



Another Life Master Milestone

Talk about by a whisker. Bev Martin and her team, playing in the B Stratification in the Wednesday Swiss, finished fourth. That was nice, but not nearly so nice as getting Bev the points she needed by .01 of a point. She is pleased but not nearly as pleased as we are to now have 6 life masters coming out of this tournament so far.



Actually, I know of several others who are just a few gold short of their gold card. With luck, several more will cross the line... and then, of course it is bronze, then silver, then gold... and so on ☺.



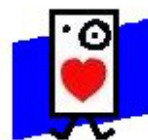
Another Ambitious Effort Goes South

When Rose Rossi of the Rocky Mountain Turf Club suggested lunch and dinner buffets, it seemed like a good idea. But the numbers proved insufficient to make the concept financially viable. So, the buffets for the week have been cancelled. However, never count Rose Rossi out until the fat lady sings... and Rose is no fat lady. Rose was offering bridge players complimentary shots on Wednesday evening for those who went

into Bully's for supper. She is hoping to have some specials that will not only attract a good number of the bridge crowd but will also help her staff reduce the inventory of food she brought in to run the buffet concept. One of the things that make Rose a fantastic person to work with is that nothing gets her down. Have an idea that proves unworkable, Rose has a Plan B. That is what makes a manager in the hospitality industry a real winner. By the bye, if you have purchased a ticket for one of the now cancelled buffets, take it to the Bank window in Bully's and you will get a 100% refund.

Events

Thursday, February 26	
Morning Bracketed Knockouts - 2nd session	8:45 am
Morning Side Game Pairs 3	8:45 am
Prime Time KO 1/2	1 & 7 pm
Stratified Open Pairs 1/2	1 & 7 pm
199er Swiss Pairs (singles)	1 & 7 pm
Board-a-Match (single)	7 pm
Midweek Side Game Pairs 5	1 pm
Weekend Side Game Pairs 1	7 pm
Friday, February 27th	
Morning Bracketed Knockouts - 3rd session	8:45 am
Morning Side Game Pairs 4	8:45 am
Morning Stratified Swiss (single)	8:45 am
Prime Time KO 3/4	1 & 7 pm
Stratified Swiss Teams (1/2)	1 & 7 pm
199er Pairs (singles)	1 & 7 pm
Weekend Side Game Pairs 2/3	1 & 7 pm



Domestic Art

One of the merchants who is supporting the tournament with a discount (15%) is Domestic Arts – located downtown at 619-4th Avenue South. They carry a mix of local and international goods:



In addition, they have a nice selection of special coffees and teas.



Ten Thousand Villages

Down the street and around the corner from Domestic arts is Ten Thousand Villages (at 321A 5th St. South). Ten Thousand Villages

is a non-profit Fair Trade Organization designed to benefit artisans in low-income countries. The organization markets products from handicraft and agricultural organizations based in low-income countries, providing consumers with products that have been fairly purchased from sustainable sources. The store is offering bridge players a 10% discount.

In the store you can find fair trade coffee and teas.



Furniture and art from recycled wood.



Purses and jewellery



And MANY other things too numerous to mention. They have recently expanded into larger quarters and have succeeded in filling the space with all sorts of goodies. Make

sure you leave yourself plenty of time to look around.



Josee's Hand Made Imports

Not far from these two stores is Josee's – right across from Park Place Mall (at 412 1st Ave. South). But this is not a chain store. Josee's has all manner of handicrafts primarily from Southeast Asia (tho a few North American things sneak in occasionally).

You can find exquisitely worked statues, whimsical creatures, wall hangings, masks and more – all tempered with the sweet smell of incense.



You can get an elephant's head to hang on your wall or a quaint rooster to sit on your shelf. If you are musically inclined, you can find a range of simple musical instruments from hand drums to rattles.



Josee's also has a selection of dresses, shirts, skirts, and other accessories, including jewellery.



This is another store in which you can spend hours investigating every nook and cranny. They are also offering bridge players a 10% discount.

Bookstore Leaves after Today

The bookstore that has been operating in the southeast corner of the playing area will be closing up at the end of the day today. If you are looking for some bridge books or an amazing selection of other items, drop in to the Canada Bridge Supplies. John Engel is the prime mover of Canadian Bridge Supplies since he purchased it and folded it into his highly successful Mission Fun and Games operation. John traveled the over 500 kilometers from Edmonton at his own expense at our request and we really hope that he was not disappointed with the response. When folks like John make the effort of coming here and the response is poor, they will just quit making the effort and we all lose as a result.



Good Caddies are Almost Invisible

Despite vowing that her organizing days were over, Gwen West offered to manage the caddy function for this event. Good caddies are not something that most of us notice and that is as it should be. Playing in a pairs game last evening, the pick up slips were collected in 9 rounds and even though I was sitting North, I didn't see the caddy pick up the slips even once.

That got me to thinking: caddy jobs are indispensable, whether assisting the directors keep the running score in a pairs game or shifting boards in Swiss or Knockout events. When the caddies spend their time chatting to each other, sitting around and expressing boredom or resentment at being asked to do their job... then they get noticed. The fact that Gwen's caddies, coming from her daughter's 4H club and from the Lethbridge Senior Citizens Organization are invisible is a testament to what a fantastic job they are doing for us. A hearty thanks from us and a smile or two from you on that rare occasion when you do happen to see them quietly doing their job is really all they ask. We really need to show them our appreciation. Well done Gwen, you have selected a great bunch of folks to caddy for us.



John Landeryou Knows Everybody

I have, in the past, worked for bosses who seem to have contacts everywhere. I once accused one gentleman of having such a collection of aunts, uncles and cousins that they made up the majority of Northern Alberta. But even his talents pale when compared to John Landeryou and his unparalleled knowledge of the bridge

community. John knows most of the players in the region by name. He knows their playing style and approach to the game and, as a result, working as our Partnership chair, he has an enviable record of putting winning pairs and teams together. Many players regard partnership desks with disdain and often refer to using it as being relegated to partnership hell. When John puts you with someone, you can be pretty well assured that the chemistry will fit. When the chemistry is there, good things often happen and win or lose, the game will be a rewarding experience. John Landeryou is a definite asset to the local bridge community and we are blessed to have him running partnerships. Thank you, John.

My Computer Ate My Homework

Wednesday's results were not available at press time. Watch for Wednesday's results in Friday's edition.

