

Board Talk

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Boulder Bridge

<http://bcn.boulder.co.us/recreation/bridge>

September 2005

From the President

Dear Members and Friends of Unit 359,

The aspen trees still have green leaves, but the clear, clean air of late summer is a sign the leaves will soon turn to gold. Which means autumn is nearly here and I'll be seeing you at the newly christened Kay McKenna Boulder Fall Sectional. This is a very good time to get ready for the Denver NABC! You folks using Mid-Chart conventions must take proper care to use those in the A flights. Check the ACBL web site for requirements.

The several masterpoint races are up for grabs, as is the newly instituted Alkonis award for Boulder club players at the B level. Also, the Holiday Party preparations are proceeding smartly and elections for Board Members will soon be taking place. The hard work of all our board members and volunteers gives us the opportunity to enjoy the many fine events put on by the Boulder Unit. Please consider running for a spot on the Boulder Unit Board!

The Fall NABC in Denver is coming together. There will be a Boulder Unit day, where we will showcase what we are all about. Please pass on your suggestions; we sure can use 'em!

Confound your partner: have your bid!

John Bortins, President

Directory Update

◆ **Bates**, Vincent – 1140 Portland Place, # 304
Boulder 80304

♥ **Renne**, Karen – 1108 Maple St., Golden 80401

Kudos

Congratulations to new Gold Life Master Linda Sundbye and new Silver Life Master Bill Brackett.

Linda was also Boulder's only first-place winner at the Colorado Springs fall sectional. Her team, which included Fred Herring, Dave Ruttner, and Bruce Cobb, won the Sunday event.

Congratulations also to Jim Hoerlein, Bill Brackett, Jenny Glendinning and Tim Auckland, who won the Bracket II KO at the Denver sectional in July. And your editor posted a rare win at the Grand Junction sectional in August, placing first in the Friday afternoon pairs, with Joan Tschirki of Aurora.

Karen Renne, Newsletter Editor

Alkonis Award

Thanks to Irene Hyatt, who provided the funds, Unit 359's "Flight B" players are eligible for the **RITA ALKONIS MEMORIAL PRIZE**, to be awarded on November 15 in memory of Rita Alkonis, who died on November 15, 2004.

Eligible members are those who began the year 2005 with 500 to 1000 masterpoints. The member in that category who earns the most masterpoints between January 1 and November 15, **in Boulder Unit club games**, will receive a cash prize of \$100, to be awarded at the holiday party on December 11.

The prize will be awarded each year through 2009.

Club News

Longmont Bridge Club

Kathy Ragland and Larry Dolan won our last club championship, on July 14. Gary Steiner and Michael Perlman were runners-up. Our next club championship will be on November 3, 2005. We will have a club appreciation game on October 13.

Results of all games can be found at www.NorthernColoradoBridge.com.

Marlene Aranci

ACBL Unit 359

Treasurer's Report

Sept. 1, 2005

Last checking balance:	6,005.18
Income:	
ACBL membership	131.39
NAP game entries	224.00
Boulder Co. deposit, refund	<u>285.00</u>
Total Income:	640.39
Expenses:	
Newsletter printing, postage	88.40
Newsletter postage	100.00
Director, NAP game	50.00
Sanction fee, NAP	32.00
Food, NAP game	35.66
McKenna Cup engraving	109.78
Spring sectional food	8.48
Forum ad, Fall sectional	75.00
Total Expenses:	499.32
Final checking balance	6,146.25
Final savings balance	<u>3,970.49</u>
Total Assets	10,116.74

Jim Hoerlein, Treasurer

Six 9s or Seven 8s?

In our June edition, we asked our readers to let us know whether they preferred to play seven eight-board matches or six nine-board matches in the Sunday team event at our sectionals. Although no strong preference

emerged from the responses, we noted a trend in favor of seven eight-board matches. The Board will consider the matter at its next meeting.

Bill Brackett, Tournament Chair

Stay Healthy, Play More Bridge

A professor of integrative biology at the University of California-Berkeley studied bridge players in Orinda CA and determined that playing bridge increased their white blood cells. Blood samples were taken before and after the games, and all subjects revealed changes in the level of the white blood cells that attack viruses and other invaders. The researcher, Marian Cleaves Diamond, attributes this effect to the fact that bridge players plan ahead, use working memory, and deal with sequencing, initiation, and other higher order functions that involve the desolateral cortex. Stimulation of this area of the brain is thought to influence the immune system.

From an article in the August 7, 2005 Tulsa World, contributed by Anne Vincent.

McKenna Cup Leaders

The leaders heading into the Fall 2005 Kay McKenna Sectional are:

1.	Suzanne Jones	24.81
2.	Linda Sundbye	24.69
3.	Broma Lou Reed	12.56
4/5.	Andrea Kutscher	9.52
4/5.	Bill Kutscher	9.52
6.	Woody Dillinger	8.22
7.	Vince Bates	6.41
8.	Judy Furtney	5.99
9.	Jim Steele	5.63
10.	Clint Heiple	5.39

Master Classes

Continue Sept. 19, 2005

Chuck Henke will teach his Master Class Part VI—"Duplicate Decisions"—at the First Christian Church, 950 28th St., Boulder. This is a series of six two-hour classes beginning at 9:45 on Monday and ending in time for Gary's game. Call Chuck at 303-755-4106, or e-mail chhe80012@att.net. This series begins next Monday and ends on October 24.

Chuck is Colorado's only Blue Ribbon Pairs winner. He has won many regional and sectional events and has been awarded the Colorado Victory Trophy four times.

Chuck is also an excellent teacher. He prepares seven hands for each two-hour lesson and allows plenty of time for play and post-mortem. The cost is \$90 for the whole series or \$20 for single classes, which require advance notice. I attended most of his previous classes series and found them to be excellent value.

Karen Renne

The Law, Vindicated

Holding seventeen high card points, and having heard partner raise my second suit to the four level, I certainly expected to defeat 4♠, but as is so often the case, I was wrong. Our hands were:

West (me)	East
♠ Q	♠ T2
♥ AK987	♥ 52
♦ J73	♦ AQ5
♣ AK42	♣ J98753

The auction:

E	S	W	N
pass	1♠	2♥	2♠
pass	pass	3♣	pass
4♣	4♠	pass	pass
Dbl	All pass		

I led the ♥A and switched to the ♣A when I saw dummy's ♥QJ64. Declarer ruffed the club, pulled trump, gave up another heart and the ♦A, and took the rest of the tricks. Her hand:

- ♠ AKJ963
- ♥ T3
- ♦ KT642
- ♣ ---

In addition to ♥QJ64, dummy had four small spades, two diamonds and the ♣QT6, so their side had a total of sixteen high card points .

It would have been easy to avoid the -790 result --I could have passed 2♠, for instance, or pulled the double to 5♣ (down one)--but 4♠ is unbeatable.

Thus, the Law is vindicated. If partner has six clubs for her bid and the opponents have ten spades between them, it's right to bid 5♣, because either side has ten tricks. At the time though, I was blinded by my aces and kings and failed to count the trumps.

Karen Renne

Mark Your Calendars!!

Sept. 16-18	Cheyenne Sectional
Sept. 30-Oct. 2	Montrose Sectional
Oct. 1-2	Denver 199er Sectional
Oct. 3-9	Ruidoso Aspengold Regional
Oct. 14-16	Pueblo Fall Sectional
Oct. 21-23	Boulder Fall Sectional
Oct. 24-30	Las Vegas Glitter Gulch
Sectional	
Nov. 10-13	Denver Fall Sectional
Nov. 17-27	Fall NABC, Denver
Dec. 11	Boulder Annual Holiday Party

"Board Talk" is edited and published by Karen Renne five times a year. All Unit members are welcome to contribute to its content.