

DIAMOND IN THE RUFF

ACBL District 21 Newsletter

Vol 2, Number 7 November 2019

My Last Column as District 21 President – Wild Thoughts

by Tom Pajak

I see it all the time, a bid out of turn, an insufficient bid, two cards played at once from someone's hand, and other violations where someone at the table takes charge and makes a ruling (or rules forgiveness---“just put that back...we didn't see it!”) that inevitably leads to some future problem with the hand. Then, “Director, please!” is called to straighten things out. But so much is already out of whack, the poor director can't restore equity because the players have decided to make their own rules. Law 9B1(a) is clear: “The director should be summoned at once when attention is drawn to an irregularity.” This isn't hard to understand. If something is amiss, the solution is simple: Call the director...NOW! Failing to do so exacerbates the problem, leading to skewed results, hurt feelings, and bones of contention. The director is not your enemy—he's the umpire, the judge, the arbitrator and has no vested interest in the outcome of the play. His only job is to apply the Laws and restore equity if a violation occurs. Use and respect your director in these cases.

Something else I notice all the time at the bridge table is a blatant violation of Law 7B2

Continued on Page 3

District 21 Regionals

By Pam Hughes, Regional Tournament Manager

We just wrapped up our 3rd Reno/Sparks Regional (newly dubbed “The Biggest Little Regional in the World” after their famous Reno sign). The tournament was a lot of fun, most people seemed to really enjoy the new 10:00 and 3:00 schedule. We had folks in attendance from all over the country from Colorado to the Carolinas, Europe and even several Canadian provinces. 549 people won 6575.43 masterpoints, many of them in the eight Gold Rush events we held. I know this year we were inundated with tournaments on the west coast, and it's been impossible to go to all of them, but I sure hope you'll come give this tournament a try next year. The rate at the Nugget is such a bargain (since the resort fee is included), but parking is free so you can stay at any of your favorite Reno locations and commute. Speaking of commuting, if the long drive over the mountain is what's keeping you away, there are wonderful other options. A lot of people from the Bay Area took the train, which is a beautiful scenic route. Someone actually took the bus which I think he said cost \$8, and dropped him off less than a block from the Nugget.

Continued on Page 4

Upcoming Tournaments

Sectionals

Nov 2–3, 2019

Castro Valley Sectional

Transfiguration Catholic Church, Castro Valley CA

Nov 9–10, 2019

Diablo Valley Fall Sectional

Dougherty Valley High School, San Ramon CA

Nov 16–17, 2019

East Bay Fall Sectional

Masonic Center, Oakland CA

Nov 23, 2019

North American Pairs Flight B District Finals

East Bay Community Bridge Center, Oakland CA

Dec 6–8, 2019

Unit 505 Winter Sectional

Sacramento Bridge Center, Sacramento CA

Dec 9–15, 2019

Great Western Holiday STaC

Local clubs

Jan 4–5, 2020

North American Pairs Flights A & C District Finals

Fattoria e Mare Restaurant, Burlingame CA

Jan 18–19, 2020

San Francisco Sectional

Janet Pomeroy Center, San Francisco CA

Jan 25–26, 2020

Livermore Valley Sectional

Christensen Middle School, Livermore CA

Jan 25–26, 2020

Palo Alto Bridge Club Sectional

Palo Alto Bridge Club, Mountain View CA

Feb 8–9, 2020

GNT Championship Flight District Final

East Bay Community Bridge Center, Oakland CA

Feb 15–16, 2020

GNT Championship Flight District Final

Palo Alto Bridge Center, Mountain View CA

Feb 15–16, 2020

Grand National Teams Flight B District Final

Palo Alto Bridge Center, Mountain View CA

Feb 22–23, 2020

San Mateo County Winter Sectional

Cañada College, Redwood City CA

Mar 7–8, 2020

Unit 509 Santa Rosa/Petaluma Sectional

Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa CA

Mar 14–15, 2020

D21 NLM Regional at Palo Alto Unit 503

Bridge Center, Mountain View CA

Mar 28–29, 2020

Rising Stars I/N Sectional

Mid-County Senior Center, Capitola CA

Apr 4–5, 2020

Almond Valley Sectional

Homewood Village Clubhouse, Modesto CA

Apr 11–12, 2020

(continues May 9–10 in Oakland)

Grand National Teams Flight A District Final

San Jose Bridge Center, San Jose CA

Apr 18–19, 2020

Marin Spring Sectional Unit 508

Redwood High School Gym, Larkspur CA

Apr 25–26, 2020

Diablo Valley Spring Sectional

Dougherty Valley High School, San Ramon CA

Regionals

Jan 6–12, 2020

Monterey Clambake Regional

Hyatt Regency, Monterey CA

Mar 14–15, 2020

NLM Regional

Palo Alto Bridge Center

Mountain View CA

Pajak

From Page 1

that states, “Each player counts his cards face down to be sure he has exactly thirteen...” when cards are removed from the board. I can’t tell you how frequently I see players (yes, even very seasoned players with thousands of masterpoints) take cards out of a board and instantly fan them to see what kind of hand they’ve picked up...never counting them first. What they fail to realize is perhaps the players at the previous table failed to re-insert the cards properly into the board and now one player will draw 12 cards and another will wind up with 14 cards in her pocket. You can never guarantee that each board will arrive at your table with all hands intact. Haven’t you played a hand when it comes down to the final card and one player has none, and another holds two? So that develops into a “director, please!” call to sort things out, all because people ignored Law 7B2; don’t let that player be you!

Does your club have little side tables where you can place your coffee, your convention card, the bidding box, and other small items while you’re playing? There is an unwritten territorial rule in effect that you should adhere to. Most of the globe is right-handed, so YOUR side table is the one on your right. (Yes, even if you’re a lefty, your table is on the right...sorry!) Do not invade your LHO’s rightful space and lay things on her table because it’s more convenient for you. If your table is already full of stuff than I’d say you should think of bringing fewer things to a bridge game.... purse, sandwich, thermos, eyeglass case, cell phone, umbrella, hat, sunglasses, pill bottle, magazine, keys, etc.

Speaking of bringing things to a bridge game, a while back I was on the cleanup crew when our sectional tournament finished, and I went through the playing area to collect the inevitable “lost-and-found” items that you

can guarantee will be left behind. Aside from the usual leftovers like convention cards, pens, single earrings, umbrellas, sweaters, cell phones—over time I have found wallets, credit cards, wedding rings, a walking cane, half a set of false teeth, a brassiere, and once even a wheelchair! Don’t you think he would have remembered to go back home with THAT? What’s next...a prosthetic leg? Leave it to bridge players to give me an unexpected surprise.

OK, ready for another pet peeve? Your side is declaring and you happen to be the dummy. This is definitely NOT your license to leave the table for a potty break, to get a snack, to read your email on the smartphone or anything of the sort. You have definite involvement in the hand as declarer’s counterpart to play the cards she’s asking for and to help prevent her from revoking. It’s not your unofficial coffee break. Do you realize when you leave the table the onus of turning your cards falls on one of the opponents, or on declarer who’s already so involved in planning and counting the hand that this extra burden is never a good thing? And why should the opponents be responsible for turning your cards? They, too, need to keep track of the play, counting cards, and strategizing their play without the extra onus of turning YOUR cards! Whenever the dummy leaves the table when I’m a defender, I will never agree to turn cards, and I warn my partner not to do so, either. I’d advise you to do the same. If declarer accepts this distraction, she gets what she deserves.

If you’ve noticed yourself a little bit while reading this, it’s best to think about your behavior. Bridge is a social game and everyone at the table deserves friendly respect. We’ll all have a more enjoyable experience at club games and tournaments when everyone follows the rules.

District 21’s election of officers will occur

in Monterey on January 11. My 2-year term as your President will end, so make sure your Unit Representatives vote for the candidate who, like me, will strive to make your experience at a bridge game rewarding, enjoyable, and fulfilling. I offer my advance congratulations to your future District 21 President.

Hughes

From Page 1

I've had many complimentary emails, and I want to quote one gentleman that said "Reno could be the Gatlinburg of the West." He was particularly impressed by the low room costs and restaurant prices. The tournament has all the makings, it just needs your support. So, please put Reno on your calendar for next year - try it, I bet you'll like it! Dates are Oct 5-11, 2020.

Our next big hurrah (after the San Francisco NABC) is everyone's favorite: the 2020 Monterey Clambake, January 6-12. From the hotel pickup this tournament looks like it will be as big as ever. So I have the following advice about reservations for you:

First of all they have extended our cutoff date at the Hyatt, which means that up until the 10th of December you can cancel or amend your stay, and the rooms will go back into our block. The deadline to get in is December 16. Please, if you know now that you need to make a change, do it as soon as you can to ensure that we can fill those rooms with people who want to go. And if you don't have a reservation, keep trying! Every time someone cancels, a room opens up.

Keep in mind that if they say they can't get you in, it could be that only one of your nights is sold out. For example, people trying to book for the whole week weren't getting in because Sunday and Monday were sold out (they have since added rooms). Or it could be the type of room you want is sold out on

one or two nights. So please ask the agents for more information and email me so I can get the hotel to add rooms.

If you need to change or cancel your stay after the cutoff date, please cancel through me (notify me via email), because as usual I will be keeping a wait list of people who did not get in. I have had good success working with some lovely people at the hotel who really try to help me get everyone in.

Now, if you use our online booking link, it says you will have to pay the resort fee, but that is an error. When you check in it will not be on your bill. And if you prefer to book by phone, their number is (831) 372-1234. I recommend calling during business hours and asking for in-house reservations (don't punch whatever button that says "reservations," because that goes to the massive operator banks which are harder to deal with).

One last thing - once again we are using the fabulous Hilton Garden Inn for our overflow hotel. Their rate is \$119 with free parking. We will have an online booking link, or you may call them at (831) 373-6141.

So now that we have covered how to get there, let's talk about how much fun you're going to have! We have great games of every type for every level, at any time you'd care to play. You just can't lose at this tournament. One of the highlights is the Open Pairs game on Friday January 10 at 1:00, which is a qualifier to a Barometer game at 7:00. This is a very fun event so we hope you try it if you're ready. It's not stratified, so you just have to qualify to get into that Barometer game. It's a taste of Bridge for the Rich and Famous. With slightly different adjectives perhaps.

We have new knockouts beginning daily (Please note: the first knockout starts at 1:00 Monday rather than 7:00, so that the 3rd session won't be at 9:00 on Tuesday. Just remember to get there in time as this is a big change!) There

are Open and Gold Rush pairs daily, and three days of mid-flight pairs. On Saturday we have a free 0-5 masterpoint student game, so make sure your novice friends know about it - it's a fun exposure to tournaments for them. Also - ALL beginner, novice and intermediate players should attend Scott Campbell's lectures. They are simply outstanding! They are every day from Tuesday through Saturday at noon, and it's ok to bring your lunch. I don't know all of his topics, but he's got a new lecture on Jacoby

2NT, which most of us could use a refresher on. Do YOU know all of the responses and what they mean?

We also have expert speakers every evening from 6:15-6:45, and there will be loads of experts there so you'll have the opportunity to learn from the best of the best.

Our district website is (<http://www.d21acbl.com>), my email is (jmom380@yahoo.com), and we're also on Facebook!

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Question: When is the next time an NABC will be in our District?

OK, that can be found online somewhere. But there IS one starting THIS MONTH in San Francisco!

SPARKS/RENO REGIONAL WINNERS

Pairs

Monday Open (13 Tables)

- 1A. Gary Soules - Jan Soules, Elk Grove CA
1B, 1C. Jacques Printz, Vancouver BC; Milton Kalikman, Azusa CA

Monday Gold (11 Tables)

- 1D. Robert Robyns - Judith Robyns, Reno NV
1E. Suresh Gadad - Sam Earnhardt, Walnut Creek CA
1F. Margo Seymour - Dale Seymour, Los Altos CA

Monday Aft Side (5 Tables)

- 1A, 1B, 1C. (tie) Cynthia Rodgers - Vicki MacClyment, Modesto CA
1A, 1B, 1C. (tie) Steven Merritt, Incline Village NV; Thomas Howell, Reno NV

Monday Aft 299er (5 Tables)

- 1D, 1E. Wray Brett - Laura Starkey, Dayton NV

Monday Eve Side (4 Tables)

- 1A. Robert Thomson, San Rafael CA; Crispin Barrere, Berkeley CA
1B, 1C. Kenneth Johnson - Joanne Wicker, Morgan Hill CA

Tuesday Open (20 Tables)

- 1A. Bjorgvin Kristinsson, Columbia Hgts MN; Arti Bhargava, Mill Valley CA
1B. Kenneth Johnson - Joanne Wicker, Morgan Hill CA
1C. Leon Smith, Salt Lake City UT; Karol McClellan, Reno NV

Tuesday Gold (21 Tables)

- 1D. Brenda Hatton, San Jose CA; Lee Dunn, Reno NV
1E. Bob Shafer - Donna Cleary, El Dorado Hills CA
1F. Phyllis Blackwell - Bradford Stone, Reno NV

Tuesday Morn Side (7 Tables)

- 1A. Tony Glynne, Gilroy CA; Nancy Croom, Reno NV
1B, 1C. Jean Ingram, Wellington CO; William Rawlings, Broomfield CO

Tuesday Morn 299er (3 Tables)

- 1D, 1E. Laura Carlson, Carson City NV; Sandra Haslem, Reno NV

Tuesday Aft Side (7 Tables)

- 1A. Lynn Blumenthal - Evelyn Holtz, Santa Rosa CA
1B. Jim Liu, Saratoga CA; Susan Zhang, Los Altos Hills CA
1C. Kairong & Richard Michelsen, Walnut Creek CA

Tuesday Aft 299er (4 Tables)

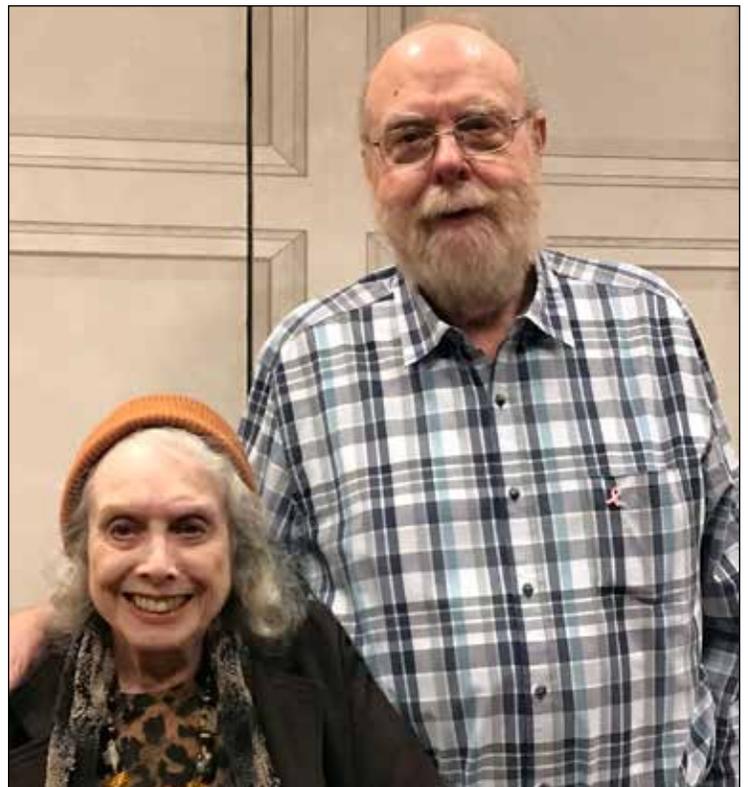
- 1D. Lana Stanley - Judy Kale, Napa CA
1E. Lisbeth Mackenzie - William Follmer, Reno NV

Tuesday Eve Side (5 Tables)

- 1A. Jan Soules - Gary Soules, Elk Grove CA
1B, 1C. George Soto, Albuquerque NM; Anne Wilson, San Jose CA

Tues-Wed Gold (4 Tables)

- 1D, 1E. Myles Johnson, Fresno CA; Rhonda Hampton, Auberry CA



Wednesday Open Pairs: Charlotte Falk & Bob Luebke
NOVEMBER 2019 • VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 7

Wednesday Open (27 Tables)

- 1A. Bob Luebke, Sparks NV; Charlotte Falk, Reno NV
- 1B. Paul Jorgensen - Gary Nitzberg, Carson City NV
- 1C. Vard Nelson - Frances Nelson, Evergreen CO

Wednesday Gold (25 Tables)

- 1D. Richard Greenthal - Steve Frank, Reno NV
- 1E. Mary Jane Chittenden - Charles Chittenden, Phoenix AZ
- 1F. William Mann, San Carlos CA; Ron Terry, San Jose CA

Wednesday Morn Side (10 Tables)

- 1A. Joann Miller, Lakewood CO; Sheila Wimer, Golden CO
- 1B. Usha Bansal, Stockton CA; Jack Fitzgerald, Lodi CA

Wednesday Morn 299er (8 Tables)

- 1D. David Welch - Kathryn Welch, Truckee CA
- 1E, 1F. Christine Roden, Carson City NV; Mary Quinn, Reno NV

Wednesday Aft Side (8 Tables)

- 1A. Cameron Cotton, Chula Vista CA; Steven Merritt, Incline Village NV
- 1B. Jean Ingram, Wellington CO; William Rawlings, Broomfield CO
- 1C. Greg Foss - Jeannene Levitre, Reno NV

Wednesday Aft 299er (3 Tables)

- 1D. (tie) Myles Johnson, Fresno CA; Edward Hampton, Auberry CA
- 1D. (tie) Barbara Harper - Carole Terry, Napa CA

Wednesday Eve Side (6 Tables)

- 1A. Jim Liu, Saratoga CA; Alfred Lee, San Mateo CA
- 1B. Carol Huston, Chico CA; Paddy Fiorino, Missouri City TX

Thursday Open (27 Tables)

- 1A. James Melville, Springfield IL; Vladislav Isporski, Sofia Bulgaria
- 1X. Anam Tebha, Charlotte NC; William Bailey, Mill Valley CA
- 1Y. Carol Reed - James Reed, Santa Rosa CA



Thursday Open Pairs: Vladislav Isporski & James Melville



Thursday Open Pairs Flight B: William Bailey & Anam Tebha

Thursday Gold (22 Tables)

- 1D. Michael Hollins - Jeff Speer, Redding CA
- 1E. Linda Marin, Calistoga CA; Barbara Norman, Healdsburg CA
- 1F. William Mann, San Carlos CA; Ron Terry, San Jose CA

Thursday Morn Side (8 Tables)

- 1A. Jeannine & E B McGowan, Penn Valley CA
- 1B, 1C. Darlene & Gerald Barnes, Stockton CA

Thursday Morn 299er (3 Tables)

- 1D, 1E. Judy Kale - Lana Stanley, Napa CA

Thursday Aft Side (8 Tables)

- 1A, 1B. Carol Huston, Chico CA; Paddy Fiorino, Missouri City TX
- 1C. Greg Foss - Jeannene Levitre, Reno NV

Thursday Aft 299er (3 Tables)

1D, 1E. Carole Terry - Barbara Harper, Napa CA

Thurs Eve Side (4 Tables)

1A. Veronica McMurdie - D Jones, Sacramento CA
1B. Jim Liu, Saratoga CA; Alfred Lee, San Mateo CA
1C. Carol Huston, Chico CA; Paddy Fiorino,
Missouri City TX

Thurs-Fri Gold (3 Tables)

Michael Hollins - Jeff Speer, Redding CA

Friday Open (26 Tables)

1A. Iftikhar Baqai, Irvine CA; Michael Mikyska, Los Angeles CA
1B. Richard Scoggin, Reno NV; Bill Jones, Grass Valley CA
1C. Dianne Crunk - Penny Bourne, Mammoth Lakes CA



Friday Open Pairs: Michael Mikyska & Iftikhar Baqai

Friday Gold (22 Tables)

1D. Judith Robyns - Robert Robyns, Reno NV
1E. Charles & Mary Jane Chittenden, Phoenix AZ
1F. Victoria Calvin, Gainesville GA; Nicklos White,
Sacramento CA

Friday Morn Side (14 Tables)

1A. Pam & Michael Moreland, Penn Valley CA
1B, 1C. Albert Stock - Tomoko Stock, Valencia CA

Friday Morn 299er (4 Tables)

1D. Margo Seymour - Dale Seymour, Los Altos CA
1E, 1F. Stephen Price - Dana Davis, Reno NV

Friday Aft Side (5 Tables)

1A. Sherman Gao, Brea CA; May Mengstab, Laguna Woods CA
1B, 1C. Bill Jones, Grass Valley CA; Jeff Gunn-Smith, Sparks NV

Friday Eve Side (4 Tables)

1A. Mel Chaplin, Brentwood CA; Sharon Bahry, Reno NV
1B. Donald Bierman, San Ramon CA; Sarah Simmerman, San Leandro CA

Saturday Open (17 Tables)

1A. James Melville, Springfield IL; Vladislav Isporski, Sofia Bulgaria
1B. Mark McCarthy - Rhian Davies, San Francisco CA
1C. Frank Xie, Sunnyvale CA; Jung Hu, San Jose CA

Saturday Gold (12 Tables)

1D. Myles Johnson, Fresno CA; Rhonda Hampton, Auberry CA
1E. Amy Bess - Stephen Bess, Reno NV

Saturday Morn Side (5 Tables)

1A. Sherman Gao, Brea CA; May Mengstab, Laguna Woods CA
1B, 1C. Bill Jones, Grass Valley CA; Jeff Gunn-Smith, Sparks NV

Saturday Morn 299er (5 Tables)

1D, 1E, 1F. Mary Quinn, Reno NV; Annie Nielsen, Washoe Valley NV

Saturday Aft Side (5 Tables)

1A. Michael Moffatt - Vicki Moffatt, Surrey BC
1B, 1C. Jean Ingram, Wellington CO; William Rawlings, Broomfield CO

Saturday Eve Side (5 Tables)

1A, 1B. Penny Bourne - Dianne Crunk, Mammoth Lakes CA

Sunday Fast Open (13 Tables)

1A. James Melville, Springfield IL; Vladislav Isporski, Sofia Bulgaria
1B. Virginia Wailes, Hillsborough CA; Frank Xie, Sunnyvale CA
1C. J Kardach, Vacaville CA; Carol Fraser, Sonoma CA

Teams

Monday Swiss Bracket 1 (8 Teams)

- (Tie) John Onstott, New Orleans LA; Joshua Donn, Las Vegas NV; Jacob Morgan, Madison WI; Drew Casen, Henderson NV; Howard Parker III, Clements CA
- (Tie) Bill Parks, Phoenix AZ; Bill Heid, Santa Fe NM; Ronald Powell, Santa Clara CA; Kenneth Titow, Scottsdale AZ

Monday Swiss Bracket 2 (7 Teams)

- Rose Knutson - Jack Fitzgerald, Lodi CA; Mary Sievers - Usha Bansal, Stockton CA

Tuesday Aft Swiss (7 Teams)

- 1A. William Glass, Clovis CA; Paul Pugsley, Carson City NV; Sukumar Mukherji, San Ramon CA; Amar Chunder, San Jose CA
- 1B. Rose Knutson - Jack Fitzgerald, Lodi CA; Mary Sievers - Usha Bansal, Stockton CA
- 1C. Jenny Garcia - Carol Barr - Catherine Johnson - Bobbi Kornbluth, Reno NV

Tues-Wed KO Bracket 1 (8 Teams)

- Lou Ann O'Rourke, Scottsdale AZ; Marc Jacobus - Curtis Cheek - Geoff Hampson, Las Vegas NV; Robert Levin, Henderson NV; Steve Weinstein, Montclair NJ



Tues-Wed KO 1: Geoff Hampson, Robert Levin, Steve Weinstein, Lou Ann O'Rourke, Marc Jacobus, Curtis Cheek.

Tues-Wed KO Bracket 2 (13 Teams)

- Carolyn Farren, Larkspur CA; Paulette Moe, Ross CA; Manda Thatte - Dan Thatte, Palo Alto CA



Tues-Wed KO 2: Manda Thatte, Dan Thatte, Paulette Moe & Caroline Farren

Wednesday Aft Swiss (9 Teams)

- 1A. Bjorgvin Kristinsson, Columbia Hgts MN; Arti Bhargava - William Bailey, Mill Valley CA; Anam Tebha, Charlotte NC
- 1B. Charles Conrad - Linda Duchscherer, Castro Valley CA; Kate Hare, Alameda CA; Michael Stambaugh, Fremont CA
- 1C. Gary Smith, Merced CA; Lorraine Bocks, Legrand CA; Dee Heller, Atwater CA; Patricia Gallo, Livingston CA

Wed-Thurs KO (15 Teams)

- Paul Kushner, So Lake Tahoe CA; Martin Blain, Rancho Mirage CA; Steve Print, Reno NV; Kenneth Titow, Scottsdale AZ



Wed-Thur KO: Paul Kushner, Steve Print, Martin Blain & Ken Titow

Thurs Swiss Bracket 1 (7 Teams)

John Onstott, New Orleans LA; Drew Casen, Henderson NV; Joshua Donn, Las Vegas NV; Jacob Morgan, Madison WI; Howard Parker III, Clements C



Thursday Swiss: John Onstott, Joshua Donn, Howard Parker III, Drew Casen, & Jacob Morgan

Thurs Swiss Bracket 2 (7 Teams)

Jim Liu, Saratoga CA; Ginny Curtis, Citrus Heights CA; Susan Zhang, Los Altos Hills CA; Jung Hu, San Jose CA

Thurs Swiss Bracket 3 (11 Teams)

Mischel Postas - Josephine Murray, Campbell CA; Colin Hemsley - Anne Dudman, San Jose CA

Thurs Aft Swiss (3 Teams)

Daniel Simon - Donna Simon, Gary IN; Annie Nielsen, Washoe Valley NV; Anne Wilson, San Jose CA

Fri-Sat KO Bracket 1 (6 Teams)

Danny Sprung - Valentin Kovachev - Joann Sprung, Las Vegas NV; Lynne Rosenbaum, Glencoe I

Fri-Sat KO Bracket 2 (12 Teams)

Steven Merritt, Incline Village NV; Thomas Howell - Rene Reid, Reno NV; Vito Perillo, Renton WA

Saturday Swiss Bracket 1 (7 Teams)

D Jones - Veronica McMurdie, Sacramento CA; Mark Itabashi, Murrieta CA; Mitch Dunitz, Sherman Oaks CA; Chris Compton, Dallas TX

Saturday Swiss Bracket 2 (8 Teams)

Elizabeth Underwood - Robert Underwood, Incline Village NV; Pam Moreland - Michael Moreland, Penn Valley CA

Saturday Aft Swiss (3 Teams)

Gary Smith, Merced CA; Lorraine Bocks, Legrand CA; Dee Heller, Atwater CA; Patricia Gallo, Livingston CA

Sunday A/X/Y Swiss (12 Teams)

- 1A. D Jones - Veronica McMurdie, Sacramento CA; Mark Itabashi, Murrieta CA; Chris Compton, Dallas TX
- 1X. Sarah Youngquist, Palo Alto CA; Daniel Sonner, Redwood City CA; Crispin Barrere, Berkeley CA; Max Schireson, Stanford CA
- 1Y. Edwin Straver, Incline Village NV; Michael Moreland - Pam Moreland, Penn Valley CA; Bob Sendall, Morro Bay CA

Sunday B/C/D Swiss (11 Teams)

- 1B. Mel Chaplin, Brentwood CA; Rajani Chandrasekar, Livermore CA; Carol Cottam, Concord CA; Frank Concepcion, Walnut Creek CA
- 1C, 1D. Mark Andrews, Mapleton ND; Cheryl Lurie, Avondale AZ; Charles Chittenden - Mary Jane Chittenden, Phoenix AZ

Sunday Senior Swiss (6 Teams)

- 1A. Stan Green - Kathy Lane, Reno NV; Robert Ipswitch, San Mateo CA; Vito Perillo, Renton WA
- 1B. Jerry Nakamura, El Dorado Hills CA; Coralie Perse, Placerville CA; Don Rogers - Richard Scoggin, Reno NV

New Life Master
**Linda
Duchscherer**



Monterey Clambake Regional

January 6 - 12, 2020

Tournament Highlights

- Five Bracketed Knockouts
- SIX Days of 0-750
Gold Rush Events
- Friday Open Pairs Qualifies
to a BAROMETER final
- Three Stratified Side Game Series
- DAYLIGHT PAIRS
Tuesday - Saturday at 10 & 3
- MID-FLIGHT PAIRS Wed-Thurs-Fri
- Free bridge concepts lectures
Tuesday-Saturday at Noon
- Celebrity Speaker Program
- Side Games every 9, 1 & 7 session



HYATT REGENCY MONTEREY

1 Old Golf Course Road, Monterey, CA 93940

Reserve EARLY for the Bridge Rate

single/double \$122 plus tax
no resort fee

Includes parking

831-372-1234 or 800-233-1234

cut off date for bridge rate is December 5

ENTRIES \$12

Unpaid ACBL Members \$16

**District 21 website is your first resource
for our Regionals:**

Make hotel reservations

View tournament schedule

Plan your tournament events

Gather general information/directions

www.d21acbl.com

For information contact:

Pam Hughes: jmom380@yahoo.com

District 21 website: www.d21acbl.com

Please comply with D21's Pet Policy. See website for details.

Schedule subject to change.

Intermediate/Newcomer Events

299er Pairs at every 9, 1 & 7 session
(stratified based on attendance)

**Bridge Concepts Lectures
with Scott Campbell**

Tuesday thru Saturday at Noon

Saturday is I/N Appreciation Day!

Play one session for \$10, or two for \$15

0-5MP's play free on Saturday

McKenzie Myers, Director in Charge ACBL Sanction R2001109

DISTRICT 21: Upbeat Bridge...Low Key Atmosphere!

Like us on FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/d21acbl

flyer version 5 9-5-2019

Monterey Clambake Regional

January 6 - 12, 2020

at the HYATT REGENCY, 1 Golf Course Road, Monterey, CA 93940

Monday, January 6

- 1:00 Cannery Row Stratified Side Pairs 1st of 6
299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**
MONTEREY GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750
BING CROSBY BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2
Continues Tuesday at 1 & 7:00
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
Cannery Row Stratified Side Pairs 2nd of 6
299er Stratified Pairs

Tuesday, January 7

- 9:00 Clambake Morning Side Pairs 1st of 5
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**
BIG SUR GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750
- 1:00 Cannery Row Strat Side Pairs 3rd of 6
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS**
JACK LEMMON BRACKETED KOs
Rds 1 & 2 Continues Wednesday 1 & 7
BING CROSBY KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
Cannery Row Strat Side Pairs 4th of 6
299er Stratified Pairs

Wednesday, January 8

- 9:00 **MONTEREY SWISS TEAMS**, 1st of 2
Continues Thursday at 9am
Clambake Morning Side Pairs 2nd of 5
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1:00 Cannery Row Strat Side Pairs 5th of 6
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+**
STRATIFIED MIDFLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000
BLUE WHALE GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750
RORY MCILROY BRACKETED KOs
Rds 1 & 2 Continues Thursday 1 & 7
JACK LEMMON KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
Cannery Row Strat Side Pairs 6th of 6
299er Stratified Pairs

Thursday, January 9 GOODWILL DAY

- 9:00 **MONTEREY SWISS TEAMS** 2nd of 2
Clambake Morning Side Pairs 3rd of 5
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1:00 Tom Watson Strat Side Pairs 1st of 6
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+**
STRATIFIED MIDFLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000
CARMEL GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750
JOHN STEINBECK BRACKETED KOs
Rds 1 & 2 Continues Friday 1 & 7
RORY MCILROY KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
Tom Watson Strat Side Pairs 2nd of 6
299er Stratified Pairs

Friday, January 10

- 9:00 **MICHELLE WIE SWISS TEAMS**
1st of 2 - Continues Saturday at 9
Clambake Morning Side Pairs 4th of 5
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+**
STRATIFIED MIDFLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000
SPANISH BAY GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750
- 1:00 Tom Watson Stratified Side Pairs 3rd of 6
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **OPEN PAIRS Qualifies to a**
BAROMETER FINAL @ 7:00
NQs enter 7:00 Swiss or Side Pairs
ERNIE ELS BRACKETED KOs,
Rds 1 & 2 Continues Saturday 1 & 7
JOHN STEINBECK KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
Tom Watson Stratified Side Pairs 4th of 6
299er Stratified Pairs

Saturday, January 11 0-5 mp's play free today!

- 9:00 **MICHELLE WIE SWISS TEAMS** 2nd
Clambake Morning Side Pairs 5th of 5
Starfish 99er Pairs
Seahorse 299er Pairs
- 10 & 3 **STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1:00 Tom Watson Stratified Side Pairs 5th of 6
- 1:00 Starfish 99er Pairs
Seahorse 299er Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS**
A/X SWISS TEAMS 0-5000/5000+
B/C SWISS 0-3000/3000-5000
GOLD RUSH SWISS (0-300/750)
ERNIE ELS KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
Tom Watson Stratified Side Pairs 6th of 6
Starfish 99er Pairs
Seahorse 299er Pairs

Sunday, January 12

EARLY START - 10am - PLAY THRU
with a short break

STRATIFIED A/X SWISS TEAMS
Strat A 4000+ Strat X -0-4000
0-2500 ROUND ROBIN TEAMS

♦ No individual player over 2500 mp

♦ Typically brackets of eight, three gold overall places per bracket.

♦ Teams may not withdraw after one session.

CLINT EASTWOOD FAST STRAT OPEN PAIRS
2 fast sessions with a short break

Events in **BOLD FACE** are two or more sessions and award gold points. Single session events award red points.

KO Events with only one Bracket may be Handicapped

Stratified Events Key Unless otherwise posted.
A 2500+ B 1000 – 2500 C 0 - 1000
Eligibility for Flighted Events based on top player.
Thereafter, stratification based on average of pair/team



Now You Can Name A Game!

**AT THE 2019 NORTH AMERICAN
BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS
NOV 28 – DEC 8, 2019**

**The perfect gift for friends, family or even a bridge partner!
Great for a 2019 Birthday, Anniversary, Tribute, Memorial,
Friendship Message, Master Level Achievement...**

Why not buy **Naming "rights"** to a **regionally rated event** at the upcoming **SAN FRANCISCO NABC** in the fall of 2019? The regionally rated events that complement the NABC+ event schedule are available **NOW**. Honor someone close to you personally or someone special in your local bridge world, or promote your bridge club or business. These dollars will offset costs incurred by D21 to host the 2019 SF Nationals. (Payment must be received prior to printing deadlines noted below.)

Please act ASAP if you want your named event to be included on the four-page San Francisco NABC schedule distributed nationally by ACBL. Deadline for the 1st printing by ACBL is 2/15; 2nd printing is 8/15. This schedule with your named event will also be posted on the ACBL website and in the NABC Daily Bulletins. Event naming can occur up to the day before the event, to be published only in the NABC Daily Bulletins.

In addition, your named event will appear in the full-color "Schedule and Restaurant Guide" included in the Registration Packet received by more than 5,000 players at the San Francisco NABC. Printing deadline is 10/1.

Choose the Level of Naming Rights to Fit Your Wishes!

- ♦ \$2,500 An entire day named
- ♠ \$500 Naming rights for a Regional 4-session KO event
- ♥ \$350 Naming rights for a Regional 2-session event, including Open Pairs, Gold Rush Pairs, Swiss Teams and Compact Knockouts
- ♦ \$250 Naming rights for a 3-Session Side Game Series
- ♣ \$150 Naming rights for a 1-Session (Intermediate/Novice) event or a 1-session Open event (Pairs or Teams) or a 1-Session midnight Swiss or Knockout team game

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN NAMING AN EVENT,
PLEASE CONTACT JEAN BARRY, Finance Chair**
Email: jbarry.d21@gmail.com, Phone: 925-209-9893

RANK ADVANCES

JUNIOR MASTERS (5 MASTERPOINTS)

David Becker, San Francisco CA, 506
Heather Black, Sunnyvale CA, 503
Chrissy Buford, Reno NV, 473
Linda Childers, Sacramento CA, 505
Amy Christen, Portola Valley CA, 498
Chase Dearborn, Palo Alto CA, 503
Paul Destefano, Menlo Park CA, 498
Joyce Devore, Markleeville CA, 465
Claudia Dopkins, Carmichael CA, 505
Pat Drake, Carmichael CA, 505
Robert Hawley, Cameron Park CA, 505
Chhaya Joglekar, Sunnyvale CA, 507
Ed Klar, Los Altos CA, 503
Wei-Cheng Kuo, Sunnyvale CA, 507
Leslie Molin, Wawona CA, 529
Lynda May Moller, Fowler CA, 522
Hamid Motamed, Belmont CA, 498
Peter Moulds, Los Altos CA, 503
Gail Silverman, Napa CA, 512
Nicklos White, Sacramento CA, 505

CLUB MASTERS (20 MASTERPOINTS)

Kapil Bhalla, Sunnyvale CA, 507
Linda Fong, Tiburon CA, 508
Andrew Hong, San Francisco CA, 506
Kayoko Iwasaki, San Jose CA, 507
Janet Kendall, Granite Bay CA, 505
Robert Kendall, Granite Bay CA, 505
Mark Robb, San Francisco CA, 506
Helen Smades, Fresno CA, 522
Madeline Soo, Reno NV, 473
Rohan Srivastava, Piedmont CA, 502
Joanne Thorne, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Ann Whittaker, Menlo Park CA, 498

**SECTIONAL
MASTERS
(50 MASTERPOINTS)**

Caroline Allen, San Francisco CA, 506
John Beebe, San Martin CA, 524
John Bowman, Placerville CA, 505
Michael Cohn, Saratoga CA, 507
Cynthia Crawford, Napa CA, 512
Amnon Fisher, Palo Alto CA, 503
Jan Ives, Placerville CA, 505
Ernest Johnson, Sacramento CA, 505
Lester Loops, Capitola CA, 550
Jeanmarie Mariadassou, Saratoga CA, 507
Allan McAllister, Oakland CA, 502
Raghu Murthy, Palo Alto CA, 503
John Nicholson, Los Altos CA, 503
Karen Peterson, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Stephanie Poley, Sebastopol CA, 509
Robin Rakusin, Reno NV, 473
Mary Rock, Placerville CA, 505
Rebecca Tindell, Sacramento CA, 505
Cecelia Zimmerling, Folsom CA, 505

**REGIONAL
MASTERS
(100 MASTERPOINTS)**

Jane Blum, El Dorado Hills CA, 505
Alfred Cavagnaro, San Francisco CA, 506
Trish Rodimer, Sonoma CA, 512
Neil Von Tersch, Oakdale CA, 529
William Walton, Santa Rosa CA, 509
Kay Wood, Carmichael CA, 505

**NABC
MASTERS
(200 MASTERPOINTS)**

Jeffrey Beyers, Orange Vale CA, 505
Eva Cheung, Menlo Park CA, 503
Suresh Gadad, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Myles Johnson, Fresno CA, 522
Susan Papilion, Foster City CA, 498
Allen Riker, Sacramento CA, 505
Dmitri Stukalov, Palo Alto CA, 503

**ADVANCED
NABC MASTERS
(300 MASTERPOINTS)**

William Bushnell, Sunnyvale CA, 503
Wesley May, Menlo Park CA, 498

**LIFE
MASTERS
(300/500 MASTERPOINTS)**

Chris Chen, San Francisco CA, 506
Amy Hansell, Piedmont CA, 502
Jeremy Maurer, Orangevale CA, 505
William Mitchell, Lodi CA, 510

**BRONZE
LIFE MASTERS
(500/750 MASTERPOINTS)**

Philip Freiburger, Los Gatos CA, 507
Bradley Haas, Sacramento CA, 505
Qing Lu, San Jose CA, 503
Cherri Ross, Reno NV, 473
S Andrew Sass, Fremont CA, 500
Malcolm Scott, Vacaville CA, 512

**SILVER
LIFE MASTERS
(1000 MASTERPOINTS)**

Sue Eltringham, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Dori Foster, Atherton CA, 503
Danielle Hejmanowski, Folsom CA, 505
Jacqui McGreal, Lemoore CA, 522
Virginia Wailes, Hillsborough CA, 498

**RUBY
LIFE MASTER
(1500 MASTERPOINTS)**

Tom Mc Kelvey, San Francisco CA, 502

**GOLD
LIFE MASTERS
(2500 MASTERPOINTS)**

Charles Gulland, Roseville CA, 505
Michael Hartnett, Greenbrae CA, 508
Paul Kushner, So Lake Tahoe CA, 465
Luen-Jyh Luo, Milpitas CA, 507
Cathleen Otvos, Oakland CA, 502

**DIAMOND
LIFE MASTER
(5000 MASTERPOINTS)**

Kathleen Harper, Menlo Park CA, 503

**EMERALD
LIFE MASTER
(7500 MASTERPOINTS)**

Robert Boggs, Roseville CA, 505

HEART OF THE DISTRICT

CLICK ON THE LINK TO GO TO THAT PAGE

Area	Unit	Columnist
<u>Diablo Valley</u>	<u>499</u>	<u>Lisa Assoni</u>
<u>East Bay</u>	<u>502</u>	<u>Joye Sidoti</u>
<u>Fresno</u>	<u>522</u>	<u>Laura Da Costa</u>
<u>Livermore</u>	<u>501</u>	<u>Rosemarie LaFrancesca</u>
<u>Marin</u>	<u>508</u>	<u>Gail Haar</u>
<u>Monterey</u>	<u>530</u>	<u>Mary Block</u>
<u>Napa/Solano/Sonoma Valley</u>	<u>512</u>	<u>Tom Sheahan</u>
<u>Palo Alto</u>	<u>503</u>	<u>Carolyn Chaney</u>
<u>Reno</u>	<u>473</u>	<u>Judith Robyns</u>
<u>Sacramento</u>	<u>505</u>	<u>Miriam Steinberg</u>
<u>San Francisco</u>	<u>506</u>	<u>Kim Fanady</u>
<u>San Mateo</u>	<u>498</u>	<u>Jackie Lowenberg</u>
<u>Santa Cruz</u>	<u>550</u>	<u>Karen Schamberg</u>
<u>Santa Rosa/Petaluma</u>	<u>509</u>	<u>Cecelia Zachar</u>
<u>Silicon Valley</u>	<u>507</u>	<u>Ray Yuenger</u>
<u>Stockton</u>	<u>510</u>	<u>Debbie DeZarn</u>

Diablo Valley

By Lisa Assoni/The ShortCut Cook

I eat turkey year round, and I've played like a turkey at the bridge table too. When folks try and gobble-you-up with their aggressive bidding, don't get your feathers up. Like everyone who plays bridge, this game is quite a learning experience. I often make the same mistakes more than once, always trying to remember not to repeat them, and feeling like such a turkey when I do. I heard turkeys are not too bright, but actually their little brains are quite intelligent. So the next time you play like a turkey and get the stuffing knocked out of you, just remember what happens to most turkeys at Thanksgiving. Keep your heads about ya!



We had our annual Tunnel Tourney, a challenge match with Oakland's Unit 502. Unfortunately, 502 barely nosed us out by a score of 37-36, repeating last year, when they also barely beat us. Nevertheless, it was a fun day, with lots of yummy food, and some not so good bridge. But everyone had a fun day, and that's the most important thing.

I never mince words, but I forget to acknowledge folks that made our day. Andy Fine carved out a day filled with food and fun. He worked weeks on making this Tunnel Tourney happen, with organizing, planning and make this a happening event.

OK, I'm bragging, but I was girl Sunday, ordering and picking up the food. Marian Renvall helped me purchase some goodies, Grant Robinson directed and assigned the strats for the various different Masterpoint groupings. Bruce Johnsonbaugh directed parking, and Anne Hollingsworth assisted with scoring the final results. Rich Ahlf made the flyers and oversaw publicity. Sam Earnhardt,

the Unit's Treasurer, signed in attendees and collected entry fees. Good job by all!

Next on the menu is our Fall Sectional wanting to serve up a great weekend for all to enjoy. As most of you know, this is not only a sectional, but also a fun-filled day with lots of yummy foods. You've probably already marked your calendars, but this is a reminder. On November 9 and 10, we meet at Dougherty Valley High School. Hope to see you all there.

Ciao Bella

East Bay

By Joye Sidoti

First and foremost, the Unit 502 Fall Sectional will take place on November 16 and 17 at the Oakland Masonic Center (third floor), 3903 Broadway, Oakland, CA. This is always a great event, so please plan to attend. The games begin at 10:00 am each day and the table fees will be \$12.00. Lunch will be available for \$5.00 per person on both days, along with lots of good (and healthy) snacks throughout the day. There is some parking available behind the building off Manila Ave, otherwise street parking is your best bet, especially on Sunday when the parking meters don't require feeding.

Also, the EBCBC will be closed from Thursday, November 28 thru Sunday, December 8 for the San Francisco Nationals.

The regularly scheduled Unit 502 Game will be on Sunday, November 3 when the free lunch will be served at about 11:30 am, and the game will begin at 12:00. There will be no game on Sunday, November 17 because of the Fall Sectional.

EBCBC Sunday games. In November, those games will take place on November 10 and November 24. The games begin at noon,

and a light lunch will be served before the game.

Other special games at EBCBC are: Saturday, November 2, will be a PRO-AM game starting at 10:30 costing \$20.00 a pair (contact Susan Boyers at smboyers@comcast.net); Saturday, November 23, will be a NAP flight B game for those who qualified at 11 am.

There will not be a monthly Swiss Teams game in November since there are events every weekend. For more information, contact Greg Vance, Grant Vance or David Geary.

Some late results from Santa Clara include winners Catherine Molnar whose team won the 0-2000 Round Robin teams, and Mark Moss and Crispin Barrere whose team won the Stratiflighted A/X teams.

In the Annual Tunnel Tourney, Unit 502 won by 1 point playing Unit 499. In first place was Ravi Bhalla and Susan Boyers. But this was a team effort since points were awarded for all players who placed. The team from Unit 502 included: Jessica Lai, Grant Vance, John Eidinger, Ed Seputis, David Cartwright, Carol Smith, Ching Chao, Catherine Molnar, Richard Springer, Don Levine, Robert Joerger and Nancy Morton.

In the October 6 unit game, Sarita Mathiasen and Prudence Saunders were 1st, Jessica Lai and Grant Vance were 2nd, Stuart Schneck and David Cartwright were 3rd, and David Snyder and Ravi Bhalla were 4th. The scores ranged from 58.92% to 68.37%.

Welcome to new Unit 502 members Jian Wang, Bettina Brill, Dee Kursh, Elroy Kursh, and Rita Rosenthal. When you see them, please introduce yourself and welcome them to our unit.

Congratulations to the following members on their recent rank advancement: Kim Malcolm to NABC Master and Robert Alfandary to Silver Life Master. When you

see them, please take the time to congratulate them.

Larry Bowerman is writing the December column, so please contact him at (lmjtbow@pacbell.net) if you have noteworthy results or other items to report.

Fresno

By Laura Da Costa

In November, I usually cover the events of September before covering upcoming events, but this time we will start with an event that is not happening in October. Poker night was cancelled until next year. However, the raffles will continue until the Unit Christmas party in December.

As for September, not much happened in that month, so I will cover the sectional from early October. The Fresno Fall Sectional was held on October 4 thru 6. This three-day sectional had a great Saturday attendance, but a rather sad Friday (three pair games) and Sunday (Swiss Teams) attendance. As always, we did make money on the tournament, but we need to discover why the Friday and Sunday games are suffering each year. If you have suggestions, let us know. The big winner was former Fresnan (now of Corralitos), James Slinger. Great to see Jim and Susan again! The President's Award winner (given to the Unit 522 member with the most points) goes to Mark Stern and the 99er Award went to Cheryl Johnson. Congratulations to the 79 members who won masterpoints at this tournament. Our thanks to Scott Campbell (Director) and Mary Lou Pease (Partnership). Also, our appreciation goes to Hospitality Chair Jackie Finn, and assistant Deb Petersen, and to those members who donated refreshment money and wonderful treats for the tournament.

November will have a few special events,

and they are all in the same week.

First, the North American Pairs (NAP) Unit Final on November 10. If you qualified in one of our NAP games, you can participate in this all red point event. If you qualify in the Unit Final, you have the option of going to the District 21 Finals in Burlingame (January 2020, Flights A & C) or Oakland (November 23, Flight B). Even if you are not interested in going to the next level, you can play on the 10th. Tuesday, the 12th will be our one-day sectional. The afternoon session is a 750 game at 12:30 (director: Kay Chrisman) and the evening session is a 299er game at 6:30 (director: Richard Meffley). Wednesday, the 13th, will be the second part of Mun Takeda's Signals lesson at 10 am. She will repeat it the next day for the evening people at 6 pm.

Not many 70% games were in September; those we had were all in Fresno. Linda Town & Louise Stermer, 71.2% in the Thursday afternoon 750 game on 9/5. In the Tuesday afternoon's 750 game on 9/10, Patricia Creede & Mary Lou Pease, 71.67%; this was a nice way to celebrate one of Mary Lou's last games before she graduates out of being able to attend the 750 game. That same evening, in the Tuesday 99er game, Clint Hudson & June Serio, 70.37%. Lastly, in the Saturday afternoon 99er game on 9/28, Margot Cegielski & Fred Schellack, 72.22%.

Congratulations to Jacqui McGreal (Lemoore) for achieving the rank of Silver Life Master (1000 mps). Welcome to new member, William Fullar of Coarsegold!

The fall is beautiful here in the Valley, the vineyards are a sight to see, and bridge is thriving. We have had a successful pizza party and an 8 is enough Swiss game to celebrate the coming of fall. We soon will have an abundance of Trick or Treat candy to enjoy and pumpkin pie. Our annual holiday party will take place in December.

The next national tournament is in our backyard. San Francisco, open your Golden Gate for the ACBL! We have volunteers helping from our unit; if you can help, sign up for a time on the ACBL website. It will be great to see our international friends in San Francisco. I notice that one of the pairs games in SF is the Franklin Lowenthal Pairs. I hope to play in that event. I remember Frank well and have missed talking baseball, not bridge, with him!

Livermore Valley

By Rosemarie LaFrancesca

We hope you will join us weekly for bridge at the Livermore Bridge Club. We meet Mondays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. in the IOOF Building, 2160 First Street, in Livermore. Parking and entrance are in the rear; an elevator is available. Most games, including extra point games, are only \$6. STAC games are \$8; educational fund games are \$7. Reservations are suggested for the Monday STAC. Players bring food to share; the club provides coffee/tea; a good time is had by all. Novice Games (0-99 points) are held the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, and you don't even need a partner. Every "novice" Thursday we will guarantee a partner to any player with fewer than 100 masterpoints. Encourage your bridge-playing friends to give Duplicate Bridge a try! We are happy to see some of our 99ers play on Mondays as well. Keep up the good work, 99ers! The Livermore Bridge Club website is livermorebridge.com. You will find a calendar of events there; you can also find Paul's bridge tips and publications via pfdubois.com/publish. There are links to neighboring units if you want to travel to your next bridge game.

Remember to get ready for our sectional

which is held the last weekend in January... no conflicts with NFL Playoffs or Super Bowl! Start thinking about what you can do to help out this year. I'm sure our chairman, Art Mirin, will happily accept all volunteers. Until next time, Happy Thanksgiving!

Marin

By Gail Haar

We have several new and new to us members this month: Janis Rader, Chris Shipp and Ligra Shipp. Congratulations to new Club Masters TJ Campbell-Lucas and Sally Torrance; new Sectional Masters David Gross, Ellie Gross, Cindy Morris and Nicholas Schulkin; new Advanced NABC Masters Stephen Levinson and Susan MacDonald; new Life Masters Enid Rubin and Lillian Trac; new Silver Life Master Helen Wang; and new Gold Life Master Ann Reed. There only one Big Game this month, Bitsy & Don Kosovac (70.29 % at Belvedere). Unit game winners were Richard Riezman & Peggy Tatro (September 29); Loretta Bromberg & Don Friedman (October 6) and Gene Simpson & Laura Kenney (October 20).

Three big birthdays this month so we got to eat lots of cake. Fred Rudow, Jim Washburn and Betty Schreiner.

Popular bridge instructor Barbara Seagram is coming back to Marin for a full day of lessons and practice on Friday November 22 at the Albert J. Boro Community Center (Pickleweed), from 9 – 4. Barbara's topics are Defensive Strategy & Signaling and Stripping Can be Fun! Play all day, with discussion of each hand after playing it. Cost is \$85 (including light lunch.) Register online [http://marinbridge.com/2019-barbara-](http://marinbridge.com/2019-barbara-seagram-seminar/)

seagram-seminar/; contact our Special Events folk at marinbridge.events@sonic.net or call (415) 388-5040. Space is limited, so don't procrastinate!

Sunday, November 3: the NAP Unit Final will be held at 1 PM at Terra Linda (Fuldek) along with an Open, Stratified unit game.

Have you volunteered yet for the Fall Nationals (NABC) in SF? If you would like to feel the excitement and get a behind-the-scenes look at what goes into putting on one of these events, why not volunteer? All you need to do is sign-up for a 1 hour & 15 minute "shift" and you'll be in. You can even pick the day and the time so it won't interfere with your pursuit of Gold and Platinum! Our unit is sponsoring the Peggy Tatro Day, which is Tuesday, December 3 in case you would like to specifically give your time to making our day go smoothly. Here's the link that'll make it super easy: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b45a8af2fa7f49-nabc>

Question: What do you have when you have four players arguing with each other, all shouting at the same time, all objecting to a ruling made by the Director?

Answer : A din of inequity.

Monterey

By Mary Block

Welcome to new members this month: Robert Carlin, Charles Olvis, and Mano Singham. Bill Benjamin has also transferred into our unit from Palm Springs.

A number of our members have advanced in their master status: Peter Steffen is a Junior Master; Barbara Moxley and Shelley Sweet are now Sectional Masters. Carol Sendell is a NABC Master and Glenn Chee has reached Advanced NABC Master Status. Janice Gleason and Betty Prunty are new Life

Masters, Betty having leapt all the way to Bronze Life Master. Nancy Driscoll is now a Gold Life Master.

Mark your calendars now with Sunday, December 8 for the annual Holiday Party. Details to follow.

Lyde will be giving lessons in Defense and Declarer Play on Wednesdays, starting 10/30 through 11/20 at the Bridge Center in Del Rey Oaks. \$15 per lesson; please sign up at the Bridge Center.

As you are reading this, the unit is in the process of transitioning to the new Bridge Center. Changes can be challenging and first impressions can be misleading. As bridge players, we are supposed to be able to be flexible and open-minded. Successful play requires having the ability to process new information and change strategy.

The decision to move the Bridge Center was not one that was made voluntarily, but was forced upon the unit by circumstances beyond anyone's control. We were fortunate to have the Marina premises, which Brad Dow located and remodeled for us, for as many years as we did. When I first started playing, we were told that we were going to lose it in about 2007 to hotel development. Economic factors worked in our favor and we have been able to enjoy it for another eleven years.

There was no perfect solution to the problem of finding a new venue; there is no one place that will perfectly meet the needs of all the different stakeholders. The Board of Directors had to determine the various factors to be considered and prioritize them in the way to best meet the present and future needs of Unit 530. The unit serves a large geographic area, including players from other units. We are all aware that real estate is expensive in this area and choices are limited.

The work and decision-making process had to be delegated and no one person or

small group of people could have a veto power. The Board of Directors, led by President Susan Mazzei, worked many hours and were fortunate to have the able assistance and expertise of John Mahoney and his many years of experience in commercial real estate.

Now is the time for all the members of the unit (together with the club owners, without whom we would have no games) to be flexible and move together with good will and optimism that the future will be brighter than it may look at this moment. Let us not lose sight of the fun and friendships over the prospect of a few more minutes on the freeway or more steps across the parking lot.

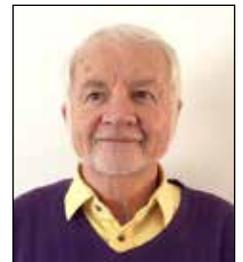
You are reminded again that the NABC Tournament is in San Francisco this year, November 28-December 8 at the Marriott Hotel. Our unit has been assigned to volunteer at the hospitality desk on Saturday, November 29. Volunteering before and after the playing sessions doesn't interfere with your playing and does give you a free cookie. Contact Donna Jett at Jettcarmel@gmail.com.

We are www.montereybridgeclub.com. The unit will have a new phone number when the move has been made. I am maru0407@comcast.net. The Foundation is <http://montereybridgeeducation.org>.

Napa/Solano/Sonoma

By Tom Sheahan

I've often mentioned what a friendly unit we have and just this week a newer player to our unit told me what an enjoyable experience it was to play in our game. That being said, we still need to be aware of any problems and address them. There was an incident in the Sonoma game two weeks ago where a player



from another unit angrily berated two of our players who normally play in the 499er game. The players were very upset about this action. We are trying our best to have players move up into Open game and the biggest reason they don't is because of intimidation. Please, if someone violates our zero tolerance rules, call the director immediately and have it noted or if you are at an adjoining table and hear something of this nature call the director. We have to nip this in the bud.

We have a newly elected Board of Directors in the Sonoma Club. Sandy Hicks will continue her great job as Club President and John Coulston, Rick Davis, Brooke Farkas, Jay Gardner, Eileen Holsten, Molly Johnston, Karen Rocco, and Marge Sheridan will serve as the new Board. Many thanks to outgoing member Sigrid Price who will continue to serve as Club Manager, and request all of our extra point games that we all enjoy. That's just one of the many things Sigrid does to enrich our unit. We're very lucky to have her.

We had lots of very competitive games in September and here are your winners: The 499er games went to Eileen Holsten & Sandy Hicks, Prentiss Wilson & Lee Dalbey, Barbara Storrie & Judy Brodsky and there was a tie between Havard & Susan Staggs and Steve & Brenda Perry.

First place in Rio Vista was claimed by Lawrence Epner & Xiao Gong, Robert Wiskotzil & Tad Quayle, Joyce Vass & Chandler Stauffer and Joyce & Chandler tied Alan Morris & John Shick.

The wealth wasn't spread around much in Napa. It was Adrienne Varin & Sheila Malinowski winning and Adrienne teamed up with Alvin Bregman to tie Dawne Dickenson & Britt Marie Eldred. Dawne & Britt also won another game. Sigrid Price & Russell Quinnell won the lone unit game.

In Sonoma it was Jim & Frances O'Brien

winning twice that included a 74% game! Clyde & Kathleen Smith, Rosemary Boss & Nora Gauger with a 70% game, Evelyn Holtz & Gigi Marki with another 70% game, Ram Ramanathan & Jeanie Bang, Dan Harp & Joanne Wegsten, Lynn Dondero & Karen Rocco, and Marsha Horowitz & I were your other winners.

Another good thing Sigrid Price has done is have the Sonoma Club join the Common Game played nationally in which we play the same hands as other clubs across the nation and we can compare how we are doing against them. In the September games we did very well. There's usually over 2000 pairs in the game and in different games Jim and Frances O'Brien came in first nationally, Rosemary Boss & Nora Gauger were 2nd N/S, Dan Harp & Joanne Wegsten 4th E/W, and one other team finished 1st E/W. I debated whether to include that pair, but realized your insistence on totally accurate reporting so okay, it was Marsha & I first E/W in our game.

Palo Alto

By Carolyn Chaney

Our free Tuesday morning lecture series is so valuable. Remember, you don't have to be a member of our unit to be welcome and the handouts are all available at our web site. On November 5, Max Schireson will reveal "Learn from My Mistakes." That is so brave of Max...

I'm not sure I want anyone to know about the time in a Ventura Regional Knockout when I stared at the void in spades in my hand and then opened...1 Spade. After that, there was no legal way to convince my partner Val to bid anything other than spades, and we ended up in



4 spades, down a million! After the opponents consulted the director (because they had a great spade fit and were pretty mad) and my partner congratulated me on my perfect poker face (if not my bidding), we went on to win the KO and Val earned her life master. On November 19 Doug Smix will discuss “Extra Precautions During Play of the Hand.” Hmmm, how about the precaution where I should look twice at the card I am pulling from the bidding box to be sure it is the right one (and not the suit where I have a void)? Oh, bidding precautions will be discussed another time.

Sad news for us bridge addicts...the club will be CLOSED on Thanksgiving Day. Oh, you didn't plan to come down after eating that huge turkey (or Tofurkey)? Well, then you won't be disappointed. Many games will be open before and after, but check the website. Also watch the website, because many games will be cancelled during the San Francisco NABC, November 29 - December 8. Yes, I know...it's a drive (or BART ride) to SF. But what fun to play in our own “local” national tournament. I plan to go for the early bird KOs a couple of days...see you there! Youth Day will be on November 30, with special events and a party.

We will hold our own special unit games on Saturday, November 2 and Sunday Swiss Teams on November 3 (lunch at 11:30; game at noon). Plus, the annual festive holiday party and pairs game is coming on December 15, so watch for the sign-ups. Youth will have a holiday pizza party on Saturday December 14, and sign-ups are needed. Check the SiVY website (SiliconValleyYouthBridge.org).

Congratulations to all the Palo Alto bridge players who advanced this past month. Our newest Life Masters are Jana Cushman, Rich Nielson and Alice Redfield. Earning brilliant

colors were Joseph Chin (Ruby), Alice Arnold (Gold), Ed Zuckerberg (Sapphire), Max Schireson (Silver), and Winston Huang and Manda Thatte (Bronze).

A special shout-out for director Will Watson, who advanced to Platinum Life Master (wow!).

Reno

By Judith Robyns

Our club had a great turnout for the Reno Regional Tournament. The following is a list of Reno players who finished first overall in an event. There many others who played and earned gold and red points. Congratulations to all who played: Eureka Gold Rush Pairs: Richard Greenthal and Steve Frank; Nugget Gold Rush Pairs and Blackjacks Gold Rush Pairs: Bob and Judy Robyns; Prospector Gold Rush Pairs: Lee Dunn and his partner; 299er Side Pairs: Laura Carlson and Sandra Haslem; David And Kathy Welch; Dana Davis and Stephen Price; Mary Quinn and Annie Nielsen; Wednesday/Thursday KO: Paul Kushner, Martin Blain, Steve Print and Kenneth Titow; Open Pairs: Bob Luebke and Charlotte Falk; Ponderosa KO: Steve Merritt, Tom Howell, Rene Reid and Vito Perillo; Evening Side Pairs: Sharon Bahry and her partner; Senior Swiss Teams: Stan Green, Kathy Lane, Robert Ipswich and Vito Perillo.

The contractor has begun work on our new Reno bridge center. I have seen several trucks parked outside the building. We should be able to move in soon.

Master levels achieved this month: Junior: Mary Barker; Club: Phyllis Blackwell, Ken West; Sectional: Annie Nielsen, Stephen Price; Regional: Dana Davis; Gold Life: Steve Print.

Sacramento

By Miriam Steinberg

Within our bridge community, we have a former pottery store owner, bridge club owner, math whiz, avid hiker, star amateur photographer, computer programmer, bridge teacher and talented pianist all in one notable person: Sacramento Bridge Center director, Ted Muller.



Ted grew up in a family of 6 siblings in Carson City, Nevada, went to high school in Reno and attended the University of Nevada off and on for 5 years where he majored in math and music and was “an admitted bridge drop-out!” (He later got 2 Associate Art degrees from American River College). He and his late wife, Pam ran pottery shops in Nevada City; Bend, Oregon; Chico; Grass Valley and Reno until 1989 when Pam lost her valiant 9 year battle with cancer. (Ted’s other career ventures included working for the Post Office, at the University of Nevada and at a consulting firm where he was administrator of computer networks for 7 years).

After Pam’s passing, Ted moved to Sacramento and lived with SBC director and manager Albert Chow for 3 years. Ted felt his meandering path ended after he met current wife, Barbara, at a Super Bowl party in 1995. “I was a lost soul, until I met Barbara; then I started being happy,” shared Ted.

Ted’s bridge career began at the University of Nevada, Reno after he bought “The Complete Italian System of Winning Bridge” by Edgar Kaplan and started playing in 1963 at the student union with his brother. For the first year and a half, they played the Neapolitan club (a strong club system) and then switched to Standard American because he preferred the idea of bidding what he really had in his

hand. Ted and his brother started playing in tournaments right away. He met players from out-of-town who became his partners, including current partner Albert Chow in the mid-sixties. His mentor and best partner was George Eveleth in Reno, with whom he learned everything he needed to learn about playing bridge in the wee hours at Shakey’s Pizza Parlor. Their partnership continued for 5 years. Although he has lost interest in playing in big tournaments, he still plays in sectional tournaments and currently has multiple bridge partners, including Albert, John Blubaugh, Judi Callahan, Barbara Muller and Carrie Touslee.

Ted continues playing Standard American (with a forcing 1NT with many of his partners) and a lot of gadgets, mostly with Albert. He and John Blubaugh also have a new and improved Puppet Stayman amongst other special agreements. The conventions he can’t live without are basically Stayman, negative doubles and Roman Keycard; in a slam with hearts, he uses 4S as ace-asking. He also likes Minorwood where 1D/2D/4D or 1C/2C/4C are ace-asking. In addition, he favors trump suit preference, Smith Echo, upside down attitude and Drury in all positions. For lots of interesting bridge information, including bidding systems, see Ted’s Bridge World, at his website at tedmuller.us. “Dante’s Infernal” will entertain you with the trials and tribulations of playing at the local club (previously located at the Dante Club). According to the website, “These pages represent everyday activities on the local scene. Any resemblance to living persons is accurate”! Other links on the website highlight Ted’s many other talents and include “The Great Outdoors,” magnificent photographs taken by Ted on his hikes; “Piano Music” (Ted is a proficient piano player); “Fun and Games”; “Graphics”; “Soapbox”; “Math Recreations” and “Computer Stuff.”

Ted is currently working on a health section to be coming soon.

Ted recommends several of his favorite books: “Right Through the Pack” by Robert Darvas and Norman de V. Hart—there are 52 deals and each card has a story to tell; “Why You Lose at Bridge” by S.J. Simon and his top pick is “Adventures in Card Play” by Hugh Kelsey and Geza Ottlik.

Ted loves directing and has taught many local directors all they know; he also enjoys creating unusual movements such as for 2 tables, or 5 tables, 7 rounds with 3 stationary pairs. He ran a bridge club 1965-75 in Reno as well as in Carson City and has also directed at sectionals, regionals and nationals. He shared a couple of stories from the Nationals in Reno in the ‘80’s. Before one of the games, a group of wide-eyed kids from Modesto was on a tour with an ACBL member. The group leader pointed in Ted’s direction and proclaimed that there was THE Sam Stayman, who happened to be walking nearby. Ted was assigned to the Novice Games for 3 days and came upon these youth. One came up to him and excitedly inquired, “Did you REALLY invent the convention?” A bit bewildered and not wanting to disappoint the kid, Ted merely replied, “What can I say?” During another one of the games, Ted was called over and asked, “What’s 2HX -8?” It turned out that the opponents could have made 7H+2210 vulnerable. Down 8 is -2000. “Good save!” complimented Ted.

Ted is great to consult for bridge advice—he not only knows how to get to the bottom of any confusion, he presents a balanced point of view with a sense of humor. These qualities also make him a really good teacher. His advice to upcoming players is to “concentrate on the basics. Stop obsessing about conventions, meanwhile blowing 2-3 tricks on defense. Start small. Play a system you are

comfortable with—you’ve got to know what you are playing. You’ve got to count and play a disciplined game. Be religious with your signals and don’t lie to your partner.”

Ted always brightens the day when he comes to my table, sometimes humming a show tune and almost always clad in one of his many signature t-shirts gifted by friends. Some favorites include: “I live in my own little world, but it’s ok...they know me here”; “Don’t interrupt me while I’m talking to myself” and “Let me drop everything and work on your problem.”

And if you’re having a bad bridge day, Ted often wears his t-shirt “Free Hugs.” They’re often available even when he’s not sporting the shirt!

The Sacramento Winter Sectional will be held Friday, December 6-Sunday, December 8 at the Sacramento Bridge Center, 2035 Hurley Way, Suite 270, Sacramento, CA 95825. Games will be at 10:30 and 3:00 on Friday and Saturday, all pairs, stratified. Sunday will be Swiss Teams at 10:30. Please arrive early as space may be limited. Lunch is available daily for \$5.00. Dave Willmott is Tournament Chair (916-709-8958) dwillmott@yahoo.com. Josh Haskett is Co-Chair at jhaskettphd@hotmail.com. David Britton-Ohl is Partnership Chair at 916-690-1981, dands@britton-ohl.name.

San Francisco

By Kimberly Fanady

My trip Down Under last month was great fun. Australia is a beautiful country with friendly people, gorgeous scenery, marvelous art museums and gardens, and interesting history, and I thoroughly enjoyed my time there. I especially liked Melbourne,



which in some ways reminded me of San Francisco. But I played not a single hand of bridge! Much as I would have liked to drop into an Aussie bridge club, and maybe run into Ron Klinger or other Aussie bridge luminaries, during the day I wanted to see the sights, and at night I was so jet lagged I was falling asleep at 8 PM. But, that just gives me another reason to go back: Southern Hemisphere bridge still awaits.

Since I missed my October column, there's lots to catch up on. Congrats to two months of ladder climbers: new Junior Masters, Brandi Chavin, Robert Saken, Derek Shockey, Matthew Therian, Sandra Whitman, Nancy Yu, Gary Zeng; Club Masters, Jennifer Caulfield, Denise Monfredini, Adam Ross, Thuy Tran; Regional Masters, Margaret Brown, Rhian Davies, Emily Francis, Amber Lin; NABC Master, Jo Streich; Advanced NABC Masters, Rita Bichara, Chip Graves; Life Master, Nancy Thompson; Silver Life Master, Nancy Raznick; Ruby Life Master, Yoko Tanaka; Gold Life Masters, Susan Ledford, Michael Levin, Anant Rathi. Good on ya, mates!

Welcome to two months of new members: Eric Brondfield, Emlen Ehrlich, Lily Hickman, Sarah Malarkey, Al Villapiano, Mona Villapiano; and transfers: Amber Lin (New Jersey) and Karen Wisialowski (San Mateo). Everyone be sure to say g'day and welcome when you meet these newcomers at the table.

Lots going on at the clubs: Cardology celebrated its grand reopening on September 21, with 10 tables of loyal players and a big party. After over a decade in the Castro, Cardology has relocated to a great new site on the west side of the city, St. Francis Episcopal Church, at 399 San Fernando Way near Ocean Ave. Cardology plays on Saturday afternoon, for which we working people are grateful. If you haven't already, head on over there and check it out!

The Sunset Bridge Club is leading the way into the future of bridge in several ways. Its showing of the movie "Double Dummy" on October 2 was a hit, with 152 people in attendance. Hope the movie stirred interest in our great game. Sunset also reports that at a recent game it used bots to fill in instead of having a sitout. No more standing around eating too many cookies while you wait at an empty table; now you can play a couple hands with the bots instead.

Our next unit game on November 23 will be a Swiss Teams game. Get three of your favorite players together for a fun event. As usual, the unit will offer a lesson by one of our expert players at 10:45, lunch at 11:15, and game at noon, at St. Mary's Cathedral, 1100 Gough St. at Geary. Check the unit website at www.unit506.org for all the details. Next month will as always feature our annual holiday celebration and game, on December 12. Be there!

Not many San Franciscans made it to the Sparks regional in October — at least I didn't see a lot of familiar faces — but those who did posted some notable successes. Among the triumphant were Rhian Davies, Mykaell McCarthy, and Jim Leuker. Check out all the results online at the D21 website. Sorry to anyone I missed.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday, Unit 506ers. Count your blessings and be thankful for all the fun you have and all the friends you made at bridge! SEE YOU AT THE NABC!

San Mateo

By Jackie Lowenberg

How lovely for Fran that she is on vacation this month, which gives me the perfect opportunity to thank our unit columnist, Ms.

Fran Gaura, for her wonderful recaps of bridge life in San Mateo. With a monthly deadline seemingly always looming, Fran seems to effortlessly generate our story with humor and detail. And, in addition, she is our unit game chair! This is the lady who sends out the whimsical invites, tabulates the reservations, manages the seating charts, plans meals and parties with Chef Pablo of Fattoria e Mare, and oversees all the many details of providing a wonderful game and party atmosphere for us every month. Thank you Fran for all you do!

Another whirlwind of energy and know-how is Jenny Kuhn. Our unit Mentor game is a resounding success due largely to her coordination. An effort to be inclusive to new players and raise the bar for all bridge students has brought us accolades and new friends. Along with Jenny, we thank the Mentor Program committee: Kit Morse, Debbie Carey, Loren Charlton, Sue Papilion and Janelle Van Rensselaer. Their enthusiasm and new ideas have been invaluable for growing the program. Most importantly, we thank our advanced players who have chosen to give back to the game by mentoring newer players. Our Mentors are the heart of our unit, and we extend our deepest appreciation to each one of you. One of Jenny's innovations that has been so enjoyable to our mentors and mentees alike is the panel of expert players who review hands after each game. Visit www.peninsuladbc.com and tap on "498mentorgame" for more information.

Results from the September Mentor game show overall winners: Art Quey and Frank Yeh with a 61.31% game; Christine Hevener and Cynthia Wener at 59.74% and Marc Renson and Debbie Carey with 58.74%. Congratulations to all!

On October 4, Emerald Life Master, Ted Richmond, celebrated his 90th birthday with the Unit 498 bridge family. Janelle Van

Rensselaer planned the special celebration and game in Ted's honor. Janelle had Fattoria e Mare cater the lasagna lunch that was over the top, great. The buffet table was bountiful with additional side dishes and treats, all exuding love and appreciation for the birthday boy, all from Ted's friends. Robert Ng directed the barometer game. Ted enjoyed the day with many of his bridge partners and students... and even with the frivolity of the day, he and his partner Roger Dewes came in first overall with a whopping 68.32%!

Thank you Bob Gleason! Did you know that Bob, our Tournament Chair, is responsible for record turnouts at our sectionals? This last weekend, we hosted 39 tables at our "Non Life Master" (NLM) tournament held at Fattoria e Mare. Many thanks to Doug Handler and Jenny Kuhn, who directed both days.

Unit 498 is known not only for bridge excellence, but we can brag that this unit has an awesome number of philanthropists. At our last September unit game, players donated over \$1100 to the Peninsula Youth Bridge program! Of course donations raised reflected mightily on the dedication of the program leaders Jeanie Kwong and Mary Bates and all the volunteers involved. But really...this is phenomenal!

And on the subject of charitable donations, check out the October ACBL Bridge Bulletin's page 13 for the article on Unit 498's wonderful contribution to the 2019 Longest Day effort on behalf of the Alzheimer's Association: over \$22,000! We came in 3rd overall for the Northern California/Nevada chapter. An oversight in their editing process left out Fred Chasalow's name in the article, and he was a principal player in the fund raiser. So noted here, Fred! Way to go, team!

We send a congratulatory shout out to our newest Advancers: Club Masters, Siuling Ku and Audrey Poppers; Sectional Masters, Marie

Horn and Robert Krohn and Regional Masters, Evelyn Katchman and Nancy Palmer.

New faces at our tables: Shushma Aggarwal, Rita Armstrong, Leah Khayter, Liza Layman, Jonathan Liu, and Mary Smith. May you play long and prosper!

The year is fast rolling to an end, and that means our November unit game and Annual Meeting is coming up on the 16th. Watch for your email invitation. You don't want to miss the presentation of this year's Joseph Schmitz award...spoiler alert...to know him is to love him. Thanks always to Mary Bates, the publisher of our monthly Unitizer, our online newspaper. In the November issue she will include the nominated 2020 Slate of Officers and Directors, approved by your Board of Directors, and ready to be accepted at the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee, including Jackie Lowenberg, Mark Sorenson, Bob Johnson, Sandra Tilch, Eileen Battat, and Bob Gleason are very proud of the D and O's who will continue to guide our unit on the road to excellence.

Anyone interested in a party? Yes? December 14. Don't forget it.

Santa Cruz

By Karen Schamberg

I want to welcome new Unit 550 members: Amos Hahn, Laura Larson, and Katherine Stone, as well as Carolyn & Charles Wilson who have recently transferred to our club.

So many milestones to celebrate this month: Rick Zinman, Bronze Life Master; Josh Karter, Advanced NABC Master; Sydney



Reuben, NABC Master; Thomas Burke, Regional Master; Judy Osborn, Sectional Master; Hemant Vaidya, Club Master. Congratulations to all.

High scores in Club games were attained by: Howard Feldstein & Steve Smith, 75%; Jim & Susan Slinger, 73.61%; Carol Maggipinto & Dick Wasserstrom, 70.83%; Karen Schamberg & Bill Dykstra, 70.29%; and Malcolm Sprott & Rich Hill, 70%.

At the NLM Sectional in Mountain View, John Walker's team took 1st in B in both Morning and Afternoon Swiss Teams. At the Earthquake Sectional in Gilroy: Judith Ford and Peggy Mount took a 1st in F for Saturday Morning 299ers; Peter Gelfand took a 1st in A Saturday Stratified Pairs. Earning in the top 25% of MPs were Peter Gelfand, Carol Maggipinto, Dick Wasserstrom, Neil Joseph Smyth, and Mick Friedberg.

At the Fresno Fall sectional: Susan & Jim Slinger were 1st in A for both Friday Afternoon and Saturday Morning Stratified Pairs and finished in the top 5% of MP earners.

Our annual Dolores Abrams Memorial Game will be Saturday, November 16 at 10 a.m. This game is open only to members of Unit 550. There will be two sessions, Open and 299er, please sign up at the club. Lunch, cake and "bubbies" will be provided.

The Unit 550 Holiday Party and Annual Meeting will be on Saturday, December 7 at 10 a.m. There will be two sessions, Open and 299er. You may sign up after November 17 at the club. During the Annual Meeting portion of the day, our 2020 Board of Directors will be announced and welcomed.

Check out the new home page feature for member look-up and averages. It was enlightening, and a little depressing, to see how I average with my partners.

Unit 550 offers games most days and several evenings. Open Pairs games are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday daytimes and Thursday evenings. Thursday daytime games vary. First, third and fifth Thursdays are Open Pairs. Second Thursday is Open + NLM Pro-Am. Fourth Thursday is Open Swiss Teams. If you're playing on Thursday, be sure to bring a lunch.

Wednesday evenings are for 99er Pairs. 199ers play on Monday evenings with a free lesson preceding. 749er Pairs are on Tuesday evenings. Sunday afternoons are a NLM or Mentor game with a free lesson preceding. Check the website for specific game times.

Our regular unit game will be the Unit NAP Final and will be on Saturday, November 9 at 10 a.m.

To see the complete Unit 550 schedule and calendar, or to contact one of our club owners, please visit our website at www.santacruzbridge.org and be sure to visit our Face Book page. As a reminder, the SCBC is a fragrance-free venue. Please use unscented, non-perfumed products.

Santa Rosa/Petaluma

By Cecelia Zachar

With our Fall Sectional in the past and the SF Nationals a month in the future, we are looking forward to a quiet November.

The Bridge Gallery has a new class for intermediate players. Tony Jackson is teaching Thinking Bridge on Tuesday mornings from 9:15 to 11:30. It covers all aspects of play: bidding, declarer play, and defense, with a special emphasis on both declarer play and defense. Students play a series of boards designed to illustrate concepts. On some

boards the defenders have a chance to set the contract, but only if they do the right thing. In fact, in many cases the outcome is decided on the play of the first or second trick. Each hand is designed to illustrate points for both the declarer and the defenders. The first class was held on October 15 with seventeen people attending. There is no charge the first time you attend; thereafter classes are \$10 each.

Barbara Seagram, the top selling bridge author, and Alex Kornel will be teaching three classes at the Bridge Gallery on November 23 and 24. Saturday morning's class is titled Defensive Strategy & Signaling. Saturday afternoon's offering is Stripping Can Be Fun. Sunday morning's class is A Failure to Communicate. Each class is \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. For more information, see <http://santarosabridge.com/special-events/> or call Kathy Venton at 707-591-5015. Following Barbara's Sunday class there will be a unit game at 1 p.m. with table fees \$12. All are welcome.

As of October 19, we had 4 big games since our last report. At the Bridge Gallery: Bob Klein and Sara Rothmuller, 74.70 on September 27; Kathy Juarez and Wendy Merget, 73.50 on October 7; Tony Jackson and David Pankratz, 71.35 on October 9; in Oakmont, Robert Keays and Fikry Galal turned in an impressive 75.50% on October 18. Congratulations all!

At the end of September, the ACBL notified us about 7 players who earned a new rank: Rob Liroff is our new Junior Master; Patrick Sullivan our new Club Master; Henry Gaw our new Regional Master; Linda Marin is now a new Advanced NABC Master; Jock Rader is now our newest Life Master; Carol Zocchi is now a Silver Life Master; Mary Omodt, a Gold Life Master. Good work, everyone.

Silicon Valley

By Ray Yuenger



Coming up in November is the Unit 507 holiday party, on the evening of Sunday the 24th, again in the Roosevelt Room of the Campbell Community Center. You'll be able to sign up for your potluck contribution at the San Jose Bridge Center.

Unit 507's latest sectional just concluded. It was our first sectional at a new high school location in Santa Clara that is more accessible for Bay Area bridge players. In our maiden voyage, not as many players took advantage of this accessibility; the turnout was about 15 percent lower than last year. There were some shakedown cruise glitches, such as a blown fuse on Sunday morning that interrupted our free coffee service and temporarily shut off the water fountain. I hope those who attended were able to disregard those inconveniences and enjoyed the spacious room and college-like campus atmosphere and will spread the word about the new location.

The following unit members distinguished themselves at our sectional. Floyd McWilliams won Saturday's two-session stratified open pairs event and posted an article on the BridgeWinners.com website (<http://bridgewinners.com/article/view/winning-at-wilcox/>) discussing three interesting hands. Earning section tops in the same event were John Wachsmen & Rick Jasper, Stu Goodgold & Bud Biswas, T-C Yang & Stephen Tu, and Ken Imboden & Lynn Bartz.

Linda Nemmer won the Friday evening single session stratified open pairs event, while Michael Fleisher & Mindy Foos had a section top. In Saturday's single session open stratified pairs, Pangjie Xu placed first, while John Stremel had a stratification top

and Erin Gove & Malcolm McLaughlin had a section top. Rajeev Gupta & Manoj Thawani took first in the 299er pairs. In the newcomer pairs, Betsy Wagner & Jan Pffner placed first and Edward Pansullo had a strat top. Dorr Clark & Jennifer Duval had a section top in the silver rush pairs. Pangjie Xu's Swiss team also prevailed in their bracket.

Turning to other recent tournaments, the turnout at the Sparks regional was disappointing. Maybe people aren't as eager to play at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. as they claim to be. All the stratification tops from that regional are reported elsewhere in this newsletter. Focusing on Unit 507 members, winning their Swiss team brackets were Mischel Postas, Josephine Murray, Anne Dudman & Colin Hemsley; and Jim Liu & Jung Hu. In stratified open pairs, Frank Xie had two strat tops, one with Jung Hu. Rich Reitman had a section top.

At the Gilroy sectional, Songtao Zhang had a strat top in the two-session open pairs event. Section tops went to Melanie Kakalec & Ray Yuenger, Stu Goodgold & Bud Biswas, and Stephen Tu & T-C Yang. Betsey Wagner & Robert Van Tuyl won the beginner game. Yang & Tu also placed first in the Swiss, teaming with Diane & Lynn Shannon.

Congratulations to our latest Masters: Lucy Chen, Arun Kumar, Ellie Martindale, and Shirley Shi (Junior); David Bao (Club); Margareta Hodzic, Bill Roman, John Stremel (Sectional); Andrew Chen, Charlie Chen, Carolyn Drozdiak, Kenneth Luskey (Regional); Judy Macarthur, Pradeep Verma, Anne Wilson (NABC); Yanong Han, Andy Scott (Silver); Sathya Bettadapura (Gold); Robert Dean (Sapphire); Will Watson (Platinum).

Mischel Postas did another great job coordinating our latest sectional, bringing and filling coffee pots, selling Sunday lunch tickets, handing out the lunch. She has done

more than her share for Unit 507 and would like to hand over those duties. If you are interested in helping out, maybe with a partner, let someone on the Unit Board know.

Stockton

By *Debbie DeZarn*

High games for this month were mostly in the low 60's, but Irmgard Owen and Earl Jones scored over 72% in the October 10 Intermediate game at Stockton Bridge Center.



Nice game you two! Oak Park high game was over 72% as well by Ann and Bill Nutting on Oct. 16, which was even better than their 71.28% in the October 4 Senior Pairs.

Both the Oak Park Bridge Club and Stockton Bridge Center have converted to the ACBL Live results reporting system which sends your score and hand records right to your email after each game. Here is the link to sign up your email address to automatically receive results: (<https://my.acbl.org/club-results/set-preferences>). If you don't wish to sign up, results continue to be available on the Unit 510 website at StocktonBridge.org. But game results from September 2019 and earlier are no longer linked from the website.

About a dozen Stockton unit members attended the Reno Regional in early October and all brought home points! Tops was Howard Parker at over 86 points, mostly Gold. Congratulations also to Usha Bansal, Darlene and Jerry Barnes, Wendy Buchanan, Jack Fitzgerald, Debbie Greenberg, Mort Horn, Rose Knutson, Marilyn Minden, Mary Sievers, Glo Klinger Williams and Chuck Wiesen.

Attendance has been up overall since June, mainly due to the addition of Sunday games and increased special (higher masterpoint) games that attract out-of-towners. It has been wonderful to see some of the newer duplicate players who began in the monthly 99er game venture on to play in open games. Welcome Mary Westin, Cathy Eilers, Carol Thomas, Nancy Sundahl and Pam Emerick. Congratulations to Mary, especially, who recently earned her Junior Master rank.

The November game schedule will mostly be the same, including the Wednesday game at Oak Park on the day before Thanksgiving. The only change is that the Intermediate game normally on the 4th Thursday is being moved to the 3rd Thursday (November 21), so it won't conflict with Thanksgiving Day. The Fall decorations are up, including new buffet tablecloths, so come and play this month in your local clubs.

Have great news to share from your unit? Contact *Diamond in the Ruff* Editor Rich Luttrell at luttrellr@sbcglobal.net and tell him all about it!

web site: www.eastbayunit-502.com



East Bay Fall Sectional

OAKLAND MASONIC CENTER
3903 Broadway, 3rd Floor, Oakland 94611

Saturday November 16, 2019

at 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. (single sessions)

Strati-flighted Pairs A/X 3000+

Strats B/C/D 1000-1500/500-1000/0-500

Stratified 299er Pairs 0-75/75-150/150-300 (Attendance Permitting)

Sunday November 17, 2019

at 10:00 a.m. and approx. 2:30 p.m.

"BARBARA HARMON Bracketed Swiss" -- 20VP scale

The top bracket will consist of the highest ranked teams plus any teams that opt to be in the top bracket.

Teams must play both sessions.

All brackets except the bottom will play 7 rounds, 7 boards;

Bottom bracket plays 7 rounds, 6 boards.

Lunch provided each day for \$5

Table fees \$12.00 per Session
(unpaid ACBL members - \$16.00)

DIRECTIONS:

Located on Broadway between 38th and 40th streets, 1½ blocks east of MacArthur Blvd. Entrance is under the blue awning.

Located seven blocks from MacArthur BART.

Partnerships: Estelle Baum (510) 541-5195/dominodog@aol.com

Saturday Information: libbysilver@yahoo.com

Sunday Information: julie.burnet@earthlink.net



District 21 Board of Directors

Unit 465	Ed Gould	ed-acbl@left.wing.org
Unit 465	Cornelia Gould	cornelia.gould@gmail.com
Unit 473	Diane Todd	ccnm8801@yahoo.com
Unit 473	Judy Robyns	whitsettrobyns@icloud.com
Unit 497	Mark Kornmann	beerman1949@gmail.com
Unit 497	Joyce Burks	jburks@berkeley.edu
Unit 498	Jackie Lowenberg	jackielowenberg@gmail.com
Unit 498	Janelle Van Rensselaer	janellevanr@janellevanr.com
Unit 499	Karen Corburn	Kscorburn@gmail.com
Unit 499	Lyn Sacco	lyn.sacco@gmail.com
Unit 500	Shailesh Shah	srshah0345@gmail.com
Unit 500	Carla Francis	cfrancis14@sbcglobal.net
Unit 501	Art Mirin	aamirin@comcast.net
Unit 501	Pat Leary	pplenary@comcast.net
Unit 502	Doug Couchman	DougCouchman@sbcglobal.net
Unit 502	Marcia Wasserman	marciawasserman@gmail.com
Unit 503	Prue Saunders	prue@pruesaunders.com
Unit 503	Kip Kado	kipkado@gmail.com
Unit 505	Jim Coke	jcoke@yahoo.com
Unit 505	Katherine Ewing	turtle7nt@att.net
Unit 506	Marion Robertson	mrobertson@msn.com
Unit 506	Thomas Stillman	tjsbridge@gmail.com
Unit 507	Ray Yuenger	rayyuenger@gmail.com
Unit 507	Stu Goodgold	stugo@sbcglobal.net
Unit 508	Bill Yeast	marinunit508@gmail.com
Unit 508	Tracey Bauer	tlcinsf@hotmail.com
Unit 509	Jackie Ortiz	jackieo@sonic.net
Unit 510	Marilyn Minden	mminden@comcast.net
Unit 510	Mary Sievers	Marysweet15@yahoo.com
Unit 512	Sigrid Price	sigridp@sbcglobal.net
Unit 512	Don Powell	metzpowe@att.net
Unit 522	Richard Meffley	Sorter52@ix.netcom.com
Unit 522	Anthony Toto	ca1ant@aol.com
Unit 524	Linda King	linda.king@hughes.net
Unit 524	Patricia Stone	patty.stone@charter.net
Unit 529	Libby Longstreth	Libby10@sbcglobal.net
Unit 530	Susan Mazzei	samazzei@gmail.com
Unit 530	Richard Papst	richardjpapst@gmail.com
Unit 550	Ken Llacera	pasa49@pacbell.net
Unit 550	Laura McCabe	laura@philippians313.org

Diamond in the Ruff is published monthly by District 21 of the American Contract Bridge League. It is free and posted online at the District 21 web site (www.d21acbl.com). ©2019 by ACBL District 21. Contents of this magazine may be reproduced in full with proper citation. Mention of any product or service does not constitute endorsement by *Diamond in the Ruff*. The publisher assumes no responsibility for return of unsolicited materials, and reserves the right to reject any editorial or advertising materials.

ACBL DISTRICT 21 OFFICERS

TOM PAJAK

District 21 President
tompajak999@gmail.com

RAY YUENGER

District 21 Vice President
rayyuenger@gmail.com

JEAN BARRY

Treasurer
jbarry.d21@gmail.com

SANDI DAVIS

Secretary
sandi.david21@gmail.com

JACKIE ZAYAC

District Director
jackiezayac@gmail.com

PAM HUGHES

Tournament Manager
jmom380@yahoo.com

TRACEY BAUER

Social Media
tlcinsf@hotmail.com

PUBLICATION STAFF

RICH LUTTRELL

Editor
luttrellr@sbcglobal.net

RAY YUENGER

Executive Editor
rayyuenger@gmail.com

GRANT ROBINSON

Web Site Administrator
dist21webmaster@gmail.com