

Christmas Party

On Sunday, 12 noon, December 7, 2008 we will party. Bridge (2 sessions), Unit Board election and dinner for \$15 at the Sons of Norway Hall (6710 N. Country Homes Blvd). Dinner is stuffed pork loin with all the trimmings. Put the diet on the back burner, pull out the seat cushion and come join the bridge train.

2008 Unit Games

Date	Time	Description
Nov 2	1 pm	1-session
Dec 7	12 & tba	Xmas party; \$15 ; 2-sessions

2009 Unit Games

Date	Time	Description
Jan 11	1 pm	1-session
Feb 15	1 pm	Junior Fund; 1-session; \$1 extra
Mar 29	1 pm-5 pm	Awards game; 2-session
Apr 19	1 pm	1-session
May 24	1 pm-5 pm	Team game; 2-session
Jun 28	5 pm	1-session
Aug 2	5 pm	1-session
Sep 20	1 pm-5 pm	
Oct 18	1 pm & TBA	Charity game; \$1 extra; 2-session
Nov 15	1 pm	1-session
Dec 6	TBA	Xmas Party, 1-session

Location

Sons of Norway Hall, 6710 N. Country Homes Blvd
Spokane, WA

Charity Game Success

Thank you Unit 448 for the exceptional turnout and gift giving that brought over \$1,500 for donation to the Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery. Especial thanks are due to:

- Charity Committee members: Max Gallotti
Ron Krueger Sybil Luck
- Hospitality Committee members: Jackie Biel Jo Ann Brown
Ginny Davis Marlys Roberts

The October 12 Charity game had 13 tables in the afternoon session and 11 in the evening. Open session overall winners:

- A: 1st David Corn & G. Gard Hays
2nd Rodney Paxton & William Rottmayer
3rd Jodi Kimbrell & Pete Pluhta
- B: 1st Fred Gilbert & Marlyn Roberts
2nd Cristina & Massimo Gallotti
3rd Robert Richards & Doris Anderson

299er afternoon winners:

- A&B 1st Judy Hill & Elita Jones
2nd Bob Kautz & Gayle Carlson
3rd Duane Starner & Carolyn Starner

299er evening winners:

- A&B 1st Carolyn Starner & Duane Starner
A 2nd Barb Strole & Robert M. Wilson
B 2nd B. J. Kolkman & Myrna Davis

Scents or Sense

(Annie's Mailbox reprint from SR Oct 31, 08)

Dear Annie: My boss sent me a message that my perfume is too strong. According to him, somebody complained that my scent brings on a headache.

I'm sure this isn't the case. I hate people who wear strong perfume, so I use only a small amount. The scent makes me feel great, but I never overdo it. No one else has ever said anything about my perfume.

I'm so angry. Should I find out who the "somebody" is who's spreading this rumor? Please give me your advice. – Seoul, South Korea

Dear Seoul: We don't believe anyone is spreading a rumor. You may not think you are using too much perfume, but some people are so sensitive that even a tiny drop can bring on a reaction. A healthy work environment is good for all employees, and it would be best to save the perfume for special occasions.

Marcia Brineman says goodbye to Spokane bridge

Marcia and family are moving to the Seattle area. They have lived in Spokane since 1981 and are leaving many roots and friends behind. Marcia notes that she feels as though she is leaving the best half of herself behind (her partners). She hopes for visits and calls (cell: 509-701-1744).

FAREWELL

The Spokane bridge community lost three long-time players this fall. We all will miss Charles Huggins, Alys Janvier and Bob Perry.

2009 Unit Board Election

There are 4 vacancies for the Board. The nominations from the Board Committee are: Mike Coopersmith, Doyle Crook, Bob Probasco and Barbara Strole. You must attend the Christmas party on December 7 to vote and additional nominations can be made from the floor at that time. The candidates answered the following questions:

*Questions: What is your professional background?
Do you have a vision for the new Unit Board?
Do you have plans for Unit funds”*

Some responses have been edited

Mike Coopersmith was self-employed for 25 years. He also worked for Longs Drugs (California) in management and spent 4 glorious years in the Marine Corps.

I will serve wherever needed. I am currently property chair. My strengths are that I am vocal and willing to speak my mind.

I think we should take some of the money and invest in our equipment. Some of the tables need to be replaced. I would also fund more things for players. I haven't researched this in depth and would like to get input from players. Jackie Biel and Jo Ann Brown organized the purchase of bidding boxes and these are now in good shape; they did a marvelous job.

Doyle Crook: When you hear the southern accent, you probably could guess that Doyle Crook grew up in Memphis, TN. After graduating from the University of Memphis with BBA and MBA degrees, he worked for Blue Cross Blue Shield as an accountant for 25 years. He met his wife, Barbara Womack, in Memphis, before she moved to Spokane in 1998. They were married at the Clark House at Hayden Lake in 2000. Upon settling in Spokane, Doyle went to work for Morgan Stanley and became a financial advisor.

Doyle has served as President of the Memphis branch of the National Association of Accountants, the Jaycees and several other organizations.

His vision for the Unit is to make it “the friendliest Unit in the State” so that new players as well as existing members would feel welcome. One method that another bridge club has used successfully is to plan special events such as “Eight is Enough”. This is a Swiss Team event held monthly by pairing bridge players across the experience spectrum. It generates enthusiasm and camaraderie.

Doyle thinks that the Unit should spend its money wisely and enhance its membership with creative ideas from the board and the members. He is willing to accept a position that will fit in well with his current part-time work at Amerprise Financial.

Bob Probasco is Professor Emeritus from the University of Idaho, where he taught Music (1968-1982) and Computer Science (1982-1999). From 2001-2006 he volunteered in seven national parks in Utah, Arizona, Texas, SD, Virginia, Oregon and California. His other hobbies include geocaching, hiking, scuba, kayaking and reading.

Now that I'm living in Spokane it is reasonable for me to invest some time and energy in the hobby I love. During my 40 years in Moscow I declined offers to serve on the Board of Directors but I realize each of us must share the joy of keeping the local club healthy. I have no particular agenda for the club but I'll be happy to lend my perspectives and experiences to whatever situations we deal with.

I do find it delightful that Spokane has a healthy bridge club. There are plenty of opportunities for both beginners and experienced players.

Barbara Strole is 48 and has worked for the Machinists Union for 20 years, 5 as an office manager for Eastern Washington. My strengths are in hospitality and finance.

I started playing party bridge in college with a boyfriend. But I stopped playing bridge after college, then married and had children (triplets) and a career – life got busy. Twenty-three years later, divorced and the kids off to college, bridge is back. I was looking around for things to do, people to meet and ways to get out in the world. Brenda Simpson had an ad for bridge lessons. I had no clue the lessons were for duplicate. The lessons revived my love of the game. And, no, the kids do not play bridge.

I'm not really sure what I am getting into right now. I do want the Board to work on getting more and younger people involved in the game. I know what Brenda and Kris as educators do in that respect.

2009 Unit Board Election

Continued

Barbara Strole:

I play bridge 2-3 times a week in the evening. I can no longer play Wednesday night's mentor games because I have more than 100 points. I regret that I did not get the full benefit of the mentor program because I did not really understand it. I did have the opportunity to play with Margaret Bartline for a short time. One of my partner's, Chris, was mentored by Bill Rottmayer and received the full advantage of his mentoring. I would like a mentoring program that builds on the current offering; one that would benefit me at this point in my bridge education. I think others feel the same way. But I see there is a fine line between being a mentor and being effective as a mentor. There is no accreditation of mentors. And I as a player with only 100 points don't feel qualified to be a mentor in this program. But I would like to be a mentor day.

Unit 448 2008 Masterpoint Races (Updated 10/6/08 for top 2 scorers)

	Mini-McKenney		Ace of Clubs	
0 to 5	Barbara Womack	20.81	Barbara Womack	14.08
	Dianne Wilson	15.74	Dianne Wilson	13.01
5 to 20	Greg Rathvon	23.64	Dottie Larson	12.71
	Ken Carmer	17.07	Ken Carmer	17.07
20 to 50	Barb Strole	80.05	Barb Strole	35.27
	Myrna Davis	33.84	Myrna Davis	20.81
50 to 100	B J Kolkman	49.21	B J Kolkman	34.99
	Ann Sanders	26.59	Ann Sanders	24.19
100 to 200	Robert Wilson	78.77	Robert Wilson	38.85
	Cristina Gallotti	28.08	Beth Lester	21.54
200 to 300	Keri Malone	68.61	Keri Malone	41.53
	Robert Richards	55.31	Robert Richards	43.97
300 to 500	Catherine Creer	138.29	Catherine Creer	53.70
	Massimo Gallotti	88.55	Jane Lyons-Macy	60.73
500 to 1000	Robert Probasco	101.30	Robert Probasco	54.78
	Patricia Strand	97.47	Marshall Mah	58.75
1000 to 2500	James Lindemann	289.97	Peter Barthels	63.40
	David Rottmayer	197.99	Sybil Lucks	61.81
2500 to 5000	William Rottmayer	294.06	William Rottmayer	79.07
	Jodi Kimbrell	127.80	Jodi Kimbrell	37.93
5000 to 7500	Sally Fahland	315.89	Catherine Fergie	102.50
	Lynn Hays	180.63	Lynn Hays	62.96
Over 10,000	G Gard Hays	697.13	G Gard Hays	59.32

CLUB GAMES

- [1] Mon 10 am – Non-Life Master
- [2] “ 6 pm – Open
- [2] Tue 11 am – Open
- [5] “ 11 am – Open
- [3] “ 6:00 pm – Open
- [7] “ 7:15 pm – Open
- [4] Wed 12:30 am – Open
- [3] “ 6:00 pm – 0-100 Student/Mentor (6:00 chalk talk; 6:30 game)
- [3] Thu 12:30 am – Open
- [6] “ 1 pm – Open
- [5] “ 6 pm – Open/Handicap
- [2] Fri 11 am – Open
- [6] Sat 10:30 am – Non-Sanctioned Invitational
- [1] “ 12:30 am – Open

DIRECTORS & TELEPHONES

- [1] Kay Fergie 509-838-3270 -- Kay's Games
- [2] Dick Yager 509-998-7390 – Maggie's Club
- [3] Kris Motoyoshi 509-466-4249 – Sam's Bridge Club
- [4] Phyllis Ewing 509-448-2526 – Spokane Bridge Club
- [5] Brenda Simpson 509-926-6973 – Bridge with Brenda
- [6] Karen Eveland 208-798-3092
- [7] Pete Pluhta 509-334-3245

LOCATIONS

- [1 thru 5] Quality Inn – 110 E 4th Ave – Spokane, WA – 838-6101
- [6] Spokane Valley Community Ctr – 10814 E. Broadway – Spokane, WA – 927-1153
- Elks Lodge – 2605 N. Robie Ct – Spokane Valley 99206
- [7] Paulter Sr Ctr – 549 5th St – Clarkston, WA and Masonic Lodge #10 – 1122 18th Ave, Lewiston, ID
- [8] Stookey's – 211 W. D Street – Moscow, ID

Brenda Simpson's Tuesday Open Game at 11:00 has moved to:

Elks Lodge at 2605 N. Robie Ct -- Spokane Valley 99206

The Thursday Open/Handicap Game at 6:00 will remain on Broadway.

Table Manners

Hunkered down at table one were three-passionate duplicate bridge veterans. South's cell phone rang just before the movement was called and she took the call, like usual, and went into the hall to talk. The call lasted for several minutes -- well into the start of the round. North, pair six, held the boards atop the table marker until he made his bid --2♠. He bid before South arrived. He was tired of waiting and annoyed at his partner. None of the three noticed they were playing the wrong boards and that pair nine, not six, should be sitting North/South at table one. The board showed South as the dealer.

After North bid, East angrily slapped the table with her cards and said loudly, "You can't do that! You're an idiot! You have to wait for South before you bid."

West looked up confused. Then he quietly bid 2♥.

Finally, South arrived at the table. There was a bit of tension so there were no greetings. Her first words upon arriving were "How could you guys do this?"

Things also were not going well at table nine.

What if?

All bridge players agreed as a courtesy that their cell phones would be turned off except for emergency calls. The Directors could reinforce this habit by announcing '**time to turn off**' at the beginning of each game and giving players '**time to check**'. This would mean cell phone users would actually check to insure their phones were turned off. Then there would be less annoyance at this particular distraction. And some big mistakes might be avoided.

North as the captain of the bridge table could '**place the new boards to the side of the table marker**'. And '**keep the boards to the side**' until all four players are seated with the opportunity to check both the table marker and the boards. Then four sets of eyes can look at each other with confidence that they're starting the game right.

Notes about Manners

The table should be kept uncluttered.

Courtesy like competition and fun are the grease that keeps the bridge wheels turning. Greet your opponents when they come to the table. Do not criticize your partner. If you make a mistake, just say "sorry, partner". If you are declarer, it is nice to tell your partner thank you when they lay down their hand.

North keeps the score and controls and handles the boards. Don't sit North if you are not a competent score keeper and/or your writing is not legible. North can ask South to handle the boards. East and West should ask before handling the boards. After North has recorded the score, the traveler should be shown to East to check that all details are correct.

Players should count their cards before looking at them. And it's a good idea to hold your cards while counting so they cannot be seen by others at the table or passers by. The object of duplicate bridge is to win, but you don't have to help your opponents by showing them your cards.

The only cards players can touch are their own.

Don't touch or fondle the bidding box until you are ready to make your bid.

Don't make comments during the bidding or play that might give unauthorized information to your partner.

The opening lead is made face down. This protects those leading 'out of turn' from playing penalties. It also provides an opportunity for partner to ask questions about the auction. The lead should be made before recording your contract -- 'lead first, write later'. Three people are waiting on the lead.

Keep the play moving. You're expected to play a board in 7-8 minutes (novice games can be longer). So game, scoring and movement in a two-board movement is 15_ minutes. Play cards in tempo -- without hesitations. Hesitations give information about your hand. When playing to a trick, place your card on the table without snapping or tossing it.

Avoid post mortems at the end of every hand. The term literally means after you're dead; maybe after the game is a good time.

The Director is the only and final arbiter of all etiquette, bid and play problems. The Director should be called as soon as a problem arises or if a problem is anticipated. The person calling the Director to the table should explain the reason for the call fully.

Table manners is brought to you by: Pat Strand, Kay Fergie, Donna DeChenne and the following internet sites:

1. <http://home.earthlink.net/~jimmunday/etiquette.doc>
2. <http://www.worldbridge.org/departments/Laws/2007/LawsComplete.pdf>
3. <http://www.jazclass.aust.com/bridge/>