



Chess Chatter

Newsletter of the Port Huron Chess Club

Editor: Lon Rutkofske May 2015 Vol.34 Number 5

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 or Website: <http://porthuronchessclub.volasite.com>

Phil Willard Memorial/PHASD Chess Tournament an ongoing success



Phil Willard 1928-2010

March 28th represented a very important milestone for the PHCC and the Port Huron Area School District in that it marked the 19th consecutive year for the district-wide chess tournament implemented by **Lon Rutkofske** in 1996 while Director of Secondary Curriculum for the District. An avid chess enthusiast and co-founder of the **Port Huron Chess Club**, Lon realized that chess could compliment many areas of students' social, academic and sports-related pursuits. Recent educational research has verified the positive impact that chess programs have on improving student performance in the classroom, in individual and group social interactions, and even in individual and team non-academic competitions.

March 28th represented a very important milestone for the PHCC and the Port Huron Area School District in that it marked the 19th consecutive year for the district-wide chess tournament implemented by **Lon Rutkofske** in 1996 while Director of Secondary Curriculum for the District. An avid chess enthusiast and co-founder of the **Port Huron Chess Club**, Lon realized that chess could compliment many areas of students' social, academic and sports-related pursuits. Recent educational research has verified the positive impact that chess programs have on improving student performance in the classroom, in individual and group social interactions, and even in individual and team non-academic competitions.



The 95 contestants ready themselves for play!



Tournament Director, Jeff Willard clarifies the rules before round one begins!

In addition to developing and refining acumin in concentration, calculation, planning, problem-solving, memory and recall, cause and effect relationships, visualization, and evaluation, the "sport of kings" encourages participation, good sportsmanship, respect, positive social interaction, diversity, responsibility, integrity and appreciation of differences. One of the most remarkable benefits that chess provides is that it neutralizes

competitive barriers such as age, size, race, gender, disability, as well as, economic, social and ethnic inequalities and has yielded extremely beneficial results for students in inter-city schools across the nation.



PHCC's arbiter crew: (L-R) Bill Wingrove, Avery Jones, Stew Wilkinson and Lon Rutkofske (Jay Carey not pictured).

Additionally, this is the second anniversary of the tournament which memorializes the late **Phil Willard** whose generous efforts on behalf of kids, his teaching them a love of the game, and through his son, **Jeff**, became his legacy to the PHCC's and the PHASD's partnership to promote youth chess.

Next year will be the 20th anniversary for this wonderful event and the District and the PHCC are thankful for the support of parents, students and volunteers and especially PHASD coordinator, **Evon Rodriguez** who have contributed much to keep this activity alive and viable!

These first place winners in each grade received a trophy.

Kindergarten:	Katie Arundel – Keewahdin	6 th Grade	Benjamin Dedic- Holland Woods
1 st Grade	Quenton Pasia – Thomas Edison	7 th Grade	Jack Hollingsworth – Holland Woods
2 nd Grade	Jacob Ayotte - Thomas Edison	8 th Grade	Neehal Tumma – Fort Gratiot
3 rd Grade	Luke Maher – Michigamme	9 th Grade	Adam Nowiski – Port Huron High School
4 th Grade	Nathaniel Oriel – Indian Woods	10 th Grade	Ethan Albany – Port Huron High School
5 th Grade	Aiden Pasia – Thomas Edison	11 th Grade	Jacob Quigley – Port Huron High School
		12 th Grade	No entries

The following pictures are courtesy of PHCC member Jay Carey.



In chess, gender becomes irrelevant!



Let the party begin!



Former PHCC Jr. Champ, Adam Nowiski: tops in 9th grade.



PHCC'er Nathan Allen extends a gentlemanly offer.



A concentration of PHCC's Finest Judges!



A hard fought struggle develops!



A battle to the very end!



Looks like a draw to me!



The younger, the better!



A match of wits ensues!

Morabito runs the table in April PHCC RR Event

Club Co-Champion **Matt Morabito** breezed through the competition easily capturing first place money in the April PHCC Rated Round Robin hosted on Thursday, April 16th. The G/30 event, originally intended as a mini-Swiss as the bare minimum of 4 contestants required the change. The absence of regulars **Alan Gregg, Stew Wilkinson, Bill Wingrove, Noel Bedy and Dave Boucher** made pairing less complicated, but also weakened the field. As for Matt, he was “King of the Hill” and basked in the glory of the “When the cat’s away, the mice will play” atmosphere that brought him his second consecutive top finish. Many thanks to all those who played and especially to **Gerrit Beneker** who volunteered to play in place of Bill Wingrove who was delayed by a family illness. Games appear in the “Member Games” section.

2015 April PHCC Rated RR -- Standings

#	Name	Rtng	Post	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Tot	Prize
1	Matthew Morabito	1872	1891	W4	W2	W3	3.0	15.00
2	Lonnie Rutkofske	1839	1837	W3	L1	W4	2.0	
3	G. Avery Jones	1622	1619	L2	W4	L1	1.0	
4	Gerrit Beneker	1502	1483	L1	L3	L2	0.0	

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 (1872) - Beneker,Gerrit (1502) [C44] Ponziani Opening

2015 April PHCC Rated RR G/30 Port Huron (1), 16.04.2015

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.c3 d5 4.Bb5 Bg4 5.h3 Bxf3 6.Qxf3 Nf6 7.exd5 Qxd5 8.Qxd5 Nxd5 9.0-0 Bd6 10.Re1 0-0 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.d3 Nf4 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.Nd2 f5 15.Nc4 Rf6 16.Kf1 Kf7 17.Ne5+ Bxe5 18.Rxe5 Re8 19.Rae1 Rxe5 20.Rxe5 g6 21.Ra5 Ke6 22.Rxa7 Kd7 23.Ra4 g5 24.Rd4+ Kc8 25.a4 Rd6 26.Rxd6 cxd6 27.b4 Kb7 28.c4 1-0 (Time)

Rutkofske,Lonnie (1839) - Jones,G. Avery (1622) [B10] Caro-Kann

2015 April PHCC Rated RR G/30 Port Huron (1), 16.04.2015

1.e4 c6 2.h3 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 h6 5.d4 e6 6.a3 Nd7 7.Be2 b5 8.0-0 Ne7 9.b4 Bh7 10.Nbd2 Nf5 11.Bd3 Be7 12.Re1 0-0 13.Nf1 a6 14.Bxf5 Bxf5 15.Ng3 Bg6 16.c3 Nb6 17.Rf1 Nc4 18.Nh2 Bg5 19.f4 Bh4 20.f5 exf5 21.Nxf5 Bxf5 22.Rxf5 Bg5 23.g4 Be3+ 24.Kg2 Qh4 25.Qe2 Bxc1 26.Rxc1 Nxa3 27.Nf3 Qe7 28.Rf1 Nc4 29.g5 g6 30.Rf6 h5 31.e6 Ra7 32.exf7+ Rxf7 33.Rxg6+ Rg7 34.Re6 Rxg5+ 35.Nxg5

Qxg5+ 36.Kh1 Rg7 37.Re8+ Kh7 38.Qd3+ Qg6 39.Qxg6+ Rxg6 40.Rf7+ Kh6 41.Rh8+ Kg5 42.Rfh7 1-0 (Time)

Morabito,Matthew (1872) - Rutkofske,Lonnie (1839) [B07] Pirc Defense

2015 April PHCC Rated RR G/30 Port Huron (2), 16.04.2015

1.e4 d6 2.d3 Nd7 3.Nd2 g6 4.g3 Bg7 5.Bg2 Rb8 6.Ngf3 h6 7.0-0 e6 8.Rb1 Ne7 9.Re1 0-0 10.Nc4 b5 11.Na5 c5 12.b4 Qc7 13.bxc5 Nxc5 14.Bd2 Nc6 15.Nb3 e5 16.Qc1 Kh7 17.a3 a5 18.Nxc5 dxc5 19.Be3 Be6 20.Bxc5 Rfd8 21.Be3 b4 22.axb4 Nxb4 23.Qd2 Rbc8 24.Rb2 Rd6 1-0 (Time)

Beneker,Gerrit (1502) - Jones,G. Avery (1622) [B12] Caro-Kann Advance

2015 April PHCC Rated RR G/30 Port Huron (2), 16.04.2015

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Bd3 Bxd3 5.Qxd3 e6 6.Nf3 Ne7 7.Bg5 Qb6 8.b3 Nf5 9.c3 c5 10.0-0 Nc6 11.g4 Nfe7 12.Be3 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Nxe5 14.Qb5+ N7c6 15.Qxb6 axb6 16.Nxc6 bxc6 17.Bxb6 Nxc4 18.Bc7 Be7 19.h3 Nh6 20.Nd2 Bf6 21.Rfc1 0-0 22.c4 Bxa1 23.Rxa1 Ra7 24.Bd6 Rfa8 25.a4 Nf5 26.Bc5 Ra6 27.Kg2 g6 28.Kf3 f6 29.Re1 Kf7 30.Kg4 Ra5 31.Bb4 R5a6 32.Rc1 Rc8 33.Bc5 h6 34.Nf3 h5+ 35.Kf4 e5+ 36.Nxe5+ fxe5+ 37.Kxe5 Re8+ 0-1

Rutkofske,Lonnie (1839) - Beneker,Gerrit (1502) [C27] Vienna Game

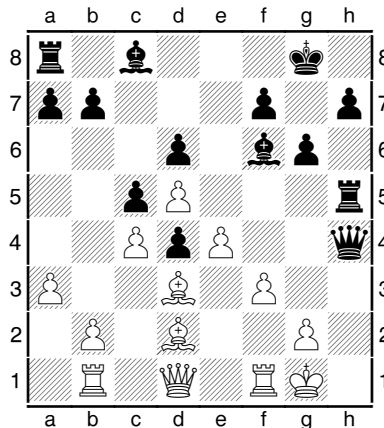
2015 April PHCC Rated RR G/30 Port Huron (3), 16.04.2015

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.Nc3 c6 4.d4 exd4 5.Qxd4 d6 6.Bg5 Nbd7 7.0-0-0 Ne5 8.Be2 h6 9.Bf4 Bg4 10.Bxe5 Be7 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.e5 Bxe5 13.Qxg4 0-0 14.Nf3 f5 15.Qc4+ Kh8 16.Nxe5 Qg5+ 17.f4 Qxg2 18.Bf3 Qf2 19.Ng6+ Kh7 20.Nxf8+ Rxf8 21.Qe2 Qh4 22.Rxd6 Qxf4+ 23.Qd2?? Qxf3 24.Rf1?? Qxf1+ 25.Nd1 Re8 26.Rd7 Qa6 27.Qd4 Rg8 28.a3 Qf1 29.Qe5 f4 30.Qf5+ Kh8 31.Kb1 f3 32.Ka2 Re8 33.Ne3 Qg1 34.Ng4 Qd4?? 35.Rxd4 1-0

Jones,G. Avery (1622) - Morabito,Matthew (1872) [E90] Classical King's Indian Defense

2015 April PHCC Rated RR G/30 Port Huron (3), 16.04.2015

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 0-0 5.e4 d6 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.a3 e5 8.d5 Nd4 9.Nxd4 exd4 10.Ne2 Re8 11.Ng3 c5 12.0-0 Ng4 13.f3 Nxh2 14.Re1 Qh4 15.Nf1 Nxf1 16.Rxf1 Re5 17.Bd2 Rh5 18.Rb1 Bf6 Diagram



[18...Be5!] 19.Be1 Qh2+ 20.Kf2 Bh4+ 21.Ke2 Qxg2+ 22.Bf2 Bh3 23.Qe1 Qxf1+ 24.Qxf1 Bxf1+ 25.Kxf1 Bxf2 26.Kxf2 Rh2+ 27.Kg3 Rd2 28.Bf1 Re8 29.Bh3 Re5 30.b3 Rg5+ 31.Kf4 Rh5 32.Bc8 b6 33.b4 cxb4 34.axb4 Rc2 35.c5 bxc5 36.bxc5 Rxc5 37.Bb7 Rc7 38.Bc6 Rh2 39.Rd1 f6 40.Rxd4 a5 41.Kg3 Rc2 42.Ba4 R2c4 0-1

Poll of 2015 PHCC Championship Contestants favors return to 2014 fee, prize and rating format for 2016

In a one-on-one poll of the 7 players that participated in the 2015 Championships conducted by T.D. **Lon Rutkofske**, 5 favored a return to the traditional format which featured a USCF rated event with an entry fee, trophies and cash prizes. One player vehemently opposed a USCF rated event and viewed prize money as superfluous while the remaining contestant was mostly ambivalent although strongly supported a USCF rated tournament. We will see if these sentiments remain as we approach the 2016 Championships. On a side note, there has yet to be a single challenge match despite all the fuss!

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. **Membership expirations in May: Jaime Chan and Gino Mariani.**

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*.

May 7th

PHCC G/30 Tournament: PHCC ratings used . Play will begin at 7:00PM. EF: \$5.00 for adults; \$2.50 for Juniors. A minimum of 4 participants are required. Prizes: 1st= \$15, 2nd=\$5.

May 14 thru June 11th 2015

5 Round- USCF Rated Mini-Swiss. Game/90 minutes with/5 sec. delay. USCF and PHCC membership required. One game per night (May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11)! Play will begin at 7:00PM. EF: \$5.00 for adults; \$2.50 for Juniors Play will begin at 7:00PM. EF: \$5.00 for adults; \$2.50 for Juniors. A minimum of 6 participants are required. Prizes: based on entries. Please register in advance by contacting Lon Rutkofske by May 13th so he can determine if there are enough entries to hold the event.

No further tournaments will be held from June 11 thru August 28th

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 4/26/15

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Gregg, Alan	1944
Wilkinson, Stew	1907
Morabito, Matt	1891
Rutkofske, Lon	1837
Wingrove, Bill	1652
Jones, G. Avery	1619
Bedy, Noel	1594
Oriel, Paul	1569
Boucher, Dave	1507
Chan, Jaime	1502
Beneker, Gerrit	1483
Carey, Jay	1000
Nowiski, Adam	969
Allen, Nathan	957
Allen, Zachary	462

USCF Ratings as of 4/26/15

<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	1466
Boucher, Dave	1332
Nowiski, Adam	673P7

PHCC Speed Rating List as of 4/26/15

<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
Oriel, Paul	1500
Nowiski, Adam	1364
Carey, Jay	1000
Allen, Nathan	984
Allen, Zachary	740