



ScoreCard

Volume I Issue 3
August 2018

PIKES PEAK REGIONAL Colorado Springs, Colorado October 8-14

NEWS WINNERS LEARN

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Between Sections



Reading



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Between Sections



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District 17 Tournament Calendar

Regionals

Aug 10-12 ... [Loveland CO](#) (NLM)
 Aug 13-19 ... [Scottsdale \(Phoenix\) AZ](#)
 Oct 8-14 [Colorado Springs CO](#)
 Nov 8-11 [Tucson AZ NLM](#)

Phoenix Desert Empire Regional
 Partnerships - Anne Marie Harrington
 (480) 874-3852, aharrin708@aol.com <https://unit354.com/tournaments>
 August 13 - 19, 2018
 Talking Stick Resort

Special Events

Jul 26-Aug 5. [Atlanta NABC](#)
 Aug 20-26 ... [Western Conference STaC](#)
 Oct 12-13 ... [D17 NAP Finals](#)
 Nov 22-Dec 2. [Hawaii NABC](#)
 Dec 3-9 [Western Conference STaC](#)

Pikes Peak Regional
 Colorado Springs, Colorado
 October 8-14, 2018
 More information:
coloradospringsregional.com

Sectionals

August

3-5 [Avon\(Vail\) CO](#)
 4-5 [Albuquerque NM 499er](#)
 10-12 [Loveland CO](#)
 31-Sep 3 ... [El Paso TX](#)

Summer Fun STaC August 20-26
thewesternconference.com/stac/

September

14-16 [Prescott AZ](#)

14-16 [Cheyenne WY](#)

21-23 [Montrose CO](#)

21-23 [Carlsbad NM](#)

October

3-5 [Sheridan \(Denver\) CO \(I/N\)](#)

19-21 [Phoenix AZ](#)

26-28 [Longmont \(Boulder\) CO](#)

The Icelandic Northern Light Bridge Festival

Siglufjörður, September 14th - 16th, 2018

Friday September 14th

Pairs from 10:00-18:00

1st prize 500.000 ISK

2nd prize 320.000 ISK

3rd prize 190.000 ISK

Saturday Teams from 10:00-18:00

Sunday Teams from 10:00-15:00

1st prize 750.000 ISK

2nd prize 500.000 ISK

3rd prize 190.000 ISK

More
Information:

Ólafur Jónsson, +354 892 0852

Gunnar I. Birgisson, +354 896 5870

Registration and info: vikingbridgeiceland@gmail.com

VIKING BRIDGE

Entry fees:

Pairs: ISK 10.000

(5.000 pr.person)

Teams: ISK 20.000

(5.000 pr.person)

www.bridge.is

PIKES PEAK REGIONAL

Colorado Springs, Colorado

October 8-14

By Bonnie Bagley, Tournament Chair

Colorado Springs in October? Yes indeed. The surrounding region will be a kaleidoscope of fall foliage, with temperatures ranging from the mid 50s to the mid 70s. Plus there is great bridge to be played at the Pikes Peak Regional! Join us October 8-14 at the DoubleTree by Hilton. For reservations go to <http://group.doubletree.com/PPRB> or call 719 576-8900. There is also additional lodging a short walk from the tournament at either [Fairfield Inn & Suites Colorado Springs South](#) (\$110.00 - \$130.00 per night) or [Residence Inn Colorado Springs South](#) (\$149.00 - \$159.00 per night). Reserve your room now!

There will be something for everyone every day:

- ◆ Monday night starts with the traditional Charity Pairs and 299er Charity Pairs and the kickoff Knockout Teams.
- ◆ **New this year are Choice Gold Rush Pairs** on Wednesday and Friday at 9 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. These events are for 0-750 masterpoint players; play any two of the three sessions and receive gold points for placing in the overalls or winning a section top. Tuesday and Thursday have traditional (two session) Gold Rush Pairs.
- ◆ Sunday has a Flight A/X/Y Swiss Teams and a **0-3000 Bracketed Round Robin Teams** starting at 9:30 a.m. Each bracket pays gold points for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. There will be a short lunch break (compliments of the tournament) between sessions.
- ◆ For Pairs players there are three Side Game Series (morning, afternoon, and evening), two session Stratified Pairs games and, on



Friday, the popular IMP Pairs.

- ◆ For those who prefer teams we have four session knockouts, Bracketed Round Robin Team events, Compact Knockouts, and single session Swiss Teams events.
- ◆ **The D17 North American Pairs (NAP) finals** for Flights A (Open), B, and C. Plan on playing, winning, and attending the National NAP finals at the 2018 Spring Memphis NABC in March.

Other highlights - Grand Life Master Jacob Morgan will be presenting **Mini-Lessons for advancing players** from 12:15-12:45 Tues through Friday

- ◆ Star Speakers Tuesday-Friday at 6:15
- ◆ FREE coffee every morning
- ◆ FREE parking
- ◆ FREE in-room Wi-Fi
- ◆ FREE light lunch on Sunday



Need a break from bridge? Colorado Springs, at the base of the famous Pikes Peak of the Rocky Mountains, is a colorful resort city. Among the many attractions, in addition to driving to the 14,000 foot plus summit of the Peak, are the U.S. Air Force Academy, the beautiful red rocks of the Garden of the Gods (a registered national natural landmark), downtown's free Pioneer's Museum, the U.S. Olympic Training Center, the Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site, and the Manitou Mineral Springs.



For more information contact Bonnie Bagley at 719 593-0205 or Mary Olson at 719 310-6413, go to coloradospringsregional.com or [click here for the flyer.](#)

Most of the images in this article and the cover of this month's D17 ScoreCard are courtesy of VisitCOS.com - Visit Colorado Springs.



Phoenix Desert Empire Regional

August 13 – August 19, 2018

**9800 E. Indian Bend Rd
Scottsdale, AZ 85256
(866) 877-9897**

- Room rates just \$99 (2016 rates) - BEFORE July 23rd !
 - Mention Code # **12685** or “Desert Empire Regional” when registering
- Online Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/y8ndn2zw>

Partnerships

Anne Marie Harrington
aharrin708@aol.com (602) 549-0956

- Best Pro-Am in the West!
- Gold Rush Pairs and Teams!

For more Info: <https://unit354.com>

Google Map—<https://goo.gl/maps/5jtW1SC4Swz>



District 17 News

Candid Photo Contest

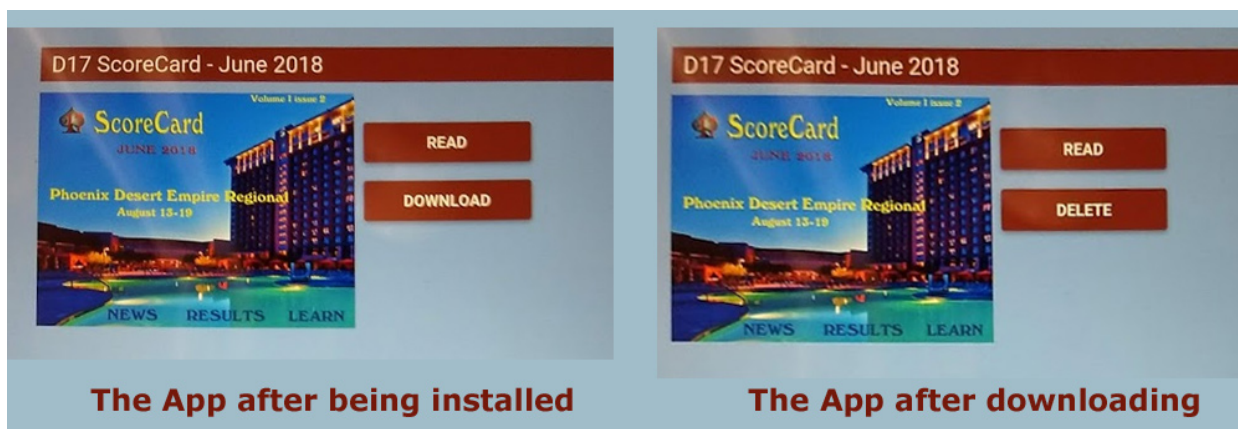
Send your best candid bridge photos to coopers@D17acbl.org for our contest. If we use your photos you get to see your name in lights in the *D17 ScoreCard*. The winning photo, announced in the December issue, will also get two free sessions at any D17 regional and a personal "Consult the Coopers" question answered.

The App is Here!

You can now read the D17 ScoreCard on your smartphone or tablet. Search your app store for D17 and you will find it.

Are you a Mac or a PC? Our app is available for both iPhones and Androids

Once the app is installed, you can click the "read" button to read ScoreCard in your browser or click the "download" button to put a copy on your device which you can then read offline. If you download Scorecard you can remove it using the delete button.



The top of the page in the app will always have the current issue while old issues are listed below with smaller images.

Congratulations to New Mexico!

So far, the New Mexico unit is D17's leading fund raiser for Alzheimer's research with an expected final total of \$20,000 from their Longest Day events. Here is what chairman Karen Souther had to say.



“We had a great team of 11 who contributed through donations of money, soliciting and delivering food all day, and donations of time. Our silent auction brought in about \$5400. We had support to the tune of \$950 from Los Alamos and Santa Fe contributions. From the Duke City Bridge Club (DCBC) in Albuquerque, we had three big anonymous donations, totalling about \$4000, one from each club level: novice, intermediate. and Life Master.

“Two other people contributed hugely: one by raising outside donations and auction items, and the other by collecting items from estates for our auction. The team appreciates everyone's efforts, whether they were big or small. Fifty-one and a half tables played games at 6:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. We even had some kids who were attending bridge camp and their parents contribute by bidding on auction items.”

By the way, the kid's bridge camp at DCBC has been a very successful way to

introduce young people to the game. Anyone interested in running one in their own unit should contact Felicity Moore, f.moore@netscape.com.

Thank you to all the clubs who participated:

Arizona

Unit 354 Phoenix

BridgeMix Duplicate Club

In Tempo Bridge Club

Kiva West

Lakeview

PC Bridge Club

Unit 356 Tucson

Small Slams Bridge Club



Colorado

Unit 359 Boulder

Bridge on Thursdays

Unit 360 Colorado Springs

Bridge To End Alzheimer's

Unit 361 Denver

Castle Rock Bridge

Unit 363 Northern Colorado

Estes Park Duplicate Club

Fort Collins Duplicate Players

Greeley Afternoon Bridge Club

Loveland Bridge Club

Loveland Bridge Club For Beginners

Unit 364 Colorado West

Durango Duplicate

GRAND SLAM



Nevada

Unit 373 Las Vegas

Henderson Bridge Club

New Mexico

Unit 374 Albuquerque

Duke City Bridge Club
Sandia Bridge Club
Unit 376 Carlsbad

Wyoming

Unit 422 Laramie
Bridge it with Elaine
Laramie DBC
Laramie DBC #2



North American Pairs (NAP)

By Jim Horton D17 NAP Coordinator

The NAP (North American Pairs) event has been a major ACBL pair championship since 1979 and was originally known as the Grand National Pairs. This grassroots event is staged in qualifying rounds at the club, unit and district level.

Qualifying for the NAP competition in District 17 began on June 1 and continues until August 31. You can qualify to play in the District 17 NAP Finals at the Pikes Peak Regional held in Colorado Springs during the week of October 8 - 14 by qualifying at your local club. If you place in the top three in the District 17 Finals, you will be eligible to play in the



National Finals held in conjunction with the 2019 Spring NABC in Memphis, Tennessee.

There are three levels of competition: Open, B, and C. To play in C you must be a Non-Life Master with fewer than 500 points. To be eligible for B you must have fewer than 2500 points. Any district member may play in the Open Flight. Points are determined as of June 1, 2017.

ACBL provides free entries for all participants at the NAP Finals. **First place winners in every flight will receive a stipend of \$700 each** to compete at the National Finals. Second place winners will receive \$300 each. D17 provides the third place finishers \$200 each upon participation at the National Finals. The fourth place finishers in Flights B and C will receive an invitation to the play in the National Finals in Memphis TN.

Plan to qualify in your local club, and join us in Colorado Springs for the District 17 Finals!



John's Journal



By John Grossmann, District 17 President

An Open Letter to Bridge Players, Clubs and Units

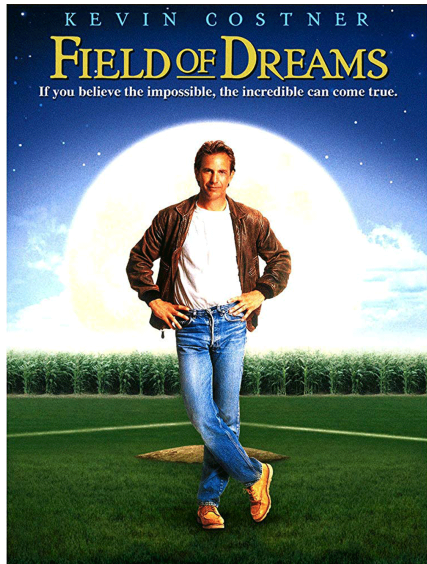
Everything in my experience tells me there are thousands of folks in our district who don't play bridge but are intrigued with the game. Their parents or grandparents may have played. Maybe they played bridge in college before the world of careers and children overtook them. They might be puzzle solvers, or former school teachers. The target population for new players is vast. We have proof all over District 17.

Steamboat Springs ran a Learn Bridge in a Day (LBIAD) program last February and assembled 18 tables of new faces. Cheyenne went wild over EasyBridge! and doubled its ACBL membership. Boulder grew its base of new players by running two LBIAD programs. Santa Fe organized a festival to attract new and social bridge players for beginner lessons. El Paso has for many years had a waiting list to get into its Bridge School. John Wolf used an outreach effort to create two sanctioned beginner games in Loveland where there had been none; attendance now averages 20+ tables a week. Tom Roberts started three tables of mentoring for beginner players at his home in Greeley. Word of mouth has brought more to his ongoing mentor events, a thriving beginner game was started, and the open game is now growing.

I'm hearing voices. It's like Field of Dreams (1989) when the voice whispers to Kevin Costner. **"If you build it, they will come."** Well, the actual quote is, "if you build it, he will come." Close enough if you are hearing voices.

I have watched clubs and units run a variety of outreach and membership building events. People came. Lots of people. They came because they were curious, a little bored with adult life, nostalgic for adult game night, or perhaps because they were seeking a competitive environment. My experience says that over half the

were seeking a competitive environment. My experience says that over half the new folks come back because bridge is social and challenging. They come back



because they made new friends. They come back because bridge is fun.

Areas that do nothing to attract new players are slowly dying. They just can't see the change. It creeps up on you. Not on my watch. We can do better.

Our number one priority, every month of every year, should be membership building. Special programs attract new players. If you build it, they will come.

Here is your part. Invite three friends to stick around after a bridge game and noodle on what your unit or club could do. Open houses, a social bridge festival, Easybridge! lessons, Learn Bridge in a Day, a mentor program. Pick one, pick two. They all work. Develop a plan of action.

If you want to use the D17 site license for Learn Bridge in a Day, email me at Blackstone.co@Comcast.net – also check out the D17 website under the [Admin/Membership Building Resources](#) tab for more ideas.

Advertise in your neighborhood papers, use the [ACBL CAP program](#) which picks up half the cost. Find a cheery person to connect with newcomers. Volunteer to run hospitality. Apply for a D17 grant. You will be amazed what a half dozen folks can organize in six weeks! You will get them in the door. Plan to keep them engaged with fun follow on lessons and beginner games. Mentor a newbie and that means playing with them in a supportive game. They will flourish.

Repeat this phrase. **If you build it, they will come!**

Pikes Peak Regional

Colorado Springs, Colorado

October 8–14, 2018

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel

1775 Cheyenne Mountain Blvd 80906

719-576-8900 or group.doubletree.com/PPRB

Reserve your rooms before September 8, 2018

DIC **Gary Zeiger** Chairman **Bonnie Bagley** 719 593-0205 bon1bon@comcast.net
Co-Chairman **Mary Olson** 719 310-6413 meo888@comcast.net
Partnership Chairman **John Gallagher** 303 627-4904 jgallagherjr@comcast.net

More information: coloradospringsregional.com

This is a Zero Tolerance Tournament. Please be considerate of others and refrain from wearing fragrance



Tournament Results

Rocky Mountain Regional Results

Thanks to the more than 1100 players who made the 2018 Rocky Mountain Regional a big success. In addition to the great bridge – more than 1900 tables – players enjoyed recently renovated hotel rooms and playing spaces, a reasonably priced and tasty buffet lunch, and Denver's many highly rated restaurants, professional sports, and cultural activities.

The District finals of the Grand National Teams were also played at this regional and those results are on the next page.

[Click here for Denver Rocky Mountain Regional Results](#)

Click here to get a winners slideshow



Congratulations to John Allman who won THREE gold rush pairs events with two different partners.

Sectional Results

Click on the tournament name to get to the results page at the ACBL

June

8-10 [Albuquerque NM](#)

15-17 [Durango CO](#)

22-24 [Prescott AZ](#)

*July*

13-15 [Golden \(Denver\) CO](#)

13-15 [Ruidoso NM](#)

20-22 [Grand Junction CO](#)

27-29 [Los Alamos NM](#)

Strike Gold**Aug 10-12**www.northerncoloradobridge.com**NLM Regional
Loveland, CO**



Grand National Teams Winners

By Bonnie Bagley, National Board Representative

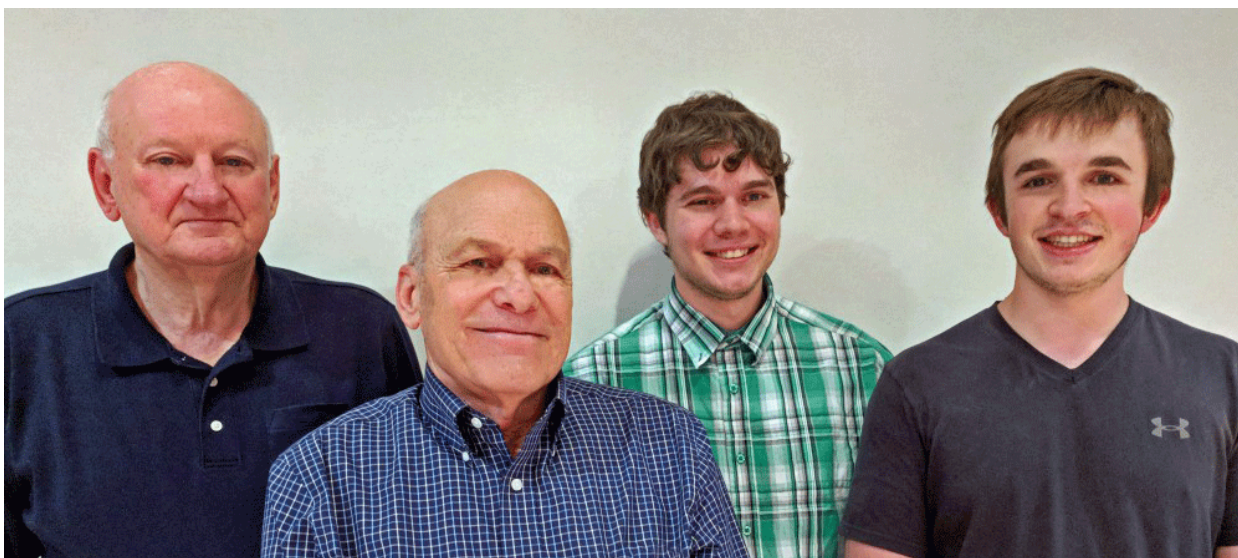
Congratulations to D17 GNT Winners who will represent us at the National Finals in Atlanta, Georgia this summer. Some of these players are repeat winners!



Josh Donn, Roger Lee, Daniel Korbel, Las Vegas, Sylvia Shi (not pictured), Las Vegas

Open Flight

Josh Donn is a prime example of never give up; he has been on the D17 Open Flight winner five previous times, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015. Let's hope the sixth time is the charm. Roger Lee was on the Open Flight 2016 team. This year Josh and Roger are joined by new D17 members Daniel Korbel and Sylvia Shi to form a formidable team!



Larry Matheny, Fort Collins, CO, Bob Sherman, Lafayette, CO, Greg Herman, Burke Snowden, Fort Collins, CO, Varis Garey (not pictured), Superior, CO

Flight A

Flight A has several veterans: Larry Matheny and Neil Petrie represented D17 Flight A in 2005 and 2012 (Neil replaced the original qualifier, Varis Carey, who was unable to attend the NABC Final); hopefully the third time is the charm for this team, which includes Greg Herman, who was on the 2014 D17 winning Flight A Team, and on the 2015 and 2016 winning Flight B Teams partnered with this year's partner, Burke Snowden. Their 2015 team finished second in the National Finals. Rounding out the team is Bob Sherman.



Roger Miller, Highlands Ranch, CO, Ed Yosses, Aurora, CO, Don Little, Broomfield, CO

Roger Miller, Highlands Ranch, CO, Ed Yosses, Aurora, CO, Don Little, Broomfield, CO,
Scott Needham, Boulder, CO

Flight B

Scott Needham was on the 2012 D17 winning Flight B Team. Joining Scott this year are Roger Miller, Ed Yosses, and Don Little. Paul Perkowski has been added to the team.



Robin Elliott, Greg Newman, Boulder, CO, Dan Zwonitzer, Justin Browning, Cheyenne, CO

Flight C

The winning team has repeat D17 Flight C 2016 winners Justin Browning and Dan Zwonitzer, who are joined by Robin Elliott and Greg Newcomb.

Many of the above people have also been D17 NAP winners. Roger Lee, partnered with Mitch Towner, placed twelfth overall in the 2018 Flight A NAP National Finals, while Daniel Korbel and Sylvia Shi were sixth (although they represented their previous district).

Ed Yosses and Paul Perkowski placed thirteenth in the 2018 Flight B NAP National Finals. Robin Elliott and Greg Herman placed twenty-second in the 2018 Flight C NAP National Finals. Their GNT teammates, Justin and Dan, placed third in the D17 Flight C NAPs but were unable to attend the National Finals due to work commitments.

Best of Luck to our D17 GNT Teams!!

Northern Colorado Silver Sectional

August 10-12 Loveland, Colorado

McKee Bldg. at Larimer County Fairgrounds, Exit 259 off I-25



"We have the most comfortable chairs in the West!"

Open pairs:	750/2000/2000+
Strati-flighted	A/X = 3,000+/0-3,000
Swiss Teams	750/1250/2000

Any team with an individual over 2,000 mps plays in flight A
Stratifications based on average pair or team.

Friday August 10

10 am and 3 pm

Stratified Pairs, Single Sessions

Saturday August 11

10 am and 3 pm

Double Session Stratified Pairs

Sunday August 12

10 am Strati-flighted Swiss Teams

Lunch provided

This open sectional is held concurrent with a NLM regional, same time and location.

Chairperson

John Wolf 303-810-4902

john-wolf@comcast.net

Partnerships

Robyn Leming 480-284-1013

robynleming@yahoo.com

www.NorthernColoradoBridge.com



District 17 Member Achievements

NEW LIFE MASTERS



ARIZONA



Rita Wilhelmi, Bullhead City, AZ

COLORADO



Jim Churchill, Cedaredge, CO



Chris Dorton, Silverthorne, CO



Kristi Fjare, Estes Park, CO



Bill Longfellow, South Fork, CO



Gregory Newcomb, Boulder, CO



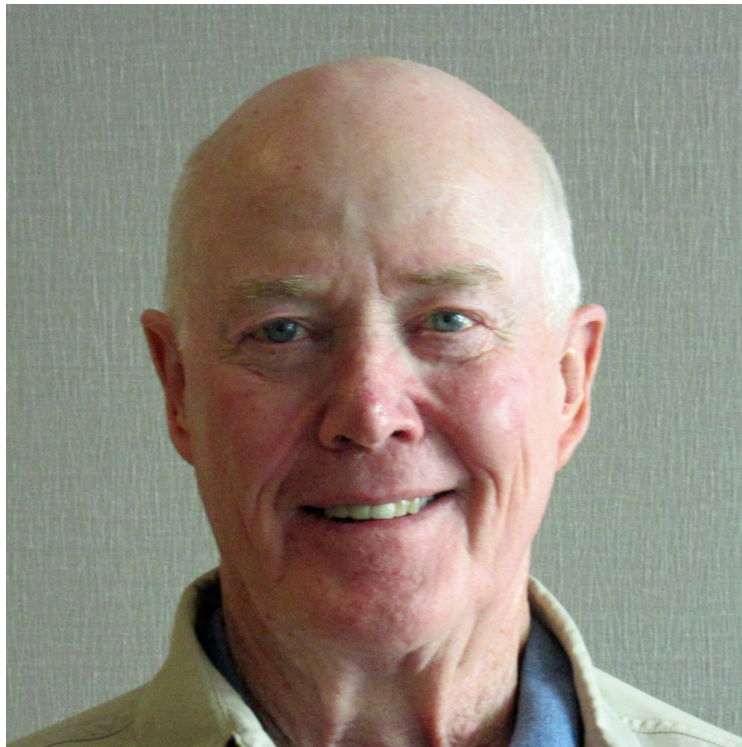
Pauline Pettinato, Durango, CO



Judy Pogge, Greenwood Village, CO



Burney Tate, Loveland, CO



Conrad Waggener, Pueblo, CO

NEVADA



Cindy Casson, Las Vegas, NV

If you become a Life Master please send your photo to the editors – coopers@d17acbl.org - as well as any thoughts you wish to share about your experience.

August 3-5 2018

HOMESTAKE PEAK SCHOOL
750 Eagle Rd
Avon, CO 81620

Partnership Chair - Paula O'Leary
partnership.unit364@gmail.com

<https://goo.gl/maps/MUVhigZYnyK2>

Three sessions Friday starting at 9:30
Two sessions Saturday starting at 10:00
Bracketed Teams Sunday at 10:00, lunch included
Continental Breakfast on Friday and Saturday

FLYER: <http://web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2018/08/1808100.pdf>

VAIL SUMMER SECTIONAL
UNIT 364





2018 Goodwill Ambassadors

Bill Curtis and Bonnie Bagley, D17 Goodwill Committee Chairmen



In 2011, District 17 established a “Goodwill Committee” to recognize D17 members in good standing who have gone far above the call of duty in service to the district or their unit and exhibit Goodwill attributes, subscribing to the Aileen Osofsky ACBL Goodwill Committee slogan: “It is nice to be important but more important to be nice.”

Our 2018 Goodwill Ambassadors are listed below and a complete list may be found at:

<http://www.d17acbl.org/index.php?page=goodwill-charter>

All D17 members of the Aileen Osofsky ACBL Goodwill Committee are D17 Goodwill Ambassadors as well, that list may be found at:

<http://www.d17acbl.org/index.php?page=aileen-osofsky-goodwill-committee>

Barbara Crews, El Paso Unit 159

By Steve Nordberg

Barbara is Unit 159’s choice for D17 Goodwill Ambassador. She will be a dedicated and caring Goodwill Ambassador. Barbara has been playing bridge for less than ten years, and in that time, she has made great contributions to the game of bridge in El Paso—she always encourages and helps new players become comfortable and helps our Tournament Committee design flyers, set times and dates for local tournaments, and helps make sure that our hospitality makes bridge players happy.



makes bridge players happy.

In addition to helping out with our tournaments, Barbara also attends many out of town tournaments and has achieved all of the gold points she needs to become a Life Master. She still has a way to go to get all of her blacks!

D'Anne Pientka, Phoenix Unit 354

By JoAnne Lowe

D'Anne has been active in Unit 354 since 2004. When asked to become a board member, she happily accepted since "it was the fastest way for me to get to meet and know the bridge players and for them to meet me." Due to work constraints, D'Anne no longer serves on the board; however, she still develops and edits our newsletters, tournament fliers, website, and Unit 354 Directory.

She was once asked, "if you're not on the board, how are you going to get credit?" She laughed and responded "I didn't get credit when I WAS on the board."



At the bridge table she is always cordial, friendly, and encouraging to newer players. Once a month D'Anne gives up her Saturday morning to be a mentor at In Tempo Bridge Center fifth chair mentoring program. She is a valuable member of unit 354. D'Anne is deserving of the District 17 Goodwill Ambassador award.

Bob Armstrong, Northern Arizona Unit 355

By Bill Phillips

Robert (Bob) Armstrong exemplifies the attributes of being a wonderful representative and spokesperson for promoting good bridge in District 17. Bob joined the Unit 355 Northern Arizona Board of Directors in 2013, representing the members of the Prescott

Adult Center bridge club, his usual haunt. He keeps the Adult Center members informed of what is happening with bridge in Northern Arizona and supports all of our Unit tournaments.



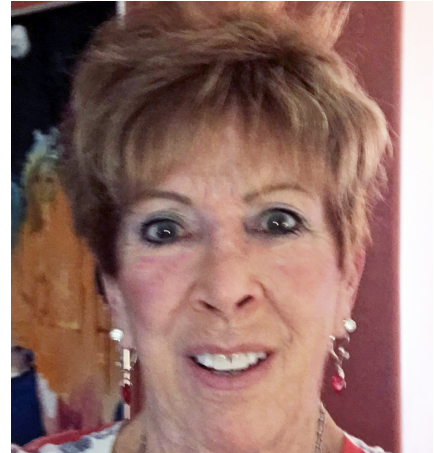
Bob is the epitome of goodwill when playing bridge. He is very kind at the table

Bob is the epitome of goodwill when playing bridge. He is very kind at the table and reaches out to help newer players with their game. He is well mannered and carries himself with great distinction.

Barbara Rosenthal, Tucson Unit 356

By Steve Reynolds

I nominate Barbara Rosenthal. Barbara has been the number one recruiter here in Tucson for years. She has taught beginning bridge to hundreds and has promoted bridge in numerous ways.



Jim Black, Colorado Springs Unit 360

By Bill Curtis

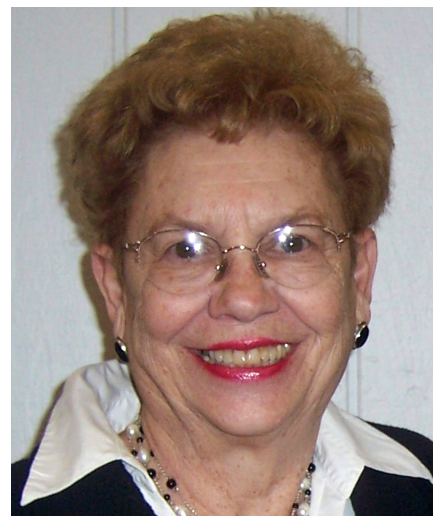
I am pleased to nominate Jim Black to be a Goodwill Ambassador. Well respected as one of the best bridge technicians in the region, Jim is well known for his friendly booming voice. He is happy to provide friendly bridge tips when asked for advice. Jim has participated in the Unit's mentor program, was the Auctioneer for the Silver Key charitable fund, and helped out at our sectionals. He greets new players at the table and assists them whenever they have a problem. More importantly, after 25 years of playing with me off and on as a partner, he has shown remarkable patience with my imaginative bidding style.



Betty Davis, Colorado Springs Unit 360

By Bonnie Bagley

Betty Davis is the epitome of Goodwill. She is a gracious Southern lady brought to Colorado Springs by her Air Force Colonel husband. and upon his retirement, they stayed. Betty's Southern charm is always apparent, in her life and at the bridge table, greeting opponents with "Hi Y'all", her drawl still



intact While Betty never wanted an "unfront position" she is ever willing to help out

impact. While Betty never wanted an "apron" position, she is ever willing to help out when needed.

Thank you, Betty, for helping the Unit 360 Bridge Center be the friendly, welcoming place it is.

Sally Kneser, Denver Unit 361

By Jennifer O'Neill

Sally is one of the most positive and cheerful players at the table, and a joy to have as a partner. In addition, she is responsible for teaching a number of the players in the Denver area. She encourages them to compete, and many are now active ACBL members. She has taught bridge at the Academy for Lifelong Learning, and her classes fill up immediately and have a wait list; her students now number in the hundreds. She found a partner and best friend at the tournament partnership desk upon arrival. Sally continues to be a very positive force in promoting bridge to many.



Larry Matheny, Northern Colorado Unit Denver 363

By John Grossmann

Many folks may recognize the name Larry Matheny from the years he has authored the "Improve Your Play" column in the District 17 ScoreCard. Larry is a frequent guest instructor for Unit games. For many years, Larry Matheny was the President of Unit 363. I am pleased to nominate him for his many years of service and his contributions to bridge education.



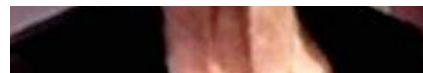
Carol Warren, Las Vegas Unit 373

By Rebecca Rogers

While considering this nomination, I approached our Unit Board requesting suggestions. There was only one, and it was unanimous! Carol Warren truly brings all the qualities one could hope for to our



bridge community. She is unfailingly pleasant, positive, reasonable, and productive—a natural



peacemaker and producer. Carol also brings players into the bridge community and keeps them engaged over the years; welcomes all comers, treating each one with respect be they novice or world-class caliber; and works day and night for the betterment of bridge. And there you have our choice for District 17 Goodwill Ambassador for 2018.

Jerry Shinkle, Albuquerque Unit 374

By Felicity Moore

Jerry has been a stalwart of the Albuquerque bridge scene for countless years and is known for being a fierce but very pleasant and ethical opponent. His impish sense of humor is well known. Jerry served on the Unit board for many years in several capacities; most importantly as Treasurer until his “retirement” a few years ago when he passed the baton to younger members. Apart from his work with Unit 374, he has been a long-time advisor to the Duke City BC board on financial and tax matters.



He continues to play and mentor regularly, and will be a worthy Ambassador.

Cheryl Fossum Graham, Santa Fe Unit 383

By Art McHaffie

The 2018 Goodwill Ambassador Nominee for New Mexico at Large is Cheryl Fossum Graham. Cheryl lobbied the Santa Fe bridge club board to start a 199er game to give advancing beginners and intermediate players a chance to play duplicate against players of similar level. Cheryl has been arranging partnerships for the new 199er game since January 2017. This game has grown from only 2-3 tables initially to 5-7 tables currently due to Cheryl's efforts, keeping in touch with all 199ers to remind them to contact her if they would like to play and need a partner. Cheryl also has served as the editor of the Santa Fe bridge club monthly



newsletter since 2016. Cheryl is always pleasant at the table and in the club and is an exemplary Goodwill Nominee.

Kym Zwonitzer, Cheyenne Unit 421

By Rod Southworth

As a new board member of Unit 421, Kym stepped up to chair our Indian Paintbrush Sectional, which she successfully ran for eight years. She was a fast learner and quickly took ownership of the job. She applied her creative skills to come up with effective ways of organizing and implementing the tournament's goals. Kym is a cheerful, steady worker who can be depended upon to deliver an outstanding performance on any task she undertakes.



At the bridge table, Kym is a friendly, calm presence who puts newer players at ease. Kym is a great ambassador for the game of bridge.

Strike Gold Non Life Master Regional

Loveland, Colorado August 10-12

All players must have fewer than 750 masterpoints as of August 1, and cannot be a Life Master.

Fri. 10 am **Strike Gold Pairs 1 of 2**
10th 2 pm *"My Kingdom for a Horse" lesson*
 3 pm **Strike Gold Pairs 2 of 2**

Sat. 10 am **Gold Nugget Pairs 1 of 2**
11th 2 pm *Columnist Larry Matheny: TBA*
 3 pm **Gold Nugget Pairs 2 or 2**

Sun. 9 am *Bagels and lox !*
12th *Hints on team game strategies.*

10 am **Gold Rush Swiss Teams**
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On the following pages we have articles from our regular columnists. Please feel free to send us - coopers@d17acbl.org - bridge questions, humorous anecdotes, or an article of your own for this section.



Advice for the New Player

By Chris Hasney, Hereford, Arizona

Initial Hand Evaluation

We all have trouble with hand evaluation, deciding when and how to adjust the basic Goren count based on the auction and our hand type.

HIGH CARD POINTS	
A	= 4
K	= 3
Q	= 2
J	= 1

Point Count from the Schools
Bridge Poster*

Recently, a “Party” Bridge player tried to instruct one of my students on how to properly count points. Now I have to hit the “Undo” button in my poor student’s brain. It’s easier said than done. This is one reason why bridge teachers resist pressure to get their new players into duplicate games except if they are exclusively for beginners and monitored by instructors, with lesson hands that fit the class experience level. Admittedly, this is difficult in rural environments.

So, let’s look at points as they are used to evaluate a bridge hand of 13 cards. As you sort your hand, look at its shape. Is this a notrump type of collection (4-4-3-2, or 4-3-3-3)? If so, count your high card points (HCP) ONLY, using the 4-3-2-1 method. (Yes, it’s not perfect, but who wants to work in decimals?) If, instead, you find yourself looking at a suit-oriented hand (5-3-3-2, 5-4-3-1, etc.), NOW count it using the Goren method including short suit points, but if your “quacks” (queens or jacks) are in your short suits, count them for their short suit value only.

Counting this way you don’t overvalue your hand. As the auction continues you will tend to upgrade the values of stiff or doubleton quacks in suits that partner bids.

If your bridge teacher disagrees, fire him! No, not really. Your instructor may be

showing you more advanced ways to do things, including adding a point for a five card suit when your focus is on notrump. But please check anything you are told by players at the bridge table with your teacher or primary mentor as soon as you can, but AFTER the session.

*The Schools Bridge Poster is a free download shown at
<http://bridgeteaching.com/for-bridge-teachers/>



Chris Hasney is an accredited bridge teacher from Hereford, Arizona. He supports the college bridge and rubber bridge revival movement. He is the author of *Simplicity Bridge* published as an e-book through Lybrary.com



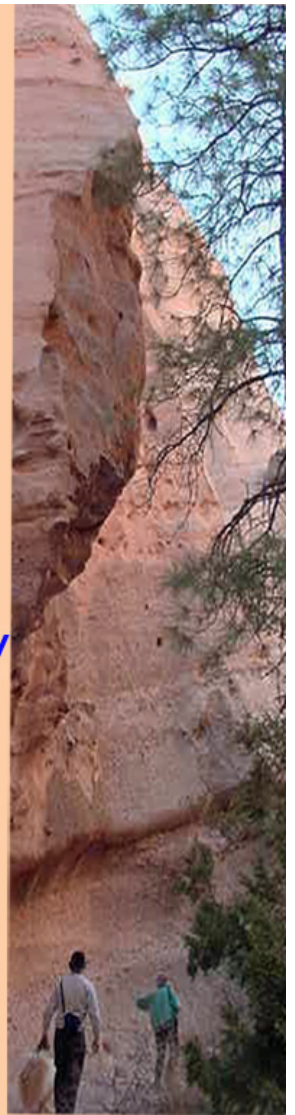
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The I/N Crowd

By Rod Bias, Phoenix, Arizona

Three Aces and Carte Blanche

Yesterday, July 10, 2018, a student in a bridge class volunteered that he would never open a bridge hand with “three aces and lots of spaces.” He seemed to want my approval for this bit of “wisdom” that he probably picked up recently. I don’t know where this phrase originated, but I first heard it at Arizona State University in 1968 — yes, half a century ago. I knew it was wrong then, and I know it is wrong now.



In 1898, “Badsworth” [nom de plume] stated, “Many hands have notrump tattooed on them . . . which every player at once declares notrump. With three aces and carte blanche [“blank cards” – no picture cards – RB], notrump is generally declared.” (1898 was the heyday of the 12-14 notrump opening.)

In 1900, *The Bridge Manual* by John Doe [real name F. Roe] dictated: “With three Aces you have an immense advantage over the adversaries.” Why? How do three aces give you an “immense advantage” over the opponents?

When you understand that three aces are more — much more — than “three tricks,” you are progressing at bridge! “You can’t become a really fine bidder unless you know what your hand is worth”—Alfred Sheinwold.

Your three aces are powerful protection against the enemy scoring a game bonus with a major suit as trump. Usually, partner only has to snag one trick to set them. When they name the trump suit, your hand may only be worth three tricks.

Nevertheless, open the bidding and expect your partner to hold and name a five card suit as trump. Your three aces will combine magnificently with almost anything

card suit as trump. Four three aces will combine magnificently with almost anything



partner has. If you pass, partner will never suspect that you have three aces. You may miss a slam; you may miss a game.

Aces can help promote additional tricks. When you hold the ace in a suit and your partner holds the king, your ace promotes partner's king from half a trick to a full trick. Obviously, your ace was worth one and a half tricks originally. It passed that invisible half trick to the king. When your ace clobbers an enemy king, your partner's queen rules

that suit; and receives the invisible half trick.



Aces can help you trap enemy kings. Most books for newcomers introduce "the finesse" by presenting a position called a "major tenace" (the book will probably not use that term): you (or dummy) hold AQ in the same suit. You lead toward the major tenace and play the lower card. If you have AQJ you can do it again. If the king pokes his head up, off it comes. Of course, this only works half the time.

Aces help you **control** certain suits. If at notrump they lead a suit where you are weak, you can "hold up" until one of them runs out of cards in that suit. This may stop them from "cashing" the rest of the suit. If you have the ace on one side and the queen on the other, this may "freeze" the opponent with the king from leading low from it. Doing so would give you two tricks before the opponent could win the third one (if ever). So, in a sense, your aces strengthen your partner's honors in the same suit.

Aces both help you **establish** additional low-card tricks in a long suit and can serve as an entry to cash them. For example, with A5432 opposite 987, you play low from both hands on the first and second lead of the suit. They win two tricks.

Then you lead your last card and win your A32 — because they ran outta cards in

that suit. Your ace established two low cards AND served as the entry to cash all three. This ace was worth three tricks, not just one.

Aces serve as quick and sure **entries** to your hand or dummy. When you hold the boss cards in a suit, the opponents can rarely keep you out of the hand with the boss cards. Frequently you can multitask, with aces accomplishing several objectives in one play. You can lead a queen toward an ace, trapping the king, establishing long cards in that suit, and entering the opposite hand to be in a position to make another strong lead from it.

A Tip4Tops when you are on lead: When you lead an ace and do not have the king, two times out of three you are passing an invisible half trick to the other guys. Why would you do that? Shirley, you don't expect them to toss their kings and queens under your ace. Do you?

Remember: Three aces are more — much more — than “three tricks.”



Rod Bias was elected to a three-year term (2016-2018) as a Trustee of the ACBL Educational Foundation and worked on the transition team. He served two two-year terms (2014-2017) as a District 17 Board Representative from Phoenix (Unit 354), where he is currently in his eleventh consecutive year on the local board. Rod holds four bridge teaching certifications (ABA, ACBL, EasyBridge!, and LBIAD?) and is an ABTA member who loves working with school kids and newcomers of all ages.

Contact: Rod.Bias@Cutlip.Org

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Ruling Our Game

By Bill Michael, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Alert!

I have received a lot of questions about what calls are alertable. I'm going to talk generically about alerts, then address a couple of specific examples. When discussing alertability, it is important to keep in mind the intent behind the alert procedure. Throughout this article, the term "announcement" equates to "alert," so when I say "failure to alert," read it as "failure to alert or announce."



The ACBL Alert procedure is prefaced with the following: "The objective of the Alert system is for both pairs at the table to have equal access to all information contained in any auction." It further discusses in greater detail that the ethical player will practice "full disclosure." This is a two-way street as well. Experienced players are expected to protect

themselves when an opposing pair fails to follow the alert procedure, and the "non-offending" pair should probably be aware that the opponents are failing in their full disclosure duties. Failing to clarify a situation, hoping that the opponents are having a disaster may reduce or eliminate your protection under the laws. For example, if an auction begins 1NT-P-2♥ (no alert, no announcement) and the next hand, holding AQxxx of hearts doesn't look at the opponents' convention card or ask if they are playing transfers, he is gambling and will have to live with the results, even if he is damaged by the failure to alert. The director may choose to assign a two-way ruling—not protecting the players who should have but didn't protect themselves, but not allowing the pair that failed in its duty to alert to profit from that failure.

Generally speaking, natural calls are not alertable. Most doubles and passes are also not alertable. As a rule of thumb, calls become alertable only when they carry a meaning that would not be obvious to a hypothetical outside observer. Negative

a meaning that would not be obvious to a hypothetical outside observer. Negative inferences are not alertable; this is most easily shown using the example of

support doubles: When the opponents bid at the one or two level after your side opens the bidding and responds one of a major—e.g., 1♣-(P)-1♥-(1♠) or 1♥-(P)-1♠-(2♦)—opener doubles if he has three card support and only bids two of responder's major if he has four card support (with less than three card support opener passes or bids something else). Of these three calls—2♥, pass, and double—which is alertable and why? The 2♥ bid is not alertable. An outside observer would expect four card support—there is nothing that your partnership knows that another player wouldn't be expected to know. Neither is pass alertable, although many people mistakenly believe that it is because it denies holding even three card support. While there is some force to this argument, our hypothetical outside observer would not expect that the passer had more than three card support, with three card support occurring only very rarely. That pass denies three or more card support is a negative inference and therefore is not alertable. The only alertable call is the double. It “artificially” shows three card support. Our outside observer would expect that the double is penalty for spades. (If you are playing it not as support, but as a responsive type of double—say, takeout of spades and hearts—that would be a different, but still an alertable meaning.)

If you're in doubt whether something you play is alertable, please consult with your director. If you and your director can't decide, then it probably is. The ACBL publishes an alert chart, and an alert pamphlet—both are [available online here](#). Take the time to download these and familiarize yourselves with them. The last refuge in answering whether to alert a call is this: It is a far smaller sin to alert a non-alertable call than to not alert an alertable one.

Let's look at two more examples: Suppose you open one of a major and partner jumps to three of a new suit, natural but not forcing. If the jump to the three level is by an unpassed hand it is alertable—the expectation would be that it is a forcing bid. By a passed hand, the expected normal treatment of a jump shift is a “maximum passed hand,” so it falls right into the definition of “natural but not forcing,” and does not require an alert. Suppose you open in third or fourth seat (so partner is a passed hand) and responder jump shifts, showing the suit he jumped in plus a fit. Here the jump shift is alertable. Although the jump shift is natural, it carries the additional, totally hidden meaning that responder has support for opener's suit. The only way that an opponent would know about this secondary meaning is through an alert.

Another issue it's important to understand is when to call the director if there has been a failure to alert or a misexplanation. The timing is carefully spelled out in the laws, and once you understand the logic behind that timing you shouldn't ever get it wrong. If your partner has failed to alert, or misexplained one of your bids, you are required to call the director and state what the problem is. The time to call the director depends on whether your side is declaring or defending. In no case should you call the director during a live auction for your partner's mistake.

If your side is defending, you are required to wait to call the director until after the hand has been played out. The logic of this is that your partner may be confused as to your agreements. You are not allowed to do anything to "wake him up." Stating that he has failed to alert or misexplained one of your calls unfortunately falls into the category of "waking him up." He isn't to be brought into the loop until the hand is over; as a defender he is still an active part of the hand.

If your side is declaring, however, you are required to call the director and correct a mistaken explanation (or failure to alert) before the opening lead is made. The logic behind the timing here is that as the declaring side your partner is either dummy or declarer. If your partner is dummy, he's out of it, so it doesn't matter if he is awoken or continues to slumber. If your partner is declarer, he's going to see the combined assets of the partnership anyway so, again, it doesn't matter if you wake him up; he'll see your hand shortly.

Conversely, if you realize that you have made a mistaken explanation, or failed to alert one (or more) of your partner's calls you should stop the action, and call the director immediately. Don't wait until your turn to bid or play.

It is in your own best interest to follow these guidelines; they offer the best chance of avoiding a negative adjustment or, in some cases, a penalty for failing to follow proper procedure.

Play hard, but fair, and have fun.

See you at the table.

Bill has been a professional tournament director since 1997, and full-time since 2007. He helps to coordinate and verify answers for the rulings@acbl.com

mailbox, and consequently is very familiar with the laws and their applications. Bill appreciates the comments that he received from people who read his



previous column in the Western Conference Forum, and is happy for the opportunity to once again give answers to D17 players via this online publication. Send him your questions at d17askbill@gmail.com



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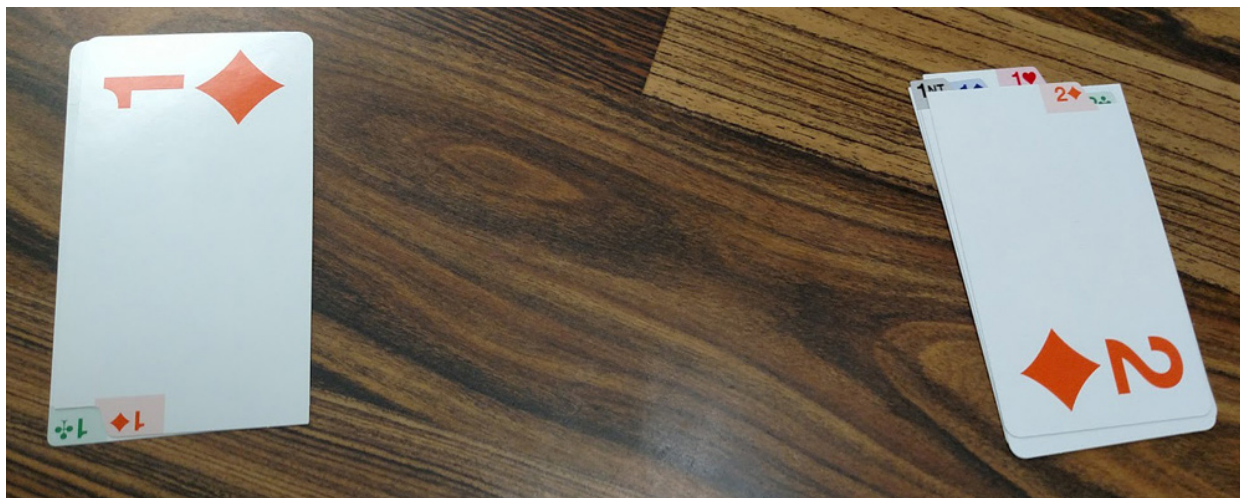


Conventional Wisdom

By Curt Soloff, Denver, Colorado

Inverted Minors, Part III

Responder's forcing raise of a minor is the easiest aspect of the inverted minors convention. Where things tend to go astray for players who are learning the convention is at opener's rebid and beyond. It is crucial that partnerships discuss the meaning of all follow-up bids, particularly which bids are forcing and which are not.



Let's say the bidding begins 1♦-2♦. Which bids below the game level may be passed?

Non-Forcing Bids:

2NT – a balanced minimum opening with 12-14 HCP. For example, ♠KJ9 ♥QT7 ♦AQ63 ♣962.

3♦ – an unbalanced minimum opening, or perhaps a balanced minimum that is wide open in two unbid suits and would prefer that 3NT play from partner's side. For example, ♠3 ♥A74 ♦QJT52 ♣AT92 or possibly ♠97 ♥854 ♦AK52 ♣AQ63.

Bear in mind that when you have a minor suit oriented auction, the defenders are inclined to attack the majors.

♠ KJ9	♠ 3
♥ Q107	♥ A74
♦ AQ63	♦ QJ1052
♣ 962	♣ A1092

Forcing Bids:

In contrast to the bids above, **a new suit by opener at the two or three level (other than 3NT) is forcing for at least one more round.** But what does a new suit show? Let's say the rebid is 2♥. Opener might have a nice four card heart suit, but since your partnership cannot have an eight card heart fit—after all, responder's forcing raise denied holding a four-card major—there would be no reason for opener to try to find an eight card heart fit.

As opener, what would you do with this collection after 1♦-2♦? Since partner is showing 10+ points, you would like to be in game. But which game is best? If partner has a good three card spade holding, 3NT could be right, but if you bid notrump with your singleton spade, this could turn out badly. If you trot out 2♥, partner will get the idea that you have better than a minimum hand but cannot bid NT yourself. There is a strong inference that the trouble suit is the other major, so partner will be well placed to decide what to do next. If partner has bad spades, 5♦ is likely a superior game contract.

Some partnerships have the agreement to start bidding stoppers up the line in inverted minor auctions; this, however, is a poor practice. Do you really want to provide the defenders with a full road map of both hands? The idea here is that if you are not prepared to bid NT, you may use a “where I live” bid (such as 2♥ with the hand above) in your probe for the best game. You are simply showing a concentration of values. Avoid gratuitously bidding stoppers in various suits!

What if opener makes a jump bid? Jump bids do not arise frequently on inverted

minor auctions, but partnerships should have agreements about their meaning. The following are suggested:

Jumping to 3NT

This should show a balanced 18-19 HCP. Remember that a 2NT rebid shows 12-14 HCP, and you cannot hold a balanced 15-17 HCP because you would have already opened 1NT, not 1♦!

Jumping in a new suit

This should be a splinter (i.e. singleton or void) and a hand with slam interest. For example, ♠AK92 ♥3 ♦AQJT43 ♣K2. With this hand, you can paint a nice picture of your hand by jumping to 3♥. Partner will know that you not only have extra strength, but also can ruff heart losers in your hand. We could give partner an absolute minimum inverted raise where 6♦ would be laydown: Imagine partner holding something such as ♠82 ♥73 ♦K9852 ♣AJ8—a small slam in diamonds is easy peasy.



Curt Soloff is a sapphire life master with 15 years of bridge directing and teaching experience. He has served as the manager and director of the Castle Rock Bridge Club since its inception in 2009.

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Improve Your Play

By Larry Matheny, Fort Collins, Colorado

Overtricks

In pairs events overtricks are incredibly important. On this hand declarer found a safe way to make an extra trick without endangering the contract.

		N North ♠ A32 ♥ 983 ♦ A952 ♣ KQ5	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>P</td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>P</td> <td>2♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>4♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S	P	1♦	P	1♥	P	1NT	P	2♣	P	2♥	P	4♥	P	P	P	
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W West ♠ K10 ♥ A74 ♦ 1076 ♣ J10974		E East ♠ 97654 ♥ 65 ♦ QJ8 ♣ 862	S South ♠ QJ8 ♥ KQJ102 ♦ K43 ♣ A3																				
		Play it out at http://tinyurl.com/ya5j8vgq																					
		4♥ S NS: 0 EW: 0																					
Rewind Previous Next Options GIB Play																							

Opening Lead: ♣J

Bidding: South used the New Minor Forcing convention to discover the heart fit. The two heart response showed three cards in the suit and a minimum hand so South knew slam was doubtful.

Play: West led the jack of clubs and declarer stopped to study the hand. She

Larry West led the jack of clubs and declarer stopped to study the hand. She expected to lose only one heart, and had a low spade and a low diamond to worry about. Seeing that one loser could go on the third club and that the diamond suit might break 3-3, declarer started by winning the ace of clubs in hand and continued with the king of hearts. West ducked the first heart, won the second, and played a third. Declarer now led the king and another diamond to the ace, played the king and queen of clubs discarding her last diamond, ruffed a diamond in her hand, and was pleased to see the suit behave. She next led the queen of spades covered by the king, won the ace of spades, discarded the eight of spades on the nine of diamonds, and had twelve tricks for an excellent score.

Hands like this remind us that in a pairs event, you can't just "play bridge", you must play matchpoints.



Born and raised in Illinois, Larry worked at a major insurance company for thirty three years retiring as a director in the systems department. In 2003 he moved to Loveland, Colorado, the home state of his wife, Linda and soon got involved in the local Bridge scene.

Larry served as unit president for ten years. He has written a weekly column for his unit webpage since 2004 and he is a frequent lecturer at the monthly unit games.

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Constructive Bidding

By Robert Todd, Tallahassee, Florida

After Partner's Negative Double

General

When we open the bidding with a suit, LHO overcalls (or jump overcalls), partner makes a negative double, and RHO passes we are forced to take a second bid. Partner is implying support for the unbid suits (though not promising support for both) and asking us to further describe our hand. When we are forced to make a bid in a competitive auction there will be limited bidding space, and this can lead to some difficult bidding decisions. Let's look at some of these situations where we are faced with a difficult rebid problem as opener.

1♣	1♠	X	P
2♥			

1♦	2♣	X	P
2♠			

Opener Has a Four Card Major

When partner makes a negative double and we have four cards in an unbid major we have a relatively easy rebid. We show partner our shape. For example, 1♣-(1♠)-Dbl-(P)-2♥ shows four hearts and a minimum hand, 12-14 points, as does 1♦-(2♣)-Dbl-(P)-2♠.

Jump Bids

In both of the above auctions, a jump to three of your major shows a four card suit and extra values, 15-17 points. Since opener did not start the auction with a 1NT opening bid, this jump implies an unbalanced or semi-balanced hand.

What Does a Negative Double Promise?

When we are considering what to rebid in these negative double auctions, it is

important to think about how many points partner has shown with the negative

double before selecting your call. The rule is: The higher the level at which responder makes a negative double, the more values it promises.

A Negative Double of a one level overcall shows 6+ points. The values responder promises for a negative double increase from there; the higher the level at which the opponents bid, the more points partner's negative double promises. For example:

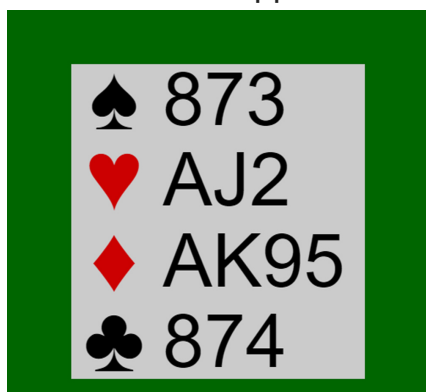
- If the opponents bid 2♣, responder's double shows about 7+ points since you are able to rebid your suit or a different four card suit at the two level.
- If the opponents bid 2♠, responder's double shows about 10+ points since you are forced to rebid your suit or a new four card suit at the three level.
- If the opponents bid 3♠, responder's double shows about 12+ points since partner has forced you to bid 3NT or on the four level.

Considering the values partner has shown is helpful in selecting a rebid. This is especially true when considering a notrump rebid.

Rebids When Opener Has a Balanced Hand with 12-14 Points

With a minimum balanced hand, we planned to open the bidding and rebid 1NT in a non-competitive auction. Let's look at how these plans change when LHO overcalls and partner makes a negative double. For example:

1♣-(1♠)-Dbl-(P)-1NT still shows a balanced 12-14 points. It usually denies four cards in the unbid major, here hearts. Opener would like to have a stopper in spades, the suit LHO bid, but what should opener do after the above auction if opener's hand is ♠873 ♥AJ2 ♦AK95 ♣874? Even though opener does not have a spade stopper, it is still best to rebid 1NT. A rebid of 1NT does not promise the same kind of stoppers as a higher-level notrump rebid.



1♦-(2♣)-Dbl-(P) can give opener a serious rebid problem. If opener has a balanced hand with only 12 points, opener should not rebid 2NT. Opener knows that the partnership has 19+ combined points (12 and 7+) and it usually takes about 22-23 combined points to have a reasonable chance of making 2NT. Instead, opener must find some other

rebid. For example, if opener's hand is ♠873 ♥AJ2

♦AK95 ♣874 opener has no good rebid; 2NT is not a good choice with only 12 points and without a club stopper. The other options are also flawed: 2♦ is flawed because opener only has four diamonds, and 2♥ and 2♠ are flawed because opener has only three cards in those suits and, in the case of spades, opener has only small cards. Opener has no good rebid, so either 2♦ or 2♥ is the best lie.

Higher Level Negative Doubles

When partner makes a negative double of a high level jump overcall and we have a strong holding in the opponent's suit we can pass and convert partner's negative double to penalty. For example, if opener holds ♠KQT8 ♥A5 ♦653 ♣A9xx and the auction proceeds 1♣-(3♠)-Dbl-(P) opener should happily pass and convert partner's negative double to a penalty double, expecting to collect a large penalty!

But in a similar auction without such a good spade holding we may be faced with a much more difficult rebid choice. The higher the level on which partner makes a negative double, the more values they promise and the more we can count on them to produce defense if we pass. For example, if opener holds ♠873 ♥A4 ♦AK73 ♣Q1065 and hears the auction begin 1♦-(3♠)-Dbl-(P) opener should pass partner's double, not because opener is happy to do so, but because it is our best chance to produce a good score (a positive score). We would prefer to have an honor in the opponent's spade suit, but that would make the decision to pass too easy!

2NT Rebids That Show Some Extra Values

Consider the following auction: 1♦-(2♥)-Dbl-(P)-2NT. This 2NT rebid shows a hand that is willing to play 2NT opposite a good eight points. That means that opener should have either a balanced hand with 14 points and a heart stopper or a few more values, such as a semi-balanced or unbalanced 15-point hand. For example, ♠8 ♥AQ7 ♦AKJ54 ♣8643 is an unbalanced hand that should rebid 2NT because it has 14 points and a double stopper in the opponent's heart suit. We should try not to rebid 2NT with a balanced 12-point hand. With that hand we need to find some other "reasonable rebid".

Conclusion

When an opponent's bid eats up valuable bidding space and partner makes a

negative double we are likely to need to change our original rebid plans. With a balanced hand, we are most likely to have rebid problems, especially if we do not have a stopper in the opponent's suit. Keep in mind the values partner has shown and don't commit your side too high without enough values to compensate—avoid a 2NT rebid with a balanced 12-point hand and find a better lie. When these auctions happen, problems often occur, so be prepared to make the best lie you can figure out in these difficult rebid situations. Remember, partner forced you to bid, so whatever happens, you have a scapegoat!



Robert is a professional bridge player and teacher whose hometown is Tallahassee, Florida. But you'll find him all over the country and the world playing and teaching bridge. Robert began playing bridge at a very young age in his parents' party bridge games, and came to duplicate while working on his graduate degree in Mathematics. He spent a year in Helsinki, Finland, where he met and played with many fine European players. When he returned to the States, Robert decided to become a bridge professional himself and has never looked back!

Robert has finished in the top 20 on the Barry Crane list (with over 1500 masterpoints) many times, has posted several top-10 finishes in National-level Pairs events, and won the 0-10,000 Knockout Teams at the Dallas NABC in 2014. This article was previously published as one of Robert's free email lessons in his series published at advinbridge.com

contact: Robert@advinbridge.com

Black Canyon Sectional Sept. 21, 22 & 23, 2018

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Consult the Coopers

By Kitty and Steve Cooper, editors D17 ScoreCard

Always Drury

We prefer to play Drury even by an unpassed hand. Using 2♣ for all good raises—limit, game forcing, and slammish—allows us to play 1M-1NT as only semi-forcing since responder will never have 3+ card support for opener's major. It also is very powerful to be able to stop at the two level, particularly in spades. Before we played this, our auction often went 1♠-1NT (forcing)-2X-3♠ down one. Our game and slam bidding is also improved by having the extra room 1M-2♣ gives us to explore.



We have received many requests for our “Always Drury” system, so here is a simplified set of the Cooper responses. Playing Drury by an unpassed hand is only allowed in certain team events and perhaps your local club (ask), but as of November 2018, it will be allowed much more widely.

Opener's bids over Drury 2♣ in any seat:

2♦ - a full opening bid. Responder may now make a short suit game try, bid 2/3M with a 3/4+ card limit raise, or bid 2NT, a game forcing raise (your normal Jacoby 2NT responses apply).

- If responder bids 2M next showing the 3 card limit raise, opener's new suits are long/help suit game tries while jumps are help suit slam tries.

2♥ - (after opening 1♠) nonforcing, showing a minimum hand 5-4 in the majors.

2M - rebidding the major shows a hand that cannot imagine game opposite a limit raise, typically an eight loser hand or less than 13 HCP with no extra playing strength or controls.

3X - (and 2♠ after opening 1♥) a short suit game try in this suit with a minimum, or even a sub-minimum, that only wants to be in game opposite a limit raise that has no wastage in this suit (and, hopefully, strength in the other three suits).

4m - (and 3♠ after opening 1♥) is a short suit slam try, typically a five loser hand. If partner accepts the slam try he shows how many keycards he has.

The price we pay for these methods is that with a real 2/1 in clubs responder must bid 2NT, which uses up room and adds complexity. With 4=5 in the minors we often bid 2♦.

[A longer version of his article was originally published in *ScoreCard* in June 2012 and is available on the district web site at <http://www.d17acbl.org/index.php?page=always-drury-june-2012>]

To send us a question you can use this form <http://bridgeteaching.com/for-bridge-students/bridge-questions/> or email us at coopers@d17acbl.org



Kitty and Steve were both born and raised in New York City, where they knew each other from the local bridge scene. Unfortunately, they foolishly married other people. In 2000, both were again single when they re-met at the Las Vegas Regional. Soon after, they married, and Kitty moved to Albuquerque, where Steve was living. They moved to Fort Collins, Colorado, in 2008 and left there for 'the warmer clime' of San Diego County in 2012. They are both Grand Life Masters and have won two National Championships

together. Kitty has five others and a World Woman's title. They have been your D17 *ScoreCard* editors since 2010.



Upcoming Sectionals

ARIZONA

[Prescott Fall Sectional](#)

Adult Center of Prescott

September 14-16

Two sessions a day, at 10:00 and 3:00, for the pairs games, and a three session Bracketed KO starting Friday at 3:00. Visit this beautiful and historic town in the pines. See the ad in this issue or click the linked title above for more information.



COLORADO

[Vail Summer Sectional](#)

Avon, Colorado

August 3-5

Come to the Rockies! This new sectional, held at the Homestake Peak School, has three sessions on Friday—at 9:30, 2:00, & 7:00—three single session 299er pairs, a one session open pairs at 9:30, and a two session open pairs starting at 2:00. Saturday has two single session 299er pairs, at 10:00 & 2:30, and a two session open pairs starting at 10:00. Free continental breakfasts are provided on both days, and lunch is available. The Sunday bracketed Swiss teams starts at 10:00, and lunch is included in the entry fee. See the ad in this issue of *ScoreCard* or click the title above for more information.

[Northern Colorado Silver Sectional](#)

Loveland, Colorado

August 10-12

This popular sectional is being run in conjunction with a non LM regional at the same site, the McKee Building in the Larimer County Fairgrounds, just off Interstate 25 at exit 259, about an hour north of Denver. This sectional includes single session pairs games on both Friday and Saturday at 10:00 & 3:00, as well as a two session pairs game on Saturday at the same times. The strati-flighted Swiss teams (where A/AX play separately from B/C) on Sunday also starts at 10:00. Click the linked title above, see the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard* or go to the [unit website](#) for more information.

[Black Canyon Sectional](#)

Elks Lodge, Montrose

September 21-23

Held at the Elks Lodge in a very scenic area, this sectional has daily door prizes among other amenities. Friday's single session pairs and 199er games are at 1:00 and 7:00, while Saturday's are at 10:00 and 3:00 (single sessions allowed). Sunday's Swiss starts at 9:30. Click the linked title above for more information or see the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard*.

[Fall I/N Sectional](#)

Denver House of Cards, Sheridan

October 6-7

This annual two day 299er tournament awards the Susan Dittmer Memorial Trophy to the player winning the most masterpoints. Players with fewer than five masterpoints play for free. Game times are 10:00 and 3:00, with continental breakfast and lunch provided. Click the linked title above for more information.



NEW MEXICO

[Albuquerque NLM \(0-500\) Sectional](#)

Duke City Bridge Club

August 4-5

The Duke City Bridge Center will again be hosting this popular tournament. A fine venue and good snacks for all, with a light lunch served on both days. Saturday's two single session pairs games are at 9:00 & 2:00, with a lecture at 1:15; Sunday's Swiss teams starts at 10:00. All events are stratified by average masterpoints. See the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard* or click the linked title above for more information.

[61st Annual Harvey Hicks Sectional](#)

Best Western Stevens Inn, Carlsbad

September 21-23

Experience great Southwestern hospitality at the Best Western Stevens Inn. Friday and Saturday game times are 1:30 and 7:00, with an additional 9:00 session on

Saturday morning for the start of a three session KU teams, as well as an

additional Open Pairs event. Sunday's Swiss Team event starts at 9:30. Click the link above for more information or see the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard*.

TEXAS

[Labor Day Sectional](#)

El Paso

August 31-September 3

Located at the Decker Bridge Center, this sectional offers four days of fun filled bridge, starting with a single session Swiss teams on Friday morning followed by single session pairs events on Friday afternoon and all day Saturday. Sunday has two single session pair/Swiss teams events. Finally, there is a two session Swiss teams on Labor Day Monday, with lunch provided. Game times are 9:30 & 2:00. See the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard* or click the title above for more information.

WYOMING

[Indian Paintbrush Sectional](#)

Laramie County Community College, Cheyenne

September 14-16

This sectional offers single session open, 299er, and 99er pairs Friday morning and afternoon. Saturday allows those playing in the unlimited event to choose to play a two session event, although single session entries are permitted. The 299er and 99er pair games are all single session. The tournament features comfortable seats, plentiful homemade snacks, and a buffet lunch on Sunday between the two sessions of the Swiss Teams. Click the linked title above for the flyer with more information.



***D17 ScoreCard* volume I issue 3**



D17 ScoreCard is a bi-monthly publication announced to over 9,000 bridge players in our district by email blast, website postings, Social Media, and Apps.

Deadlines

D17 ScoreCard's deadline for articles and ads is the fifth of the preceding month; However, earlier submissions are always preferred. Although we welcome unsolicited articles, there is no guarantee of publication.

Articles submitted will be edited, and may be cut; the author will receive a copy of the edited article before publication.

Email all ads and copy to: Steve & Kitty Cooper, *D17 ScoreCard* Editors - coopers@D17acbl.org

Advertising

Guidelines for creating ads for this publication are available at:

d17acbl.org/uploads/newsletter/AdGuidelinesOnlineD17.pdf

Ads for District 17 tournaments are free for the rest of 2018. For commercial ad pricing please contact John Grossmann below.

District 17 Board of Directors



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John Grossmann, President (Colorado at Large)

719 233-9464 (C)

blackstone.co@comcast.net

Art McHaffie, Vice President (New Mexico at Large)

505 986-6074

ermchaffie@msn.com

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719 593-0205 (H/C)

bonnie@bonniebagleyd17.com

Jennifer O'Neill, Treasurer (Denver)

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jjo4501@gmail.com

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505 717-1483 (H)

505 301-8597 (C)

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jtranney2@msn.com

Bill Curtis (Colorado at Large)

719 599-3648 (H)

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wcurtisb52ewo@aol.com**Jim Horton** (Mesa)

480 883-6369 (H)

480 200-7566 (C)

jhorton2739@gmail.com**JoAnne Lowe** (Phoenix)

480 836-7296 (H)

480 577-9833 (C)

pnutlowe@cox.net**Murali Nair** (Phoenix)

602 788-0303 (H)

602 821-0423 (C)

meempat.murali@gmail.com**Steve Nordberg** (El Paso)

915 833-5915 (H)

texminn@sbcglobal.net**Bill Phillips** (Arizona at Large)

928 266-0865

spheres0000@gmail.com**Steve Reynolds** (Tucson)

520 488-7730 (H)

tv1@cox.net

Becky Rogers (Las Vegas)

702 812-7976 (C)

rags04@gmail.com

Rod Southworth (Cheyenne & Laramie, Wyoming)

307 221-2634 (C)

southworth15@yahoo.com