



# Chess Chatter

Newsletter of the Port Huron Chess Club

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**Editor: Lon Rutkofske April 2015 Vol.34 Number 4**

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The **Port Huron Chess Club** meets Thursdays, except holidays, from 6:30-10:00 PM, at Palmer Park Recreation Center, 2829 Armour Street, (NE corner of Garfield Street and Gratiot Ave...1 mile North of the Blue Water Bridge) Port Huron, Michigan. Everyone is welcome. All equipment provided. Email: [PtHuronChessClub@aol.com](mailto:PtHuronChessClub@aol.com) or Website: <http://porthuronchessclub.yolasite.com>

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## **Morabito/Gregg share 2015 Club Championship Crown - Wingrove/Boucher tie for U1700 title**



Matt Morabito

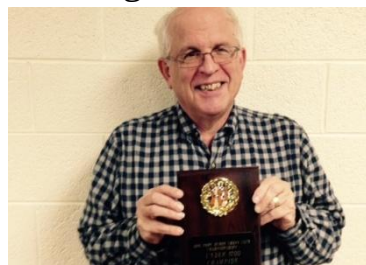
**Matt Morabito's** long time quest has finally come to fruition. The SC4 electronics instructor has pursued the elusive PHCC championship title since he became a member of the club. Years of frustration and disappointment as the



Alan Gregg

perennial runner-up came to an end when his 6<sup>th</sup> round victory over 16 time champion, **Lon Rutkofske** pushed him over the finish line. Neither he, nor co-champion, **Alan Gregg** lost a game in the 2015 competition with each yielding only a pair of draws on the way to a photo finish! The pivotal change for Matt in this year's rendition of the PHCC's most prized event was his consistency, yielding nary a single unnecessary draw, nor upset throughout the championship cycle. While this kind of performance has been typical of now 5-time champion, Alan Gregg, it has to be and exhilarating feeling for the first time champion to finally break the seal on the celebratory bottle of championship elixir.

Although this year's field was a bit anemic at the top without previous champions, **Mike Petty**, **Tony West**, and **Stew Wilkinson**, battles were fierce and unyielding, but generally lacked the drama fueled by fewer upsets resulting from the fact that "familiarity" has bred "caution and preparation" and surprises were at a premium.



Bill Wingrove

The Under 1700 titles mirrored the results of the championship struggle with **Bill Wingrove** and **Dave Boucher** knotted up at 3



Dave Boucher

points each. Dave had a chance to clinch the trophy outright, but **Avery Jones'** *Kamikaze* attack smashed Dave's defenses and forced the St. Clair native to commit *Seppuku!*

The 2015 edition of the championship tournament represented a "trial run" of the "No prize funds and No entry fee" experiment proposed by Alan Gregg which attracted the usual "club die-hards", but really failed to reel in any newcomers. The club will get a chance to review, evaluate and comment on this approach at a club meeting in April as it shapes plans for next year's event.

### 2015 PHCC Championships -- Standings

#	Name	Rtng	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Tot	Prize
1	Alan Gregg	1939	D2	B---	W6	W4	D7	W5	W3	6.0	Champ Trophy
2	Matthew Morabito	1852	D1	W6	D4	W7	W5	W3	B---	6.0	Champ Trophy
3	Lonnie Rutkofske	1840	W6	W4	W7	W5	B---	L2	L1	5.0	
4	William Wingrove	1667	L5	L3	D2	L1	W6	B---	D7	3.0	U1700 Trophy
5	David Boucher	1467	W4	W7	B---	L3	L2	L1	L6	3.0	U1700 Trophy
6	G. Avery Jones	1645	L3	L2	L1	B---	L4	D7	W5	2.5	
7	Noel Bedy	1610	B---	L5	L3	L2	D1	D6	D4	2.5	

## St. Clair Chess Club offers casual play and plenty more!

If you are ever in need of something less ambitious to do on a lazy Saturday morning, why not take a sojourn to the Burger King at 200 Clinton Avenue for a game or two at the **Saint Clair Chess Club**.



Rob Brown and Tom Broyles do battle.

You will be welcomed by a vociferously genial **Tom Broyles** or an equally enthusiastic **Rob Brown** and set up with a game or two with one of Cassia's cronies that frequent the fast-food haven. You might even find a few denizens from the PHCC lurking about trying to get their week's fill of the "royal game".



Noel Bedy and Gerrit Beneker duel.

The accommodating and cordial daytime manager, **Shirley Daft**, not only prepares sustenance for vegetarians and carnivores alike, but doubles as "hostess extraordinaire" to the milieu determined to "Have it their way"!



Dayle Stout moves against Bill Wingrove.

From 10:00 A.M. to closing, the SCCC preserves the informal, inviting atmosphere that encourages avid chess aficionados of various stripe and strength to test their mettle against the inspired troupe of SCCC “regulars” haunting the halls and stalls of the downtown eatery.



Joe Nadasky challenges Bill Wingrove.



Austin Stout ponders a move.

Sets and boards are not usually at a premium, but it might be in your best interest to bring along your own “lucky board and pieces” to bolster both confidence and comfort.

**See you this Saturday!**

## Members’ Games



*Please send me what you consider your best games, annotated or not, so that I might be able to showcase them. The following games represent contests that have been available at the time of this printing. Email them to me or give them to me personally, if you wish. Majority of analyses is done by Fritz 12, unless otherwise indicated.*

### **Morabito,Matthew (1610) - Bedy,Noel (1852) [A07] Reti Opening**

2015 PHCC Championships Port Huron (4), 26.02.2015

**1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 c6 3.Bg2 Bg4 4.Ne5 Bh5 5.c4 e6 6.0-0 Nd7 7.Nxd7 Qxd7 8.b3 Be7 9.Bb2 Bf6 10.d4 dxc4 11.bxc4 Ne7 12.Qd2 0-0 13.Nc3 Qxd4 14.Qxd4 Bxd4 15.e3 Bxc3 16.Bxc3 Rfe8 17.Rab1 Be2 18.Rfc1 Bxc4 19.Rxb7 Nd5 20.Bd4 Bb5 21.a3 a5 22.e4 Re7 23.Rxb5 cxb5 24.exd5 exd5 25.Bb6 Rae8 26.Bxa5 d4 27.Rd1 Rc8 28.Bf3 g6 29.Rxd4 Kg7 30.Bb4 1-0 Time**

### **Wingrove,William (1667) - Jones,G. Avery (1645) [B06] Modern Defense**

2015 PHCC Championships Port Huron (5), 26.02.2015

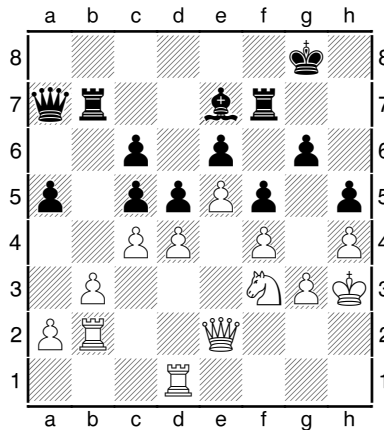
**1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 g6 4.f4 Bg7 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Be2 Qb6 7.b3 c5 8.Be3 Nd7 9.0-0 Rc8 10.Nc3 e6 11.Bb5 Bxf3 12.Bxd7+ Kxd7 13.Rxf3 Qb4 14.Na4 c4 15.a3 Qb5 16.Nc5+ Ke7 17.Rb1 c3 18.Bf2 Nh6 19.Be1 Rxc5 20.dxc5 Qxc5+ 21.Kh1 d4 22.a4 Nf5 23.Qd3 a5 24.Qe4 Qc7 25.Bf2 Rd8 26.Rd3 Qc6 27.Qxc6 bxc6 28.Rbd1 c5 29.h3 h5 30.g4 hxg4 31.hxg4 Rh8+ 32.Kg2 Nh6 33.Kg3 f5 34.Bxd4 cxd4 35.Rxd4 Nf7 36.Rd7+ Ke8 37.Rc7 fxg4 38.Rc8+ Ke7 39.Rxh8 Bxh8 40.Rd3 1-0 Time**

### **Gregg,Alan (1939) - Boucher,David (1467) [A06] Reti Opening**

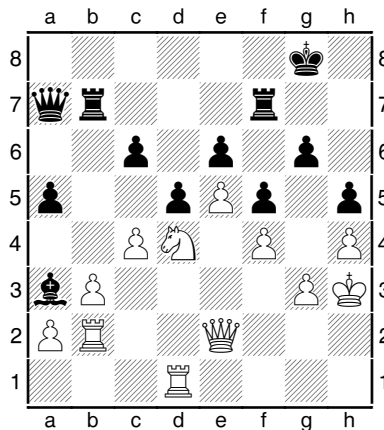
2015 PHCC Championships Port Huron (6), 26.02.2015

**1.b3 e6 2.Bb2 d5 3.Nf3 c5 4.e3 Nc6 5.Bb5 Bd7 6.0-0 Nf6 7.Bxc6 Bxc6 8.Ne5 Bd6 9.f4 0-0 10.d3 Nd7 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.c4 f5 13.Nd2 a5 14.g3 Qb6 15.Rb1 Rad8 16.Qf3 Be7 17.Rfd1 Nf6 18.e4 Qc7 19.Be5 Qc8 20.Bxf6 Rxf6 21.e5 Rf7 22.Qe2**

**Qd7 23.Nf3 Ra8 24.Kg2 Qc8 25.Rd2 Ra7 26.h4 g6 27.Rh1 h5 28.Rhd1 Rg7  
29.Rc2 Qb7 30.Rb2 Qa8 31.Rdb1 Rb7 32.Kh3 Rf7 33.d4 Qa7 34.Rd1** Diagram



[Black's best here is the waiting move to reposition his KR with 34....Rf8...the text loses instantly because it permits White's knight instant treats and penetration.  
**34...cxd4 35.Nxd4 Ba3** Diagram



**36.Rc2 Rb6 37.Nxe6 Qd7 38.Ng5 Rf8 39.cxd5 cxd5 40.Rcd2 Rb5 41.e6 Qb7 42.e7  
Bxe7 43.Rxd5 Rxd5 44.Qe6+ Kh8 45.Qxd5 Qxd5 46.Rxd5 Bb4 47.a3 Bxa3  
48.Rxa5 Bd6 49.Ra6 Rf6 50.Rxd6 Rxd6 51.Nf7+ 1-0**

**Rutkofske, Lonnie (1840) - Gregg, Alan (1939) [A11] English Opening**

2015 PHCC Championships Marysville (7), 26.02.2015

**1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 e6 3.Bg2 d5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.d3 c6 8.Re1 Bf5  
9.Nbd2 Na6 10.Nh4 Bg4 11.h3 Be6 12.a3 Rc8 13.Nhf3 Bf5 14.Nf1 h6 15.Ne3 Bh7  
16.Ng4 Nxc4 17.hxc4 Bf6 18.Ra2 Nc5 19.b4 Ne6 20.Nd2 Bd4 21.Nb3 Bb6 22.e3 f5  
23.d4 Ng5 24.Nc5 Qe7 25.f4 Ne4 26.Nxe4 fxe4 27.Bh3 g5 28.Kh1 a6 29.Qe2 Rf7  
30.a4 Qd7 31.Rf1 Rcf8 32.Qh2 Bc7 33.f5 Bd6 34.Bd2 Rf6 35.Be1 Qf7 36.Qg1 h5  
37.Rh2 hxg4 38.Bxc4 Bxf5 39.Rxf5 Rxf5 40.Bxf5 Qxf5 41.Rh6 Kg7 42.Rh2 Qf3+  
43.Qg2 Qf1+ 44.Qg1 Qf3+ 45.Qg2 Qxe3 46.Bf2 0-1 Time**

**Bedy,Noel (1610) - Wingrove,William (1667) [B07] Pirc Defense**

2015 PHCC Championships Port Huron (7), 05.03.2015

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nd2 g6 3.e4 d6 4.Bd3 Bg7 5.Ngf3 0-0 6.c3 c5 7.0-0 Qc7 8.dxc5 dxc5 9.h3 Nc6 10.Re1 Nd7 11.Qe2 b6 12.Bc2 Bb7 13.Bb3 h6 14.Nh4 Kh7 15.Nf1 Bf6 16.Nf3 Rad8 17.Qe3 Bg7 18.g4 Nde5 19.Nxe5 Nxe5 20.Bc2 Rd7 21.f4 Nc6 22.Ng3 Nd4 23.Bb1 Rfd8 24.Kh2 Nc6 25.e5 Rd1 26.Nh5 Rxe1 27.Qxe1 Qd7 28.Nxg7 Kxg7 29.Be4 e6 30.Be3 Bc8 31.Bf3 Ne7 32.Rd1 Qc7 33.Rxd8 Qxd8 34.Qd2 Qxd2+ 35.Bxd2 Ba6 ½-½

**Boucher,David (1467) - Jones,G. Avery (1646) [B10] Caro-Kann Defense**

2015 PHCC Championships Port Huron (7), 05.03.2015

1.e4 c6 2.Bc4 d5 3.Bb3 Be6 4.d4 Nf6 5.e5 Nfd7 6.Nf3 Bg4 7.c3 e6 8.0-0 c5 9.Bc2 Nc6 10.Be3 Qb6 11.b3 cxd4 12.cxd4 Rc8 13.Nc3 Qb4 14.Na4 Bxf3 15.gxf3 b5 16.a3 Qe7 17.Nc5 Nxc5 18.dxc5 Nxe5 19.f4 Nc6 20.b4 g6 21.Bd4 Rg8 22.Rb1 Qh4 23.Be3 Bg7 24.a4 a6 25.axb5 axb5 26.Bd3 Rb8 27.Qe2 Qh5 28.f3 Na7 29.Rb3 d4 30.Bf2 Qd5 31.Ra3 Qb7 32.Bg3 Rc8 33.Ra5 Ke7 34.f5 gxf5 35.Bxf5 Bh6 36.Kh1 Rxc3 37.hxc3 Qc7 38.Kg2 Rg8 39.g4 Be3 40.Rfa1 Nc6 41.Be4 Kf6 42.Bxc6 Qxc6 43.Kf1 Rxc4 44.Qg2 Rxc2 45.Kxc2 Qd5 46.Rxb5 Qg5+ 47.Kh2 Qh4+ 48.Kg2 Qf2+ 49.Kh1 Qxf3+ 50.Kh2 Qe2+ 0-1

**Rutkofske,Lonnie (1800) - Broyles,Thomas (1699) [C50] Hungarian Defense**

Casual Game St. Clair, 07.03.2015

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.0-0 h6 5.d4 exd4 6.Nxd4 Bc5 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.e5 Ng8 9.Qg4 g6 10.Bb3 d5 11.Qa4 Bd7 12.c4 Ne7 13.cxd5 cxd5 14.Qf4 c6 15.Bc2 Nf5 16.Bxf5 Bxf5 17.b4 Be7 18.Bb2 Bg5 19.Qd4 Qb6 20.f4 Be7 21.e6 Qxd4+ 22.Bxd4 0-0 23.exf7+ Rxf7 24.a3 Bf6 25.Bxf6 Rxf6 26.Nd2 Re6 27.Nf3 Re2 28.Rf2 Rae8 29.Ne5 Rxf2 30.Kxf2 Be4 31.g3 d4 32.Rd1 Rd8 33.Ke2 g5 34.Kd2 gxf4 35.gxf4 Rf8 36.Rg1+ Kh7 37.Rg4 Rg8 38.h3 Bf5 39.Rxc8 Kxc8 40.Nxc6 Bxh3 41.Nxd4 h5 42.Ke3 1-0

## Dues News:

While dues are not required for anyone interested in playing at the club, they are required for those competing in tournament play. Annual Dues are \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for those under 19. Dues funds are used to offset miscellaneous expenses not funded by the Recreation Department.

## Calendar of Events: [Note the change for the First Thursday of Each Month.](#)

**First Thursday of Each Month** - Chess Clinics- 6:30 to 7:00 PM - \$7.50 per person. From 7:00 until 10:00. Players wishing to play Challenge matches with longer time controls of G/60 with 5 sec delay can choose to play match games if they so desire. Participants will be required to follow the rules and regulations for **Challenge Play** (As outlined in Chess Chatter, our website under "Club Member Ratings Lists", or posted at the club.) and colors will be selected by lot. PHCC club ratings will be used. Players should turn their game scores into Lon, so he can adjust ratings appropriately and showcase the games in *Chess Chatter*.

## Challenge system begins this month!

**April 2<sup>nd</sup> – PHCC Business Meeting – To review, evaluate and plan for 2016 PHCC Champs-7:00 – 7:30 PM**

**April 16th - PHCC Rated Mini-Swiss – G/30 EF: \$5.00 ...Prizes based on entries. A minimum of 4 participants will be necessary to hold the event. Please contact Lon via phone or email if you plan to register! A minimum of 4 participants will be necessary to hold the event. Please contact Lon via phone or email if you plan to register. Play begins at 7:00 PM.**

## **PHCC Rating Lists**

The following list represents only current members of the Port Huron Chess Club. Current USCF ratings were used for members that had them, in order to establish the initial club rating list. The USCF rating format is used as the basis for calculating our club rating list. Members that had no USCF ratings are given a provisional rating based on their performances against regular club members who had USCF ratings. Club rated events will use these ratings for pairing purposes.

### **PHCC Rating List as of 3/6/15**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Gregg, Alan	1944
Wilkinson, Stew	1907
Morabito, Matt	1872
Rutkofske, Lon	1839
Wingrove, Bill	1652
Jones, G. Avery	1622
Bedy, Noel	1594
Boucher, Dave	1507
Beneker, Gerrit	1502
Chan, Jaime	1502
Carey, Jay	1000
Nowiski, Adam	969
Allen, Nathan	957
Allen, Zachary	462

### **USCF Ratings as of 3/6/15**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Gregg, Alan	1992
Wilkinson, Stew	1880
Morabito, Matt	1809
Rutkofske, Lon	1800
Wingrove, Bill	1613
Jones, G. Avery	1568
Chan, Jaime	1481
Bedy, Noel	1460
Boucher, Dave	1332
Nowiski, Adam	673P7

### **PHCC Speed Rating List as of 3/6/15**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Gregg, Alan	1948
Wilkinson, Stew	1938
Rutkofske, Lon	1839
Morabito, Matt	1745
Jones, G. Avery	1590
Wingrove, Bill	1561
Bedy, Noel	1535
Chan, Jaime	1502
Beneker, Gerrit	1500
Nowiski, Adam	1364
Carey, Jay	1000
Allen, Nathan	984
Allen, Zachary	740

# Edison chess club set for district tournament

**SYEDA FERGUSON**

TIMES HERALD

Rows of chess boards sat largely untouched along the several long tables in Thomas Edison Elementary School's cafeteria early Thursday morning.

Not for long, though. There were 30 students battling for pieces before the 7:30 morning bell rang at the school's weekly chess club.

Principal Chris Collins called the turnout light compared to the 40 to 45 students in grades K-5 who usually attend.

"We usually have four or five tables filled. They've had a strong chess program for years," Collins said.

Students at Edison and throughout Port Huron Schools have a few more weeks to practice their game before the Phil Willard Memorial Chess Tournament on March 28.

The tournament is free and open to all students in the district attending grades K-12. The competition will be broken up according to grade level.

A little knowledge about the game and

## **IF YOU GO**

» The Phil Willard Memorial Chess Tournament will be held 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 28 at the Port Huron High School cafeteria.

» Registration is from 8 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. No late registrations accepted.

» The tournament is open and free to all Port Huron Schools students in grades K-12.

» There will be timed rounds with prizes. Concessions are available for purchase. Concessions proceeds benefit Hunter Hospitality House.

a willingness to give up an hour per week in the mornings is all that is required to run Edison's chess club, according to parent supervisor and proctor Eric Heiss.

Despite the club's talented players and several tournament winners, Heiss described his approach to overseeing the club as "laissez-faire."

"We do it for fun. It's a no-pressure thing," he said.

His son, Ben, won the fourth-grade



TIMES HERALD/TIMES HERALD

The Port Huron Schools' Phil Willard Memorial Chess Tournament will be held March 28.

level at last year's district tournament.

Ben's advice to players this year: "Your opponent will talk to you. It's very distracting. Try not to get off track."

Contact Syeda Ferguson at (810) 989-6276 or email her at [syeda@thetimesherald.com](mailto:syeda@thetimesherald.com).

Follow her on Twitter @shossainfe.