



The Valley Tally

Miami Valley Bridge Association

Summer, 2009

President's Corner

Hello! I hope all of you are having a great summer! There have been lots of fun events going on at the Miami Valley Bridge Center. The Wednesday night game now holds a Unit game on the night of the board Meeting; usually the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Did you know that you don't even need to have a partner for Unit games? We always have a stand-by partner for Unit games so that no one is left out. The Mentor-Mentee games are going well, with a wrap-up game Sunday August 23rd. (Stand-by for this too!)

There have been lots of North American Pairs Qualifying games, which go on through August. We had a great ST@C Tournament, and the Dayton-Columbus "Flying Buckeye Regional" is coming up soon. (Aug 4 through 9)

We have had some changes at the Bridge Center that affected our regional. Sadly, **Peter Wahl and his wife Karen** had to move back to Arizona since their house didn't sell. He was a great worker, and several people have had to step in and help us out. **Roger Dybvig** took over the Monday am game, **and** the Regional Chairperson. (He only *thought* he had given up this job!) **Janet Lee** has taken charge of the Mentor-Mentee program. Since **Marilyn O'Connor** has had some health problems, **Rosie Sizemore and Gay Miller** have stepped back in to do Partnership duties for the Regional. We really appreciate these people volunteering to help us! I also want to thank **Jan Gimbrone** for stepping in to do the Valley Tally!

Gary Hatten did a great job, but turned it over for other duties. He has taught a new group of prospective Directors, and acted as ST@C coordinator.

Steve and Sandy Forsythe have built their Beginner game up to usually 7 or more tables! We have several new members from this group and will probably have more soon.

Thanks to all from the Prez, Georgia Banziger, and the entire Unit membership.



● Why A Rate Increase at MVBC ●

By *Tom Coyle, Club Manager*

Effective September 1, 2009 player fees for regular sessions at the Bridge Center will increase by \$1.00 to \$6.00 per session, as a result of MVBA Board action at the June, 2009 meeting.

Since moving to the new facility at Presidential Way in August of 2008, we have enjoyed a fine, modern, spacious facility with more than adequate parking, in a pleasant, secure area.

We have the luxury of conducting Sectional Tournaments each year at the BC, avoid paying approximately \$1,500.00 rent per Tournament to the IUE Hall, moving equipment from the BC, playing in stark surroundings, sitting on hard, cold or hot metal chairs depending on the season. However, this does come with increased costs on a continuing basis for a facility more than twice the size of our old Bridge Center.

In 2008 MVBC operated at a loss of ~ \$9,000.00. For the 1st six months of 2009, the loss is ~ \$4,450.00. Our Lease facility rent will increase effective Sep 1, by \$100 per month, or an additional \$1,200.00 to \$41,200.00 per year.

Prior to moving to our new Kettering location, the Unit's investment account was approximately \$160,000. After the "build out" and moving expenses, the account was at \$81,675 at the end of 2008 and currently stands at \$75,715 as of June 30, 2009.

For comparison, the increase to a regular \$6.00 player fee will be identical to the fees charged for several years by Cincinnati and Columbus. Comparable fees for other major bridge centers from Philadelphia to Florida range from \$7.50 to \$9.00.

A Cash Flow statement detailing operating costs for the first half of 2009 is posted at the Bridge Center...and included below.

MVBC Cash Flow First Half 2009

Revenue

Regular Player Fees	\$29,252.
Sectional Fees	1,592.
Non-Bridge Rental	150.

Total Revenue \$30,994.

Expenses

Rent	\$20,000.
Utilities	3,888.
ACBL Sanction Fees	2,413.
Cleaning	2,247.
Supplies	
Bridge	\$1,564.
Misc.	823.
Coffee	527.
Total Supplies	2,914.
Salaries	1,590.
Charitable Donations	1,270.
Phone/Internet	716.
Maintenance/Misc.	410.

Total Expenses \$35,448.

Net Cash Flow -\$4,454.

WELCOME, WELCOME, **WELCOME!**

...TO NEW MEMBERS OF THE MIAMI VALLEY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

Nancy Curk
Matthew Ramsey
John Taylor, Jr.
Helen Wozar

Darin Campo
Marvin Cook
Cathy Keely
Karen Keller

Matthew Kuhn
Robert Mulcahy
Constance Reynolds
John Scharf

Congratulations!

...TO **2008 Winners of Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKinney Masterpoint Races**, honored this spring at a MVBA luncheon and game. The Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race includes only those points received during club play. The Mini-McKinney includes points won at tournaments. The numbers listed at the top of each category are the number of points the individuals began with in the calendar year 2008.

2008 Ace of Clubs Top 3 Winners receiving certificates:

0-5 Joanne Deutsch Sandra Pahl Jerry Kerns	50 to 100 Beth Duncan John Hoffman Marilyn Hoback	300 to 500 Thomas Kaple Janet Dixon William Williamson	2500 to 5000 Tom Coyle Ronald Babcock Patrick Moran
5-20 Janis Gimbrone Hugh Barnett Joan Hanes	100 to 200 Bonnie Papini Ryan Schultz Lila Lowe	500 to 1000 Jo Anne McDowell William Hartung Rosie Sullivan	5000 to 7500 R Wayne Penrod Bobbi Johnson Vickie Sebastian
20 to 50 Eva Izenon Harold Powell Joanne Trecaso	200 to 300 C Tom Kerns Richard Andaloro Davey Smith	1000 to 2500 Joanne Coyle D Scott Smith Georgia Banziger	7500 to 10,000 Robert Sulgrove Over 10,000 Russell Shoup Sandra Low Marc Low

2008 Mini-McKinney Top 3 Winners receiving medallions:

0 to 5 Sandra Pahl Joanne Deutsch Jerry Kerns	50 to 100 Beth Duncan John Hoffman Jason Parker	300 to 500 Richard Garlough Janet Dixon John Heath	2500 to 5000 Patrick Moran Scott Gates Tom Coyle
5 to 20 Janis Gimbrone Hugh Barnett June Hoffmaier	100 to 200 Ryan Schultz Bonnie Papini Lila Lowe	500 to 1000 William Hartung Marilyn O'Connor Wayne O'Connor	5000 to 7500 Vickie Sebastian R Wayne Penrod Bobbi Johnson
20 to 50 Rose Ann Samuels Eva Izenon Harold Powell	200 to 300 Richard Andaloro C Tom Kerns Fritz Kasischke	1000 to 2500 D. Scott Smith Joanne Coyle Paul Hern	7500 to 10,000 Robert Sulgrove Over 10,000 Sandra Low Marc Low Russell Shoup

and Congratulations

...TO **Ryan Schultz** and the Centerville High School. Science Team...

Ryan was one of the coaches of the CHS Science Team, taking home 1st Place in the National Science Olympiad Competition for USA High School/Middle School competition held during the 2008 school year!

September 1st through September 7th is NABC Promotional Games Week

All games at the Miami Valley Bridge Center the first week of September will be promotional games for the 2011 Spring North American Bridge Championship (the Nationals) in Louisville, Kentucky. These games will cost one dollar more per person, but more points are given. The points are 100% Sectional rated black points. This may be a little hard to take since our regular rates also go up to \$6 per person on the first of September. The price for September 1st through September 7th will be \$7 per person, but we do want to support the Nationals being in our District. It costs quite a bit to put on a National Tournament!

What's The Game Plan?

As a matter of interest, after questions and discussions on this subject by various players... The following explanation of different “game plans” was culled from the ACBL website:

Italicized lines added by G. Banziger

STRATIFIED TEAMS

A Swiss Team event that produces more than one set of winners. The event is run along the same lines as an Open Swiss Teams. Any team may be paired against teams from any of the other brackets.

The only difference comes in the rankings. First, overall in the top stratum is determined by comparing all scores. Then, the scores from the top stratum are eliminated and a second ranking takes place for the remaining teams. Next, the scores from the second stratum are eliminated and a third ranking takes place.

It is possible for teams in the second and third strata to place in a higher stratum, but teams in the top stratum are eligible for awards only in the top stratum.

The stratum in which a team plays is determined by the player who has the greater number of masterpoints. Teams do not have a choice of strata—they are automatically placed in the lowest strata for which they are eligible.

FLIGHTED TEAMS

An event that is broken down into two or three fields based on masterpoints. Each field competes as a separate event. The flight for which a team is eligible is determined by the masterpoint holding of the player with the most masterpoints. Teams may opt to play in a higher classification but not in a lower one. Often the breakdown is as follows: Flight A—0 to infinity, Flight B—0-750, Flight C—0-300

All teams are eligible to compete in Flight A. Only teams with fewer than 750 points for each player (Flight B limit) are eligible to play in Flight B. Only teams with fewer than 300 points for each player (Flight C limit) are eligible to play in Flight C. Teams eligible for Flight A only may compete in Flight A only.

STRATIFLIGHTED TEAMS

A Stratiflighted Teams is almost identical to a Stratified Teams, with one major difference—the teams in the top stratum compete in a separate event, totally apart from the other strata. The top flight can be divided into two strata if preferred. *We usually have Flight A and Flight Ax.* The remaining teams play a stratified game handled exactly like a Stratified Teams.

BRACKETED TEAMS

This is being newly used in tournaments. Middletown has one scheduled in its August tournament. Some method of seeding based on ability and experience is used to divide the total field into two or more groups. The breakdown is according to the average masterpoints of all players on each team. Each bracket comprises a separate event with its own masterpoint awards. There is no interplay between brackets. *This often involves a round robin where all teams in the same bracket play each other team in that bracket one time.* The size of each bracket and the number of brackets depend on the number of teams entered. The purpose of bracketing is to establish groups within which each team is competitive. *The biggest problem with this is, if your team is the lowest in masterpoint holdings, you could be out matched all day.*

Retired in 2009

...*Evelyn Tuck*, a long-time MVBA member, has retired after many years in office as Assistant Manager of the Bridge Center. Thank you, Evelyn, for all your time and patience.

Since the last Valley Tally, “Wishing You Well” Cards Were Sent

...TO THE FOLLOWING MVBA MEMBERS WHO WERE ILL OR HAD SURGERIES...

Peggy Grogan, Ellen Jellison, Juanita Swanson, Terry Parker, Barbara Nixon, Katie Wagner, Marge Kolb, Pat Griffiths, Vickie Plotner and Arlene Seppelt.

Thanks and “well’wishes” to Marilyn O’Conner, our Sunshine Chair.

Condolences

... TO MVBA MEMBERS WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES...

Jane Ashworth, Natalie Barrar, Joan Reeves, and Bob Stitt

...AND TO FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF DECEASED MVBA MEMBERS.:

- *Millie Cowan* of Huntsville, who played mainly in Bellefontaine
- *Pauline "Pinky" Brinkman* of Lima, who ran a game in Lima for many years.
- *Steve Lyon*
- *Ken Kean*, who played in Bellefontaine (wife Jane Barrett is a MVBA member)
- *Norma Kerns* of Bellefontaine (special condolences to her twin sister MVBA member Lois Latimer)

Hello! Is Anyone There???

...Who has been trained,
...and is current in CPR?

Please email Georgia Banziger at
gbanzi@sbcglobal.net.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO
RECYCLE ALUMINUM CANS
AND PLASTIC/GLASS
BOTTLES

at the Bridge Center...
a receptacle is provided
for this purpose. Thanks

Reminder:

A Medical Alert Notebook is still available at the MVBA Bridge Center.

Several years ago, we created a notebook containing forms which were filled out by MVBA members listing their current medications, medical problems, etc. in case a medical emergency arises while at the Bridge Center. If medical teams are called, the information can be of help both before and after they arrive.

First, if you have not filled out a form for this purpose, please consider doing so. It could be of help to you in the future. *Forms are available at the desk.*

Second, if you did fill out a form, you may want to check to see that your information is current.

Thank you.....

Just Another **ORDINARY PRECISION AUCTION**

By *Terry Grogan*

At the February Regional in Sarasota playing in a tight semi-final match in the second bracket with *Stefanie Ginger* and *Bob Stitt*, *Gay Grogan* picked up this hand:

Xx

KQJxx

Xxxxx

X



The auction went: pass, 1C* by me, pass, 1D** by Gay, 2C by RH opponent, 2D*** by me, pass , what is your call by Gay's hand? 2H, 3H, 3D, 4D, 5D, 4C, other? Make your bid and then see what Gay bid.

*16+, nothing about Clubs

** 0-7 HCP, nothing about Diamonds

***non forcing, at least a 5 card suit

After some thought (we all know Gay takes time to think), Gay bid 4NT, Roman Key Card !!!

After more thought by me (what can she be thinking?), I bid 5C, showing 1 or 4 key cards, Gay then bid 6 D!!!

My hand was:

Axx

Ax

AKQxx

Xxx



6 Diamonds rolls, picking up 17 IMPS and winning the match when at the other table, the contract was 3NT going down on a club lead.

When was the last time you saw the 1D responder to a Precision 1C opener become the captain of the auction and bid a slam? Great hand evaluation!!

Unfortunately, the finals did

not

go

as

well.

The Flying Buckeye Regional...August 4-9!!!

The Top 10 Reasons You Should Play in the Flying Buckeye Regional!

By Sandy Forsythe

There's something for everyone at the Dayton – Columbus Flying Buckeye regional, but there's even more for newer players! Aside from the excitement of hundreds of bridge players all gathered in one place, there are parties, giveaways and more! Read on for my top 10 reasons to play:

- 10 Hand records for all pair games.** After every session (except team games) you can get a printout showing what cards everyone held for each deal that you played in that session. The hand records are a great learning tool for discussing with partner how you might have bid or played the cards differently.
- 9. Play bridge three times a day.** With sessions at 10 a.m., 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. every day (except Sunday) you can find time to play whatever your schedule. Play once, twice or three times a day! Start early or sleep late; be home for dinner or burn the midnight oil: it's your choice.
- 8. Look at all the colors.** As you begin accumulating masterpoints, you'll need a certain number of silver, red and gold points to achieve the ranks of Sectional Master, Regional Master, NABC Master and Life Master. With a few exceptions, these colored points are awarded only at tournaments: silver points at sectionals, red points at regionals and nationals, and gold points for the top winners of certain multi-session events at regionals and nationals. This is your chance to try for those fall colors!
- 7. Free hospitality.** All players can enjoy free coffee at 9 a.m. in the Hospitality Room, and free snacks every day after the evening session. And don't miss the free 199'er mixer on Wednesday after the morning session, open to all players with fewer than 200 masterpoints.
- 6. Free lectures.** Local teachers and top players will be sharing their tips every day between the 10 a.m. session and the 2 p.m. session.
- 5. Bragging rights!** Impress your friends with tales of your exploits at the bridge table. "Have I told you about the slam I made when I played at the Flying Buckeye regional?" you'll say. And gentlemen in England now-a-bed will think themselves accursed they were not there! Then you'll show them your name in the list of winners in the tournament Daily Bulletin and you'll say, "This recognition I got on Crispin's Day." (With apologies to William Shakespeare...don't tell me you didn't recognize the quote from Henry V!)
- 4. Non-Life Master games.** Play with your peers! There'll be a separate, stratified game for players with less than 200 or less than 300 points for every session, every day except Sunday. You don't have to get beat up by Life Masters! (Unless you want to.) No one with more than the stated upper limit of masterpoints may play in these games, but most ACBL events have no lower limit. You can always play "up" if you want to.
- 3. Free matchmaking!** Not *that* kind of matchmaking (though I do know of more than one couple who met at the partnership desk and went on to make beautiful music together, both at the bridge table and elsewhere). Romance is not guaranteed, but don't let lack of a partner keep you from playing. Call or email Rosie Sizemore in advance, 937-434-6124 or rosiesizemore531@cs.com. Or show up at the partnership desk at least half an hour before game time and our dedicated partnership chairs will fix you up!
- 2. Free plays!** ACBL members with fewer than 5 masterpoints can play for free in all sessions. Not a member yet? Do the math: with entry fees running about \$10/session, you might want to sign up now! Your first year of ACBL membership will cost just \$26. Pick up a membership application at any bridge club, or join online at the ACBL website, acbl.org.

...and the number one reason to play in the Flying Buckeye regional:

It's in Dayton! No long drive or plane fare, no hotel bill; just free food, free parking and more bridge than you can shake a stick at! It's the best party in town and it only happens once a year...so plan now to play, and I'll see you there!

For a full listing of the events August 4-9, access the MVBA website at www.mvba.com, or pick up a flyer at the bridge center

Miami Valley Bridge Association

4701 Presidential Way
Kettering, OH 45429

visit us at our website at:
www.mvba.com
937-439-1969

Schedule of Up-coming Events:

Monday, June 1 - Sunday, August 31NAP Qualifiers
Sunday, July 26.....Bridge in the Barn in Bellefontaine
Tuesday, August 4-Sunday, August 9..... Dayton/Columbus Regional
Sunday, August 23Mentor/Mentee Game (final game) 1:30
Friday, August 28-Sunday, August 30..... Middletown Sectional
Sunday, August 30Bridge in the Barn in Bellefontaine
Wednesday, August 19 Unit Game 7:00 pm
SeptemberInternational Fund Month
Tuesday, September 1 - Monday, September 7NABC Promotional Games at the Bridge Center
Wednesday, September 9 ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game 7:00 pm
Saturday, September 12 Unit Game 1:00
Wednesday, September 16..... Unit Game 7:00 pm
Sunday, September 27.....Bridge in the Barn in Bellefontaine
October.....Club Appreciation Month
Saturday, October 10..... Unit Game 1:00
Wednesday, October 21 Unit Game 7:00 pm
Friday, October 16 - Sunday, October 18 Columbus Sectional
Friday, October 23 - Sunday, October 25 Cincinnati Sectional & NAP Finals

The last word...

Georgia B says: "Keep your information current!"

"There are several errors in phone numbers in the Directory this year. Each month we get an update from ACBL for our computer, and it wipes out any information that I have previously entered and puts in what they have on record. The only way this will be corrected is if you call ACBL and correct the information with them. The number is 901-332-5586, ext. 1259 for membership. You can also do it online at www.acbl.org, but I have had some people say they still have problems this way (especially with emails or office/cell numbers)."