



Daily Bulletin

Volume 6, Number 1

Friday, August 2, 2013

Young players living Tucker's dream

Five years ago, one of Patty Tucker's biggest dreams was realized in Norcross GA, a suburb of Atlanta. The founder of Atlanta Junior Bridge had achieved major success with that organization, but she wanted more for young bridge players.



"There are groups of kids playing all over the country, but they never get to meet each other," Tucker says with her typical passion.

"I met so many nice people who I have been friends with for years and years," she adds, "and I met them at NABCs. I thought the kids deserved the same."

That desire gave birth to the first Youth NABC, which was organized to run concurrent with a sectional in Norcross. When the three-day tournament concluded, Tucker counted 198 different players age 19 and younger, including 98 Atlanta Junior Bridge members. The number of participants is still a Youth NABC record.

Tucker, co-chair at this tournament with Bryan Delfs, says there's a good chance the record will be broken in Atlanta.

Although Tucker has not chaired every Youth

NABC, she has not missed one. "I have helped where needed," she says.

She loves the fact that some of the Youth NABC competitors meet online partners face to face for the first time, or get their first taste of duplicate.

The Youth NABC grew out of Atlanta Junior Bridge, which has taught bridge to 4000 young players. The AJB data base has more than 1400 families.

Kids, she says, go in and out of bridge, but there is a core of about 60 in the Atlanta area who play regularly and show up for all the tournaments.

Tucker says she was inspired to start the Youth NABC "because I thought there were a lot of kids who were just like me who would love bridge and want to play. I wanted to give them the opportunity to play with people their own age. It's much more fun to play with your peers."

Life is good for Tucker these days. She teaches 16 bridge classes a week, has a contract with Master Point Press to produce eight bridge books, and her Whirlwind Bridge company, which puts on the Learn Bridge in a DAY? seminars, is going great guns. She even gets to play bridge now and then, although not as often as her husband and favorite partner, Kevin Collins, would like.

In the end, she says, relationships and friends made through bridge are more important than masterpoints and trophies. "You can accumulate too many of those," she says, "but you can never accumulate too many friends."

Welcome to the Youth NABC

Where has the time gone? It seems like yesterday that we were playing bridge in Philadelphia. It seems like only a short time ago that this event was last in Atlanta.



Welcome to all of our new players, who are competing in the Youth NABC for the first time.

Welcome back to all of those players who have previously attended a Youth NABC. We're thrilled to have you with us.

Day one is over, and we are delighted to report that this is the largest start to the Youth NABC ever. We are expecting more and to arrive on Friday and Saturday, which has the potential to make this the largest Youth NABC ever.

If you have any friends or family members who aren't playing, they can still register on site and participate.

We have some great entertainment planned for you as well, which will be held in the Hanover Ballroom at 5:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Don't forget to take your shot at naming the Mystery Hand, displayed in this issue.

Best of luck to all of our competitors!

Wide variety of competitors for Youth NABC's return to Atlanta

Erica Everett lives in Foley AL, a town of about 14,000 near the Florida Panhandle. She drove from there to Atlanta, and professes, "I can't believe I did that." Atlanta, she says, is "huge, and scary at times." The traffic on the interstate highway is intimidating.



They came all the way from McGrath AK to play in the Youth NABC: seated, Cherish Andrews, Sterling Magnuson and Madelyn Novak; standing, Jett Novak, Sarah Edwards and Bryan Goodwin.



The 6th Youth NABC featured this international table: Michael Luzzi, Amanda Luzzi, Venezuela; Madeline Wheaton, Canada, and Bunmi Soremi, Nigeria.

Still, Everett would do it again in a heartbeat if her daughter, Nia, wanted to attend another Youth NABC. Bridge, says Everett, is great for her daughter.

Nia is about to enter the fifth grade in Foley, and her mother notes that from the third grade to the end of the fourth, Nia's math grades have improved measurably. "Her scores are now at the seventh-grade level," Everett says, "and she improved in one year after starting bridge."

Nia and her mother are among the players and families who have flocked to Atlanta for the 6th Youth NABC, the first of which took place five years ago in the Atlanta suburb of Norcross.

Nia plays bridge every Tuesday and proclaims bridge to be "pretty fun." She says she likes the card play better than bidding.

Harley Bress, former ACBL employee now living and teaching school in tiny McGrath AK – population 300, "maybe 350," he says – escorted three young players to the Youth NABC in Philadelphia last year. For the Atlanta tournament, he doubled the total.



David Metcalf and Nancy Watson are the tournament directors for the Youth NABC.

He says the three who went to Philadelphia last year spread the word about how much fun they had playing bridge. "More kids turned out to play this year," Bress says. "They heard the other kids talking about how much fun they had so they wanted to come."

Bress has offered bridge an elective for students at his school, and the youngsters are keen enough to play that they will stay on for the World Youth Open Bridge Championships, which begin on Saturday and

continued on next page



Snehal Oberai of Atlanta fills out one of the forms with names from the collages created by Youth NABC Co-Chair Patty Tucker. Anyone who puts 15 names on the form will be entered in a drawing. Three winners will each receive an iTunes gift card. Entrants are encouraged to ask for help in identifying people in the collages, made up of photos from the first Youth NABC in 2008. Check out the collages on the next page.

YNABC competitors*continued from previous page*

continue through Aug. 11.

The young players have come from all over the U.S. and from a few foreign countries. A contingent from China is expected today.

One table in the Thursday games featured players representing three different countries – Canada, Venezuela and Nigeria.

The Nigerian player, Bunmi Soremi, is the daughter of Dr. Oludapo Soremi, a pediatrician in Apopka FL, near Orlando. Bunmi is enrolled in a gifted program at her school and was encouraged by her teacher to take up bridge, which was just introduced, “because it includes problem solving, logic and strategy.”

Soremi says his other daughter is likely to acquire an interest in bridge because the girls are “competitive.”

Jake Olsen, about to enter his sophomore year in high school in Portland OR, traveled on his own to Atlanta for the Youth NABC. The trip across the country wasn't so bad, the 15-year-old says, but confusion set in once he landed at the airport in Atlanta.

He couldn't find the MARTA station right away and had to ask several time, then he wasn't sure which train to take, but he's settled in at the Best Western Hotel with three roommates.

Jake has been playing online with Amber Lin of New Jersey, and the two met in person for the first time in Atlanta. They won their section with a 64% game in the morning pairs event on Thursday.

Bridge, he says, “is a challenge, and it helps my mental ability in school. I really love it.”

Jake says he wasn't much of a reader before taking up bridge, but now he's reading a lot, favoring Kurt Vonnegut currently.



Nia Everett and her mom, Erica.



Amber Lin and Jake Olsen were second in the Thursday Youth Pairs, Strat A.

Jenna Strickland and Andrew Kukapali.

**Guess the mystery hand**

This hand was held many years ago by a famous player. It was played against other famous players in a famous event. Those are all the hints you will get for now. Maybe more tomorrow. Here's the hand:

♠7 6 5 2 ♥K 4 3 2 ♦J 5 3 ♣K 10

BARON BARCLAY BRIDGE SUPPLY



Players sign up for the 6th Youth NABC. The first of the popular tournaments took place five years ago in the Atlanta area.



Winners of the Thursday Youth Pairs, Strat A: Christopher Forte and Raianne Heading.



Matthew Tracy and Christian Kofod were first in the Thursday Youth Pairs, Strats B and C.



Zinan Zhou and Bai Lu were second in the Thursday Youth Pairs, Strat C.



Second in the Morning Cardrook Pairs were Robert Brownrigg and Nickolas Edstrom.



Katherine and Matthew Pope were first in the Morning Cardrook Pairs, Strat C.



Kevin Rodriguez and Niresha Wanigasekara, winners of the Morning Cardrook Pairs, Strats A and B.



Amanda Harper and Kristofer Edstrom were second in the Morning Cardrook Pairs, Strat A.



Jackson Miller and Gianni Hsieh were second in the Thursday Youth Pairs, Strat B.



2013 Youth NABC Schedule Atlanta GA

THURSDAY YOUTH PAIRS							
23.0 Tables	A	B	C				
5.98	1			Christopher Forte, Palm Coast FL; Raienne Heading, Ormond Beach FL	69.72%		
4.49	2			Amber Lin, Edison NJ; Jake Olsen, Portland OR	65.34%		
3.36	3	1	1	Christian Kofod - Matthew Tracy, Raleigh NC	64.99%		
2.52	4	2		Gianni Hsieh, Naperville IL; Jackson Miller, Vienna VA	63.63%		
1.89	5	3		Eleanor Fashingbauer, Belvidere IL; Theo Allen, Armonk NY	63.37%		
1.42	6	4		Sidhesh Desai - Nisarg Shah, Alpharetta GA	63.06%		
1.39		5		Yichuan Luo, Williamsville NY; J Alex Maloney, Mahomet IL	62.22%		
1.04		6	2	Zinan Zhou - Bai Lu,	60.69%		
1.33			3	Sharan Kumar, Holmdel NJ; Timothy Lou, Morganville NJ	60.58%		
0.95			4	Olivia Colburn - Andrew Mulia, Alpharetta GA	60.09%		
0.67			5	Evan Jones, Lower Coverdale NB; Jake Rice, Riverview NB	59.12%		
1.39			6	William Marriott, Cary NC; Alexander Sung, New York NY	58.33%		
THURS MORNING CARDROOK PAIRS							
14.0 Tables	A	B	C				
1.12	1	1		Kevin Rodriguez, Germantown TN; Niresha wanigasekara, Cordova TN	67.76%		
0.84	2			Amanda Harper, Winter Park FL; Kristofer Edstrom, Apopka FL	63.69%		
0.63	3			Emalie Houk - Alex Houk, Mt Pleasant SC	59.62%		
0.47	4			Ryan Jones, Lower Coverdale NB; Jeremy Roberts, Smoke Rise GA	59.52%		
0.39	5			Cherish Andrews - Sarah Edwards, McGrath AK	59.40%		
0.28	6			Ma Ving Zhi - Anahyah Muldrow,	56.25%		
0.65		2	1	Katherine Pope - Matthew Pope, Justin TX	55.26%		
0.48		3	2	Nickolas Edstrom, Apopka FL; Robert Brownrigg, Altamonte Spg FL	54.46%		
0.36		4		Emily Mattison, Germantown TN; Hudson Cushing, Vancouver WA	53.87%		
0.39		5		Jenna Strickland - Andrew Kukkapalli, Cordova TN	51.96%		
0.33		6	3	Snehal Oberai - Samay Desai, Alpharetta GA	51.70%		
0.24		4		Pico Gilman, San Francisco CA; Julie Mak, San Francisco CA	50.50%		
THURSDAY AFTERNOON CARDROOK PAIRS							
17.5 Tables	A	B	C				
1.62	1			Hailey Botkins - Bernadette Williams, Williamsburg VA	77.00%		
1.22	2			Tanner Hess, Fairhope AL; Cutter Green, Falkville AL	70.58%		
0.91	3			Sharan Kumar, Holmdel NJ; Timothy Lou, Morganville NJ	67.25%		

NORTH-SOUTH			
A	B	C	
1			Christopher Forte, Palm Coast FL; Raienne Heading, Ormond Beach FL
2	1		Yichuan Luo, Williamsville NY; J Alex Maloney, Mahomet IL
3			Kevin Rosenberg, Cupertino CA; Ben Kristensen, Duluth MN
4	2	1	Zinan Zhou - Bai Lu,
5	3		Brandon Flaschner, Palm Coast FL; Michael Fitzpatrick, Palm Court FL
	4	2	Rhea Mathew - Radhi Chorghadi, Alpharetta GA
NORTH-SOUTH			
A	B	C	
1	1		Gianni Hsieh, Naperville IL; Jackson Miller, Vienna VA
2	2		Eleanor Fashingbauer, Belvidere IL; Theo Allen, Armonk NY
3	3		Sidhesh Desai - Nisarg Shah, Alpharetta GA
4			Tyler Hart, Reno NV; Evan Berman, Sarasota FL
	4	1	Ashley Reddoch, Alpharetta GA; Divali Legore, Roswell GA
		2	Barry Caldwell - Trevon Murad, Orange NJ

NORTH-SOUTH			
A	B	C	
1			Amanda Harper, Winter Park FL; Kristofer Edstrom, Apopka FL
2			Emalie Houk - Alex Houk, Mt Pleasant SC
3			Ryan Jones, Lower Coverdale NB; Jeremy Roberts, Smoke Rise GA
4			Bryan Goodwin - Jett Novak, McGrath AK
5	1		Jenna Strickland - Andrew Kukkapalli, Cordova TN
6	2	1	Snehal Oberai - Samay Desai, Alpharetta GA
	3		Madeline Wheaton - Michael Luzzi, Altamonte Spg FL
		2	Pico Gilman, San Francisco CA; Julie Mak, San Francisco CA

NORTH-SOUTH			
A	B	C	
1			Sharan Kumar, Holmdel NJ; Timothy Lou, Morganville NJ
2	1	1	Alexander Sung, New York NY; Brandon Fong, Mt Laurel NJ
3	2		William Lin, Freehold NJ; Thomas Li, Morganville NJ
4			Caitlyn Brown - Madelyn Brown, Sarasota FL
59.50%			
6			Bryan Goodwin - Jett Novak, McGrath AK
7	3		Rachel Tyre - Jemi Folkes, Acworth GA
	4		L'nei Bryant - Nayceli Fernandez, Orange NJ
	5		Emma Millikin - Matthew Larose, Williamsburg VA

THURSDAY YOUTH PAIRS MORNING SESSION

SECTION III			
A	B	C	
69.72%	1		Amber Lin, Edison NJ; Jake Olsen, Portland OR
62.22%	2	1	William Marriott, Cary NC; Alexander Sung, New York NY
61.89%	3	2	Alec Zhan - Anuj Das, Alpharetta GA
60.69%	4	3	Eric Rodriguez, Germantown TN; Piper Ziebarth, Cordova TN
55.37%	5		Ryan Miller, Tampa FL; Brandon Harper, Winter Park FL
47.17%		4	Jeff Zhan, Duluth GA; Pavan Bharadwaj, Suwanee GA
		3	Gong Kaifu - Liu Xianyu,
SECTION IIIJ			
A	B	C	
63.63%	1	1	Christian Kofod - Matthew Tracy, Raleigh NC
63.37%	2	2	Sharan Kumar, Holmdel NJ; Timothy Lou, Morganville NJ
63.06%	3	3	Olivia Colburn - Andrew Mulia, Alpharetta GA
55.00%	4	4	Evan Jones, Lower Coverdale NB; Jake Rice, Riverview NB
50.85%			
43.31%			

THURSDAY MORNING CARDROOK PAIRS

SECTION IIIJ			
A	B	C	
63.69%	1	1	Kevin Rodriguez, Germantown TN; Niresha wanigasekara, Cordova TN
59.62%	2		Cherish Andrews - Sarah Edwards, McGrath AK
59.52%	3		Ma Ving Zhi - Anahyah Muldrow,
54.17%	4	2	Katherine Pope - Matthew Pope, Justin TX
51.96%	5	3	Nickolas Edstrom, Apopka FL; Robert Brownrigg, Altamonte Spg FL
51.70%	6	4	Emily Mattison, Germantown TN; Hudson Cushing, Vancouver WA
50.63%			
50.50%			

THURSDAY AFTERNOON CARDROOK PAIRS

SECTION IIIJ			
A	B	C	
67.25%	1		Hailey Botkins - Bernadette Williams, Williamsburg VA
63.67%	2		Tanner Hess, Fairhope AL; Cutter Green, Falkville AL
62.73%	3		Emalie Houk - Alex Houk, Mt Pleasant SC
59.58%	4		Cherish Andrews - Sarah Edwards, McGrath AK
58.33%	5	1	Michael Luzzi, Altamonte Spgs FL; Madeline Wheaton, Altamonte Spg FL
56.70%	6	2	Niresha Wanigasekara, Cordova TN; Kevin Rodriguez, Germantown TN
54.33%	7	3	Andrew Kukkapalli - Jenna Strickland, Cordova TN
52.70%		4	Grace Stoker, Altamonte Spgs FL; Krystal Wu, Johns Creek GA
51.55%		2	Snehal Oberai - Samay Desai, Alpharetta GA

0.68	4			Emalie Houk - Alex Houk, Mt Pleasant SC	65.00%
1.24	5	1	1	Alexander Sung, New York NY; Brandon Fong, Mt Laurel NJ	63.67%
0.93	6	2		Ryan Jones, Lower Coverdale NB; Jebo Strong, Foley AL	62.73%
0.70		3		Michael Luzzi, Altamonte Spgs FL; Madeline Wheaton, Altamonte	
				Spr FL	59.50%
0.52		4		Niresha Wanigasekara, Cordova TN; Kevin Rodriguez, Germantown TN	56.25%
0.39		5		Andrew Kukkapalli - Jenna Strickland, Cordova TN	
0.31		6		Rachel Tyre - Jemi Folkes, Acworth GA	55.67%
0.57		2		Grace Stoker, Altamonte Spgs FL; Krystal Wu, Johns Creek GA	51.50%
0.43		3		Snehal Oberai - Samay Desai, Alpharetta GA	44.63%

YOUTH SWISS TEAMS

20 Tables	A	B	C				
5.60	1			Daniel Chai, Marlboro NJ; Edward Cai, Morganville NJ; Victor Lamoureux, Dartmouth NS; Jason Miller, Tampa FL			49.00
4.20	2	1		Caleb Colburn - Sidhesh Desai, Alpharetta GA; Vincent Zhu - Raymond Zhu, Duluth GA			47.00
3.15	3	2		Jeremy Roberts - Abigail Roberts, Smoke Rise GA; Piper Ziebarth, Cordova TN; Eric Rodriguez, Germantown TN			42.00
2.07	4/5			Cooper Smith, Marquette MI; Henry Trautwein, Naples FL; Amber			
2.07	4/5	3		Lin, Edison NJ; Jake Olsen, Portland OR			37.00
				Sophia Chang, San Gabriel CA; Lucy Zhang, Arcadia CA; Ashley Reddoch, Alpharetta GA; Divali Legore, Roswell GA			37.00
1.33	6			Mariah Stopper - Raymond Stopper, Houston TX; Kevin Rosenberg, Cupertino CA; Ben Kristensen, Duluth MN			35.00
1.05		4		Evan Berman, Sarasota FL; Tyler Hart, Reno NV; Eleanor			
				Fashingbauer, Belvidere IL; Gianni Hsieh, Naperville IL			33.00
0.69		5/6		Nisarg Shah - Alec Zhan - Anuj Das - Kunal Vohra, Alpharetta GA			32.00
1.16		5/6	1	Brandon Flaschner - Steven Petocz - Todd Cardillo, Palm Coast FL; Michael Fitzpatrick, Palm Court FL			32.00
0.87			2	Evan Jones, Lower Coverdale NB; Jake Rice - Brant Guimond - Dru Guimond, Riverview NB			31.00
0.65		3		Jake Williams - Luke Williams, San Diego CA; Albena-Maria Vassileva - Olivia Laufer, North Bay ON			30.00
0.49		4		Sunidhi Ramesh - Hansen Horvath - Sireesh Ramesh - Wilbert Liu, Alpharetta GA			25.00