



O Canada

By: Sheila Peterson
Denver, Colorado

For 11 great days of terrific bridge and a ton of fun plan to come to Toronto, one of the world's most multicultural cities and the host of the NABC Summer 2011 tournament July 21-31.

There will be plenty of challenging games for players of all levels plus lots of freebies: free lessons, free celebrity guest lectures, free seminars, free workshops, and free play for Newcomer pairs. Each year a feature of the summer NABC event is the Hall of Fame Banquet. Black tie is optional. The food is scrumptious and you get to brush your social shoulders with the best and the brightest in the game. At this summer's induction ceremony Russ Arnold will receive the von Zedwitz Award, Eric Kokish will receive the Blackwood Award, and Betty Ann Kennedy will receive the Sydney H. Lazard, Jr. Sportsmanship Award. Details about the Hall of Fame awards are on the ACBL web site at

www.acbl.org/about/hall-of-fame/

NABC tournaments are incredibly exciting. You meet interesting people from all over the world who love the game as much as you do and, after it's all over and the applause has died you can email, tweet, twitter, and text them and make them your Facebook friends. These days you never have to lose touch with those darling folks who doubled and defeated by five your partner's vulnerable contract.

The post mortem drink in the hotel bar after the game is a great place to meet and mingle and compare notes, boasts, and all that amazing hindsight you'll have next time that hand comes up.

Don't have a partner? No problem. That's why Al Gore invented the Internet. You can obtain a partner online before you come by going to www.acbl.org, clicking the Toronto logo link, and then clicking on "Find a Partner" or come to Toronto and do it the old fashioned way at the partnership desk. Each day, there's a tournament paper

with news and views, personality profiles, daily results, and the day's event schedule, which is also accessible online on the Toronto NABC page (see above - click on Daily Bulletins) so attendees and non-attendees alike can keep up with all the action.

Toronto is the birthplace of Fred Gitelman, BBO creator and world class bridge player, so it's no surprise that the finals of the Grand National Teams Championships and the Spingold will be available for the entire world to see via the Internet on VuGraph. VuGraph lets you eyeball the bidding and the hands and eavesdrop on expert commentary as the hands are being played.

Whether you have 0 or 5000 masterpoints, test your bridge wits in the Von Zedwitz Life Master Pairs or the Spingold Knockout Teams or dozens of other events. If your bridge scores are driving you batty you might want to take a break from bridge and check out the Bat Cave at the Royal Ontario Museum, where a 1,700 square foot gallery realistically portrays the renowned St. Clair cave in Jamaica. The display features more than 20 bat specimens and over 800 models, some mechanical, to thrill visitors of all ages while teaching them about bat species, navigation and the ecology of the caves they inhabit.

Toronto is a fascinating and incredibly cosmopolitan city. Over half its population of 2.5 million were born outside of Canada. Over 140 foreign languages and dialects are spoken there. If you want to brush up on your rusty college Punjabi this is the place. The city is situated on Lake Ontario, the smallest of the Great Lakes. There have been sightings reported of a creature similar to the Loch Ness monster around the lake so, if you go for a walk there, take the necessary precautions. The lake keeps Toronto's weather delightfully moderate with summer temperatures ranging between 60F -80F. Toronto is on the same latitude as Cannes on the French Riviera and not nearly as far.

The city is brimming with fabulous places to eat. The most famous and busiest road in

downtown Toronto is Young Street, which starts at the end of Lake Ontario and runs through downtown with a large concentration of shops, restaurants, pubs, bars, and nightclubs. On Pedestrian Sundays the streets of the Kensington Market area - a gem in the middle of the city - are closed to motorized traffic and the entire historic area becomes a pedestrian mall with shopping, live music, dancing, street theater, and games. Another interesting area to visit in Toronto is the Distillery District. Developed in 1832 and one of the most historical parts of Toronto, the district still has 40 of the original Victorian era industrial brick and limestone buildings.

Ever wonder what that tall spire always featured in photos of Toronto is? Known as the CN Tower, the spire is a communications and observation tower that, until the

completion of Burj Khalifa in Dubai and the Canton Tower in Guangzhou, was the world's tallest freestanding structure. In 1995 the CN Tower was declared one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World. At 1,815 feet high, it remains the tallest free-standing structure in the Western Hemisphere, a signature icon of Toronto's skyline attracting more than two million international visitors annually.

Bridge got you low? Want to get high? There's a bar and restaurant at the very top.

All in all, Toronto promises to be a wonderful 2011 Summer NABC; I hope you can make it there. If you want to wait for a Nationals closer to home, the next District 17 Nationals are set for the fall of 2013 in Phoenix. Then in 2014 we have the Summer Nationals in Las Vegas and in 2015 the Fall Nationals return to Denver.

Goodwill — Continued from page 1

years, during which time she has been an active player, been a member of the Unit 354 Board, served on numerous tournament committees, and been a mentor for new players. She has served as the Mesa Senior Regional tournament co-chair for partnership for the past 11 years. She goes out of her way to make the game of bridge a real pleasure for one and all.

Darryl Helton from Sedona is also a District 17 board member. In Sedona he is referred to as "Saint Darryl." His wife, Marsha (ACBL Goodwill member of the year, 2010), is a go-getter and makes multiple commitments which Darryl then quietly fulfills. He has never been known to raise his voice. His friend Robb Gordon describes Darryl as, "One of the most genteel people I have ever known."

Jerry Fleming from Los Alamos has served on the District Board and the ACBL Board of Governors and was ACBL President in 2009. Jerry created the D17 website in 2000 and maintained it until recently. He put intelligent effort into his many duties. Jerry sets the standard for intelligent, courteous, and principled decision making, and

fair play towards all. He has never hesitated to take on any task requested and can be counted upon to do it promptly and competently. Jerry can always be trusted to put the best interests of the district and the game of bridge number one.

JoAnne Lowe from Phoenix exemplifies the expression that dynamite comes in small packages. This little lady, endearingly nicknamed "peanut," epitomizes goodwill. A strong presence on the local board for several years, never seeking the limelight, she refers to herself as the "worker bee." "Tell me what to do, please" is her tireless, standard phrase . . . and she always follows through. She has helped make hospitality at Phoenix Regionals the Best in the West.

Our inaugural D17 Goodwill appointments will be recognized at the Phoenix Regional, October 17-23. On Thursday, October 20 - Goodwill Day - at a short presentation prior to the 1:00 p.m. game they will each be presented with a Goodwill pin, to be worn often and with pride. They will also be honored at the District 17 Reception on Friday evening, October 21.

Atomic City Sectional

Los Alamos Unit #381
July 29 - July 31, 2011
Betty Ehart Senior Center Los Alamos, New Mexico



Photo by Scott Valentine

Friday, July 29

Stratified Pairs (single session) 2:00 pm
Stratified 299er Pairs (single session) 2:00 pm
Stratified Pairs (single session) 7:00 pm

Saturday, July 30

Stratified Pairs (single session) 8:45 am
Bracketed Knockout Teams (1st round) 8:45 am
Stratified Pairs (single session) 1:15 pm
Stratified 299er Pairs (single session) 1:15 pm
Bracketed Knockout Teams (2nd round) 1:15 pm
Stratified Pairs (single session) 7:00 pm
Bracketed Knockout Teams (Finals) 7:00 pm

Sunday, July 31

Stratified Swiss Teams (2 sessions) 9:30 am and TBA
Stratified 299er Swiss Teams (2 sessions) 9:30 am and TBA

Entry Fees: \$10.00/person/session. \$96.00/team for Sunday Swiss Teams (includes lunch)
\$1.00/person/session additional for non-members and non-dues paying players

Tourney Chairman: John Ruminer 505-672-1529 ; jruminer@earthlink.net
Partnerships: Earle Marie Hanson 505-672-9576 ; earlemarie@earthlink.net
Director in Charge: Robert Craig

Strats: A=2500+, B=750-2500, C=0-750 **299ers:** D=150-299, E=50-150, F=0-50

*** All stratified pair and team games stratified by average masterpoints***

Complimentary dinner between sessions on Friday
Coffee, tea and snacks provided during all sessions
Free continental breakfast Saturday and Sunday morning

Hostel: Comfort Inn & Suites, 2455 Trinity Drive, is our host hotel. For special bridge rates of \$69 + tax, reserve by 7/11/11 at (505) 661-1110.

Carlsbad, New Mexico

54th Annual

HARVEY HICKS SECTIONAL

District 17, Unit 376, ACBL Sanction Number S1109090

SEPTEMBER 16, 17 and 18, 2011

Best Western STEVENS INN
1829 South Canal Street, Carlsbad, NM 88220

FRIDAY, September 16

1:30 pm and 7 pm Stratified Open Pairs (single sessions)
1:30 pm and 7 pm 299er Pairs (single sessions)
7 pm Cavemen Bracketed KO Teams (Round 1)

SATURDAY, September 17

9 am Cavemen Bracketed KO Teams (Round 2)
9 am Sitting Bull Compact Bracketed KO Teams (Rounds 1 and 2)
1:30 pm Cavemen Bracketed KO Teams (Round 3)
1:30 pm Sitting Bull Compact Bracketed KO Teams (Rounds 3 and 4)
1:30 pm and 7 pm Stratified Open Pairs (single sessions)
1:30 pm and 7 pm 299er Pairs (single sessions)

SUNDAY, September 18

9:30 am and TBA Stratified Swiss Teams (two sessions with break for lunch)

All pair and team games stratified by average master points

\$10/person/session; Swiss Teams \$100/team (includes both sessions and lunch)

\$1 additional for non and unpaid ACBL members

Stratified: (A) 1500+, (B) 500-1500, (C) 0-500

299ers: (A) 200-300, (B) 100-200, (C) 0-100

Free coffee, tea and snacks all sessions

Director in Charge: Robert Craig (915) 581-0371

Tournament Chair: Regina Ballard (575) 234-1646, cell (575) 200-8446,

rballard1@plateautel.net **Co-Chair:** Shyla McGill (575) 392-1156

Partnership Desk: Jackie Parker (575) 302-6131, jmcparker@gmail.com

Hospitality: Aloma Crow, Lee Johnson, and Sally Miller

Publicity: Bette Rae Campbell

Host Motel: Best Western STEVENS INN, 1829 S. Canal, Carlsbad, NM 88220

For Reservations, call (800) 730-2851 or (575) 887-2851 by September 1 (subject to availability)