
THE VILLAGE CARD CLUB

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NEWSLETTER

A ZERO TOLERANCE CLUB

2nd QUARTER

JUNE 2008

President's Message

To the Village Card Club

The first half of 2008 is almost behind us; we look forward to the second half being as rewarding as the first.

Through May, attendance was up by seven percent and June seems to be keeping pace. Our financial position is, somewhat, improved and if the attendance continues to improve at the current rate, we should be in a more favorable position at the end of the year.

Your Board of Directors is doing a very good job keeping costs under control and maintaining an atmosphere in the Club that has made playing bridge at VCC more enjoyable. It is encouraging to see so many new faces in both the open games and the lower strata games.

The semi-annual club meeting was held on Thursday, June 12. It was disappointing that there was not a quorum (80 members) at the scheduled starting time of 11:15 AM. However, this gave the members who were there time to enjoy great appetizers, drinks and time playing rubber bridge with each other. The meeting started shortly after 12:00 and all items on the agenda were addressed. The result of the vote on the changes proposed by the Constitution and By-Laws committee was most gratifying. All proposed changes, except for one were approved. This was taken as a vote of confidence in your current administration. For this, we are very grateful.

Now that the election laws are changed, it is up to you, the members, to step forward and offer your talents to our club. There is enough talent in this organization to run a fair sized business; lets put that talent to use in the club. There is a job on the Board that your talents will fit.

We all derive great benefit from the VCC; it is up to us to perpetuate the club in order that those who follow us will derive the same pleasures. The changes that were made at the meeting will be for naught if you do not step forward and offer your services.

Our club is very successful because its members are willing to get involved. Please continue this practice and extend it to playing a role in management of the organization.

Cecil Grattafiori, Jr.
President

COMING EVENTS

June 2008

19 th	Club Championship	12:30
20 th	Club Championship Game (0-99)	9:00
22 nd	Unit Team Game Qualifier (Qualifiers play at DeGray—11-2)	1:30
23 rd through 29 th	STaC Games	
27 th	Open Pairs	9:00 and 1:00
29 th	Open Pairs	1:00
26 th	Mentor Plus	7:00

*** Games schedule may change...check on-line for revisions.



July 2008

1 st	Club Championship	12:30
2 nd	Free Mini Lesson by Ned Irving	12:15-
	New Minor Forcing	12:45
6 th	Swiss Teams 0-199	1:00
8 th	Unit Wide Championship	12:30
10 th	NAP	12:30
	Non-Life Masters NAP	12:30
14 th	LM/NLM Mixer	7:00
15 th	Non-Life Masters NAP	6:30
18 th	ACBL-Wide International Fund Game	7:00
20 th	Swiss Team 0-2000	1:00
21 st	Club Championship	1:00
24 th	Mentor Plus	7:00
25 th	NAP	9:00
27 th	Team Board-A-Match	1:00
30 th	Non-Life Mastgers NAP	9:00

August, 2008

1 st	Emily Clark Memorial Game (CC)	9:00
3 rd	Swiss Team—0-199 (CC)	1:00
4 th	NAP	1:00
6 th	ACBL Membership Game 0-299ers	9:00
6 th	Free Mini Lesson—Greg Bono	12:15-
	Splinter Bids	12:45
7 th	Super Club Championship	12:30
	Open and 299er	
11 th	Non-Life Master NAP	9:00
	LM/NLM Mixer	6:30
12 th	Unit Wide Championship	12:30
17 th	Swiss Team 0-2000	1:00
18 th	Individual Game	7:00
21 st	Non-Life Master NAP	12:30
25 th	Junior Fund Game	9:00
	Junior Fund Game	1:00
26 th	ACBL Membership Game (open game Only)	12:30

HEY! WHAT'S THAT MEAN!!!!

In order to help some of us better understand the differences in the types of games that are played in our club, Becky Rice has given an understanding of what an Individual Game is.

Individual Game

An Individual game is scheduled on Monday, August 18th at 6:30 pm. You come without

a partner and will use an individual movement card that assigns a table number and position for each round. It is a **FUN** game where you will play 2 or 3 boards with 9 or more different partners. Everyone will use the same **ACBL Standard Yellow Card**, so you don't have to be concerned about playing conventions that you don't know. If there is a convention you don't know on this card just tell your partner each round that you don't want to play that particular convention. If you have any questions about this game, please contact Becky Rice @ 922-3346.

You may ask any director for a copy of the **ACBL Standard Yellow Card** at any time. If you are a novice/intermediate player, you might like to get one early and study it to make sure you are comfortable with its' content. If there is something on the card you are not sure of, **ask!** There are many wonderful people in the club who would be delighted to take the time and explain it to you.

Swiss Team Marathon

If you enjoy playing bridge in your home and would like to meet other people, now is the time to sign up for the **Swiss Team Marathon Leagues**.

The host couple arranges the game with the other three couples in the group. Twenty-four boards are played. Directions are given for the movement of the pairs so that each pair plays with and against the other pairs.

Cash prizes are given at the end of the year party.

Entry fee of \$15.00 per couple is due in September at the first meeting.



The Swiss Marathon end of the year party was June 8, at Casa de Carta. We had 88 people who played this year.

The evening sessions will begin with a 30-minute lesson beginning at 6:30 pm followed by a play session following.

This year, there were two leagues: The Isabella League, which is a ladies' group, and the Desoto League, which is a mixed partners league. At the end of the year party, held at Casa de Carta, 44 members celebrated the completion of a successful marathon season. The winners of each league were announced.

This is a **FREE** non-sanctioned game similar to the Mentor night. For more information contact Teri LaBove at 915-9101.

Come try this NEW Mentor Plus Event!

Did you know.....

The winners for the Isabella League are: 1. Lillian Estes & Ginna DeThomas, 2. Pat Bertnolli & Lucy Lewis, 3. Susie Brunner & Johnnie Nieman, 4, Cindy Devish & Marilyn Biegler, 5. Rita Martick & Doris Lenox, 6. Karen Nagy & Karren Pamperin, and 7. Sandra Snyder & Voncel Haggard

Did you know that the Constitution of the Village Card Club requires "There shall be no fewer than two (2) general business meetings for the entire membership during each calendar year." (Article VIII, Section 3)

The winners for the Desoto League are: 1. Dwayne & Marcia Ballew, 2. Marv & Evelyn Hayenga, 3. Joe & Vonna Fischer, 4. Tom & Rita Martick, 5. Bill & Fran Bazemore, 6. Jan Farnsworth and Dolores Pilarski, 7. Bob and Linda Wessel

And, (Article V, Section 2) "This Constitution may be amended at any General Membership Meeting by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those members in attendance, provided a quorum of members is present," And (Article V, Section 3) "A **quorum of eighty (80)** members is necessary to amend this Constitution."

Don't miss out on this activity for next year...sign up sheets are the clubhouse!

These same parameters are required to amend the By-Laws of the Village Card Club.

Come join the fun!!!

Mentor Plus Program

A Summer opportunity is in the works for the Village Bridge Club. On June 26, July 24, and August 28, the VCC will have a Learn & Play Mentor Plus Night starting at 6:30 pm.

So, when we have a General Business Meeting, each of us should remember that the club is ours, not the Board of Directors, not the President of the Club, not the Directors or the Teachers....it belongs to all of us. And we should be happy to attend the two business meetings a year to make sure it continues to be the club that we all can enjoy. How can almost 800 members be wrong about that?

VCC players with 300-1000 masterpoints will be matched up with players who have over 1000 masterpoints. A "sign-up" sheet will be available on one of the bulletin boards in the hallway. *Choosing a different partner for each session is requested.*



Just a Laugh!

From the ArcaMax Publishing, Jokes Newsletter:

Two elderly gentlemen are playing cards on Saturday evening just as they have done for the past 50 years.

Gus, the elder, had been having problems remembering what cards were what, and usually needed help from his wife. At the end of the card game Red said to Gus, "You did very good tonight. You didn't need any help at all. Why is that?"

Gus replied, "Why, ever since my wife sent me to that memory school, I haven't had any problems at all."

"Memory school? What memory school?"

Gus thought for a moment, "Oh, what's that flower that's red with thorns? A really pretty flower . . ."

"A rose?" asked Red.

"Yeah, that's it!" Gus turned to his wife and mumbled, "Hey, Rose! What's the name of that memory school you sent me to?"

Just a Thought....

This came in an e-mail the other day and maybe it explains a couple of things in our bridge club.

The human brain cell can hold 5 times as much information as the Encyclopedia Britannica. *(Some of us might have the condensed version??)*

Your body gives off enough heat in 30 minutes to bring half a gallon of water to a boil. *(Explains why some of us stay in "hot water" all the time!!)*

70% Club

Congratulations to the following VCC members who achieved membership in the 70% Club.

March 27, 2008

72.78% Dave McMorran & Bob Hollingsworth

April 17, 2008

70.19% Becky Rice & Andy Cosby

May 1, 2008

75% Bob Hollingsworth & Dave McMorran

May 13, 2008

72.42% Patricia and Larry Kaddatz

May 23, 2008

70.51% Betty Schultz and Gina Doss

June 2, 2008

74.45% Richard Biddle and Pat Luehring

June 5, 2008

74.54% Jack and Luallen Leach



March 2008 Achievements

Over 300 Points

Tom Lewis

Over 50 Points

Diane Blackwood

Over 20 Points

Jim Reilly

Over 5 Points

Virginia Ambrozich

Bill Butterworth

Lois Potvin



April 2008 Achievements

Diamond Life Master	Virginia Matthews
Gold Life Mastger	Andy Cosby
Silver Life Master	Peggy Ross
Bronze Life Master	Peggy Ross
Life Master	Peggy Ross
	Bob Prestridge
	Randy Lusk
	Voncel Haggard
Over 300 Points	Luci Lewis
Over 200 Points	Carol Reed
Over 100 Points	Johnnie Niemann
Over 50 Points	Linda Smith
	Gladys Dohrer
Over 20 Points	Alan Trippel
	Betty Grimes
	Joi Miller
Over 5 Points	Bob Villegas

May 2008 Achievements

Over 300 Points	Milton Matzek
Over 200 Points	Charlotte Nelson
	Thelma Matthews
	Ginna DeThomas
Over 100 Points	Sherry Piper
Over 50 Points	Stephanie Hawley
	Kathy Riedel
	Jean Flaaten
Over 20 Points	Walter Newburn
Over 5 Points	Nancy Holland
	Jim Holland
	Carole Thompson

2008 Resort City Regional Tournament

The Resort City Regional Tournament has a reputation for having the best hospitality of any around. That reputation is upheld because there are so many of you who are willing to provide the delicious breads and cookies for us to share with the players.

Even though the hospitality hours were posted, we had anxious players coming into the hospitality room "just a little early to get some of those goodies."

So a huge **Thank You** is just for you (the VCC members)!!!

The tournament was a success. We finished the week at 1300 tables of bridge being played.

Teen Challenge did an outstanding job again this year. Their efforts were recognized by those playing in the tournament—they earned \$200 more in tip money than they did in 2006.

A special thank you to Cindy Devish for the fantastic job she did, again this year, in organizing the tournament. Most of us can't begin to imagine the number of hours (and the number of head aches) it takes to get all the facets of the tournament to come together so that we can spend a week doing one of the things we love most—playing bridge.

Dick Heil—The Poet

Many of us know Dick Heil. He has served on the Resort Regional Tournament committee several times. He is the force behind the fantastic teaching program they have at the Little Rock Bridge Club, and he is the reason several real novices (0.00

Some Statistics from the Regional Tournament...

From the statistics obtained from the director of the tournament, it appears that 181 people from the Village Card Club played at the Resort City Regional. Of those playing, 43% were either novice or intermediate players. Congratulations to all the winners....but especially the novice players who were not afraid to try something new! Good for you!

And good for the club! Half of the Regional profits went to Unit 161. The five clubs in Unit 161 that closed during the tournament shared this profit, based on their attendance at the tournament. The Village Card Club earned \$2,904.50. Thanks to all who attended!



VCC Rose Memorial

"SMELL THE ROSES" Our beautiful Village Card Club Rose Memorial is in full bloom, thanks to your many contributions in memory of friends and loved ones. In 2007, the names of **Jo McPherson, Bernie Lacy, Mary Ladd, Bill Finch, and John Wild** were engraved and added to the wall plaque hanging in our foyer.

All donations made to honor friends or family are very much appreciated and are used for the upkeep of our roses.

If you would like to volunteer to help take care of the roses, please contact Kathy Harris, Lillian Estes, or Pam Harris.

"Director, please!"

The director's responsibilities include deciding the movement, where players sit, maintaining good order and interpreting the laws and making rulings.

If any question about play or inappropriate behavior occurs, always call the director.

Do not be resentful if opponents call the director. The director is called to establish equity in the game. He/She is the one to make a ruling in case of an indiscretion or difference of opinion.

Players have an obligation to accept with good grace the rulings of the director. There is no place or justification for arguing with the director at the table.

However, any player has a perfect right to query a ruling made by the director. If a player feels genuinely aggrieved they should simply say that they wish to appeal against a ruling. On no account should they argue their case at the table.

There are times, of course, when a player is not happy with a ruling but has no desire to appeal. In that situation, a player should privately talk to the director later and ask for an explanation of whatever it is that is of concern. Most directors will be only too happy to oblige. Please remember that the directors are by no means infallible, and they will do what they can to correct a ruling.



I'm afraid that the owl is about to "fly south." I didn't get any "takers" on my attempt in the previous newsletter to create some fun in the VCC. Sorry!