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ESTABLISHED: SEPT 3, 2003 FOUNDER/MANAGER MAUREEN HALL, NEW ZEALAND admin@bilbridge.com

BIL SOLSTICE PRO/AM - THE EVENT !

21 June, 2009



The BIL celebrated the Solstice with a party like you have never seen before—it began at 4pm (16:00) EDT on June 21.

Eight world champion bridge players were paired with eight BIL Players in a team event on BBO. The BIL Players were selected by a random drawing

The BIL Special Event Team provided members with an exceptional event

Events of this kind take untold hours of effort to bring to fruition.

On behalf of all BIL Players THANK YOU Ladies !



This very special event was the dream child of TWSTOFLIME the 2008/9 BIL's Special Event Team Coordinator – she has kept us all on course to bring you the reality.



Sandy Suttle - Twstoflime - whose mind never stops planning parties for the BIL and inundates her committee with countless e-mails everyday , is one of three partner/managers of a private financial group. She is a Scribbler for BIL, a soon-to-be teacher for beginners on BIL, and adds a *twist* to everyone's life that she

touches. An original member of the well known Dinwiddie team, she devotes much of her day to making the BIL a fun place for it's members. Sandy you're the best !

ROBZIM was the one to seek out and bring together that great galaxy of Stars to play



for us. Super Star **Roberta Zimmerman- Robzim** is a CPA and Professor Emeritus of Accounting, she admits that she cannot recognize a cuebid when she sees it nor does she always count her points with a great deal of accuracy. Nevertheless she does a stellar job of rounding up the Stars. A BIL Scribbler and BIL Assist as well, we thank Roberta for gathering the stars for this stellar event! Roberta, you shine!

ONLYYUMAN the 3rd member of the Special Event Team handled all the promotional



material and graphics for the mailouts **Barbara Blodgett-onlyyuman** Barbara is an ABTA-Master Teacher, and ACBL-Certified Teacher and Director who, for 15 years co-owned and managed a bridge club in Spokane Washington. With 4 children, 17 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren, Barbara makes the time to be a BIL mentor, Scribbler, Quiz Master and member of the Special Events Committee. On the BIL Special Events Team she is known as "Sparklie" -- because she makes things sparkle!!!

On the day we could not have managed without the help and expertise of



The HOST and a Commentator for the Matches was **Paul Gipson PAULG** - a BIL teacher from October 2003 – April 08 and participant in many BIL special events. Paul graciously organized the technical side of the matches He is one of today's expert tournament commentators. He lives in the Scottish Borders with his wife Helen and plays bridge with his brother Alex in most major UK tournaments and occasional summer NABCs in the USA. Thank you so much, Paul, for your many contributions to the BIL and especially for our continuous enjoyment of the Beer Card Blog! **7!D** (the seven of diamonds is referred to as the Beer Card, if it takes the final trick. "The Beer Card" is the name of Paul's blog)

Paul chose the hands that were played. They were from the 1995 Bermuda Bowl Segment 3 US v Canada and Segment 6 US v Canada

Paul's righthand man on the day and TD for the Matches the BIL's good friend



Geof Spavin - GEOFSPA who has worn many hats on behalf of the BIL since joining in 2003. Having contributed many articles to the BIL Library, Geof is currently teaching our BIL Players with a challenging cross-word puzzle in the

monthly BIL Gazette. A secret for you all to know . . . Geof loves to muck around in the mud and grows gorgeous flowers and neighbor-acclaimed vegetables—only a few of the trials and tribulations of a life of leisure.

Many thanks to Paul and Geof for their willingness to share their expertise to enable the Matches to take place.

To the other Commentators who made the hands and the play come alive for those who kibbitzed the various tables - our warm appreciation for their time and effort

Ben Dickens INQUIRY - BBO Yellow and Moderator of the BBO Beginner Intermediate Forum and the person who motivated me to send in my proposal for a BIL to BBO. Ben became a life master while doing postdoctoral work in college in the early 70's. He was a medical researcher until he retired a few years ago. Now he just "hangs out", as well as plays and teaches bridge. Always willing to help a BILLie in distress call on him when he is on duty on BBO.



Bill Frisby - Athene Bill has been teaching bridge for over 10 years in England, where he is a very popular player. He is also one of BBO's favorite Vugraph Commentators! Bill is an active volunteer in BIL holding a number of themed lesson series over the years and also Fifth Chair's instructive 2/1 team game



Patti Moritz - Eire1 A BIL Scribbler, Patti is well known among BIL Players for the refinement of the St. Moritz Reverse. As an example of this finely-honed stratagem, she moved from Florida to New York last year—a true reverse in lifestyle strategy and a fine example for us all. A star player on Team Dinwiddie, we enjoyed Patti 's well-known (to BIL members) bits of wry humor!

Eddy Haskel - EddyHaskel loves to attend as many of the free BIL teaching sessions as possible with a wry wit and a questioning mind he keeps the teachers on their toes . Eddy tells me he was born near a television set sometime during the Eisenhower administration. To the grown-ups in his neighborhood Eddy seemed like a such a nice young lad, although his friends knew better. And so it goes even today here on BBO where Eddy has conned a few gullible teachers into thinking he's a reasonable, even rational fellow while those who see him play from day to day know better!



2009 Solstice

Pro/Am

CHAMPIONS

Team Reisig / Paulsson

★ Richard Reisig / Janade (Jackie)

★ Shelagh Paulsson / Gimit (Virginia)

2009 Solstice

Pro/Am

Runners up

TEAM - The Vallynn

Valerie Wesheimer & Dirk99 (Dirk)

Lynn Deas & Manorlass (Jennifer)



Solstice ProAm Teams

Report by Onlyyuman (Barbara)

Seventy eight (78) BIL players entered the drawing for the ProAm Team game.

The eight lucky winners were:

trudean 24



JanaDe

rc100



dirk99



lukie2too



gimit

plmzaq



manorlass

Their teams were:

Team Gitelman/Wald

jlall -- Justin/ trudean 24 – Dee

walddk2 -- Roland Wald / lukie2too – Carol

(jlall kindly stepped in at the last minute to sub for Fred Gitelman)

Team Woolsey/Martel

SallyW -- Sally Woolsey / rc100 – Ramesh

JanM -- Jan Martel / plmzaq - Gayle

Team Reisig/Paulsson

Reisig – Richard Reisig / JanaDe – Jackie

Shep –Shelagh Paulsson / gimit – Virginia

Team Westheimer/Deas

vdoubleu -- Valerie WestFirst Name: Dirk

lynndeas -- Lynn Deas / manorlass – Jennifer

And, after 20 exciting hands, and a final ending in a TIE !

16 -16 how exciting that was !

the **winners** on the countback were:

Team Reisig/Paulsson

Richard Reisig (Reisig) – JanaDe (Jackie) -

Shelagh Paulsson (Shep) – gimit (Virginia)

Runners Up were **Team Vallynn**

Valerie Westheimer (vdoubleu)- dirk99 (Dirk)

Lynn Deas (lynndeas)– manorlass (Jennifer)

What an fantastic event! Lots of good bridge tips from the stars and our great commentators. Our Pros were very patient and helpful to their BIL partners.

The first round winners were

Team Reisig/Paulsson: Rich Reisig – Janade, Shep – gimit,

Team Vallynn: Valerie Westheimer – dirk99 and Lynn Deas – Manorlass.

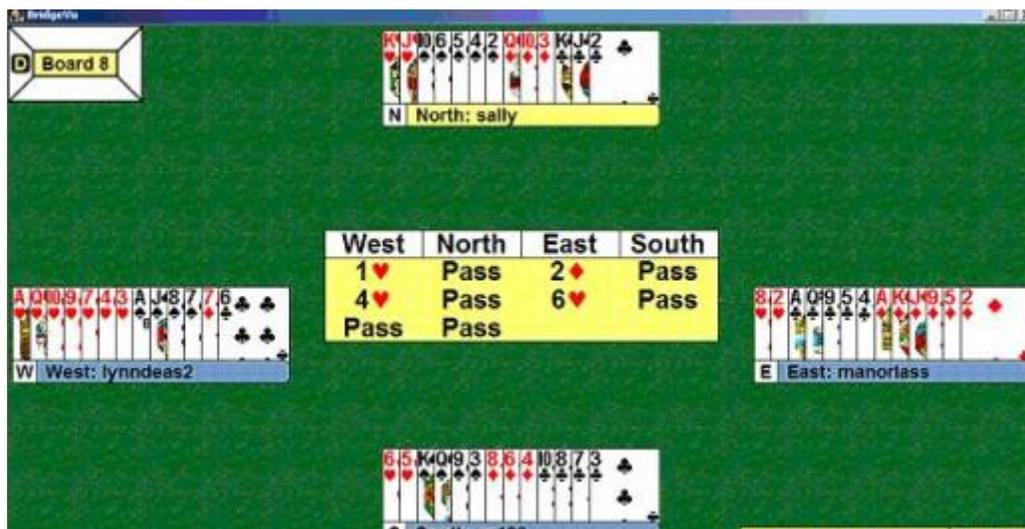
The final round between Reisig/Paulsson and Vallynn was action-packed. A “daring” opening bid by Rich Reisig gave that team a commanding lead at the beginning of the match. It seemed like the hands were set up during a full moon. Long suits and wild distribution!

The Billies played well, and received some good advice from their world class partners.

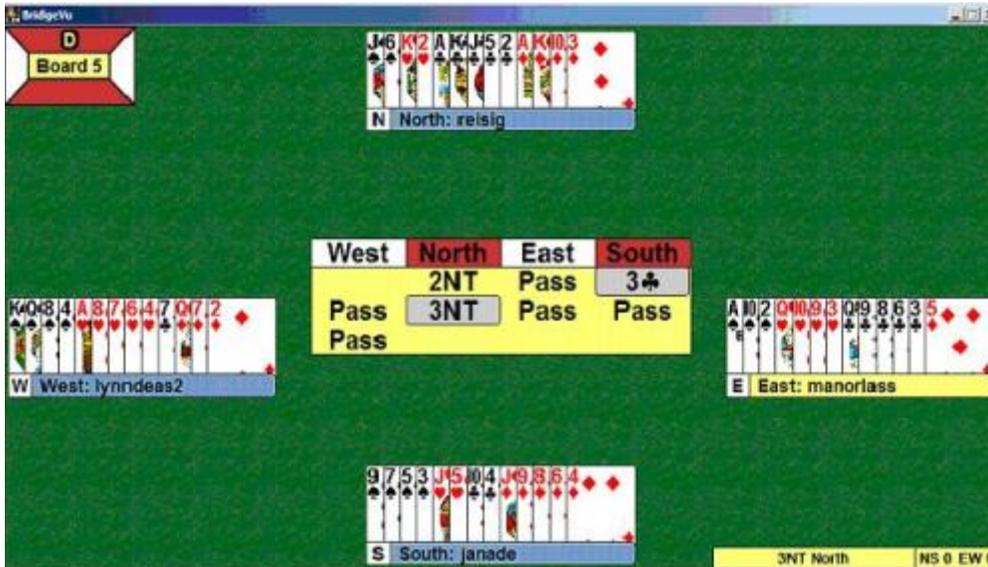
The commentators—Paulg, Inquiry, Athene, Eire1, EddyHaskel--made it very interesting with their explanations of bidding and play, and made kibs laugh with humor and wit. ... Never a dull moment!

All in all it was a very enjoyable Match. Never a dull moment.

One of the swing hands in the preliminary matches was bid and played by Lynn Deas and her partner manorlass. Quite an intuitive bid by manorlass (Jennifer), and expert play by Lynn gave them 13 IMPs and the match.



A low spade was led and ruffed in dummy, now Diamond Ace and King, declarer sluffing a spade from hand. Club Ace next, followed by the Club 4 and ruffed in hand. Spade Jack was next, ruffed with dummy's last trump. Club 5 from dummy was ruffed in declarer's hand with the 9. Now Trump Ace and Queen, North winning the King. At this point declarer had three good trumps and the Ace of Spades and claimed.



This exciting hand is from the finals with the Reisig/Paulsson team vs. the Vallynn (Lynn Deas/Valarie Westheimer) Team.

Reisig made the “daring” opening bid of 2N and ended in 3NT. Manorlass had a difficult decision for a lead and chose the Club 6. Little did she know Reisig had concealed a good club suit. It worked out well for Reisig/Paulsson team. 3NT made. The other table was in a Diamond partial.

The gracious time and teaching of the world class players in the 2009 ProAm will never be forgotten. Thanks Maureen for a place to learn! -

Barbara on behalf of the BIL Special Event Team (Twstoflime, Robzim, Onlyyuman)

BOOK PRIZES for BIL PLAYERS

courtesy of Mike Lawrence

Presenting our ProAm BIL winners with book prizes is **Mike Lawrence**, an original member of the Dallas Aces. Mike has won 3 World Championships and 20 National Championships, including more than 10 wins in the Vanderbilt, Reisinger, and Spingold. As an author, Mike has written 20+ bridge books and has joined forces with Fred Gitelman to produce a series of bridge software products, among which "Counting at Bridge" has been a great success.

Thank you, Mike, for providing our BIL Players with the Prizes for the BIL Solstice ProAm, - playing with a Super Star and then having one of your books (either 'Judgement at Bridge' or "Play Bridge with Mike Lawrence") is the icing on the cake.

Would you like personal classes with Mike? Lectures or supervised classes available.

Would you like to be able to send Mike e-mails with questions about your results? Email consultation is available

Mike's website is <http://www.michaelslawrence.com/> where you may find many interesting articles as well as his product line.



Cold for 7

The Super Stars
who took part and who have promised to return one day
were



LYNN DEAS(lynndeas2)

Winner of five world titles—representing the USA this year in the Venice Cup, Sao Paulo. (lynndeas2)



JAN MARTEL (JanM)

World Champion from New York, Jan is the USBF Chief Operation Officer. You may know Jan from watching USBF tournaments on BBO. (JanM)



SHELAGH PAULSSON (Shep)

Many times Canadian Representative, Internationally respected Professional Bridge Teacher and one of the BIL's favorite teachers!



RICHARD REISIG (reisig)

US National Champion—including Reisinger Trophy. Conducts tournaments on BBO and teaches advanced play. (Reisig)



ROLAND WALD (walddk2)

European Champion from Denmark. BBO Vugraph Coordinator and guest of the BIL's *Listen to the Experts*. (walddk2)



VALERIE WESTHEIMER (vdoubleu) A mentor for the Juniors, Valerie and partner Migry Campanile won the Women's Pairs at the 2009 Spring NABC, scoring 80.83%! (vdoubleu)



SALLY WOOLSEY (sally)

WBF World Master. Second-place finish in 2006 North American Open Teams. World



JUSTIN LALL (jlall)

2006 Patino Cup winner operates the Vugraph at Junior Trials. When the BIL first opened Justin and his friends would come and keep members entertained for hours on end playing innumerable boards while chatting to the Kibs.

Bridge Base Online - Tournaments - Table 1 - #1002 Teams 2009 BIL Solstice ProAm Fina

IMP Match Board 12

RichShep: 60 IMPs
Vall ynn: 5 IMPs

| | jlall | reisig | manorl | JanaDe |
|------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| Pass | 1♣ | 1♠ | 3♣ | 3♣ |
| 2♠ | Pass | Pass | 4♠ | Pass |
| 3♠ | Pass | Pass | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | Pass | Pass |

N ☆ 😊 reisig

W ☆ 😊 jlall

E 😊 manorlass

S 😊 JanaDe

4 Tricks claimed. Contract down 1

4♠ manorlass We 0 They 5

I claim 4 of the last 8 tricks. Contract failing by 1 trick.

Last Trick Table 1 Final

Bridge Base Online - Tournaments - Table 2 - #1002 Teams 2009 BIL Solstice ProAm Fina

IMP Match Board 12

RichShep: 60 IMPs
Vall ynn: 5 IMPs
Other Table: 4♠ E-1-50

| | shep | vdoublu | gimit | dirk99 |
|------|------|---------|-------|--------|
| Pass | 1♣ | 1♠ | 2♦ | 2♦ |
| 2♠ | Pass | Pass | 3♦ | Pass |
| 3♠ | 4♦ | 4♠ | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | Pass | Pass |

N ☆ 😊 vdoublu

W ☆ 😊 shep

E 😊 gimit

S 😊 dirk99

6 Tricks claimed. Contract down 1

4♠ gimit We 4 They 3

I claim all of the last 6 tricks. Contract failing by 1 trick.

Last Trick Table 2 Final

Congratulations and Thanks to ALL involved



Maureen Hall (hallway) Founder/ Manager Beginner Intermediate Lounge (BIL)

Cherish Your Partner and Respect the Opposition

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