

Northwest Arkansas Bridge Players

ACBL Unit 247

October 2017

Issue 32



Focus On – Bella Vista Tournament Bob Gromatka, Tournament Chair

What a great tournament it was!!! The turnout was fabulous. The play was competitive but NICE. A record 246.5 tables, a 16% increase, were played over three days – 141 tables in NLM events and 105.5 in Open events.

For the NLM Regional, the table counts increased:

On Friday +20%

On Saturday +31%

And on Sunday +81%

For the Sectional, these are the changes in table counts:

On Friday +12.5%

On Saturday +8.6%

And on Sunday -36%

We tried something new this year.

Because attendance at the Sunday Swiss Team games has been declining, we ran only pair events on Sunday.

Other Units in our District were paying close attention to our results. Our tentative conclusion is that our Non-Life Master players don't want to play Swiss Teams and our LM players seem to like Swiss Teams, or need more variety of choices.

A HUGE THANK YOU to the large number of Unit 247 players who attended and a VERY SPECIAL thank you to all BVDBC members who volunteered their services.

The positive outcome we experienced this year just didn't happen – it takes the work of many people to run a successful tournament.

And how about the food? We received high praise for our continually stocked snack and beverage tables, our bottled water, and our super delicious ice cream treats. Individual thanks to Hospitality Chair Barbara Francis for all her efforts.” And thanks to Chris Patrias and Joan Paradias for their fine directing.

Thanks are also due to all the players who brought wonderful side dishes, cookies,

and other desserts over the three days of the tournament.

Our Tournament continues to be one of the most successful tournaments in our District.

Save the date: our 2018 tournament will be August 23-26.

Tournament Trail **3rd Quarter Tournament Results**

Tulsa Summer Regional Tulsa, OK Jul 10-16, 2017

13.47 Laura Batey, Bentonville AR
13.47 Jane Lucky, McGehee AR
9.19 Ronnie Burns, Fort Smith AR
7.95 Judy Worden, Fort Smith AR
7.95 Emily Jane Gaer, Van Buren AR
4.81 Sue Rolfe, Rogers AR
4.81 Angeline Rowland, Rogers AR
3.76 Stevie Locke, Fort Smith AR
3.69 Georgia McGill, Harrison AR
3.69 Dana Snawder, Harrison AR
3.68 Darlene Ray, Fort Smith AR
3.16 Pat Moles, Harrison AR
3.16 M Fish, Harrison AR
1.80 Jackie Nelson, Bella Vista AR
1.80 Gary Nelson, Bella Vista AR
0.42 Michael Rosenberg, Van Buren AR

Bella Vista I/N Regional Bella Vista, AR Aug 04-06, 2017

13.48 Robert Makela, Bella Vista AR
13.48 Morris Brown, Rogers AR
8.73 Valerie Watson, Bella Vista AR
8.73 Nancy Sherbondy, Bella Vista AR
5.18 Lois Sprague, Bella Vista AR
4.82 Jackie Nelson, Bella Vista AR
4.82 Gary Nelson, Bella Vista AR
4.70 Dorothy Stokebrand, Bella Vista AR

4.40 Sue Rolfe, Rogers AR
4.40 Roni Ray, Bentonville AR
4.05 Shirley Foster, Bella Vista AR
4.02 Shereen West, Siloam Springs AR
4.02 Norma Flory, Siloam Springs AR
3.83 Dick Ayres, Fayetteville AR
3.54 Nadine Duffy, Bentonville AR
3.54 Hilary Krueger, Bentonville AR
2.56 Ronald Smith, Bella Vista AR
2.56 Nancy Cunningham, Rogers AR
2.56 Joan Bain, Bella Vista AR
2.56 Angeline Rowland, Rogers AR
2.49 William Ward, Fayetteville AR
2.18 Georgia McGill, Harrison AR
2.18 Dana Snawder, Harrison AR
1.98 Ernie Grant, Bella Vista AR
1.91 Jay Lacy, Bella Vista AR
1.49 John Matthews, Bella Vista AR
1.48 John Frey, Bentonville AR
1.34 Michael Smith, Bentonville AR
1.34 Marsha Havens, Eureka Springs AR
1.25 David Hirsch, Holiday Island AR
1.25 Brenda Hirsch, Holiday Island AR
1.02 Jeffrey Starr, Springdale AR
0.93 Janet Callarman, Bella Vista AR
0.93 James Callarman, Bella Vista AR
0.69 Rhonda Davis, Bella Vista AR
0.69 Kathleen Markus, Rogers AR
0.65 Rebecca Vendel, Bella Vista AR
0.62 Stevie Locke, Fort Smith AR
0.62 Ann Winters, Fort Smith AR
0.50 Gene Goodrich, Bella Vista AR
0.31 Mary Goebel, Fort Smith AR
0.31 Jon Fletcher, Rogers AR
0.31 Deanna Fletcher, Rogers AR
0.31 Arleen Donelson, Van Buren AR

Bella Vista Sectional Bella Vista, AR Aug 04-06, 2017

19.30 Joe Scott, Rogers AR
19.30 Cole Spencer, Fayetteville AR
15.37 Marina Scott, Rogers AR
15.37 John Jennings, Rogers AR

14.71 Kevin Glasgow, Rogers AR
 12.09 Robert Gromatka, Bella Vista AR
 10.98 Robbie Tyler, Grove OK
 10.98 Nancy Weatherly, Bella Vista AR
 9.48 Ann Yancey Ferrill, Berryville AR
 7.79 Margaret Rodman, Fayetteville AR
 6.96 Thomas Graff, Fayetteville AR
 6.79 Jean Rosso, Fayetteville AR
 6.30 Linda McRay, Fort Smith AR
 6.30 Judy Worden, Fort Smith AR
 6.18 Michael Foley, Springdale AR
 6.18 Brian Simet, Bentonville AR
 5.13 Sandra Gromatka, Bella Vista AR
 5.13 Judy Bappe, Bella Vista AR
 3.70 Susan Hall, Bentonville AR
 3.70 Garland Hall, Bentonville AR
 3.65 Ronnie Burns, Fort Smith AR
 3.65 Len Fettig, Bella Vista AR
 3.37 Jeff La Caze, Bella Vista AR
 3.01 Diane Fischer, Rogers AR
 3.01 Beverly Cunningham, Rogers AR
 2.92 Dick Ayres, Fayetteville AR
 2.89 Teresa Huntington, Springdale AR
 2.64 Raymond Lynch, Bella Vista AR
 2.30 Bob Joyce, Bella Vista AR
 2.16 Jackie Nelson, Bella Vista AR
 2.16 Gary Nelson, Bella Vista AR
 1.95 Sharon Monaghan, Bella Vista AR
 1.90 Shirley Johanson, Fayetteville AR
 1.85 Peg Atkins, Fort Smith AR
 1.85 Juanita Huckelbury, Van Buren AR
 1.76 Barbara Fielding, Bella Vista AR
 1.53 Linda Richmond, Fort Smith AR
 1.53 Ann Haggard, Fayetteville AR
 1.42 Jon Fletcher, Rogers AR
 1.42 Deanna Fletcher, Rogers AR
 1.42 Barbara Francis, Bella Vista AR
 1.16 Michael Smith, Bentonville AR
 1.13 Barbara McPhee, Rogers AR
 1.07 Shari Hult, Bella Vista AR
 0.93 Kaye Cotton, Rogers AR
 0.90 Gary Stumbo, Bella Vista AR
 0.90 Carole Van Hook, Bella Vista AR
 0.88 Ronald Smith, Bella Vista AR

0.88 Joan Bain, Bella Vista AR
 0.66 Ernie Grant, Bella Vista AR
 0.58 Robert Dray, Holiday Island AR
 0.46 Julia Farrar, Lavaca AR
 0.46 Jeffrey Starr, Springdale AR
 0.46 Darlene Ray, Fort Smith AR
 0.23 William Ward, Fayetteville AR
 0.23 Teri Rhodes, Rogers AR
 0.23 Sue Rolfe, Rogers AR
 0.23 Roni Ray, Bentonville AR
 0.23 Angeline Rowland, Rogers AR

Unit North American Pairs Qualifiers

The following players are eligible to advance to the District NAP Qualifying event in Topeka, November 4th.

Joe Scott
 John Jennings
 Gary Stumbo
 Bob Joyce
 Gary Nelson
 Jackie Nelson
 Beverly Cunningham
 Diane Fischer
 Roni Ray
 Sue Rolfe
 Robert Gromatka
 Kevin Glasgow
 Betty Schemm
 Linda McRay
 Judy Worden
 Clarence Razer
 Joan Bain
 Ronald Smith

The top qualifiers in each strata (A, B, C) earn an entry to the ACBL NAP final; which will be held at the NABC in San Diego: Nov. 23-Dec. 3.

The ACBL has two grass-roots qualifying programs each year. In addition to the NAP, we also have the Grand National Teams (GNT) qualifying process. Your Club Manager can provide more information on the dates of the qualifying games at your club.



Climbing the Ladder

Rank Advancements 3rd Qtr, 2017

Junior Master (5+ MP's)

James Callarman – Bella Vista
Ernie Grant – Bella Vista

Club Master (20+MP's)

Stevie Locke – Fort Smith
Craig Maurer – Cherokee Village
Jeanne Stokebrand – Bella Vista

Sectional Master (50+ MP's)

Dick Ayres – Fayetteville

Regional Master (100+ MP's)

NABC Master (200+ MP's)

Life Master (300+ MP's)

Sapphire Life Master (3500+MP's)

Darlene Ray – Fort Smith

Way to go players!

STaC News

This year we will have only one Sectional Tournament at the Clubs (STaC) week. It will be December 4-10. These games are very popular because they award Silver Master Points and because the overall point awards are calculated across all of the games in both District 15 (us) and District 14 (Nebraska to North Dakota). It is not unusual for top scorers to earn 10 to 14 Silver MP's.

Now that it takes 75 Silver MP's to reach the Life Master rank, earning those coveted Silver points at our local clubs is an important benefit.

Tournament Schedule – 2017

Wichita Regional – Oct. 3-8

Claremore NLM – Oct 13-15

Overland Park – Oct 20-22

Branson West – Oct. 27-29

Topeka - Nov 3-5

Oklahoma City - Nov 17-19

Overland Park Regional - Dec 26-31

See our web site for more information on tournaments.



Editorial Policy

We plan to make mistakes in the content of this newsletter. If we have omitted someone or misstated information, please let us know. We will cheerfully announce corrections in the following issue. Information has been collected from a variety of sources that we feel are reliable and whose content we believe to be Public Domain.

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Bridge Humor

If I did everything right, I wouldn't be playing with you.

Dummy apologizing for getting the partnership too high says: "I was hoping you had a second suit." Partner says: "I didn't even have a first suit".

Hear about the guy who led the 8 from a 98 doubleton because his teacher told him "eight ever, nine never?"

This lady, Charlotte, plays very slowly. She is asked to speed it up a bit. She says:

"I'm sorry, but I can't think and play bridge at the same time."

Patrick Jourdain, a famous bridge player-teacher from Wales is called over to a table at one of his classes where a hand has just passed out, but 4th hand had 17 high card points. "So why did you pass?" asks Patrick. "Because you told us after three passes the bidding is over, so I had to pass."

More Patrick: Again he is called over to a table and this time a lady tells him that she has opened 1H and there have been three passes back to her so this time she bid 2H. Again there were three passes back to her, but this time she wants to know if she is worth 3H?

When your partner is playing even worse than usual you might say: "You know, you may not be the worst player in the world, but if that person should die...."

Purpose: To promote contract bridge play in Northwest Arkansas.

Our aim is to build a sense of community among all of the bridge players – young, old, new, veterans, party bridge or competitive – Let's work together to promote bridge play at all opportunities. If you feel that playing bridge has been good for you, then accept the challenge to give something back to the world of bridge play.

Web Site

<http://www.acbl-unit-247.org>