratified Open Pairs
 3:00 pm Bracketed KO Teams (Final)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

10:00 am Stratified Open Pairs
 10:00 am 299er Pairs
 3:00 pm Stratified Open Pairs
 3:00 pm 299er Pairs
 3:00 pm Bracketed KO Teams (1 of 3)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

10:00 am & TBA
 Stratified Swiss Teams
Meal Between Sessions

CARD FEES

\$11 per person per session
 \$100 Swiss Team (Sunday)
 (unpaid and non-ACBL members add \$3)

STRATIFICATIONS

A 2000 +
 B 500 - 2000
 C 0 - 500

TOURNAMENT CHAIR

Rich Lampman (210) 659-4248

PARTNERSHIP CHAIR

Sue Ohm (210) 379-4342

HOSPITALITY CHAIR

Penny Smith (928) 444-6854

Average masterpoints will be

used in all games

299er games at director's discretion
 (three table minimum)

KO will be handicapped

**11524 PERRIN-BEITEL RD, SAN ANTONIO TX 78217
 (210) 437-1045**

**www.bridgeclubsusa.com
admin@bridgeclubsusa.com**