

Unit 207 Newsletter

Apr/May 09

The Unit 207 Newsletter editor is Larry Davis. The newsletter will be available on or about the first day of the months of February, April, June, August, October and December. Please let the editor know about newsworthy items so that they may be included in the newsletter.

Upcoming Unit 207 Events

1 April (Weds - day) - Bridge Center - Stratified Open Pairs
25 May (Mon - day) - Bridge Center - Stratified Open Pairs

Upcoming Special Games at Clubs

3 Apr (Fri - eve) - Bridge Center - Membership Game
7 Apr (Tues) - Bridge Center - Club Championship
7 Apr (Tues) - Senior Center - Club Championship
11 Apr (Sat eve) - Bridge Center - Club Championship
13-19 Apr (Mon - Sun) - STaC games
23 Apr (Thurs) - Bridge Center - Club Championship
27 Apr (Mon eve) - Bridge Center - Club Championship
28 Apr (Tues) - **South Austin** Senior Center - Membership Game
29 Apr (Weds - day) - Bridge Center - Charity Game
2 May (Sat - day) - Bridge Center - Club Championship
4 May (Mon) - Senior Center - Club Championship
5 May (Tues) - Bridge Center - Junior Fund Game
7-10 May (Thurs - Sun) - **no club games** (Austin Sectional)
13 May (Weds - day) - Bridge Center - Club Championship
15 May (Fri - day) - Bridge Center - Charity Game
18 May (Mon - day) - Bridge Center - Club Championship
19 May (Tues) - **South Austin** Senior Center - Club Championship
21 May (Thurs - Bridge Center - Education Fund Game
23 May (Sat - day) - Bridge Center - Upgraded Club Championship
25 May (Mon) - Senior Center - **no game** (Memorial Day)
29 May (Fri - eve) - Bridge Center - Club Championship
31 May (Sun) - Bridge Center - Membership Game

Future Austin Tournaments

April 09 (4th - 5th) - NLM Sectional - Bridge Center
May 09 (7th - 10th) - Austin Sectional - Bridge Center
June 09 (18th - 21st) - Austin Sectional - Bridge Center
July 09 (18th - 19th) - NLM Sectional - Bridge Center
Aug 09 (15th - 16th) - 0-100 Sectional - Bridge Center
Sept 09 (17th - 20th) - Austin Sectional - Bridge Center
Oct 09 (10th - 11th) - 0-100 Sectional - Bridge Center
Nov 09 (14th - 15th) - NLM Sectional - Bridge Center
Jan 10 (7th - 10th) - Austin Sectional - DoubleTree Hotel (I-35 / US 290East)

Congratulations!

New Life Masters: Jan McLaurin, Greg Schepens
New Bronze Life Masters (500): Mary McCarron
New Silver Life Masters (1000): Inger Blount, Ellen Meyer
New Gold Life Masters (2500): Beth Tobias
Others: (4000) Steve Bruce; (3000) S. Van Blarcom; (2000) Pam LaShelle;
(200) Carolyn Boldt, Sandra Harris; (100) Liz Cooper, Lee Ellis, Rich Ellmer, Marie Hahn, Harry Ingham, Helen Kirby, Kathleen Sato, DeAnn Strawn, Diana Whitfield;
(50) Esther Ellis, Gwyn Peterson

Texas Star award: Flora Pettit

Unit 207 members winning 20+ masterpoints at the Houston Regional are: K Schutze, G Pisk, M Breed, A Cokins, L Davis, R Donathan, C Sands, V Massey, L Anthony, J Black, L Hutchison, and G Richards

Unit 207 Elections

Newly elected to the Unit 207 Board of Directors are: Mark Craig, Nancy Dean, and George Watkins. The six members whose terms are continuing are: Charlie Auffer, Harriette Bowles, Larry Davis, Robert Donathan, Leonard McCormick and Mark Miller.

New officers: President, George Watkins; Vice-President, Charlie Auffer; Treasurer, Robert Donathan and Secretary, Leonard McCormick.

Committee Chairs: Caddies - Laura Delfeld, Conduct/Ethics - Sharon Hoger, Contracts-Larry Davis, Education - Mary Anne Laier, Financial Review - Earl Jennings, GNT Coordinator - Scott Humphrey, Hospitality - Harriette Bowles, Membership - Mark Miller, NAOP Coordinator - Larry Davis, Novices - Laura Delfeld, Photography - Mark McAllister, Publicity - Linda Anthony, Recorder - Mark Craig, District 16 Newsletter - Linda Anthony, Supplies - Jim Wueste, Tournament Coordinator/Business Manager - Larry Davis, Unit Newsletter - Larry Davis and WebMaster - Mark McAllister.

Austin 0-100 Sectional

Austin's second 0-100 Sectional was held March 7th and 8th at the Bridge Center. (It was again very successful.) Two new 0-100 Sectionals have been planned for 2009 - August 15-16 and October 10-11. There are two sessions - Saturday at 1:30 and Sunday at 1:30. (There is no Saturday evening session.) The Unit Board anticipates holding three 0-100 Sectionals per year (along with the three NLM Sectionals already being held).

New Game

A new 0-299er game begins April 1st (really!). The game will be held each Wednesday at 11:30 at the Bridge Center. It will run concurrently with the Open Game

Mechanical Errors

A mechanical error occurs when your fingers (not your mind) go astray, grabbing the wrong bid from the bidding box. It is **not** a mechanical error if you made the wrong bid due to a mental error, even if you immediately realize the error. Suppose that your partner bids 2H over your 1NT and you raise to 3H. You immediately realize that you have forgotten that you are playing transfers and that you should have bid Spades. You have just made a **mental** error. Do not call the director and do not give your error away by some comment, facial expression and/or body language. A genuine mechanical error may be corrected, **provided** that your partner has not subsequently bid. Simply call the director. If you made a mechanical error **and** your partner has subsequently bid, you have to suffer the consequences. Do not call the director and do not give your (mechanical) error away by some comment, facial expression and/or body language.

Dummy Don'ts

The dummy may not comment on the number of tricks won or lost or the number of tricks still needed to fulfill the contract. That is the declarer's job. Do not inform the declarer if he has a trick turned wrong (unless it is the trick just completed). Do not say things like: "Only one more trick needed, partner" or "You've taken eight tricks so far" or "You won the third trick." The dummy may not play, touch or otherwise indicate which card in the dummy is to be played. Wait until the declarer calls for a card, even if it seems clear to you what declarer is going to do (such as play the lowest card to a trick the opponents are going to win or ruff a suit in which the dummy is void or discard what seems to you like a useless card). Penalties may be assessed if the director believes that the declarer *may* have been influenced in the play of the hand by comments or gestures made by the dummy. (Remember that doubtful issues are awarded to the non-offending side (the defenders in this case).)

Miscellaneous

When giving an explanation of your bidding to the opponents, make sure to use the proper terminology with respect to "transfers" and "relays". A transfer bid promises the suit in question. For example, if 2NT is a transfer to diamonds, then the 2NT bidder promises holding a diamond suit. However, if the 2NT bid were a relay to 3 Diamonds (the responders is "required" to bid 3D), the 2NT bidder does not promise a diamond suit (although he might happen to have one).

Asking questions (at any time) during the play of the hand: either defender or the declarer may ask what the contract is when it is their turn to play. Either defender or the declarer may ask the opponents what the agreed-upon meaning of a specific bid is and/or what their leading, discarding/signaling agreements are when it is their turn to play.

A *review* of the auction: may be asked for only at your turn to play to the *first* trick (including the opening leader). (The partner of the opening leader must wait until the opening lead has been made.)