





ACBL Board of Directors 2012

President Ruth Pana 303.757.7087

Vice President Blair Young 720.261.4305

Secretary/Directory Carol Levinson 303.904.7531

> Treasurer Don Heitler 303.757.3506

Sectional Chair/Supplies Bob Eberhardt 303.758.8738

I/N Chair Front Range Challenge Sherry Levitt 303.696.7039

> Caddies Blair Young 720.261.4305

Partnerships/Education Jim Calhoun 720.431.4160

> Hospitality Nancy Rainwater 303.333.6933

Membership Shelbie Bastiaans 303.941.9698

Budget/Publicity/Photography
Tom Burger
303.771.3431

www.denverbridge.com

From Unit President, FALL 2012 Ruth Pana

On behalf of the Unit 361 Board and its 1,245 members I would like to thank the following departing board members:

Bob Eberhardt has been on the board for two years. He has served as Chairman of Sectionals and supplies and 2011 Regional chairman. Don Heitler, treasurer for the past four years and a former board member. Sherry Levitt, served on the board these past two years as Partnership Chairman, I/N Chairman and chair of the Front Range Challenge. Nancy Rainwater, has served as Hospitality Chairman the past two years

Blair Young, vice-president and caddy chairman has decided to run for another two-year term. Thanks Blair. Thank you to legal advisor Forest Clark and Susan Grauer, Ethics Chair.

And special gratitude goes to Maxine Divine and Shirley Gates, former Unit Board Members, who served as Regional Chairmen this year. Our Denver Regional had 2194.5 tables and the introduction to the Denver Regional of 0-750 Gold Rush Pairs drew 264 pairs. The Board-A-Match teams had 48 teams for the popular two-session event; Swiss teams on Monday was attended by 116 teams. Maxine, Shirley and their committee put together packets of treats which the players enjoyed all week. Susan Marshbanks was chairman of Charity Night. Food Bank of the Rockies was the beneficiary of your generosity.

We are grateful to Carolyn Newcomb for assisting us in getting our new website up and running. Please visit often. www.denverbridge.com

Welcome to our new site...
you will find links to
local clubs, lessons, sectional
and regional flyers...membership
info, master point races, partnership requests, Table Talk, Unit
Board Minutes, sectional and regional results...and much more!!!!!



## PLATINUM LIFE MASTER DAVID CAPRERA

Reported by Don Heitler

David Caprera was born and raised in Boston. He and his wife, Anne, also a duplicate bridge player, graduated from Princeton. They have two children.

He is a bond partner in Kutak Rock and participated in the bond financing of the Budweiser Center in which the Boulder Bridge Unit holds its sectionals.

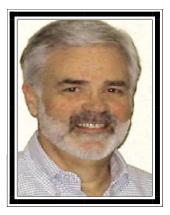
In the last three years, David has earned more than 4000 masterpoints playing with 75 different partners. During this time he also has won the Mini-McKenney twice in his category. In 1990, he won the Epson World Bridge Championship.

David is a high level ping pong player, a low handicap golfer, an avid fisherman (he ties his own flies) and a gourmet cook. He is also an accomplished musician.

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#### *2012 CANDIDATES FOR DENVER UNIT 361*



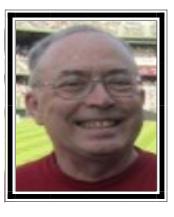
"I have been a member of the American Contract Bridge League since 1970 and part of the Denver Unit from the late 70's. I owe much to the larger organization and have always been a grateful recipient of the benefits of being a member of the Denver Unit. I would be grateful to have the opportunity to give time and energy to the needs of the Denver Unit by serving on the board."

Bill Beard

"I would like the opportunity to serve on the board in order to give back to an organization that has meant so much to me. I have served before and would enjoy serving again. I have been a member of the ACBL and the Denver Unit for over 30 years and have been active as a player for about 15 years. Thank you for your consideration."







"My name is **John Gallagher**. I have been in metro Denver for the 20 years since I retired from the Air Force. Playing Bridge at the clubs in town, and at the tournaments around the area, has always been a source of enjoyment – both the game and the players. I am glad for the opportunity, if selected, to give back some time and effort to continue to allow our district to be such a wonderful place to get together and play. I hope to help ensure that we keep up our great reputation! Thanks."

"Playing bridge and meeting so many new people have added a new dimension to my life. I believe helping out by being on the board will add yet another! May we be happy and content."

Joan Kushner





the game of bridge, but also the importance of acknowledging the work of those who have served on the board making it possible for all of us to enjoy tournament bridge in Denver. I would like to continue to make my contribution to the efforts of those presently serving. I am very excited about getting some younger people interested in the game."

about 4 years now. My father has not only taught me





On Thursday, November 8, 2012, the annual membership meeting will take place at 6:45 P.M.

Each year at this time we have our Fall Election, selecting candidates to serve on the Denver Unit 361 Board of Directors for two-year terms.

In accordance with Unit 361 By-laws, Bob Eberhardt, Sectional Chair, who is not running for re-election, served as chairman of the nominating committee for the selection of the (5) open positions for the 2012-2014 Unit 361 Board of Directors. Members of the nominating committee included: Penny Nancy Rainwater, Coffman, Curt Soloff and Paula Warren. The unit is grateful for all their help.

The candidates seeking office are listed on this page.



**MEMBERSHIP** DIRECTORY 2012

Is your information correct in the 2012 Directory? The Denver Unit gets its membership data directly from the ACBL. If you need to update your information, make the corrections with ACBL using form in the ACBL Bulletin or e-mail the ACBL (www.acbl.org)

# TREASURER'S REPORT For the fiscal year ending August 31, 2012

	بسنبات والناوس	The second second	THE RESERVE		
		2012	2011		
ASSETS					
Checking	\$	32,172	\$	16,029	
Savings	\$	57,372	\$	57,246	
Total Cash and Bank					
Accounts	\$	89,544	\$	73,275	
Other Assets		SECTION STREET, SE		0.5 C. S. C.	
Accounts Receivable	\$	-	\$	790	
Tom Lenahan Memorial					
Fund	\$	1,642	\$	1,642	
Prepaid Expenses	\$	3,157	\$	69	
Total Other Assets	\$	4,799	\$	7,575	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	94,343	\$	80,850	
	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,				
LIABILITIES					
Restricted Funds - NABC	\$	10,909	\$	10,851	
EQUITY	\$	83,434	\$	69,999	
TOTAL LIABILITY AND	536735	12 mar 17 mar	- 00		
EQUITY	\$	94,343	\$	80,850	

#### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND CASH FLOWS

		2012	2012 2011		
INCOME AFTER DIRECT					
EXPENSES: Newer Player Tournaments	•	400	_	=00	
November Sectional	\$	188	\$	568	
Tournament	\$	2,272	\$	(1,851)	
	Ψ	2,212	Ψ	(1,001)	
January Sectional Tournament	\$	1,265	\$	(2,413)	
March Sectional Tournament	\$	2,439	\$	(1,151)	
July Sectional Tournament	\$	1,313	\$	(1,618)	
Regional Tournament	\$	9,916	\$	9,936	
Membership Dues	\$	4,130	\$	4,004	
Interest Income	\$	125	\$	227	
Other Income	\$	1,909	\$	3,149	
Membership Badges	\$	504			
TOTAL INCOME	\$	24,061	\$	10,851	
INDIRECT EXPENSES:					
Administrative and Other	\$	1,658	\$	1,451	
Capital Equipment				100 V 1 V 100 V 100 V 100 V	
Replacement**			\$	16,401	
Directory	\$	1,916	\$	1,779	
District 17 Rep Expenses	\$	1,500	\$	1,000	
Education	\$	265	\$	265	
Front Range Challenge	\$	4600,00	\$	433	
New Player Free Plays	\$	35	\$	50	
Table Talk-2 issues '12	\$	2,185	\$	1,047	
Trophies and Gifts	\$	218	\$	334	
Membership Badges	\$	1,214			
New Website	\$	1,635	\$	315	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	10,626	\$	23,075	
NET GAIN/LOSS	\$	13,435	\$	(12,224)	

# SECTIONAL TABLE COUNTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012

November, 2011..543.5 March, 2012....522 January, 2012.....506.5 July, 2012.....519.5

#### **GOODWILL APPOINTMENTS**

Thirteen people were appointed to the District 17 Goodwill Committee in Las Vegas.

Appointed from Unit 361:

Jerry Newcomb and Ruth Pana

Congratulations!

#### **DIRECTORY ADVERTISING**

Ad space is sold on a first-come basis. The unit prints 1,100 directories annually, so your advertising dollars go a long way.

AD RATES:

\$350 for full page \$175 for half page \$50 for business card ad PROVIDE CAMERA-READY ART Contact:

Carol Levinson 303-904-7531

**SUPPORT DENVER UNIT 361** 



#### IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Kay Barrow
Lois Cummings
Jean Grunwald
Carole Hedstrom
Len Herz
Andrew McClelland
Linda Most
Dee Reed
Margaret M. Reinert
Marion J. Sunshine
Doris West

# **UNIT 361 MILESTONES**

# Platinum Life Master (10000)

**David Caprera** 

Emerald Life Master (7500)

Warren Garrett

Diamond Life Master (5000)

Patricia Norman David Warner

Gold Life Master (2500)

Karen Trujillo Gerry Schechter

Silver Life Master (1000)

Maria Aragon Thomas Burger Karen Cox Judith Cozzens
Maxine Divine
Harlan James Dulan
Michael Holmes
Sally Hughes
Toni Krueger
Todd Mucci
Marty Reeves
Shirley Schley
Carol Ward
Georgia Wilson

## Bronze Life Master (500)

Timothy Auckland
Jim Francis
Linda Harder
Wendy Leonard
Carol Levinson
Katie McCool
Marjorie McDonald
Annette Mickle
John Posluszny

Note: Milestones are through August 1, 2012.

## Congratulations to Unit 361 New Life Masters

William Arkin

Donna Arkin **Beverly Brilliant Jack Carver** Kevin Dunn **Bob Eberhardt** Ellen Jenkins James LaFave Carol Leatherman Dennis Leatherman Donna McMillan Eric Mead Jane Mondrow Frederic Platt **Betty Raymond** Brian Rink **David Robinson** James Salbenblatt Jilane Savignano Ellen Tallman

#### 2012 REGIONAL AWARDS

#### LOU NEFF TROPHY

(Unit player winning the most masterpoints at the Regional)

David Caprera Anne Brenner

#### FRANK THORWALD TROPHY

(199erUnit player winning the most masterpoints at Regional)

Jim Wolf

## LEN SMITH DEVER POST AWARD

(Unit player who begins year with 0-20 point; and wins the most masterpoints from all sources during the year)

Fran Huber Glen Woodson

### UNIT 361 2011 NEWER PLAYER SECTIONAL AWARDS

#### KINNINGHAM-WOODWARD DIRECTOR'S AWARD

(299er player winning the most masterpoints in 299er events at the four Denver Sectionals)

Susan Marshbanks G. Steve Wheeler

#### I/N SUSAN DITTMER TRAVELING TROPHY

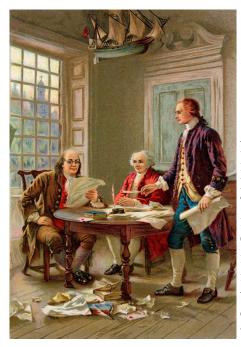
(299er player winning the most masterpoints at April I/N sectional)

Georgiana Butler

From President (Cont. from Page 1)

Recently, all Six ACBL Unit Boards of Colorado joined forces and contributed \$1,050 to the American Red Cross Colorado Fire Relief Fund.

Unit 361 Sectionals held at Jefferson County Fairgrounds are facing new challenges. We are required to use ONLY Pepsi Products and also, to use an approved list of caterers. We want to provide a light lunch to all KO teams that are playing on Friday and staying for the afternoon session; however it is not possible to know how many of the players arriving for the afternoon session will be partaking of the light lunch. We rely on prior tournament The board will conattendance. tinue to try to provide a light lunch to as many players as possible. Saturday and Sunday will be catered as usual.



# Playing in Philadelphia

By Carol Bertz

The summer NABC was held in Philadelphia, PA in mid-July. There were quite a few people from Colorado attending and representing District 17 and the Denver bridge community very well. Personally, I only played the

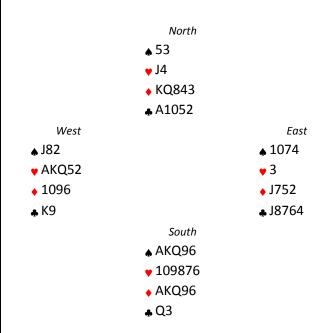
first four days of the tournament in the Life Master Pairs.

This was my first time to play in the 0-5000 Life Master Pairs since I "graduated" from the 0-1500 pairs event. It was a little intimidating the first day as I heard many players saying their goal was just to Q for day two. I could definitely relate to that as qualifying was my only goal as well.

LUCK – you need lots of that mixed in with some skill to win anything in duplicate bridge. My playing partner, Marie Smerjac, and I had enough luck to survive in the first qualifying round and a comfortable cushion to move forward into the semi finals on day two. It felt good going into the second day of the event, which was trimmed from 180 pairs that started to 96 pairs.

The first semi-final round we seemed to click on all cylinders with everything working for us. We had a 58% game and were sitting in 5<sup>th</sup> place overall after the morning session. Ding...ding...ding... Earth calling- crash and burn. Ouch – the second semi final almost did us in but we survived to qualify for the finals on day three with 52 pairs. Joanna Chau and Audrius Mizeikis also qualified for day three of the finals in the same event.

In the first session of the Finals, we had one hand that we thought was certainly a zero! East passed, South bid 1 ♠, West overcalled 2 ♥, and North made a TO double showing the other two suits. East passed with only 2 points and singleton heart. After some thoughtful consideration, south passed converting the DBL to penalty. West managed to take 4 tricks, down 4 doubled and vulnerable for a −1100. Definitely a disaster.



But it wasn't actually as bad as we thought. In our section, 6 EW pairs were -1400, 4 were -1100, 1 pair was -800, 1 was -400, and one a -140. It was the talk of the  $2^{nd}$  final session. We met the pair that pulled the double and made three spades. Not happy campers.

Marie and I played well enough in the two finals to finish a respectable 32<sup>nd</sup> place, so quite pleased with that result. Congratulations to John Gustafson and Neil Petrie from Ft. Collins who finished sixth in the event. Jon Brandon and Dom DiFelice played in the Von Zedtwitz life master pairs with all the pros and also made it to day three of the finals. Burke Snowden of Ft. Collins competed with his youth partner and qualified to the semi finals of the same event. They wanted to compete against all the best players. I admire them for taking on the challenge.

I couldn't leave Philadelphia without doing a little sightseeing of the historical places where America had its beginnings in government. The Colorado contingent also loved going to the Reading Terminal Market, which had every imaginable type of food. The Market was across the street from the Marriott, the bridge playing site. The downtown area had many other great restaurants that we had time to enjoy since most of the playing times were at 10 AM and 3 PM. As you can tell, I had a great time in Philadelphia.

Carol Bertz is a past member of the Denver Unit 361 Board and a Certified Bridge Teacher. She has introduced many new players to the world of duplicate bridge.

# UNIT 361 TOP MASTERPOINT ACHIEVEMENTS AS OF AUGUST 1, 2012

1	Jan Janitschke	17916	64	Roy Weinsten	3167	127	Jon Brandon	1743	190	V Robert Albert	1194
2	Judy Randel	15376	65	Curt Soloff	3158	128	Marie Smerjac	1737	191	Michael Holmes	1194
3	Chuck Henke	10646	66	Harriet Berenbaum	3156	129	Stanley Imhoff	1723	192	Clyde D'Arcy	1189
4	Bruce Cobb	10449	67	Harley Bress	3028	130	Bill Beard	1721	193	Sheila Johnston	1174
5	David Caprera	10221	68	Pat Drew	2960	131	Ken McClenahan	1717	194	Sanjoy Dasgupta	1172
6	Allen Kane	9732	69	Nona Dale	2960	132	Nancy Benedict	1707	195	Shirley Leff	1164
7	Flo Newlin	9627	70	Dolly Hauge	2921	133	Steven Blatter	1701	196	James Toepfer	1153
8	Cal Newli Jr	9264	71	Jeannene Dipaolo	2884	134	Jonathan Heliman	1689	197	Vern Brown	1146
9	Anita Heitler	8917	72	Bill Allegar	2880	135	Eleanor Gendill	1676	198	Nick Charczenko	1142
10	En Hay	8593	73	Frank Rhea	2879	136	Norma Austerman	1673	199	Shirley Gates	1139
11	Hachy Pennell	8389	74	Roberta Vider	2857	137	Craig Biddle	1648	200	Janice Pequette	1135
12	Don Heitler	8286	75	<b>Bob Martin</b>	2855	138	Betty Wells	1630	201	<b>Hurlon James Dulan</b>	1133
13	Virginia Gunter	8276	76	Mary Fulton	2847	139	Marvel Heinsohn	1628	202	David Porter	1126
14	Merrell Anderson	7813	77	Alice Kinningham	2813	140	John Swenson	1619	203	Linda Graham	1115
15	Marilyn Eber	7803	78	Mary Gsell	2787	141	<b>Lorraine Witonsky</b>	1611	204	Don Nelowet	1114
16	Warren Garrett	7634	79	Debra Dallas	2772	142	Alice Permutter	1611	205	Ginger Roe Anderson	1106
17	Roger Pennell	7185	80	Haisam Osman	2698	143	Robert McKenzie	1602	206	Ruth Pana	1102
18	Vivian Kilstrup	6819	81	Penelope Coffman	2688	144	Judith Ude	1595	207	Rey Pana	1100
19	Steven Parker	6519	82	Bill Fox	2583	145	Roger Miller	1589	208	Donna Yeargain	1095
20	Norma Sands	5671	83	Carol Lesko	2564	146	Betty Stephan	1579	209	Judith Cozzens	1088
21	Patricia Norman	5541	84	Karen Trujillo	2527	147	Jeffrey Brown	1571	210	Kris Klamut	1084
22	Kenneth Stuckey	5397	85	Richard Friedman	2506	148	Hedy Buckstein	1566	211	Gloria Truell	1082
23	Gerald Oehm	5301	86	Hal Ashley	2506	149	Bettie Marosey	1556	212	Toni Krueger	1076
24	David Warner	5025	87	Gerry Schechter	2504	150	Joan Curran	1538	213	Mohrine Comstock	1070
25	Anne Brenner	4982	88	Richard Berger	2475	151	Anne Hayes	1527	214	Richard Belt	1067
26	Charles Reed	4926	89	Per Hedly	2385	152	Judith Jadin	1505	215	Chris Burke	1065
27	Gail Gottlieb	4868	90	Lois Schmied	2376	153	Roger Neumann	1504	216	Karen Cox	1063
28	Ernest Skolnik	4861	91	Ralph Cox	2372	154	Ann Beezley	1499	217	Maxine Divine	1058
29	Ernie Young Jr	4802	92	Jerry Newcomb	2332	155	Lori Beard	1489	218	Marty Reeves	1045
30	Bonnie Smith	4773	93	Geri Bonds	2313	156	Beth Etzenhouser	1486	219	Thomas Burger	1042
31	Spencer Jones	4678	94	George Becker	2286	157	Valerie Lager	1486	220	Sally Hughes	1032
32	Pat Henke	4562	95	Milton Shioya	2273	158	Robert Paris	1476	221	Tod Mucci	1028
33	Garth Yettick Donald Vancil	4514	96	Doris West	2245	159	Rita Jacobsen	1454	222	Georgia Wilson	1022
34	Edwin Hagerman	4396 4330	97 98	Lawrence Goodfello	2219	160	Laurah Limbrick	1449	223	Bennett Aisenberg	1019
36	Dick Duff	4277	99	Carolyn Newcomb Kendall Rabe	2210 2208	161 162	Diane Winship	1442 1433	224	Eileen Dovel	1018
37	Peggy Ware	4247	100	Carolyn Borus	2203	163	Joe Sewall Gary Morrison	1413	225 226	Shirley Schley	1013
38	Skip Carson	4120	101	Lois Ann Cummings	2184	164	Michael Schneider	1412	227	Maria Aragon William Schleman	1011
39	Fred Herring	4065	102	Virginia Sewall	2170	165	Marilyn Graham	1411	228	Sandy Buckstein	1001
40	Frank Queen	4036	103	Sara Novachek	2153	166	Claire Whitman	1395	229	Judy Billings	998
41	Jerry Ranney	4030	104	Joan Madrid	2147	167	Jerry Marrs	1389	230	Sherry Clint	997
42	Forest Clark	3975	105	Barbara O'Grady	2125	168	Margery Brumley	1374	231	Edith Kern	997
43	Irene Hyatt	3975	106	Beverly Sanders	2108	169	Beth Nelowet	1372	232	Betty Adler	995
44	Jan Benninghover	3892	107	Margaret Devere	2068	170	Victoria Giusti	1365	233	Virginia Pedersen	994
45	Dan Martaler Jr	3884	108	Larry Haas	2031	171	Elizabeth Yager	1361	234	Sheryl Siegel	993
46	Carolee Larkin	3860	109	Marilyn Ballon	2006	172	George Everitt	1358	235	John Holcomb	991
47	Jared Johnson	3858	110	Vincent Castrigano	1999	173	Eileen Schoen	1313	236	Michael jalving	987
48	Marilyn Hughes	3692	111	Susan Charczenko	1992	174	Carol Ward	1303	237	Lianne Walliser	983
49	Walter Rassbach	3691	112	Judy Goldstein	1985	175	Julie Clark	1297	238	Sandra Koller	980
50	James Roof	3684	113	Joan Gerould	1983	176	Virginia Folladori	1296	239	Marschula Renkel	979
51	<b>Donald Boyarsky</b>	3661	114	Jane Dempsey	1980	177	Judi Greene	1294	240	Susan Cuff	972
52	Tom Schmied	3570	115	Walt Newcomb	1957	178	Joann Miller	1277	241	Frank Baca	971
53	Paul Witonsky	3531	116	Robert Lupton	1946	179	John Osher	1273	242	William Kutscher	969
54	Susan Grauer	3484	117	Donita McKanna	1937	180	Jerilyn Vanatta	1272	243	Jean Wolfe	968
55	Nancy Rassbach	3453	118	Robyn Hedly	1920	181	Gregg Silveira	1255	244	Blair Young	966
56	Dom DiFelice	3449	119	Joan Mager	1905	182	Dee Reed	1252	245	Carol Bronder	959
57	Jane Ranney	3392	120	Sung Mae Bleck	1888	183	Yvonne Goddard	1244	246	Rathin Basu	951
58	Jeffrey Holligan	3391	121	Carol Bertz	1884	184	Carolyn Eisen	1243	247	Michael Thompson	948
59	Paula Warren	3388	122	Marilyn Bost	1876	185	<b>Katherine Shore</b>	1241	248	Norita Wiegand	937
60	Mary Anne Pixley	3332	123	Sheila Wimer	1819	186	<b>Bradley Brehmer</b>	1235	249	Sylvia Sanders	932
61	Joyce Sloop	3295	124	Leonard Herz	1810	187	<b>Gerald Benedict</b>	1233	250	Linda Most	931
62	Donna Swanson	3222	125	Paul Ossip	1788	188	Helen Cox	1221			
63	Jeanne Achziger	3194	126	Patricia Miller	1772	189	Marvin Stone	1197			

#### The Fine Art of Kibitzing

By Jared Johnson



It is often said that bridge is a four person game. Not always. Sometimes it is a five person game. Let us not forget the kibitzer.

Views on kibitzers vary

widely in the literature. One bridge writer uncharitably suggested kibitzers were the lowest form of life. Nevertheless, kibitzers are part of the bridge scene.

There is definitely kibitzer etiquette. The chief requirement is that the kibitzer should be seen but not heard. The kibitzer should be relatively quiet. It is considered bad form to join in the post -mortem and even worse to initiate it. But sometimes as a kibitzer you are put on the spot. What do you do when declarer turns to you with a contemptuous wave of the hand at dummy. and asks, "Would you have bid game with that?" Now you must use your best diplomatic (meaning evasive) skills to wriggle out of the If you don't respond, you're being rude. If you agree with declarer, you've insulted dummy. If you agree with dummy, you've insulted declarer.

Short of faking a sudden attack of appendicitis and leaving the table, you probably need to say something non-committal like, "Well, it's a hard call," and hope that everyone returns to the play of the hand before you have to elaborate.

There is further kibitzer etiquette. Some folks are uneasy with kibitzers, and if asked, you should best find another table to watch.

On the other hand, at regionals and nationals having kibitzers is actually a status symbol. Look around the room at the tables with the most kibitzers (occasionally it can get crowded) and you have probably found Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell or Bob Hammon or Zia Mahmood.

#### David Caprera (Continued from Page 1)

David plays a variety of bridge bidding systems: 2/1 game forcing, Meckstroth and Rodwell's version of Precision, Polish club (both simplified and complex). He plays with a number of bridge professionals as an unpaid and nonpaying team member. He gives back to the bridge community by mentoring "up-and-coming" bridge stars.

The late great Barry Crane would often have so many kibitzers that he would hold his hand up in showmanship style so everyone could see (except of course, partner and opponents). And it's a minor point but it is best to depart the table only at the end of a hand. If you leave during the play, especially near the beginning, it might imply that there is nothing interesting about the hand which could unintentionally provide information to one side or the other.

Can you learn from being a kibitzer? Well needless to say, even though technically you are only suppose to kibitz one hand, unless you are awkwardly positioned right behind one player, you are probably going to be at the corner of a table and will be able to see two players' hands. And when a third hand is down as dummy, you now know the entire layout. It's amazing how easy it is to convince yourself that you would have found the winning call or play under such circumstances.

Yes, kibitzing is risk free. You can think and analyze and plan out your bid or play but there will never be any consequences if you're wrong.

Personally, having been on an extended hiatus from actual play, one lesson does stand out from years of kibitzing. Most often people get into trouble simply when they depart from the book bid or play. That and forgetting conventions.

You usually don't win a bridge game by making the most brilliant plays but by making the fewest easily avoidable mistakes. Steady and sure wins the race.

If you see me kibitzing remember that if you do something brilliant you might get written up in The Denver Post (weekly column toward the end of the Sunday Arts and Culture section). If you do something awful I promise to hit the mental delete button. See you at the table.

Jared Johnson is the Bridge Columnist at the Denver Post.

Bridge in Schools...On May 22,

2012 Arvada's Hackberry Hill took on Boulder's University Hill Elementary School in Unit 361's first mini-tournament after the students had participated in an afterschool bridge learning program. Jim Calhoun, Unit Board Education chair and bridge teacher mentored Hackberry Hill and Celeste Landry mentored Boulder University Hill Elementary School. Final score: Boulder 50.05% and Arvada 49.95%.

UPCOMING SECTIONAL AND REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS TO VIEW FLYERS GO TO:

www.denverbridge.com

October 13-14 2012
Fall I/N Tournament, Aurora Board of Realtors

October 20, 2012
Front Range Challenge, Aurora Board of Realtors

November 8-11, 2012
Fall Sectional, Jefferson County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall

January 10-13, 2013
Winter Sectional, Jefferson County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall

March 7-10, 2013 Spring Sectional, Jefferson County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall

April 13-14, 2013 *I/N Tournament, Denver House of Cards* 

May 21-27, 2013
Regional Tournament, Denver Renaissance Hotel

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