

HERMAN STEINER
Chess Group News

MEMORIAL
ISSUE

ONE YEAR AGO ON NOVEMBER 25TH, AS I ENTERED THE CHESS CLUB, HERMAN STEINER MET ME AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS WITH A HUGE WELCOME OF OPEN SMILE, A WARMTH.



ENCOUNTERING SUCH GENEROUS FRIENDLINESS MADE IT HARD TO GUESS THAT HERMAN STEINER WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A DIFFICULT AND STRENUOUS TOURNAMENT GAME (AT THE TIME HIS OPPONENT WAS WILLIAM ADDISON).

HE SAT DOWN WITH HIS ELBOW ON THE TABLE, HIS RIGHT HAND ON HIS FOREHEAD AND LOOKED AT HIS



POSITION. SUDDENLY SUBMERGED INTO DEEP CONCENTRATION, HE KNEW NOTHING OF WHAT SURROUNDED HIM. THROUGH HIS EXPRESSION, CONTINUALLY CHANGING FROM HOPE TO DESPAIR, FROM DESOLATION TO JOY, ONE COULD FOLLOW THE RICHNESS OF IDEAS, THE DARING COMBINATIONS WHICH FLOWED TO HIM WITH DISORDERLY EASE.

CALLED TO THE PHONE HE DID NOT HESITATE TO BREAK HIS CONCENTRATION AND LISTEN WITH GENUINE INTEREST TO STRANGERS' PROBLEMS. THEY HAD NOT REALLY INTERRUPTED HIM!...EVERYONE KNEW THAT HIS CALL WAS WELCOME WHETHER DURING MEALS OR AT 3 A.M.!

WITH LARGE STEPS THAT RESOUNDED THROUGHOUT THE CLUB, SPREADING LIFE, HOPE AND JOY, HE LAUGHED WITH ONE, ENCOURAGED ANOTHER, CRACKED A JOKE WITH ANOTHER. A TWINKLE WAS STILL IN HIS EYE AS HE SAT DOWN AGAIN, AND, AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED WAS SUDDENLY PLUNGED INTO DEEP CONCENTRATION. THIS WAS ONLY FOUR HOURS BEFORE HE PASSED AWAY.

HERMAN STEINER'S IMMENSE LOVE FOR THE GAME SPREAD A SPARK WHICH BROUGHT CHESS TO LIFE IN CALIFORNIA; HE MADE CHESS ALIVE FOR THOUSANDS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN; HE CREATED A WOMAN'S FIELD FOR CHESS IN THIS PART OF THE COUNTRY. HE TAUGHT; SEVERAL OF TODAY'S MASTERS STUDIED WITH HIM FOR ENDLESS HOURS. HE ORGANIZED ACTIVITIES FINDING AGAINST ALL ODDS THE NECESSARY FUNDS FOR LOCAL TOURNAMENTS, AS WELL AS FOR INTERNATIONAL MASTER TOURNAMENTS.

HE GAVE WITHOUT RESERVE OF HIS DYNAMIC PERSONALITY, SPREADING WARMTH, HOPE, ENTHUSIASM, AND NEW IDEAS. REGARDLESS OF APPRECIATION OR RECOGNITION HE UNCONDITIONALLY CAME BACK READY TO HELP; GAVE STRENGTH AND PUSHED FORWARD EVERYONE HE ENCOUNTERED.

LET ME ADD PERSONALLY THAT HE WAS THE BEST FRIEND I EVER HAD AND THAT IN CHESS I OWE HIM ALL I KNOW. HE NOT ONLY TAUGHT ME OPENINGS AND EVERY VARIATION I PLAY BUT HE TAUGHT ME HOW TO THINK AND HOW TO LOVE THE GAME EVEN AFTER DEFEAT. BUT WHEN I AM FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO WIN A GAME I SINCERELY FEEL HERMAN STEINER WON IT FOR ME.

Jacqueline Piatigorsky

WOMENS CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

THE 1956 CALIFORNIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT FOR WOMEN HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO START DECEMBER 1ST.

THE AMERICAN CHESS FOUNDATION IS ACTING AS SPONSOR OF THIS EVENT, WHICH HAS BEEN DESIGNATED THE HERMAN STEINER MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT.

THE PRIZE STRUCTURE IS AS FOLLOWS:

1ST PRIZE	\$100.00
2ND "	75.00
3RD "	50.00
4TH "	25.00

ALSO POINT MONEY.

REGISTERED ENTRIES AT PRESENT WRITING ARE:

JACQUELINE PIATIGORSKY
LENA GRUMETTE, GOLDIE ERUS, HENRIETTA PAGE, LEE FALSTON, ESTELLE WAGNER OF LOS ANGELES, AND SONJA GRAF STEVENSON OF PALM SPRINGS, OLGA HIGGINS AND LILLY MILTON OF SANTA BARBARA, AND CLARA HURT OF ORINDA, CALIFORNIA.



H.S. GROUP NEWS
EDITOR - LENA GRUMETTE
SEC'Y - EDYTHE LANGDON

CHARLES HENDERSON, PRES.

EVERY CHESS CLUB IN THE WORLD LEADS A PRECARIOUS EXISTENCE. EVEN THE MOST ECONOMICAL MANAGEMENT OFTEN FAILS TO MEET EXPENSES. IN SUCH A SITUATION THE QUESTION INEVITABLY ARISES: HOW CAN WE INCREASE OUR INCOME?

THIS WAS THE MAIN PROBLEM CONSIDERED BY SOME THIRTY MEMBERS WHO GATHERED AT THE STEINER CLUB ON NOVEMBER 3TH FOR OUR 2ND GENERAL MEETING. WE WERE ALSO HONORED BY THE PRESENCE OF GRANDMASTER ISAAC KASHDAN.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT, READ BY IRVING RIVISE, REVEALED A BANK BALANCE OF ONLY \$39, WITH OUR NOVEMBER RENT STILL UNPAID. THIS ALARMING CONDITION WAS ASCRIBED MAINLY TO THE UNEXPECTED FAILURE OF 18 FRESHMAN MEMBERS TO RENEW, AFTER A SIX MONTHS TRIAL PERIOD.

CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE MEMBERSHIP SITUATION WERE BROUGHT OUT IN MY REPORT: THE OFT-REPEATED DEVICE OF BRINGING IN NEW MEMBERS WAS BEGINNING TO WEAR THIN; THE LOSS OF OUR LATELY-ENROLLED MEMBERS COULD BE CLEARLY TRACED TO FAILURE OF THE OLDER MEMBERS TO WELCOME, ENCOURAGE, AND ABSORB THIS WEDNESDAY NIGHT GROUP; MANY POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS INSPECTING THE CLUB FOR THE FIRST TIME ARE LOST BECAUSE THERE IS NOBODY PRESENT TO GREET THEM AND INTEREST THEM IN BECOMING MEMBERS. ALL OF WHICH AFFECTS OUR COLLECTIVE POCKET BOOK.

ALSO, IN CONFINING OUR EXPENSES TO THE MINIMUM (RENT, STATIONERY, POSTAGE AND EXCISE TAX) WE ARE NEGLECTING TO IMPROVE OUR CLUB. WE NEED MONEY FOR REPAIRS, ACQUISITION AND AMORTIZATION OF EQUIPMENT; FOR A DRINKING FOUNTAIN; AND FOR PUBLICITY, INCLUDING THE CLUB BULLETIN.

GEORGE GOEHLER POINTED OUT THAT WE SHOULD HAVE A CONTINGENCY FUND OF AT LEAST \$500 IN ORDER TO BE IN BUSI-

NESS ON A SOLID FINANCIAL BASIS. THE MEETING WAS THEN THROWN OPEN FOR DISCUSSION.

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MOST OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT FELT THAT AN INCREASE IN DUES WOULD BE THE SIMPLE AND PRACTICAL SOLUTION. THIS THOUGHT WAS EMPHATICALLY OPPOSED HOWEVER BY MR. BISNO, MR. KOVACS, AND MR. KASHDAN. MR. BISNO THEN PROPOSED OUR SOLICITING SPONSORS' DONATIONS INSTEAD.

AT THIS POINT VICE-PRESIDENT RUBIN CAME UP WITH A BRILLIANCY!! HIS IDEA WHICH WAS ENDORSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MEMBERS PRESENT HAS BEEN NAMED THE GUARANTOR'S PLAN.

..WILL YOU BE A GUARANTOR?..

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS. YOU GUARANTEE THAT YOU WILL BRING IN A NEW MEMBER DURING 1957. YOU PAY HIS DUES NOW, (THEY MAY BE SPLIT INTO TWO SEMI-ANNUAL PAYMENTS). YOUR MONEY IS REFUNDED AS SOON AS YOUR NEW MEMBER PAYS HIS DUES. BY THIS METHOD YOU ARE HELPING YOUR CLUB TO STAY OPEN, AND AT NO COST TO YOU, SO LONG AS YOU SUCCEED IN BRINGING IN A NEW MEMBER. FURTHERMORE, IF THIS PLAN WORKS (AND WE ARE SURE IT WILL), THE DUES WILL NOT BE RAISED DURING 1957!

BE A GUARANTOR! BUT IF YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO, DESPITE THE LACK OF RISK, THERE ARE OTHER WAYS TO HELP YOUR CLUB OUT OF ITS CRISIS. • WILL YOU BE A HOST?

THE DUTIES INVOLVED ARE SIMPLE. YOU OPEN THE CLUB AND CLOSE IT. YOU KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR PEOPLE WHO WISH TO PLAY GAMES, AND TRY TO MATCH PLAYERS AS EVENLY AS POSSIBLE. YOU GREET STRANGERS WHO WANDER IN, GIVE OR GET THEM A GAME, GIVE THEM SOME CLUB LITERATURE, AND ACCEPT THEIR MONEY IF YOU TALK THEM INTO JOINING. YOU CREATE A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE.

GEORGE GOEHLER HAS DONE WONDERS ALONG THESE LINES, BUT HE AND YOUR CLUB OFFICERS CANNOT ATTEND EVERY CLUB NIGHT. FOR THIS REASON WE ARE ASKING FOR VOLUNTEER HOSTS WHO WILL TAKE CHARGE OF THE CLUB TWO AFTERNOONS OR EVENINGS A MONTH.



1956 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAMPIONSHIP
(CONDENSED FROM CHESS REPORTER)

ON SUNDAY AUGUST 19, 1956 AT THE HERMAN STEINER CHESS CLUB THERE GATHERED 42 PLAYERS TO COMPETE FOR FOUR PLACES IN THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS. AS USUAL IN THIS EVENT THERE WAS A STRONG CONTINGENT OF VETERANS (ALMGREN, BOROCHOW, BOB CROSS, JACOBS, MARTIN AND RIVISE) WHO HAD BEEN DOMINATING THE SCENE FOR SOME YEARS.

THIS YEAR WITNESSED THE BREAK-THROUGH OF THE EVER-PRESENT AND CHALLENGING YOUNGSTERS WHO CAPTURED TWO OF THE FOUR PRIZE WINNING PLACES. 15 YEAR OLD LARRY REMLINGER CAPTURED FIRST PLACE QUITE EASILY, AND A NEWCOMER AND ALSO 15 YEARS OLD, STEPHEN SHOLOMSON GAVE A FINE ACCOUNTING OF HIS CHESS ABILITIES BY PLACING FOURTH. SAM GELLER WON SECOND PLACE OUTRIGHT WHILE IRVING RIVISE TOOK THIRD BY REASON OF THE "INGLEWOOD" TIE BREAKING SYSTEM.

LARRY REMLINGER STARTED OFF BY WINNING HIS FIRST SIX GAMES COUNTING AMONG HIS VICTIMS, MARTIN, BOROCHOW AND CROSS. IN THE SEVENTH ROUND HE GAVE UP HIS FIRST HALF POINT BY DRAWING WITH RIVISE. BY DRAWING AGAIN WITH GELLER IN THE 8TH ROUND AND SHOLOMSON IN THE 9TH ROUND LARRY ALLOWED THE REST OF THE FIELD TO COME CLOSE, BUT NOT CLOSE ENOUGH.

GELLER IN WINNING SECOND PLACE, LOST BUT ONE GAME TO RIVISE. HE PLAYED EXCELLENT CHESS THROUGHOUT THE TOURNAMENT, AND HIS VAULT TO THE TOP RANKS, UPSET MANY A SCORE.

RIVISE FOR A LONG TIME DURING THE TOURNAMENT WAS REMLINGER'S CLOSEST PURSUER. WHEN THESE TWO MET IN THE 7TH ROUND, REMLINGER WAS LEADING WITH 6-0, FOLLOWED BY RIVISE WITH 5-1.

YOUNG SHOLOMSON, WHO HAS TO HIS CREDIT TWO VICTORIES OVER SAMMY RESHEVSKY IN SIMULTANEOUS EXHIBITIONS, PLAYS A VERY ENTERPRISING AND ENERGETIC BRAND OF CHESS.

MR. CHARLES KODIL DIRECTED THE TOURNAMENT AND SCHEDULED THE PAIRINGS IN HIS USUAL RELIABLE FASHION. WE ARE FORTUNATE INDEED TO HAVE THE SERVICES OF A MAN WITH MR. KODIL'S INTEGRITY AND COMPETENCE.



IRVING RIVISE

1ST ANNUAL HERMAN STEINER MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

- PLACE - HERMAN STEINER CHESS CLUB
103 No. FORMOSA AVE. LOS ANGELES
- TYPE - ROUND ROBIN, DIVIDED INTO 4 SECTIONS.
MASTERS (BY INVITATION ONLY), EXPERTS,
CLASS A AND CLASS B.
- TIME OF PLAY - MASTERS--1 P.M. JANUARY 6, 1957.
EXPERTS 7:30 P.M. JANUARY 11, 1957.
CLASS A AND B 7:30 P.M. JAN. 17, 1957.
- ENTRY FEE - MASTERS \$10, EXPERTS \$10.
CLASS A AND B \$5. ALL INCLUDE RATING FEE.
- REGISTRATION - ENTRIES FOR MASTERS CLOSE DEC. 28, FOR
EXPERTS JAN. 1, AND FOR CLASSES A AND B
JAN. 8. MAIL ALL ENTRIES TO GEORGE
GOEHLER, 1056 S. OGDEN DRIVE, LA 19.
- REQUIREMENTS - EXPERTS AND CLASS A & B PLAYERS MUST BE-
LONG TO THE CLUB.
- PRIZES - TO BE ANNOUNCED PRIOR TO CLOSING DATE FOR
ENTRY.

TYRO TOURNAMENT AND CLASSES

THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED TYRO TOURNAMENT DIRECTED BY BOB JACOBS, OUR AMIABLE INSTRUCTOR, BROUGHT TO LIGHT SEVERAL MORE PROMISING PLAYERS.

TYRO CHAMPS WERE EVANS FARBBER AND KENNETH HENSE WHO TIED FOR 1ST AND 2ND PLACE WITH A SCORE OF $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$. AUSTIN GATES WAS 3RD WITH THE SCORE OF 4-2.

BY POPULAR DEMAND, AND WITH BOB'S CONSENT, THERE WILL BE TWO GROUPS OF CLASSES, FOR BEGINNERS AND ADVANCED STUDENTS, STARTING WED. DEC. 12.

THE BEGINNERS GROUP WILL MEET AT 7:45 P.M. AND THE ADVANCED GROUP AT 9:00 P.M. BOB EMPHASIZES THE NECESSITY FOR PUNCTUALITY, ESPECIALLY FOR THE 1ST GROUP.

1956 HERMAN STEINER JUNIOR TOURNAMENT

- PLACE - HERMAN STEINER CHESS CLUB
108 NO. FORMOSA AVE. LOS ANGELES
- TYPE - DEPENDING ON NUMBER OF ENTRIES WHETHER ROUND ROBIN OR SWISS. ONE SECTION.
- TIME OF PLAY - 1 P.M. SATURDAY DEC. 15TH AND CONTINUING THROUGH SUNDAY DEC. 23RD.
- ENTRY FEE - \$2.50 WHICH INCLUDES NATIONAL RATING FEE.
- REGISTRATION - ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 10TH. MAIL TO GEORGE GOEHLER, 1056 S. OGDEN DRIVE, LOS ANGELES 19.
- PRIZES - TROPHY AND MERCHANDISE PRIZES. IF THE HIGHEST RANKING ELIGIBLE PLAYER ENTERS THE NATIONAL JUNIOR TOURNAMENT THE CLUB WILL HELP SPONSOR HIM.
- REQUIREMENTS - OPEN TO ALL JUNIORS UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE. THOSE WHO LIVE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE HERMAN STEINER CHESS CLUB.