



# THE CAN-AT DAILY NEWS

## Wednesday June 28, 2006

### Welcome Edition

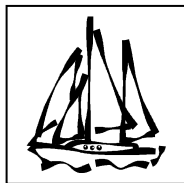


#### DIRECTOR !

We have a great directors' crew in Henry Cukoff (Montreal), Karl Hicks (Cape Breton) and Edgar Blinn (Bridgewater). Henry has been our head director on many previous occasions and also leads the directors' team for Canada's national championships. To assist him in his rulings we send him a Maritime Standard convention card well in advance and a bottle of aspirin. Karl is our number one Sectional director and directs regularly at the Bermuda Regional and at many ACBL National events. He has a great sense of humor, knows more jokes than Jerry Seinfeld and a personality at the bridge table with his rulings, second to none. If your partner leads out of turn, he might ask if you want a new one before he makes a ruling. Don't miss him at the Hospitality Suite (Delta #220) after the evening session. Edgar is our number 2 Sectional director, extremely personable and, like Karl, an excellent bridge player to boot. You will probably see him directing most of the midnight games while Karl and Henry enjoy refreshments in the Hospitality Suite.

Thanks guys and may your calls be few and friendly.

#### MIDNIGHT BOAT CRUISE



Saturday July 1<sup>st</sup>

Celebrate Canada Day with a Cruise of the Harbour aboard the beautiful Tall Ship "Silva"

Leaving the Queen's Wharf (*by Murphy's on the Water*) at 11:59 PM Saturday

Cash bar, snacks and lots of fun.

A Maritime Celtic Band on board.

**COME ABOARD JOIN THE FUN!!**

**TICKETS: \$15.00 each**

Call: Doug Hamilton at 443-4525 or email  
dhami@eastlink.ca

#### THE BOYS ARE BACK IN TOWN

The Halifax Can-At Regional welcomes some of the worlds' finest players, how about Paul Soloway, Allan Sontag and Jerry Helms for openers. Paul, a former member of the Dallas Aces and the world #1 master point holder with a tidy 56,000+; Allan, author of the best selling book "The Bridge Bum" and Jerry is "Ask Jerry" in the ACBL bulletin. Also returning are long time supporters Art and Kay Lilly, Alan and Stephanie Colpitts, Jeff Phipps and Jim (Flash) Gordon, all from the great U.S.A. Arthur is still looking for his 1<sup>st</sup> gold point from our tournament; maybe he can borrow one from Paul. We also hear that he has booked a pre-tournament tutoring session at an undisclosed location on the beautiful Myra, fasten your seatbelt folks! To add more international flavor, former Haligonians Gary Brown (Australia partnered with Gyl Balderson (Iceland) have made the long journey home, Local favorites will include Don Presse, John Stewart, Alan Doane, Eric Balkam, Rod MacKenzie, Gerry Callaghan, Ron Mak and Mike Betts. With all of these great teams, the Swami's predictions will be tough indeed, follow him daily in the bulletin. We should warn Paul, Allan, and Jerry to avoid too much time at the hospitality suite as maritimers have a history of buying many rounds for the visiting players late into the night. Memories somewhat foggy, most have returned home wondering why their masterpoint winnings were so low. Thanks to all the big boys for coming and make sure you give them a good run for their money.

#### **DAILY DOOR PRIZES**

**Be sure to fill out a registration card!!**

There will be DAILY door prizes for players that have filled out a registration card. Each evening we will be drawing for prizes and the winners will be announced in the following days "CAN-AT DAILY NEWS" and on the White Board by the registration desk.

Wednesday's Prizes are:

- Navy blue Jacket – donated by BDC
- Cape Breton Novel "This is NOT the Mainland"- Nimbus Publishing
- Edwardian Halifax, a history book on Halifax City. – Nimbus Publishing

*Thank you to BDC and Nimbus Publishing, particularly  
Leonard and Phyllis Murray.*

**Look Here for YOUR name tomorrow!**

## IS IT MY LEAD ?

*By Gerry Callaghan*

Several years ago I attended a sectional tournament in Summerside, Prince Edward Island. Other than being famous for superb potatoes, sandy beaches, world class golf courses and bad bidders, P.E.I. also has bragging rights to the Confederation Bridge, a 9 mile long causeway which links it to the mainland. Born and raised on the Island I can attest to the bad bidding and offer the following hand from the Open Pairs as proof. Playing with my third and final wife (one gave up on my bridge, the other because I played it). I picked up vulnerable vs not the following: Void, KQxxxx, x, KQ109xx and opened 1 Club in 1<sup>st</sup> chair. Partner responded 1 Diamond and I re-bid 1 Spade. When partner's next call was 4 Spades my heart was racing faster than Secretariat's at the Belmont many years past. There was not a lot of bidding room left to explore for slam, but in my alleged mind, partner could have the right cards for 6 or possibly 7 Spades; overlooking the simple fact that partner would have used 4<sup>th</sup> suit forcing with such a big hand instead of taking a chance of being passed in game. I like Keycard Blackwood and try to abuse it at every opportunity so I called 4NT, to which partner responded 5 Clubs, 1 or 4. Surely she has 4, and just before I was about to bid 7 Spades, I remembered it was matchpoints and that the gold lies in No-Trump. I bid 7NT hoping the Club Jack would fall and my wife would sing my praises all the way back across the famous bridge and right through to Halifax. My LHO, a gentle Island lady, looked at her hand, looked at me and asked "is it my lead"? I sadly confirmed that it was, she doubled and lay down the Ace of spades after the auction ended. My wife shook her head in amazement as she tabled J10xx AKQx 10xxx x. She next cashed the club Ace and switched to a diamond won by her partner's Ace. Being a clever player, in case you haven't already noticed, I discarded red on red by throwing my heart. Believe it or not she returned a club and I went for 800 instead of 2000. We of course got our zero anyway, which, to my wife, I blamed on the small field. On the next hand I misdefended 1 Notrump doubled against the same pair by playing 2<sup>nd</sup> hand low on the opening lead, allowing declarer to score a doubleton Q for her 7<sup>th</sup> trick. The trip back to Halifax was somewhat longer than expected and there were no songs of praise. We are still married and still play bridge together. I also received a nice postcard from the girls in P. E. I. Keycard Blackwood remains on our card but I am banned from using it with a void in a suit or in my brain. As for Secretariat, he never took up bridge but did win the Belmont and the Triple Crown. Then he was retired to stud. Oh what might have been!

## MISSING THE MARK

One would be hard pressed to remember a Halifax Can-At that Mark Molson did not attend. He and Boris Baron were here in 2004 playing on a team that included Jerry Helms and they probably set a record with 5 or 6 second place finishes in team events over the week. He joined us for our closing party, all smiles and looking forward to a Newfoundland trip with some of his teammates. The competition was over, time to relax, show pictures of his daughter, have a few beers and share some fun bridge hands. He was also an avid supporter of our calcuttas, no doubt because he knew that, with Boris, they had a good shot at taking our money, which they did to us, it was worth the price both for the entertainment and competitive values. Like many others in the bridge community, we mourn his early departure. The English use "bloke", the Aussies use "mate" and Maritimers use "buddy". Miss you buddy, God Bless.

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## I/N Program

Taking Advantage of the talent attending this year's Can-At!

Thursday through Sunday in the **Cornwallis Room** 1 the Can-At committee will be presenting a GUEST SPEAKER. Please watch the white board to see the featured speaker.

THURSDAY'S SPEAKER:

JERRY HELMS

"Ask Jerry"

6:55 pm Cornwallis Room 1

FRIDAY SPEAKER – TBA

SATURDAY SPEAKER:

GARY BROWN

Brown Bridge, Melbourne Australia

6:55 Cornwallis Room 1

SUNDAY AFTERNOON PRESENTATION:

BETTER BRIDGE TEACHER'S TEAM

12:30 pm Cornwallis Room 1

SUNDAY SPEAKER:

TBA

For all I/N Players, **remember** all PAIRS and SWISS TEAM games are STRATIFLIGHTED. Gold Points/Red Points to be won. Don't forget the Continuous Pairs, Morning, Afternoon and Evening. See next page for more information. You are more than welcome to play in ANY event, have some fun.

### 113.40% How?

*Borrowed from the "Bridge On the Beach" Penticton Regional*

There are side games at almost every session of this Regional, grouped into three series. The Thursday thru Sunday Morning side games are the **Morning Series**. The **Afternoon Series** runs Wednesday thru Saturday starting at 1:00 and the **Evening Series** Wednesday thru Saturday start time 7:30. You can play in as many of these as you wish; once you enter a series you don't need to stay in it to the end.

Masterpoints in all of these games are red, with some gold points to a few pairs at the top. You can win gold points awards by playing at least two sessions in any **side game series** and having two good games. Your top two percentages scores (even if you played with different partners) are added together and compared with all other individuals to decide the **side series** leaders. If you play three games in a **series** and have 64%, 27% and 59%, your "I wasn't awake yet" game will be tossed and you'll get a score of 123% for the series, and you'll probably win some gold points!

## TEACHER'S ACCREDITATION COURSE

Audrey Grant and Better Bridge has a NEW and wonderful Teaching Series. An improvement on Audrey's original "Club Series" (which was published more than 20 years ago) is "**The Bridge Basics 1 – An Introduction**" and for the Intermediate players "**Bridge Basics 2 - Competitive Bidding**" plus the Better Bridge "**Doubles**" Course. Kathie Macnab will be presenting this Teacher's Accreditation July 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. The course will take over 6 hours and the registration fee is \$125.00 per participant. Included are several books and teaching materials. This dynamic group will be giving a presentation for the I/N Group on Sunday at 12:30 in the Cornwallis Room 1

Class is Limited. For more information call Kathie at 452-8573.

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## PRIZES

After you have won your event you may pick up your prize at the PRIZE SECTION by the Registration Desk. Your prize will be available for pick up the next day (this will allow time for the directors to relay that information to the Prize committee). Prizes may be picked up at the registration desk ½ hour before each afternoon and evening session. We will also have your prizes available as soon as possible after the final Swiss Team event on Monday.

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**The following two restaurants are avid supporter for this Regional Tournament  
Present these coupons for your Player's Discount.**



**The Split Crow Pub  
1855 Granville Street, Halifax**

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**Please redeem this coupon to receive  
15% off regular priced menu items only.**

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**Valid to 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2006**



***Please REDEEM this coupon and receive 15% off your order  
at the SUBWAY located at one of the following locations:***

***1855 Hollis Street                      1560 Argyle Street  
5669 Spring Garden Road    5560 Fenwick Street***

***Valid until July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006    Good Luck on your Tournament!***

## SUPPORT YOUR TOURNAMENT

### Canteen Services:

A canteen will be set up next to the Cornwallis Suite 1 beginning at 9:00 each morning thru to 1:00 am. During the day there will be coffee, tea, soft drinks, bottled water and other light refreshments available. The evening canteen will provide a cash bar.

- ♣ Coffee and Tea - \$1.25/cup
- ♣ Soft drinks & Juice \$2.50
- ♣ Bottled Water - \$2.00
- ♣ Chips, bars, cookies available.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE TOURNAMENT BY PURCHASING YOUR COFFEE ON SITE.

**Water:** The playing site will have two water fountains which are located by the washrooms. You are welcome to fill a cup. Also bottled water may be purchased from the canteen.

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### LATE NIGHT HOSPITALITY

NEPTUNE SUITE # 220 in the DELTA HALIFAX (the former Chateau Halifax, Scotia Square).

Our Hospitality Suite will be open LATE for all those to enjoy, we will have our famous tooney bar for beer and wine. Some light snacks (chips etc.) and Maritime enjoyment. Meet your friends, make new ones. Everyone is encouraged to join us:

Kathie, Bill, Boyd, Jo Ann, Gerry and Judy will be there to greet you all, come join the fun

### MORNING HOSPITALITY

Available each morning (beginning Thursday) we will have fresh muffins, coffee, tea and juice. Relax and look at the local news. We will be opening the suite for your enjoyment at 11:00 am for one hour.

## WEDNESDAY'S PLAY SCHEDULE:

1:00 ..... Bracketed Knockout Teams #1 (1<sup>st</sup> round)  
..... Stratiflighted Pairs (1<sup>st</sup> of 2 sessions)  
..... Afternoon Continuous Pairs Series (1<sup>st</sup> session)  
  
7:30 ..... Bracketed Knockout Teams #1 (2<sup>nd</sup> round)  
..... Stratiflighted Pairs (2<sup>nd</sup> of 2 sessions)  
..... Evening Continuous Pairs Series (1<sup>st</sup> Session)

### **HOSPITALITY IN THE CORNWALLIS SUITE 1 Nuts & Chips; Cash Bar**

11:45 .... Midnight Zip Knockouts (*minimum teams required*)

## THURSDAY'S PLAY SCHEDULE:

9:00 ..... Morning Bracketed Knockout (1<sup>st</sup> round)  
..... Morning Continuous Pairs (1<sup>st</sup> session)  
  
1:00 ..... Bracketed Knockout Teams #1 (3<sup>rd</sup> round)  
..... Bracketed Knockout Teams #2 (1<sup>st</sup> round)  
..... Stratiflighted Pairs (1<sup>st</sup> of 2 sessions)  
..... Afternoon Continuous Pairs Series (2<sup>nd</sup> session)  
  
7:30 ..... Bracketed Knockout Teams #1 (Final round)  
..... Bracketed Knockout Teams #2 (2<sup>nd</sup> Round)  
..... Stratiflighted Pairs (2<sup>nd</sup> of 2 sessions)  
..... Evening Continuous Pairs Series (2<sup>nd</sup> Session)

### **HOSPITALITY IN THE CORNWALLIS SUITE 1 White & Blue Chips with Mild Salsa, Sour Cream & Guacomole; Cash Bar**

11:45 .... Midnight Zip Knockouts (*minimum teams required*)

### PARTNERSHIPS

If you are looking for a partner please contact TOM CHENG 420-5800 or BILL HALLIDAY at 452-8573 (cell phones they have on hand). Mr. Cheng has arranged a wonderful display at the PARTNERSHIP area of the Registration Desk. Do not hesitate to talk to the partnership committee to see how they can assist you.

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### NIGHTLY HOSPITALITY

After each evening session there will be a cash bar available plus some complimentary snacks. Please join us in the Cornwallis Suite 1 for some post-game amusement and stories.

For those that want to continue the fun join us in Suite 220 at the Delta Halifax.

**Tonight we have some chips, nuts and pretzels!**