



President's Report

Anne Hollingsworth, President D21

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As this year ends and we begin a new year, my term as your President will come to an end. Elections will be held at our Board meeting on February 5. It has been my pleasure to serve as your President.

We have an active District and I was pleased to learn this past year that three of the ten largest Regionals are in our District!! In these two years of my term, our tournament attendance is up. Three Non-Life Master Regionals were hosted by two Units to offer newer players an opportunity for gold, and we held training for those who would like to teach bridge with the hope to attract new players to the game we love. In addition, I attended many Sectionals and had the opportunity to meet many of you face to face and learn what we were doing well and could do better.

At the recent Board meeting, a proposal to bundle the costs of Marketing Solutions by Pianola was accepted, and the District is paying the cost for all units to have this tool available to advertise their events with an expectation of increasing attendance.

Next for me is Chairing the San Francisco NABC which will be held November 27-December 7, 2025. You will read more information in upcoming issues of the Diamond in the Ruff. I hope many of you will volunteer to help (but more on that in a few months!).

Now on to recent happenings....

Las Vegas NABC

We had a large number of players from our District at the Las Vegas NABC. This tournament had over 10,000 tables!! Below are big winners from D21. If I have missed your name, my apologies. Congratulations to all!

The top ten masterpoint winners were:

- 1 362.50 Chip Martel, Davis CA
- 2 213.47 Kevin Rosenberg, Millbrae CA
- 3 165.82 Sylvia Shi, San Francisco CA
- 4 105.85 Yanong Han, Milpitas CA
- 5 101.07 Stella Wan, San Francisco CA
- 6 100.54 Jeffrey Ferro, Saint Helena CA
- 7 99.89 Tien-Chun Yang, San Jose CA
- 8 98.20 Andy Goodman, Carmel CA
- 9 97.39 Michael Bodell, Santa Clara CA
- 10 95.79 Ming Sheng, Los Altos CA

Top finishers in major events at this NABC include:

- **Keohane North American Swiss:** Vinita Gupta (6); Andy Goodman (7)
- **Reisinger Board-a-March:** Kevin Rosenberg (1); Chip Martel (3)
- **Soloway Knockout Teams:** Mike Rippey (9/16); Yanong Han (9/16)
- **Nail Life Master Pairs:** Sylvia Shi (2); Ed Nagy and Gary Soules (10)
- **NABC+ Mixed Pairs:** Stella Wan (2); Tracey Bauer (5); Tom Jacobson and Sara Rothmuller (8); John Miller and Lynn Shannon (10)
- **0-6000 Blue Ribbon Pairs:** Tien-Chun Yang and Serena Guo (2)



- **NABC 0-10,000 Fast Pairs:** Michael Bodell (1); Brent Xiao (2)
- **Whitehead Women’s Pairs:** Sylvia Shi and Susan Zhang (3)
- **NABC 0-10,000 IMP Pairs:** Florin Constantin (3); Richard Ross and Wesley May (9); Michael Fleisher (10)
- **Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams:** Jeff Ferro (6); Xin Ge, Ming Sheng (7); John Kranyak (9)

ACBL-Wide Instant Matchpoint Game

In other tournament news, on Wednesday afternoon, October 30, clubs across the country participated in the **ACBL-Wide Instant Matchpoint Game**. There were 112 clubs with 825 tables and 3889 players all playing the same cards about the same time that day.

What is an instant matchpoint game?

- It’s a ACBL - wide event exclusive for face-to-face clubs.
- Players see their scores instantly after each deal.
- Section tops in each direction earn one gold masterpoint (other points are red and black).
- Players receive a booklet with analysis by expert players.

Your truly, **Anne Hollingsworth**, and partner, **Irwin Lichtblau**, from our Unit 499 (playing at the Lamorinda Bridge Club in Moraga) took top place overall in this country-wide event with their 73.20% game. WOW!!! Other big winners in District 21 are listed below. Congratulations to all our winners!

ACBL-Wide Instant Match Point - Open - 825 Tables

MPs	Rank	Names	Score
20	1	Anne Hollingsworth, Walnut Creek CA; Irwin Lichtblau, Lafayette CA	73.30
15	2	Alden Boreson - Michael Boreson, Kalispell MT	71.96
11.25	3	Brian Bowman, Kingston ON; Michael Bowman, Inverary ON	70.46
10	4	Pat Kent, Charlestown RI; Stuart Treworgy, Cumberland RI	69.00
10	5	Steve Kemic - Jennifer Young, Los Alamos NM	68.81
10	6	Jack Jones, Fort Lauderdale FL; Lee Atkinson, Hollywood FL	68.63
10	7/8	ED PROSSER - LANCE CHAMBERLAIN, Rochester MN	67.96
10	7/8	Shannon Kasperkiewicz, Redmond WA; Kimberly Gilmore, Sammamish WA	67.96
10	9	Jane Schwartz, Brookhaven GA; Carl Johnston, Atlanta GA	67.63
7.5	10	Jay Shahani, Columbia SC; Bernetha Henry, Hopkins SC	67.46

District 21

MPs	Rank	Names	Score
20	1	Anne Hollingsworth, Walnut Creek CA; Irwin Lichtblau, Lafayette CA	73.30
7.5	2	Mary Bates, San Mateo CA; Sandra Tilch, Foster City CA	61.38
5.63	3	Daniel Harp, Napa CA; P Shoemaker, Fairfield CA	61.15
4.22	4	Maddy Klein, Walnut Creek CA; Joyce Ellenberg, Moraga CA	60.95
3.16	5	Tom Jacobson, Fairfield CA; Patricia Hertz, Sebastopol CA	59.85

Presidential Goodwill Awards

Each year, the District gives awards to individuals for their “goodwill” – outstanding contributions and personal qualities that promote bridge. In another article in this newsletter, our Goodwill Chair, Gail



Gabiati shares with you this year's recipients that were nominated by Units.

In addition, the District President may give out awards to those who have provided "goodwill". The following individuals are recipients this year:

- Anne Wilson and Brenda Hatton, the District 21 Tournament Co-Chairs. Starting with our first tournament post-covid, Anne and Brenda volunteered to help. They were there to check vaccination records and assist with partnership as needed and they returned to help tournament after tournament. In the past year, they stepped up to serve as the Tournament Chairs. In addition, Anne volunteered to write procedures for those who wanted to use the Sign-up Genius tool for their units and has trained new users.
- Gail Gabiati has been an active volunteer for years. She was at post-covid tournaments to help where needed. She has been our Goodwill Chair for the past several years. In addition, she has been involved with many of the activities of Unit 506, and always encourages new members.

Monterey

Our next and largest Regional is less than a month away. The hotel rooms have filled and we are expecting a large turnout. This is always a wonderful way to start a new year – play bridge, see your friends, and enjoy the beautiful setting on the coast. I'll see you there!