



SCHOOL BRIDGE LEAGUE

A Division of



What's The Deal?

School Bridge League Newsletter

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December 2007

School Bridge LEAGUE Halloween Tournament

School Bridge LEAGUE hosted the first of its four series tournament, *The Halloween Tournament*, from October 27th-November 9th, where 362 students from five states as well as Canada participated.

Congratulations to the winners of *The Halloween Tournament*:

First Place
Score: 286.58
Second Place
Score: 285.09
Third Place
Score: 272.00

Ali MGCI- Philip MGCI

Donahue- Stephanie Donohue

Jayanth MGCI- Zachery MGCI

Mini Bridge

Chase Cheney- Jacob Benavides
Justin Stem- Jayce Risseeuw
Trace Doyle- Bradley Hodges
Jackson Seale- Jessica Stem

(all Mini Bridge Winners from Alpha Omega Academy, Huntsville, TX)

Bill Gates and Warren Buffet Make Winning Bid For Youth Bridge Program

Student bridge players nationwide just got dealt a winning hand. And, the dealers are none other than Microsoft Chairman and bridge enthusiast, **Bill Gates** and Berkshire Hathaway founder, **Warren Buffett**. Together, they

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pledged \$1 million in support of creating a youth bridge program - now known as the School Bridge LEAGUE.

Now available nationally, the School Bridge LEAGUE (division of The LEAGUE) is bringing back the brain-building game of bridge -- by taking it to school. "The game of bridge is full of strategy and tactics," says **Mickie Rinehart**, Director of Operations, The LEAGUE. "It is part science, math, logic, reason, and all fun. Bridge builds bridges, as it embodies cooperation and team problem solving - and is linked to higher test scores."

According to a study by **Dr. Christopher Shaw**, Board Member for the American Contract Bridge League Education Foundation, students who played bridge scored higher on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills than their non-bridge playing counterparts after 20 months and again after 32 months. What's more, they scored higher in all five subject areas (reading, language, math, science, social studies).

Thanks to Bill Gates, Warren Buffett and the School Bridge LEAGUE, kids nationwide can now join in the fun. "Bridge is a game where you can keep improving and feel great about it without ever hitting the limit of what can be done," says Gates, who was recently interviewed about youth and the game and School Bridge LEAGUE for a segment to air on CBS Sunday Morning in January.

The challenge is letting kids know about it - something the School Bridge LEAGUE was formed to do. Today, we're taking classrooms by storm. Teachers and students alike are learning the game and increasing skills - one hand at a time.

To find out more, visit www.schoolbridgeleague.org.

School Bridge LEAGUE Bridge Teachers Reception, San Francisco, California

School Bridge LEAGUE, in conjunction with American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) and Atlanta Junior Bridge, hosted a reception for Junior Bridge Teachers at the North American Bridge Championship (NABC) held in San Francisco on November 23rd. There were lots of great conversations and "putting faces to names", including our friends Busaba Willams and Luke Han of Hawaii. Also in attendance were Patty Tucker of Atlanta Junior Bridge, Julie Greenburg, Director of ACBL Education Department and Dr. Christopher Shaw of ACBL Education Foundation with his lovely bride, Mary Beth. Jay Baum, CEO of ACBL poked his head in and we were lucky enough to talk to Peter Gill who came all the way from Australia.

The winner of our Bridge In a Box kit raffle was Reb Jernigan of Chatanooga, TN. Thank you to all who attended and for those who missed it, we'll be holding another reception at the NABC in Detroit in March. Look for us there!

School Bridge LEAGUE Winter Holiday Tournament

School Bridge LEAGUE is currently hosting, *The Winter Holiday Tournament*, December 8th- 22nd. We encourage you to register your students and expose them to a fun learning experience. The benefits are limitless. Through the game of Bridge, students gain the skills to address issues in their communities with logical and useful solutions.

Register today for *The Winter Holiday Tournament* and the first five registrants will be eligible for a ticket on JetBlue Airways. Also the winning pairs and their teacher from *The Winter Holiday Tournament* will be awarded two tickets, courtesy of JetBlue Airways! Additionally, the top 2 pairs of students in the four tournament series will win a trip to Atlanta, Georgia to play in Youth North American Bridge Championship in July 2008 (the winners will be determined by selecting the student pair top two best scores from the four tournament series).

It's not too late to be a part of our exciting upcoming Winter Holiday Tournament, **REGISTER TODAY!** If you are interested in exposing your students to this wonderful experience, join us. For more information, contact us at www.schoolbridgeleague.org

School Bridge LEAGUE Tournament Schedule 2007-2008

Halloween Tournament	October 27 th - November 2 nd
Winter Holiday 2007 Tournament	December 8 th - 22 nd
Valentine's Day 2008 Tournament	February 4 th - 16 th
End of The Year/ Spring 2008 Tournament	April 28 th - May 10 th

Remember to register your class on our website, www.schoolbridgeleague.org. Once you register, you will be able to register for tournaments, upload your student roster and much more!

School Bridge LEAGUE