

First Day Finishes

It was that kind of warm bright day in Penticton that makes one regret sitting inside playing bridge, but that is where well over 200 of our fellows spent Tuesday, June 3rd, 2003. The air conditioning was adequate, but barely compensated for the sunny beach or the golf course. Many were filled with envy for those who came, not to play bridge, but to golf all day and party all night.

The A teams have finished 5 of 21 matches in the full Round Robin while the CWTC entrants have finished 4, for the most part, and the B teams have finished 2 or 3 matches (albeit longer trials) Results can be found elsewhere in these pages.

The Bridge Week Festivities started with the usual hospitality room in the Executive Inn - sardine room only and enough noise that nobody could make themselves heard over the din.

Tuesday morning began with Matt Smith and Jan Anderson reading the riot act to the team captains (not that a whole lot penetrated the alcoholic haze) and by 10:30 the battles had begun.

To date there have been no battles of the fisticuffs variety or any significant appeals for that matter.

Of course, we have leaders, but anyone who follows these events will tell you that it is very early days yet and I, for one, would not count ANYBODY out or declare ANYBODY into the playoffs. There is lots of bridge yet to play before we get down to finals and VuGraphs.

Stay tuned.



Round Robin Results CNTC Flight A

Round #	Team Name and Number																					
	1 Sinno	2 Gartaganis	3 McAvoy	4 Herold	5 Maksymetz	6 Priebe	7 Flock	8 Gillespie	9 Barton	10 Nowlan	11 Nagy (NPC)	12 Bart	13 Fergani	14 MacKay	15 Treble	16 Thurston	17 McIntyre	18 Pocock	19 Rayner	20 Carrière	21 Todd	22 Kramer
1	17	13	21	20	23	14	15	7	8	18	12	0	25	18	12	22	23	15	16	7	10	9
2	19	17	11	13	17	24	19	6	17	6	20	19	21	9	11	10	24	13	24	11	6	13
3	9	11	12	21	18	19	10	13	6	20	18	1	20	15	15	10	25	12	10	24	17	20
4	2	11	15	19	25	11	15	19	14	13	10	9	20	14	19	11	16	10	21	20	17	16
5	25	16	15	7	16	1	14	23	15	14	22	12	14	25	16	4	25	14	4	16	18	8
6																						
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Total	72	68	74	80	99	69	73	68	60	71	82	41	100	81	73	57	113	64	75	78	68	66
Rank				6	3						4		2	5			1		8	7		



Round Robin Results CNTC Flight B									
Round #	Team Name and Number								
	1 Custead	2 Bedard		4 Thompson	5 Soderstrom	6 Agrwal	7 Chan	8 Cook	9 Zillman
1	7	23	X	6	8	16	14	22	24
2	12	24	18	6	X	16	19	11	14
3	15	13	16	15	14	17	X	15	15
4									X
5		X							
6				X					
7						X			
8								X	
9	X								
Total	34	60	34	27	22	50	33	48	52
Rank		1	*		*	3	*	4	2



* Only 2 matches played so far

Round Robin Results CWTC

Round #	1 Arblaster	2 Campbell	3 Richardson	4 Nowlan	6 Gordon	7 Foster	8 Taylor	9 Metcalfe	10 Adachi	11 Blackett	12 Neate	13 Connell	14 Isfeld
1	12	18	19	8	21	20	22	8	10	9	X	22	11
2	13	9	17	21	10	21	10	13	17	20	9	20	X
3	15	1	X	15	25	25	13	8	16	14	22	17	5
4	X	8	12	8	22	18	22	25	15	8	22	15	2
5						X							
6								X					
7										X			
8												X	
9		X											
10				X									
11					X								
12							X						
13									X				
Total	40	36	48	52	78	84	67	54	58	51	53	74	18
Rank	*		*		2	1	4				*	3	*

* Only 3 matches played so far.

Sponsors Make For Success

When you think about what the CBF achieves every year, it is really quite astounding. A part time Executive Director, a volunteer board, a badly underpaid Webmaster, and other volunteers for a myriad of functions soldier on despite a chronic shortage of funds and in the face of the domination by the ACBL of the North American bridge scene. They have negotiated a small portion of the ACBL membership fees that we all pay. They have managed despite the odds to run several events every year, the most prestigious of which is our annual Bridge Week.

Last year, the organizing committee had money coming out our ears, so successful was our fund raising. BUT that money was for social events and not for the operation of the event. These 2 things ran separately. Imagine our surprise to find that when the dust settled, we had had a wonderful party, but the CFB were on the cusp of losing money on what might have been, for the players at least, the greatest success in history. Clearly this cannot continue. Volunteers run out of steam, underpaid and overworked staff have to find other alternatives, and we must find ways to, at a minimum, get this event to a balanced budget.

We might not be quite there yet, but I have to tell you that in addition to those already mentioned, several good friends of bridge in Canada have stepped up to the plate to help us keep this event solvent:

- First of all, I need to acknowledge the continuing support of IKON Office Solutions. Last year in Edmonton they donated a high capacity copier complete with toner and staples to use to put out the Daily Bulletin for the week. This significant level of sponsorship not only allowed us to reduce our costs

significantly, it also allowed us to get the Bulletin to the players earlier in the day. It's a different IKON office this year, but the support is just as significant. This Bulletin, and the one yesterday were printed on a CANON 6050, provided to us free of charge. The hand records are created on the same fine machine.

- Moreover, these Bulletins and the hand records you are receiving are printed on paper provided at a very deep discount by Grand and Toy.
- The results are being transmitted to our Webmaster in Vancouver via an Internet connection provided, again at no charge to us, by Shaw Cable.
- We are playing in a venue supplied at a discounted rate by the Executive Inn and Convention Centre.
- The President of the CBF and the Executive Director stay in the host city at the expense of the CBF. This year, they are staying in 2 rooms provided free of charge by the Sandman Hotel.
- And finally, in addition to giving us quite a deal on the conference centre, the Executive Inn has ponied up a room for the Director in Charge at... no charge.

In each of these cases, we can attribute savings of several hundreds of dollars up to over a thousand dollars. This will make this event close to break even if not full break even.

It does not and cannot end there. Each and every member of the CBF must recognize that these corporate sponsors need your support, too. If you are in business, look to your local IKON Office Solutions office for your copier and office machine needs. Look to your Grand and Toy office for excellent office supplies. If you are in Shaw country, give their cable systems and high speed Internet a try in preference to others who do not reach out to help the CBF. Stay at the

Executive Inn or the Sandman, this week and next. Stay at these brand name hostelries when you travel for bridge, for business, or for pleasure. Make sure you tell those commercial organizations that you recognize and appreciate their contribution to bridge in Canada and you are patronizing them at least partly because of their continued support. With your help, we can not only keep these good sponsors, we can also get more sponsors to make bridge thrive in Canada. We cannot do it without you because, quite simply, they cannot afford to do it without you.

Zias Stonehouse Restaurant

If you go to Zias, don't try to eat a full 4 course meal plus desert. At least not unless you haven't eaten for a week. The portions are huge... and the food is great.

Zias has an Old World atmosphere. It's in a stone building that was built in 1916. The building is an official heritage site. The restaurant is an award winner – Best Place to Eat& Hear Live Music for the last 4 years. (The live music is supplied by a talented young lady who serves tables when she's not playing the piano!)

We had:

Baked French Onion Soup	Broccoli and Cheddar Soup
Caesar Salad	Marinated Artichokes
Bruschetta	Saganaki
Apricot Ginger Chicken	Prawns Pernod
Apple Cinnamon Cheesecake	Crème Caramel

Price: \$71.60 (plus tax).

Comments:

- French Onion Soup – Bob says “better than mine”.

- Caesar Salad: comes in ‘Grande’ and ‘Piccolo’ – piccolo serves 4!
- Bruschetta: a good appetizer... for 6.
- Apricot Ginger Chicken: yummy – comes with rice, roast potatoes, baby carrots, cauliflower with cheese sauce, and broccoli.
- Marinated Artichokes: great presentation – served with tomato and kalamata olives.
- Saganaki – salty fried Greek cheese... very, very good.
- Prawns Pernod – to die for. Also with the great variety of vegetables.
- Apple Cinnamon Cheesecake – Bob's favourite.

They also have a nice selection of local wines. We had the house wine: Hawthorne Mountain dry white (Mountain Reserve).

Service: attentive and friendly – but note that this is NOT fast food (allow 2 hours).

Price range: Entrees from \$9.95 to \$20.95.

Reservations: (250) 494-1105

To get there: 14015 Rosedale Ave., Summerland (17 km North of Penticton – 20 minutes). Go North on Hwy 97 to Summerland (past Trout Creek despite the fact that it has a ‘welcome to Summerland’ marker). Go to the 2nd working traffic light and turn left. Zias is the third building in past the Macs store and the Legion.



This Place Called Penticton

Whenever I come upon a community, I often find myself asking the question - WHY? Why this town? Why in this location? What made it start? What made it grow? What makes it go?

According to a document I found on the Internet, "Penticton, as translated by the local Salish Native Americans, means 'a place to live forever' (the commonly accepted translation) or 'a place to live year-round'. Tom Ellis, from England, planned the formulation of the new town. In 1892, a town site was laid out around the Smith Street area. The street is now called Front Street, home to many unique stores and boutiques."



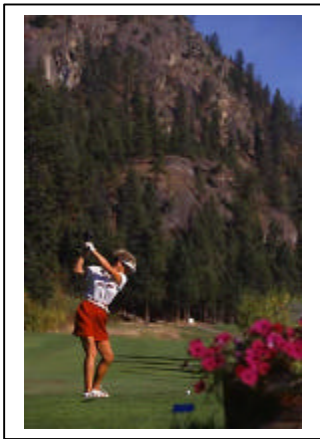
While another document suggested that Mr. Ellis had created Penticton beside Penticton Creek as a mining community that got a boost by the initiation of steamship services, there is no question that mining is not a big part of the economy any longer. The town's records suggest it took 15 years to get to 400 residents and another 14 years to get to 4,000. Growth seemed to slow after that since it took until 1948 to reach city status. Why this lovely setting has seen much slower growth than its neighbour to the North (Kelowna) I do not know. I for one, having gone through Kelowna at rush hour, find Penticton much easier on my ulcer.

Clearly fruit growing sustained and grew the city. There are records of the S.S. Sicamous

being used as a freighter for at least 2 fruit seasons. Anyone who has been fortunate enough to visit this tournament during an 'early' fruit season will have gorged themselves on cherries so sweet and so flavourful as to cause one to swoon. And you should come back for the apricots, the peaches (after which the Regional tournament used to be named and a name many of us still use), the plums, the grapes, and, of course, the apples. Where there are grapes, there is wine and until a few years ago, Canadian wine was pretty much a laughing stock of the industry protected by tariffs there wasn't much incentive to get better. Thanks to Free Trade, the vineyards had to get better in a hurry or get plowed under. Many disappeared, but the serious folk adapted and now many Canadian wines have a fine and growing reputation. Take a drive along the eastern shore of the Lake (down to Naramata and further) and you will find some of the best vineyards and the finest wineries in the country. Of course, the mild climate of this inland plateau has made the entire valley something of a retirement mecca. Those quiet retirement dollars keep things very green in Penticton. Last, but not least, of course, is what makes the Peachtree Regional the largest regional in Canada and one of the largest on the - a finely honed skill in HOSPITALITY. With all of the hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, RV Parks, and even housing rentals combined with a host of restaurants, bistros, bars, taverns, and ice cream parlours tucked in a number of places throughout the city and all between the two lakes (Okanagan on the North and Skaha on the South), this community can truly be said to know how to do tourism right.

For those who think of the handle "Tourist Town" as some kind of denigration, give your heads a shake. It takes a special mindset not only to serve the travelling public with style but to avoid taking out a

gouge in the process. Prices range from economical through modest. Sure, you can spend \$100.00 US a night for a room in high season, but you can also get a suite with a full kitchen to sleep the whole family for \$60 Canadian if you stay away from the top of the market. My wife, the inveterate bargain hunter, usually comes away with something special that she picked up for herself or our grandson and we find prices in restaurants and food markets to be on a par with most cities in Canada. To entertain the travelling public, there are dozens of events every year. I say dozens since I was able to count 17 focussed on gourmets, gourmands, and opimians, birdwatchers, car buffs, and fitness freaks (a marathon AND an ironman). Of those 17 events proudly promoted, not one of them is the Peachtree Regional Bridge tournament, so I have to conclude there are many others.



So that is the town you have chosen to make your temporary home for a week of battles at the bridge table (punctuated by the occasional afternoon of golf). Take comfort in the fact that any community that gives you a week long free parking pass is really saying “Welcome. We are glad you are here!” It’s nice to be wanted instead of being just tolerated.

Bridge the Silver Way

David Silver and Tim Bourke

Great literature it ain’t, but it is a fun read in small doses. David has quite clearly selected his characters from amongst his favorite characters in the Toronto area and from the readings in his youth. Most who grew up in the 60’s will remember the John Galt of Ayn Rand (Ayn Remington in the story... complete with gold brooch in the shape of a dollar sign – yes, David, we got it). Fred Gitelman has become Dr. Fred Glitterman and the Vugraph from Bridge Base Online has become the Glittergraph. He frequently uses someone called Bruce Gowdy who I thought must be John Gowdy, but then, Bruce’s brother JOHN makes a brief appearance so I am at something of a loss.

In essence, his short stories are a vehicle to present interesting hands that can be a challenge to solve even double dummy and are just the kind of thing that a bridge player might well enjoy during his daily constitutional. So, if you have a bookshelf in your bathroom, put this volume on it and it will give you some chuckles and mental exercise, even if you are not in awe and amazement at the prose.

As I say, a fun read and one which forced me to chuckle whether the character of Professor Silver is the hero or the goat (and he is both in the various stories). \$20.00 CDN.

Lord Chumley’s Fish & Chips

Want a quick, inexpensive (but tasty) meal? Try Lord Chumleys. You can get both halibut and cod fish and chips – the fish is in a nice, light batter. You can also get English style fish cakes, fish burgers, chicken strips and popcorn shrimp. Or mixed platters with

prawns or clam strips. And for the truly English, mushy peas!

It's a pleasant place with English county tea towels on the wall and friendly service.

We had:

- All you can eat fish and chips (cod).
- Popcorn shrimp.
- Diet pepsi.

Price: \$20.

Comments:

Be sure to check out their specials:

- Monday and Thursday – all you can eat fish and chips for \$8.99.
- Tuesday – seniors discount (10%).
- Wednesday – special on Chumley chunks (chunks of fish).

They're open 11am-8pm Monday through Friday and 3pm-7pm Sunday. They also do take-out.

Service: friendly and reasonably quick – dinner in 45 minutes.

Price range: Entrees from \$6.99 to \$10.99.

To get there: drive South on Main Street (if you're coming from downtown, you'll have to go south on Martin until it turns into Main at the south end of downtown). Go 13 blocks until you see Cherry Lane Mall on your right. Turn left at the lights onto McDougall Ave. and immediately left into the strip mall parking.



From the Other Side...

Not everyone plays bridge... at least not ALL the time. Watch this column for places to go and shops to visit. There **is** life after bridge.

Note: you can also read these reviews on the wall behind the flyers table by the front doors of the playing site.

Beadz

Blue ones, red ones, yellow ones, purple. Elephants, dogs, letters, cats, angels. Big, little, metal, ceramic, glass, wood. You name it, this store has it.

If you are a crafter and work with beads, this store is worth a good look. You can find that special showcase bead to finish off your necklace or earrings. You can also get the findings and chain for your necklace and earrings.

And if you're just getting into this craft, Beadz has kits to help you out. (They even have a wind chime kit!).

If you're NOT a crafter (or need to get a present for one), this store is still worth a look. They have finished jewelry – and not all of it looking like 1960's hippy.

As well, they have sarongs, candles, incense, and crystals. And – currently – a nice selection of brocaded drawstring bags (trust me, guys, your lady would like one. And it won't break your bank – they're in the \$10-15.00 range).

Comments:

Friendly staff and great selection – what more can you ask for?

To get there (walking): go out of the playing site, turn left down the alley. Go two blocks and look to your right across the street. (Or you can go to the corner and turn left down Martin Street to Westminster, cross to the North side of Westminster, turn left and walk half a block).



Software Review...

Modern Bridge Defense

By Eddie Kantar

It seems that I often get advice from better players just as they dissolve the partnership in disgust. Playing a few years ago, my soon to be ex-partner suggested that I needed to work on defense. He gave me a book by Eddie Kantar. An awful thing it was. Huge and filled with manuscript style courier print on pulp paper. I tried. I really tried. But I could not get that book to come to life. Well, folks, it has come to life. Eddie Kantar is well known as the Secretary of Defense. He has focused much of his writing on this, the most difficult of the many aspects of the game. Lots write about bidding and there is much to say. Others talk about declarer play and there, too, there is much to say, both generally and specifically. But, except for those who pontificate about opening leads, there is a terrible paucity of this aspect of the game. Nobody likes to defend (or at least not many). Most of us would prefer to declare

and hold the levers of power and control, but defense is something like putting in golf. All golfers have heard the adage - drive for show... putt for dough. Every time I review a session of bridge where we finished third or fourth, it was not the bidding that did us in. Neither was it the declarer play. It was, virtually every time, the defensive lapses that moved us from the winner's circle to the also rans.

Defense is tough. This package makes it much easier. *Modern Bridge Defense* is not cheap as these kinds of programs go. Good stuff rarely is. But at \$69.95 Cdn, it is likely to pay huge dividends if you find that your defense needs improvement. The questions you need to ask yourself are many and the answers will amaze you. What suits and what card to lead against no trump and suit contracts? How do you respond as the partner of the opening leader? And that does not mean blindly following the axiom of Third Hand High! When your partner leads, how do you signal against No Trump or against a suit contract? How do you differentiate between attitude, count and suit preference? Being able to figure this out 'most' of the time can make the difference between the podium and the also rans. Eddie Kantar even brings to life that most awkward of positions in defense, second to play to a suit, and also deals with the advance planning necessary to make the winning discard. In addition to the lessons and the glossary, the package is filled with a myriad of practice hands and a series of questions that will get you thinking on defense. It's worth a look, it really is.



Reception

