

American Contract Bridge League District 16

SCORECARD

Bridge News Bulletin for The Texas Regional Conference

San Antonio, Texas

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November/December 2007



Bramley wins Gold, Sutherlin and Morse are Third, in Seniors World Championship.

Bart Bramley led the District 16 contingent in Shanghai by winning the World Seniors team Championship. Bart's played with Lew Stansby on a team with Rose Meltzer, Roger Bates, Grant Baze and Rose Meltzer. Finishing third in the competition was Dan Morse and John Sutherlin on a team that included former District 16 multiple World Champion, Bobby Wolff. Donna Compton served as non-playing captain for the Morse team. Donna is too young to be a player! District 16 had 3 other players who gave a strong run in Shanghai. In the Venice cup, Shawn Quinn's team suffered a narrow loss in the quarter final round. They lost by one IMP to the French team. Bob Hamman and Hemant Lall were on a team that barely missed qualifying for the KO round.

Both the USA teams in the Seniors met in the semifinals. Under conditions of contest they could not both be in the finals. Morse's team went out in front 55-16 in the first set but it was all Bramley after that. Bart's partner was Lew Stansby.

This is Bart's first World Championship. He has finished second in the World Par Contest, 1998. Third in Rosenblum Teams, 1998. Second in TransNational Teams, 2005. Fifth in Bermuda Bowl, 1991. He was captain of US Team in Olympiad Teams, 1996.

Bridgebaseonline in Shanghai: Vugraph in the Hour of the Wolf

As reported elsewhere in this issue District 16 had players on 4 of the 6 American teams competing for the World championship in Shanghai. Shawn Quinn was playing for the Venice Cup, the Woman's World Championship. Bob Hamman and Hemant Lall were on USA2 competing for the Bermuda Bowl. Dan Morse and John Sutherlin were on the third place team in the Senior Bowl while Bart Bramley was on the victorious Senior Bowl team.

With so many of our players competing it was a real thrill to be able to watch the action unfold from the comfort of my den on bridgebaseonline. This free online service showed many of the RR matches and the KO rounds in real time. By the time the Finals rolled around they presented all 3 matches.

If you haven't checked out this service it is a real treat. The screen shows all 4 hands and a bid-

ding chart. As each player bids his/her bid is recorded. After the bidding they display the cards being play with or without animation as you choose. One drawback to real time is that with so much at stake the play can be real slow. Not to worry. There is a "movie" feature that allows you to check out the previous hands as you can switch back and forth to live action. You can control the pace of those hands with the mouse. I particularly like to look at the results chart and view the hands with the larger swings. With 5 tables in play at one time the program is set up so you can quickly go from one table to another. The players play the hands in the order so if they are in phase you can watch the same hand being played at both tables of a match. Each table has a set of expert commentators to explain the bidding and anticipate the play. It can be particularly exciting to

Dewitt Hudson wins the 2007 Jacoby Award

By Eric Snow

There is no one more deserving of this award than Dewitt. Dewitt H. Hudson, Jr. is a retired Colonel with more than 23 years in the United States Army. He is a Silver Life Master and has been actively involved in contract duplicate bridge since 1970. Col. Hudson is a dedicated teacher who is always willing to help anyone. From his beginner's classes he has introduced many newcomers into the duplicate bridge environment. He sponsored his entire class for their first tournament last spring. Always, he is willing to spend extra time with the learning process. Dewitt has mentored many novice players, among whom are - Travis and Lidy King, Bob Kennemer, Nedra Sims, Junene Johnson, Virginia Reinier, and countless others. Dewitt has given many unpaid hours of encouragement and invaluable information to almost everyone in District 16. He has also been instrumental in organization of new groups within the District.

Since becoming President of District 16, Dewitt has attended 28 tournaments in our District. This is quite a big job and deserves a great deal of praise. At the beginning of his tour as President, District 16 was 21 out of 25 for Membership and Retention. Presently, District 16 ranks as 4th out of 25 for Membership and Retention, with the goal of being ranked #1 a definite possibility for the near future. Dewitt's influence has been widespread, as is reflected by the increased interest toward ACBL membership, especially programs increasing membership in the youth, and also the senior group. There is no one more dedicated to the enrichment of ACBL and our district than Dewitt Hudson. The following highlights some of the more outstanding work that he has been accomplishing behind the scenes:

- (1) INSTRUCTOR at University of Texas at Arlington - Continuing Education Program
 - a. Teaching Basic Bridge classes in the evening for several years, and encouraging his students to join ACBL.
 - b. Teaching an Advanced Class in the morning
- (2) BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Member of National Board of Governors for over 7 years. Submits articles in Scorecard to inform the membership of activity or actions of Board of Governors.
- (3) As a member of ACBL Educational Foundation assisted with providing funds for Stephenville, TX, Bridge (Laura Nash) to purchase supplies for her new bridge group. Also, was instrumental in assisting with Bryan and College Station (Barbara Nance) receiving funds to help with youth programs.
- (4) President District # 16 for 2005 and re-elected President for a second term 2006.
 - a. During his tenure as President, Dewitt has presented certificates to 8 Mayors and 2 Mayor Pro Tem (Temple, Midland, Abilene, Waco, Humble, Richardson, Grapevine and Fort Worth). Expressions of appreciation to the bridge group and Dewitt for their contribution to the community were heard everywhere.
 - b. Letter of Appreciation to tournament chairperson and president of various units in the District.
 - c. Expresses concern for all members with a problem in District - "Words From the President".
 - d. Visited 26 units, sectionals, and Regionals in District 16, plus 2 Nationals.
 - e. Largest Tournament in Mexico (Puerto Vallarta) in years.
 - f. Worked with Staff to have all units represented for the 17 Texas Star Awards.
- (5) Participates in Unit 183 Fort Worth games several days a week and is a regular attendee at the Saturday night games. The



Fort Worth Bridge Studio is greatly benefited because of the tireless efforts of Dewitt.

(6) As a mentor, he is superlative, always going above and beyond the norm to encourage and teach novice players, and he is also very patient with slow learners, always encouraging them.

(7) Programs to benefit the youth have been a priority for Dewitt Hudson. He has actively encouraged youth participation by organizing beginner's classes on various college campus, as well as high school. Seniors have also been recipients of his efforts to improve and encourage participation in ACBL activities.

(8) Dewitt personally assisted in coordinating with District 7 for STAG charity games to support bridge players in Orange and Beaumont. He also set up a special fund that accepted donations, raising \$3700.00 to support the Beaumont and Orange facilities that were damaged by Hurricane Rita.

In 2000, Dewitt was appointed by District #16 to be Lifetime Goodwill Member. As a member of Goodwill committee he has attended all meetings and wears his pin at all sectional, regional and national events.

No one in District 16 is more qualified or more deserving of the Jacoby Award than Dewitt Hudson. I am a member of ACBL and attend regularly at Unit 183 Fort Worth Bridge Studio. Thank you for your consideration of this nomination of Dewitt Hudson.

Past Oswald & Jim Jacoby Award Winners

- 2006 Rosemary Kelley, Austin
- 2005 Toni Snow, Houston
- 2004 Betty Starzek, Houston
- 2003 Al Lochli, San Antonio
- 2002 Scott Humphrey, Austin
- 2001 Tom Hughes, Fort Worth
- 2000 Mary Ross, Corpus
- 1999 Arlene Weingarten, Houston
- 1998 Eric Snow, Houston
- 1997 George & Leah Olivarri, Corpus
- 1996 Howard Wilkins, Abilene
- 1995 Barry Hagedorn, Houston
- 1994 Shirley Pagan, Corpus
- 1993 Jacque Tucker, San Antonio
- 1992 Henry Baer, Dallas
- 1991 Mary Williams, Austin
- 1990 Gerrie Owen, Dallas
- 1989 Dan & Joan Morse, Houston
- 1988 Jim Downs, Houston
- 1987 Judy Jacoby, Dallas
- 1986 Cissie Horton, San Antonio
- 1985 Sue Barber, San Angelo
- 1984 Ann Carb, Fort Worth
- 1983 Joyce Cook, Houston

watch in real time when you can see a key play coming up. The action may pause and you could be rooting for your player to make a play. As you wait, sometimes interminably, the play is suddenly made and it could be dramatic. Plenty of ideas for partnerships may often appear. Consider this hand. ♠ AQJ652 ♥ 92 ♦ 109653 ♣ VOID
The bidding started out similarly at many tables
3S P 4S 5H
Well, would you break the time honored axiom of bidding again as preemptor?
(continued on page)3 Shanghai)

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Elvis is coming!

www.LasVegasNABC2008.com

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REPORT FROM BOARD OF GOVERNORS

By Dewitt Hudson



What a wonderful tournament. David Birnbaum, Tournament Director and David Cook, District Director, District 10, did much to put on a great NABC. Although the table count of 12,879 was slightly less than the 13,375 count last summer in Chicago, the tournament was a great success. The weather was great and Nashville is such a beautiful city.

crease of 368. Our increase versus June 30, 2006 is 623. Our current paying member total is the highest it has been since 2000. Our active unpaid life member number is now seeing some consistency. Our new member year-to-date numbers are slightly above 2005 and 2006.

MEMBERSHIP

At the six-month mark for 2007, membership has a year-to-date increase of 368. Our increase versus June 30, 2006 is 623. Our current paying member total is the highest it has been since 2000. Our active unpaid life member number is now seeing some consistency. Our new member year-to-date numbers are slightly above 2005 and 2006.

FREE MORNING LESSONS AND GAME

Marketing surveys showed that the players would appreciate more free lessons. ACBL now offers up to three free lessons per NABC. Each lesson is followed by a shortened duplicate game in which a maximum of fourteen boards are played. The players may ask questions about playing or bidding. They do win masterpoints and get trophies. Presenters for these games are Jerry Helms, Amy Neillissen, Marti Rone-mus and Barbara Seagram.

ELECTION OF ACBL PRESIDENT

Richard DeMartino, Dan Morse and Shirley Seals had previously declared their candidacy. There were no other declarations of candidacy. Nominations were closed. By secret ballot, Dan Morse was elected to the office of ACBL President for a one-year term, beginning January 1, 2008. Congratulations, Dan.

MASTERPOINTS

The masterpoint rating for Charity games, Educational Foundation, International Fund, and Club Appreciation pair games (October) is increased by 1.00 Sectional Black Point.

NO PHONES

Cell phones, audible pagers or any similar communication equipment cannot be operated or be operable in the playing area during a session of play at NABC's except for health-related equipment or by permission of the director-in-charge of the tournament or event. One Board Member stated that by using a cell phone text messenger, information can be relayed to this partner i.e., (Bid 6 hearts on Board 20).

SEE YOU IN SAN FRANCISCO.

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 E-mail preferable.
 Pictures cannot be returned.



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