



# Chess Club Observer

Newsletter of the Springfield Chess Club

Winter 2007 -- Vol. 10, No. 1

President: Tom Knoedler

Vice President: Leonard Ferguson

Secretary: Matt Cremeens

Treasurer: David Long

Publicity Director: David Braunfeld

Newsletter Editor: David Long

Club Champion: Evan Dorosheff

## Brian Thomas Sweeps December Tournament

After a seven-month hiatus, the Springfield Chess Club organized a tournament on December 9. Thirteen chess players plus two housemen participated in the tournament, which was moved to a different room than normal because of water damage at the Signature Inn.

The Soy City and its environs had a very strong showing in this tournament. The first place winner was Brian Thomas, of Decatur, who won all four games. Second place went to Bruce Michel, of Stonington, with 3½ points. Kevin French, of Decatur, scored 2½ points and captured the first Class A-B prize.

Carl Dolson, of Peoria, won Class C-D, also with 2½ points. The Class E prize was shared by William Kerns, of Franklin, and David Wiedman, of Effingham. They each finished the day with 2 points. No unrateds participated.

Complete results of the tournament are on page 2.

## Next Regular Tournament March 24

The Springfield Chess Club's next tournament will be held Saturday, March 24, at the Signature Inn. Registration ends at 8:45, and the four rounds are at 9, 12, 3, and 6. Time limit is G/80. Entry fee is \$17 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$2 discount for club members.

## Have You Renewed?

If not, please do so today! If your mailing label is typed in red, then your membership has expired and this will be your last issue! Membership dues have been reduced to **\$8**. There is a membership form on the last page of the newsletter.

## Obituary

SCC member Alex Bilyeu died on November 5, 2006. He joined the club earlier in 2006 and was a semi-regular at Wednesday meetings in mid-2006. He was 20.

# 2006: The Year In Review

## Useless Statistics

Membership: **29**. Membership at end of 2005: **37**. At end of 2004: **46**.  
 Percent change: **-21%**. Two years: **-37%**. Renewal rate: **59%** (2005: 59%. 2004: 75%)  
 Average tournament attendance: **16** (3 regular tournaments)  
 Average attendance in 2005: **15** (5 tournaments not counting Hopedale) Percent change: **+6%**  
 Average rating in 2006 tournaments: **1423**  
 Average rating in 2005 tournaments: **1528**. Percent change: **-7%**

## Tournament Winners

March: James Healy, Springfield; James Marshall, (?); 3½-½  
 May: Bruce Michel, Stonington; Kevin Cao, Chesterfield, Mo.; 3½-½  
 December: Brian Thomas, Decatur, 4-0

## Club Champions

1993: David Mote 1994: David Mote 1998: Doug Van Buskirk  
 2001: David Mote 2003: Doug Van Buskirk 2004: Matt Cremeens  
 2005: Evan Dorosheff

The last Wednesday night blitz tournament was held January 11, 2006. The series has been canceled indefinitely because of lack of interest.

## Final Wall Chart – December 9, 2006

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Rd 1</b>	<b>Rd 2</b>	<b>Rd 3</b>	<b>Rd 4</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	Brian Thomas	1981	W8	W4	W6	W3	4
2	Thomas Warfield	1860	W9	D5	L3	D11	2
3	Kevin French	1800	W10	DH	W2	L1	2½
4	Martin Franek	1702	W11	L1	L5	----	1
5	Bruce Michel	1635	W12	D2	W4	W6	3½
6	Jeremy Milligan	1372	W13	W7	L1	L5	2
7	Paul Peterson	1341	LH	L6	L8	W10	1
8	Carl Dolson	1331	L1	D11	W7	W9	2½
9	James Marshall	1223	L2	W12	W13	L8	2
10	Larry Coulter	1140	L3	L13	L12	L7	0
11	William Kerns	1053	L4	D8	WZ	D2	2
12	David Wiedman	945	L5	L9	W10	W13	2
13	Peyton Russell House	741	L6	W10	L9	L12	1
<i>H</i>	<i>David Long</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>W7</i>	<i>D3</i>	<i>----</i>	<i>----</i>	<i>1½</i>
<i>Z</i>	<i>James Ruth</i>	<i>1205</i>	<i>----</i>	<i>----</i>	<i>L11</i>	<i>----</i>	<i>0</i>

## The End of an Era in Southern Illinois

The annual New Years' Day tournament at the church in Columbia, Illinois, has been a traditional way to break in the new year with chess since Jimmy Carter was President. Columbia, about 15 miles south of East St. Louis, is home to Russell Day, who organized his 30<sup>th</sup> and last New Years' Day tournament this past January 1.

The SCC wishes Russell a happy retirement from the world of organized chess, and hopes that someone will carry on the tradition and pick up where he left off.

## Meetings

The SCC meets Wednesday nights, from 6 to 10 p.m., at the American Legion Post 32, between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, half a block south of Capitol Ave., downtown.

On the second Friday of each month, we meet from 6 to 10 p.m. in the café section of Barnes & Noble, near the corner of Route 4 and Wabash Ave.

## Area Tournament Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Reg Ends</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone</u>
January 27	Peoria, Ill.	8:45	Fred Malcome	(309) 367-4833
<b>March 24</b>	<b>Springfield, Ill.</b>	8:45	Tom Knoedler	(217) 787-1048

**WANTED:** "Post-a-log" folder, for keeping track of correspondence chess games in progress, or equivalent, with space for at least 6 boards. Call James 522-3734

## Membership Form – Dues Reduced!

It's time to renew your SCC membership! Mail in the form below, or bring it to chess club. Thanks for renewing!

-----Cut here-----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

USCF ID (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Check to withhold address from publication in newsletter.

Check to withhold phone number from publication.

Annual dues are currently **\$8**.

Make checks payable to:  
Springfield Chess Club.

Bring to club, or mail to:

Springfield Chess Club  
David Long, Treasurer  
2021 ½ South 4<sup>th</sup> St.  
Springfield, Ill. 62703