

**THE****WINNING****FINESSE**

Volume 24 Number 4 Website: <http://d16acbl.org/U172> November, 2015



President's Column *by Rebecca Brown.*

Congrats to our newly elected board members: Hank Eng, Jerry Harrington, Kathy Sinkin-Amor, Debbie Schweiss and Roxie Tom. Our community says "THANKS!" to Beverly Santos and Steve Simpson who left the board but whose hard work and talents were of great benefit to us. Unit 172 officers are: President-Rebecca Brown, Vice President-Steve Hoffman, Secretary-Beth Gale and Treasurer –Roxie Tom.

Your Board of Directors voted to have future holiday parties and annual meetings/Luau's at the clubs again. In the balance we determined we were not enhancing our experience by using a different venue. No place is perfect, but we took all your comments to heart. This year the Holiday Party will take place on December 12, 2015, at Fiesta Bridge Club. We will offer refreshments at 11:30, game time at 12:30. As we enter the extended holiday season, let's have fun, play good bridge, and treat each other cordially! A bridge round lasts 21 minutes, but our relationships last a long time!

The Halls Have Been Decked! The annual Holiday Party will be at Fiesta BC on Dec. 12. A big array of appetizers and desserts will be available at 11:30. Game time is 12:30. Santa is sending prizes and has arranged for free entry.

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 Board of Directors normally meets monthly at 3:45 p.m. on the first Monday at BCSA. Visitors are welcome. .

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 14	Mentor-Mentee Championship and "Piggy-Back Pairs"	Fiesta BC
Nov. 20-21	NLM Sectional	Fiesta BC
Dec. 12	Holiday Party	Fiesta BC
Jan. 15-18	Winter Sectional/District NAP	Omni



Paul Kelley Jr. November 26, 1945 to November 2, 2015

We sadly report the passing of Paul Kelley Jr. on November 2, 2015. . Paul was a platinum life master. He graduated from The University of Texas Law School and went to work for the IRS, where he served in the Estate and Gift Tax Division for 35 years..He served in Vietnam. He is survived by his wife of 26 years, Rosemary Kelley, two sons, Paul Kelley of Copperas Cove, TX and Rodney Kelley of Colorado Springs, CO, four grandchildren, and a younger brother.

**PATTY HINZE, ED RAWLINSON WIN HORTON-GRAY RACES
ELISABETH KAY LEADS 299ERS!**

The Unit sponsors three competitions for most masterpoints won in a calendar year in Unit Sectional Tournaments. **Patty Hinze** won the Cisse Horton Award by a wide margin. **Ed Rawlinson** won the George Gray Award by an eyelash in a nail-biting race with **Greg Hinze**. Greg had huge tournaments in New Braunfels (two firsts and a third) and in the Election Sectional (two firsts and a second) to take the lead with one event to play. However, Ed’s team won the final Swiss to win the Gray Award by 0.47 masterpoints. In the Paul Lewis Award competition (for 299ers), **Elisabeth Kay** leads a close race with two NLM Tournaments remaining. The Top Ten in each race are shown below:

Cisse Horton Award

- Patty Hinze (162.79)
- Diane Olson (94.27)
- Ellen Hessel (93.47)
- Donna Swarhout (84.60)
- Roxie Tom (81.96)
- Karen Fillis (74.20)
- Donna McBride (64.55)
- Rebecca Brown (62.35)
- Carolyn Riely (59.10)
- Rosemary Kelley (49.23)

George Gray Award

- Ed Rawlinson (153.41)
- Greg Hinze (152.94)
- Gary Anziani (144.38)
- Ira Hessel (103.32)
- Wayne Rauscher (102.93)
- Jerry Harrington (95.96)
- Dave Swarhout (95.69)
- Babu Koneru (92.77)
- Forrest Gray (76.19)
- Bill Walker (76.15)

Paul Lewis Award

- Elisabeth Kay (23.23)
- Mike Vivian (21.23)
- Sisir Sharma (20.79)
- Ann McMullan (18.22)
- Jim McMullan (18.22)
- David Johnson (18.17)
- John Hilbig (17.27)
- Geneva Johnson (17.23)
- Elia Rosetta (15.11)
- JoAnn Manfredi (15.03)

UNIT MENTOR-MENTEE GAME: Just want to remind all mentors and mentees of our annual Unit Mentor-Mentee Game on Saturday, November 14th at Fiesta Bridge Club. Snacks will be at 11:30 and Game time 12:30. Hope to see you all there.

PIGGY-BACK PAIRS!!! Operating on the theory that a big party is better than a small party, the Board decided to add a separate section for players not playing in the Mentor-Mentee Championship. The game will provide higher masterpoint awards, exceptional hospitality, and \$5 entry fees.

MENTOR-MENTEE PROGRAM by Debbie Schweiss. If you would like to be a Mentor or a Mentee in 2016, please fill out an application, which you can get at the Fiesta Bridge Club or at the Bridge Club of San Antonio. You can also contact Debbie Schweiss at 210-862-9706.

- ♠-Q876
- ♥-
- ♦-A43
- ♣-AK10972

- ♠-A10
- ♥-A632
- ♦-QJ10765
- ♣-Q

An Interesting Choice for Declarer Play... and the Double Dummy Puzzle is Even More Interesting by Ed Rawlinson. East is in 3N. South leads the ♥J and continues to lead hearts if you duck. Cover the second diagram to plan your declarer

play. The basic choice is whether you go for 6 diamond tricks or 6 club tricks. The odds favor going for clubs. The club suit will run 54% of the time plus another 12% that either defender will have a singleton $\spadesuit K$ (you will lead a diamond to dummy after cashing the $\clubsuit Q$. Odds on the diamonds working are just

under 50%. At the table, clubs didn't run and the diamond finesse didn't work. But, it can be made double dummy (for less experienced players, "double dummy" means you get to see all the cards).

	\spadesuit -K43	
	\heartsuit -Q9874	
	\diamond -K98	
	\clubsuit -64	
\spadesuit -Q876		\spadesuit -A10
\heartsuit -		\heartsuit -A632
\diamond -A43		\diamond -QJ10765
\clubsuit -AK10972		\clubsuit -Q
	\spadesuit -J952	
	\heartsuit -KJ105	
	\diamond -2	
	\clubsuit -J853	

Cover this paragraph if you want to give the puzzle a try. Win the fourth round of hearts, discarding two spades and two diamonds from dummy. Lead the $\clubsuit Q$ to dummy's ace. Lead the $\spadesuit K$, then the 10. If South leads a spade, you have the rest. So South puts you in dummy with a diamond or a club. Continue cashing clubs. With one club to go, North holds $\spadesuit K4$ and $\diamond K$. West holds $\spadesuit A10$ and $\diamond Q$. North must discard first. Any discard is fatal. Declarer already has 7 tricks and will get the last two.

\spadesuit -Kxxx	N	E	S	W
\heartsuit -AK9			1 \clubsuit	1 \spadesuit
\spadesuit -Qxxxxx	X	2 \spadesuit	3 \heartsuit	P
\clubsuit -x	4 \heartsuit	All pass		
\spadesuit -x				
\heartsuit -J108x				
\diamond -Ax				
\clubsuit -AJ9xxx				

Another Interesting Declarer Play Problem. West leads the $\spadesuit Q$, which wins. West continues with a low spade to the 10, ruffed. South cashes the $\diamond A$, West playing the J. South continues a low diamond, West winning the King. West leads a third spade, ducked to the Ace. Take the play from here. The answer is shown below.

Answer to Declarer Play Problem. Ruff with the 10. Lead the $\heartsuit 8$ to the 9. Ruff a low diamond.

West overruffs with the Q and leads a fourth spade. East ruffs; you over-ruff, cash the $\clubsuit A$, ruff a club, draw trumps (they split...but they had to for you to make it). Dummy's good!!

MOVING ON UP!! Sixteen tables competed in the Unit Finals of the North American Pairs at Fiesta BC on Oct. 24. About half the field qualified to play in the District Finals to be held here in San Antonio at the Winter Sectional Jan. 16-17 at the Omni. Top winners included: **Larry & Laurie Levin (1A, 1B), Ira & Ellen Hessel (2A), Kay Laird-Pat Prichard (3A, 2B), Jerry Harrington-Jay Thorne (3B), S.K. Sharma-Hank Norvell (1C), Mary Harrington-Sunny Won (2B), Janina Kuzma-Timothy Roberts (3B).**

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS. We welcome the following new members and transfers: **Shirley Rice, Priya Sharma, Ricky Therneau, Lloyd Willis, Dixie Cannon, Kathleen Gleason, Tom Guirl, Albert Kissling, Ike Oren, Terry Black, Kent Tolbert, Jean Forsberg, Thomas Klein.** Congratulations to all those who received higher ACBL ratings: new Junior Masters: **Hazel Medellin**; new Club Masters: **Lynn Pierson, Helen King**; new NABC Masters: **Ann McMullan, Jim McMullan**; new Advanced NABC Masters: **Janice Fletcher**

The Winning Finesse
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SAN ANTONIO & NAP WINTER FUN SECTIONAL



Omni Hotel

9821 Colonnade Blvd 800-843-6664
Bridge Rate \$119 (book by 12/16/15)

Friday, January 15, 2016

10:00 am
3:00 pm
7:30 pm

Stratified Pairs
Stratified Pairs
Stratified Fast Pairs

Saturday, January 16, 2016

10:00 am
10:00 am
10:00 am
3:00 pm
3:00 pm
3:00 pm
7:30 pm
7:30 pm

Stratified Pairs
Knock Out (Session 1 of 3)
NAP Qualifying (1st Session)
NAP Qualifying (2nd Session)
Stratified Pairs
Knock Out (Session 2 of 3)
Stratified Fast Pairs
Knock Out (Session 3 of 3)

Sunday, January 17, 2016

10:00 am
10:00 & TBA
TBA

NAP Finals (1st session)
Stratified Swiss Teams
NAP Finals (2nd Session)

Meal served between sessions

Monday, January 18, 2016

10:00 am
2:30 pm

Imp Pairs
Stratified Swiss Teams

499er Games: Friday & Saturday 10 & 3 Monday 10 (3 table min.)

Stratifications:

Flight A 2500+ Flight B 750-2500 Flight C 0-750

*All events will be stratified based on average master points
All KO events handicapped except teams with 5000+ average*

Card Fees:

\$11/person/session Sunday Swiss/\$120/team (includes lunch)
\$3/session more for non or unpaid members

Tournament Chair

Roxana Tom 210-508-4697 Rtom85@yahoo.com

Partnership Chair

Karen Fillis 210-764-3060 kfillis@satx.rr.com

Results will be posted daily at www.d16acbl.org/u172