

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Mark Your Calendar For
July 2008 Bridge Week

by Jan Wickersham
ALACBU Vice President



As I sit here composing this article to you, our president, Bill Schreiber is hard at work, burning the candle at both ends, getting those income tax reports completed for his clients before the deadline.

To all of you who were able to attend the Spring Regional at the Pacific Palms, I want to thank you for your part in making it such a great tournament. Our attendance was up from October, and my hope is that when July rolls around, it will be substantially increased. The timing on this present regional was a bit tough. We had the nationals in Detroit, followed by a regional in San Diego. For Bridge Week in July it appears that there will be a bit more “breathing room” in between. Our Partnership Chairman, Betty Jackson returned from a safari in Africa and was put in the hospital with three blood clots in her lungs. At the last minute I was fortunate enough to get Shirley Eide to step in her absence, and everything went very smoothly in that department.

We offered a prize, a beautiful crystal candle holder to the 299er who won the most masterpoints at the regional. Toby Rothman was the decided winner with more than 44 points. For July, we want to continue to encourage the 299ers, and the prize this tournament will be a free entry to the Sunday Swiss including lunch. The winner will be decided and announced on Saturday, so I am hoping there will be fierce competition for the honor.

My hope is to build up the Los Angeles Tournaments to be one that people would not ever want to miss.

The Tournament Committee is trying new ideas hoping to provide a schedule that is appealing to our players. We will have some new additions to Bridge Week. We have greatly increased the opportunities to play knockouts. The flyer will be available shortly on the ACBL website and at www.acbldistrict23.org.

One of the most special features of our regionals is the sit down lunch on Sunday. Whatever you do, plan now to attend the Sunday Swiss or the Fast Pairs. Mark your calendars now for July 6, so you won’t miss out! It is truly the highlight of the week. So elegantly served by the staff at Pacific Palms, it is a great opportunity to get away from the bridge table and enjoy visiting with old friends and making some new ones. Cecil Cook will be honored for his years of service to this district and to the ACBL. The cost to you is only \$8.00— truly the bargain of the century. I look forward to seeing many new faces on Sunday and throughout the week.

More Meeting Highlights

by Rand Pinsky
District Director



Last month we discussed the new electronic device policy which will go into effect on July 1 at all national level events. I have received several comments from our players and I will communicate their thoughts at our meetings in Las Vegas.

Highlights of other business from the last Board of Directors meeting follows. First, Cecil Cook was appointed to the Hall of Fame Committee for a three-year term through the end of the Spring 2011 NABC. Second, the decision to relocate ACBL headquarters was deferred to the summer 2008 Board Meeting. Third, the ACBL Bridge in the Schools program was extended to include Mini Bridge instruction through 2011. The board also had a request from the Board of Governors to reconsider limiting the number of fund games a club could run. This request for reconsideration was defeated.

The board also approved amendments to the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations. I have the official language that appears in the minutes of the board meeting. If anyone wants a copy, please let me know. A final item was a motion to allow Wide Range No Trump openings for Mid Chart play. The 10-18 point range was rejected by the Board.

TEAM GAME SECTIONAL. As a reminder to our players, on June 21 and 22 the district will sponsor its annual Team Game Sectional to raise money for our four Grand National Teams to help offset the expenses for representing our district at the national competition to be held in Las Vegas in July during the NABC. Please see our ad appearing in this paper.

It's A Different View From Dummy

Our March Regional at the Pacific Palms Resort continues to grow. I was involved in the Sunday program during our three course sit-down lunch where the district honored all of our Ace of Club and Mini McKenney 2007 District winners. I was able to present certificates to each of our winners.

I was also given the privilege to acknowledge Steven Mager and Becky Clough for becoming Platinum Life Masters (10,000 Masterpoints). Becky also holds the title of Grand Life Master for having won a national event. To reach this plateau in bridge is a major accomplishment as there are only 413 members with this title out of 160,000 ACBL members. A Platinum Life Master is in the 99.76 percentile of bridge.

To conclude, do not forget to make your reservations for Las Vegas now as the Hilton Hotel is booking up and the bridge rate will not be available when our room block is sold out.

District 23
Rank Changes
3/1/08-3/31/08

Junior Master (5 points)
Sandy Abouaf
Wallis Annenberg
Linda Henson
Stephen Massman
Marcia Strong, Peter Tran

Club Master (20 MPs)
Peggy Fleming
Judith Wachtel

Sectional Master (50 MPs)
Margie Bulmer
Clifton Cates, Steve Ramos

Regional Master (100 MPs)
Claudette Barrack
Nancy Egan
Anita Padgett
William Rawlings

NABC Master (200 MPs)
Steve Carr
Carolyn McFarland
Sofia Pineda
Lyle Wiedeman

Life Master (300 MPs)
David Goetz, Eli Wang

Bronze Life Master (500 MPs)
Allan Bloom
George Lewis Jr
Sean Lui
Charles Messall II
Sheri Rivera

Silver Life Master (1000 MPs)
Eva Schondorf
Richard Weinberger

Gold Life Master (2500 MPs)
John Farr Jr
Adam Meyerson
Rae Murbach
Dolores Phillips, Josh Sher

Announcements

GNT Team Trials

The Open Flight and Flight B of the District 23 Grand National Teams will take place on May 17-18 at the San Fernando Valley Bridge Academy in Canoga Park.

The Saturday games are Swiss for qualifying and then a KO final on Sunday. The first session each day starts at 10:30 and the afternoon session starts around 4 pm. The Grand National Team events are open to all District 23 members. The complete conditions of contest can be found on our website (www.acbldistrict23.org).

If you have questions call Howard Einberg at 310-475-9784 or email howardeinberg@yahoo.com.

The results of April’s Flight A and C GNT are:

Flight A
1-Viktor Anikovich, Guy Green, Gary King, Jordan Chodorow
2-Adam Meyerson, Jeff Fang, Elianna Ruppinn, Ho-Lin Chen

Flight C
1-Kevin Lane, Lenard Lakofka, Aaron Craig, Alan Flower, Ron Birnbaum
2-Gerri Soffa Carlson, Ronald Carlson, Tamra Boyd, Regis Smith

GNT Trials
Flight B (0-2000 MPs)
and Open (unlimited MPs)

May 17-18
San Fernando Valley Bridge Academy

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District 23 website
www.acbldistrict23.org

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

I had to write after reading Karraine Murray’s March 199er column “An Important Convention” about New Minor Forcing and her difficulty with 4/4 fits. Several years ago I wrote two bridge booklets (“Bridge Lite” and “More Bridge Lite”) which I have sold by mail all over the country— there’s a lot of bridge in all those small towns, and it’s been fun meeting a lot of players by mail and phone!. In the first book, I pointed out in “Ten Tiny Tips” that 4/4 fits were superior to 5/3 if you have a choice. This small paragraph has resulted in the MOST questions and the MOST consternation, of anything I have written! So Karraine is not alone! I usually had to lay out cards for the questioner, if he were in my presence, and that helped. Check my website: bridge-lite.com, if you’re in the mood.

Thanks for to Karraine Murray for the 199er column, I enjoy reading it.

Iris Craddock

Dear Editor:

First, kudos to Karraine Murray for the best and most interesting column in the Southern California Bridge News. I am a fairly new player (less than two years). I try to learn both by playing and by reading. I was introduced to New Minor Forcing during some lessons, but it didn’t really stick. Karraine’s treatment of it was MUCH clearer and I will share it with my partner with whom I’ve been playing only a few months. Whether he will take to it remains to be seen, but I think it’s a very good convention.

Thanks, and I’ll look forward to the next 299er next column.

Bob Lapin

what do you think?

send letters to the editor to:
bridgenews@district23.org

Kibitz With Karraine: The 199er Report

New Minor Forcing Part II - Opener’s Responses
By Karraine Murray

Last month I discussed a handy convention called New Minor Forcing, and I want to thank the readers who wrote in for the great ideas and encouraging comments. The whole point of my column is to introduce 199ers to current trends and ideas, as well as foster a sense of camaraderie and community among newer players. Sometimes I can barely play the conventions I research. Yet I keep on truckin’.

Now let’s truck back to last month for a brief review of New Minor Forcing:

Opener	Responder
1♣	1♥ or 1♠
1NT	2♦* (New Minor Forcing)

Basically, NMF is initiated by responder, after opener’s rebid of 1NT (showing 12 – 14 HCP) and states that responder has an extra heart or spade and approximately 11 HCP. It is an artificial bid that is invitational and forcing for 1 round and asks opener to further describe her hand.

Now what does opener do? Does she say, “That’s nice” and put on her new super slimming turquoise one-piece and head to the beach? Does she say, “Lovely!” and prop up her feet and order a Pinot Noir? No, folks (I almost said, “heck yes”) the work is just beginning. It’s all about priorities.

Opener’s first priority: Show an unbid four-card major, and show strength level. This can only be hearts. If opener had spades, she would have bid them instead of 1NT. Last month I also mentioned the importance of utilizing a 4/4 major fit over a 5/3 fit if you have a choice, so you can use the extras for sluffing.

Opener	Responder
1♣	1♠
1NT	2♦* (NMF)
2♥ (partner I have four hearts/minimum hand)	
or	
3♥ (partner I have four hearts/maximum hand)	

These bids by opener do NOT DENY having 3 spades.

Opener’s second priority: Support partner’s suit, and show strength level - remember, when responder initiated NMF, he showed five cards in the major, so opener needs three cards to show support.

Opener	Responder
1♣	1♠
1NT	2♦* (NMF)
2♠ (partner I have support/minimum hand)	
or	
3♠ (partner I have support/maximum hand)	

Opener’s third priority: Bid NT and show strength level. These bids deny 4 hearts and show 2 spades.

Opener	Responder
1♣	1♠
1NT	2♦* (NMF)
2NT (minimum hand)	
or	
3NT (maximum hand)	

Note: There are many other possible bidding structures over NMF. Some prefer to only bid notrump with stoppers in the unbid suits. I believe these three priorities are a clear way to begin. Your partnership agreements can expand from here.

Some of this information came from "25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know," by Barbara Seagram and Marc Smith. They also mention an interesting alternative when both minors are unbid:

Opener	Responder
1♥	1♠
1NT	?

Here, since both minors are unbid, you could play that 2♣ is New Minor Forcing and 2♦ shows diamonds. Just a thought. And everyone, what is the mandatory requirement??? Say it out loud with me, “BY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT!” Very good.

Today at the club we had only one section so my partner and I had to play with the really good people. We try hard not to be intimidated. One woman who came to our table was wearing a wrist support, so I chattily inquired, “Did that come from playing tennis?”

The cool cucumber didn’t miss a beat, shook her head no... “From doubling.”

Knock, knock.
Come on just do it. I'll start again.
Knock, knock.
Who’s there?
Knockouts.
Knockout who?

Knockout Teams at Barrington Bridge Club Friday Night May 2 at 7:30! Come on out and win silver points!

The first night of the West Los Angeles Spring Sectional will be held at the Barrington Bridge Club – there will be stratified open pairs and bracketed knockout teams.

Now, I am going to play in the knockouts for the very first time. You need a team of four to six people (two can be alternates). Put together, the sum of our team’s ages is more than the sum of our masterpoints and we are still going to rock! Join in the laughs and sign up now! Contact Peter Benjamin, Tournament Manager, 310-720-6050, for more info.

Happy Mother’s Day and Happy Memorial Day. Let’s take Ginkgo Biloba on the latter to help remember new conventions. I can be reached at KibitzWithKarraine@yahoo.com. See you at the knockouts!

Interested in advertising in The Southern California Bridge News? contact bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org

ADVERTISEMENT

Estate Planning Corner by Jordan Chodorow



A typical estate plan for a large community property estate provides, on the first death of husband (H) and wife (W) (assume H), that W’s one-half of the estate goes to a Survivors’ Trust, and H’s one-half goes to (1) an Exemption Trust (currently \$2 million maximum) and (2) a Qualified Trust for the balance. W receives income from the three trusts for life, remainder to their children. W may have a power to appoint at her death, unlimitedly as to the Survivors’ Trust, and limitedly (e.g., among issue) as to the Exemption and Qualified Trusts. No estate tax is due on H’s death if H’s executor elects to postpone the tax on H’s half until W’s death.

This plan is far superior, taxwise, to H’s simply leaving his half to W, for several reasons, including that (1) H’s exemption amount is wasted and estate tax will needlessly be due on up to \$2 million; and (2) the opportunity is lost to create partial interests at the time of the division of the assets among three trusts, which partial interests may be discounted in calculating the value of W’s estate and the estate tax due thereon. As an example of (2), if the family residence is owned under the tax-planned approach 50% by the Survivors’ Trust and 50% by the Qualified Trust, each undivided 50% co-tenancy interest is valued separately on W’s death, resulting in a lower combined value for the family residence in W’s estate than had H bequeathed his half outright to W, in which case a 100% fee interest in the family residence would be included in W’s estate on her death.

Jordan Chodorow 310-445-7641
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Problem Solvers’ Panel

Moderator:
Marshall Miles

Our panelists are: Leo Bell, David Chechelashvilli, Vic Chernoff, Ed Davis, Ross Gabel, Paul Ivaska, John Jones, Thomas Lolli, and John Swanson

1

both vul
IMPs

North	East	South	West
1♦	pass	?	

You, South, hold:
♠AQ97 ♥10762 ♦A ♣AJ106
What call do you make?

BELL: 1♥. If my hand wasn’t so good, I might bypass the bad 4-card suit, but 1♥ gives us the best chance to find the right spot for game or slam. If I choose to bid 1♠, partner may raise to 2♠ with 3-card support, and it will be difficult to judge in which strain to play.

CHECHELASHVILLI: 1♥. First instinct might be to skip bidding a weak suit, but while you can recover by bidding 3NT, you can never recover if the bidding goes 1♦ 1♠, 2♠, and partner has ♠Kxx ♥AKxx ♦Jxxxx ♣x. I don’t know of any methods to find a 4-4 heart fit after bidding 1♠ first and partner raising to 2♠.

CHERNOFF: 1♠. I know this response will make the moderator happy, but I’ll make it anyway. I’m not so concerned about getting to game with an inadequate trump suit, i.e., hearts, but about getting to slam in such a suit. If opener happens to have both four spades and four hearts, I almost surely (barring heart ruffs in a spade contract) would want to play in spades, which would be almost impossible if I bid 1♥. If opener bids 1NT, I would bid 2♣, new minor forcing, to uncover a 4-4 heart fit, after which 3♥ by me should be forcing.

DAVIS: 1♠. We are more likely to reach the best contract if I initially treat my hearts as a 3-card suit, which is more what they look like. Slam is a consideration any time partner has a decent minimum with shortness in hearts, and bidding hearts makes it more difficult to discover how well the hands fit. We will still be able to reach a 4-4 heart fit if we have one.

GRABEL: I’ll be honest and admit that I would bid 1♥ with this hand. I strongly suspect that our esteemed moderator is looking for a 1♠ response and I wouldn’t be surprised if it is a popular choice on this panel. In matchpoints, I believe that if there is a 4-4 fit in hearts and NOT one is spades, the hand will play for more tricks in hearts. In IMPs however, that may not be much of a consideration as this hand is strong enough to make a game in notrump on power alone and the importance of playing in spades when partner is 4-4 in the majors may be crucial if partner has a good hand and slam is in the picture. Then, I might be able to pitch hearts on partner’s diamonds or pitch his on my clubs. Although I seem to be making a case for a 1♠ bid, sometimes partner has great hearts and lousy spades and it could be right to play hearts. I think I’ll just be unimaginative on this one and let the chips fall where they may.

IVASKA: 1♥. It’s a bit surprising to find such a problem in a 2008 bidding forum. I hope it doesn’t cause abstentions or resignations en masse from the panel. I would have thought that this issue had been resolved by the late sixties at the latest. Younger readers (if there are any) may not remember the four-card major roots of the Esteemed Moderator (EM). In those antediluvian days, a 1♦ opening would tend to deny a good 4-card heart suit, so responder could reasonably suppress a weak heart 4-bagger. This hand may be difficult to bid, obviously, but we could well belong in hearts in spite of my weak holding, so I don’t propose to distort my distribution by responding 1♠, which I imagine is EM’s choice. (Divining EM’s selections is a very hazardous enterprise, to say the least.) 1♠ would be more attractive if our team was a decided underdog or trailing badly at this stage. I assume that’s not the case, as EM has occasionally specified such conditions. In general, I don’t like to deviate from what’s likely to happen at the other table early in the auction. However, I’m willing to concede that 1♠ could well be the winning bid either by avoiding a 4-4 heart game that goes down in favor of 3NT (which should make by dint of sheer power) or by simplifying the subsequent auction.

It is true that you risk losing an IMP when 3NT makes three and 4♥ makes four.

JONES: 2♣. There is a principle that you don’t bid bad suits on slamish hands. However, with a singleton in pard’s suit and a hand quite short of a slam force, a 4-4 heart fit could be right. The problem is that if I bid a major at this juncture, I am making a critical decision before I know much about pard’s hand. The 2♣ call lets pard know that I have only a 4-card major suit and delays making a decision whether to bid hearts or spades first. If pard rebids 2♦ I will bid 2♠, but if he bids 2♥, then I will raise to 3♥. Yes, there is the downside to the 2♣ bid that pard will think I have five clubs and we will play the hand in clubs, but even that is not completely guaranteed to be wrong.

That’s an interesting idea.

LOLLI: 1♥. I fail to see the problem.

You don’t want to get to 6♥ opposite ♠Kx ♥AJxx ♦KQJ10x ♣Kx or to 4♥ opposite ♠Kxxx ♥Qxxx ♦KQx ♣Kx. Also harder to get to 6♠ opposite ♠KJxx ♥x ♦KQJxx ♣KQx. Admittedly, opposite some holdings (like David’s example) 4♥ is best.

SWANSON: 1♠. Responding in a very weak four-card suit in a good hand is a losing proposition. It risks reaching a game or slam when you can be defeated with tricks in your own suit. It also makes it difficult for partner to evaluate his hand effectively.

2

no vul
MPs

West	North	East	South
1♦	dbl	pass	?

You, South, hold:
♠J543 ♥K9 ♦6 ♣QJ10763
What call do you make?

BELL: 2♠. At matchpoints, the majors take precedence. Even though I’m a bit short in high cards for the bid, this is a very good playing hand opposite a takeout double.

CHECHELASHVILLI: 2♣. I am betting the bidding is not going to die, and I can rebid spades later. Level does not matter much. I will rebid them even at the four level if I have to, for example, if it continues 2♦ 3♦ by partner, 4♠.

CHERNOFF: 2♣ and hope there is more bidding. If I bid 1♠ I will almost surely bury the club suit. Jumping in either suit, while it has some appeal, is only asking for trouble.

DAVIS: 2♣. This hand belongs in clubs unless partner has four spades. This is a slight underbid but partner either has a very strong hand or the opponents can be expected to do a lot more bidding with at least nine and more likely 10 diamonds between them. In either case, somebody will be bidding again and we need room to describe this hand. It is important to mention clubs before spades so that we don’t end up playing a 4-3 spade fit. I can afford to be aggressive after having shown my best suit first and limiting my hand.

If the opponents don’t have nine or ten diamonds between them, partner probably has a balanced hand too strong to overcall 1NT. In either case SOMEONE should bid, which will give you a chance to bid spades later.

GRABEL: 2♣, but I expect to do a lot of bidding on this hand if the auction doesn’t die there. I remember once when partner made a takeout double of one diamond with only three spades. There is no reason to bid spades just yet. When

I subsequently bid spades, partner will know that my club length is somewhat longer and be better positioned at his next opportunity.

IVASKA: 1♠. 2♣ would tend to deny a 4-card major and might land us in a poor matchpoint spot, since partner will sometimes have only a doubleton. Even though I have a potentially good playing hand, a cue bid would not only be an overbid but premature as well, as I have no idea of the degree of fit.

JONES: 1♠. My singleton diamond and RHO’s silence make it likely my pard has a big hand. 1♠ makes it easier for pard to act than do the other plausible calls: 2♠, 2♣ and 3♣. This hand isn’t over. I’m prepared to bid very aggressively from this point forward. At IMPs, starting with 2♣ has more merit than it does at matchpoints.

If you expect to get a chance to bid again, why not bid your longer club suit first?

LOLLI: 2♣. It’s very likely I’ll be able to bid 2♠ (or 3♠ if necessary) to complete the picture of my hand. No jump in the first place limits my hand, and some number of spades next says I am useful nevertheless.

SWANSON: 2♣. I suppress the four card major temporarily in order to reach a making partscore. This hand has sufficient playing strength that I am willing to bid spades later, even at the three-level if necessary. Playing IMP scoring there is a somewhat stronger reason to bid spades immediately, looking for the most likely game.

With a hand worth only one bid (like ♠Jxxx ♥xx ♦xx ♣Kxxxx) you would, of course, respond 1♠.

3

NS vul
MPs

West	North	East	South
pass	pass	1♣	?

You, South, hold:
♠AJ972 ♥AKJ10 ♦4 ♣A32
What call do you make?

BELL: 1♠. I just don’t have a good enough suit to double and bid spades over partner’s diamonds. Sure, Marshall, you can construct hands where we’ll miss a heart contract because partner will pass 1♠, but I can also construct hands where doubling will land us in a 4-3 heart fit instead of the 5-3 spade fit.

I can understand (but not agree with) players who think the hand is not strong enough to double and bid 2♠, if necessary, over a 2♦ response, but I don’t see any likelihood of our playing in a 4-3 heart fit. Is partner going to respond in a 3 card heart suit? That seems very unlikely. Does he have five or six clubs and only two diamonds?

CHECHELASHVILLI: Dbl. Yes, it is off-shape, but if the worst thing happens and I have to bid high next because the opponents raised to 2 or 3 clubs, at least I am confident that partner has two or three spades. He is a passed hand, and the likelihood of his having 6-7 diamonds is decreased (I assume Flannery or Multi is not part of standard bidding).

CHERNOFF: Double. Remove one of the aces and I would overcall 1♠. Too much danger of 1♠ being passed out and since I have the boss suit (and the next-to-boss suit), this seems the percentage choice.

Problem Solvers’ Panel continued on page 4

Problem Solvers Panel Continued From Page 3

DAVIS: 1♠. With a weak primary suit, this hand is not quite strong enough to double and then correct diamonds to spades. I would double if I had AKJ10x of spades and AJ9x in hearts. I will usually be better placed by bidding apades and then competing in hearts than by doubling and then competing in spades.

GRABEL: Double. Seems obvious.

IVASKA: Double. I find myself in the not unfamiliar position of being mystified by the problem. Yes 17 HCP is right on the boundary between a takeout doule and an overcall, but the hand is worth much more because of the excellent high card structure and positional advantage. An overcall is especially dangerous if partner might pass with seven or eight HCP and short spades (which I don't recommend, by the way).

JONES: 1♠. I play a wide overcall range. This hand is not close to being worth a double followed by bidding spades in my style. I'm not worried about the hand going all pass while making hearts, because at the table this almost never happens.

LOLLI: 1♠. I prefer it to double because I think double, followed by some number of spades overstates my spade quality. I admit there is a risk that I'll play it there and miss a game. But if I get another chance, I can either double or bid 3♥, depending on the auction.

SWANSON: 1♠. The advantage of the overcall versus double is that partner knows immediately that I hold five spades and it does not encourage him to bid diamonds [or hearts! M.M.]. There is a good chance I can introduce hearts later. If the major suits were reversed I would double, risking the diamond response from partner.

I think there is, at most, a fair chance, not a good chance, that you will be able to bid hearts later. If opener has 13 points and you have 17 points, that doesn't leave many points for the other two hands. Nor will RHO reopen the bidding with a minimum opening with ♠Kxx or even ♠Kx. And if partner responds 1♥, to the double, we probably have a game in hearts. Partner actually held ♠Qx ♥Qxxxx ♦Axxx ♣Qx, and we got to 6♥, making seven (with ♠Kxx in opener's hand), which we definitely would not have reached over a 1♠ overcall. Admittedly slam was unlikely, but why expect a jump in diamonds by partner? And is 1♠ really a big overbid if he bids 1♦? Or 2♠ if he bids 2♦? With ♠Qx ♥Qxxx ♦Axxxx ♣xx I would raise a 1♠ overcall to 2♠, but many players would pass. Which is more likely? That a double will get us too high in spades and cause you to lose a part-score, or that a spade overcall will cause us to

4
no vul
MPs

West	North	East	South
1♦ pass	1NT 2♥	pass 2♠	2♦ ?

You, South, hold: ♠76 ♥KQ8543 ♦93 ♣876 What call do you make?

BELL: 4♥. Only at matchpoints would I consider this bid. This just smacks of a hand where if I bid 3♥, my LHO will now bid 3♠ and then either partner will bid 4♥ thinking it will make or pass and I'll be stuck defending 3♠. I'd much rather put maximum pressure on the opponents even though I expect 4♥ will go down.

CHECHALASHVILLI: 3♥. I don't see a problem here.

CHERNOFF: Pass, reluctantly. Too many losers to bid 3♥ (and possibly invite 4♥). The other alternative is to double (not for business) which should be reserved for some hand such as ♠xxx ♥KQxxx ♦Kxx ♣xx. Not clear what to do if partner doubles but I would probably leave it in.

DAVIS: 3♥. Pass or double are not acceptable and 4♥, in spite of partner's well-placed cards, is an overbid. 3♥ is the right value bid and will surely be the consensus choice. If the opponents compete to 3♠, I will bid 3NT which partner should not pass without an appropriate

hand with a fitting heart honor. (I was willing to play 3♥, so I can't have much more than a good six-card suit).

GRABEL: 3♥. Too much offense and not enough defense to double. I would always compete to 3♥ after a notrump opener by partner. This auction hasn't changed anything.

IVASKA: 3♥. I would have invited with 3♥ if East hadn't bid, since partner's cards figure to be well placed. As it is, it looks like I have to make a unilateral decision, not for the first or last time. I'll take a conservative, matchpoint-oriented decision, because of my flat distribution, lack of intermediates, and the fact RHO might hold an important card after all. If West competes with 3♠ and partner passes, I may think again, as Reese used to say.

JONES: 3♥. 3♥ would be invitational if the opponents had passed. When we have only one below game bid, it becomes competitive, not invitational. With nobody vulnerable, we do not let the opponents play at a

comfortable level if possible. It's possible to play some sort of good/bad 2NT or lebensohl in this auction. That would give us multiple sequences.

LOLLI: 3♥. A slight overbid, but I don't want to defend 2♠. Also, on lucky days, partner will bid and make 4♥ or 3NT.

SWANSON: 3♥. Partner should not play me for an invitational hand. Double and 2NT are available for that.

With this hand I gambled that partner had the ace of hearts and I bid 2NT. We got a top, since it made nine tricks at either hearts or notrump. And the 2NT bid would be more likely than 3♥ to discourage further competition in spades. But this was a risky bid. If partner had held two small hearts, this would have been a terrible contract, and he wouldn't have known to correct to hearts. I like Ed's suggestion: to bid 3♥, followed by 3NT if the opponents bid 3♠. Now partner would know by inference when to pass and when to correct to hearts. He would need the ace or king of hearts for the suit to run.

5
both vul
IMPs

West	North	East	South
1NT*	2♥**	2♠	?

You, South, hold: ♠74 ♥QJ54 ♦KJ754 ♣92 What call do you make?

BELL: 3♥. I would like to bid 3♦ as a game try in hearts, but I don't think partner would interpret it as such. Anything could be right here from passing (to discourage the opponents from bidding 3 or 4 spades which I may not want to defend) to bidding 4♥ (but then what if the opponents bid 4♠?)

CHECHELASHVILLI: 3♥. I don't see a problem again. If we have game partner will raise.

CHERNOFF: 2NT. Interesting. If partner's second suit is diamonds (and, big IF) I'm left alone, I would bid game in hearts. Of course if it goes 3♠ by LHO, pass, pass, back to me, I will have to guess whether or not to bid 4♥. Second choice, the obvious 3♥.

DAVIS: Pass. If partner's minor is diamonds, both sides may be able to make game but we probably can't if partner's minor is clubs. Regardless of partner's minor, they may have a good play for game in spades. I will be happy if they stop in 2♠ and I don't want to do anything to discourage that.

GRABEL: 2NT. While I suspect that we should have a play for game on certain layouts, it would require nothing more than normal splits, I will try to give partner an out by checking for his minor and bidding 3♥, which is invitational, if it is clubs. At this vulnerability, I'm only allowing partner a little leeway. At non-vul, I would bid 3♥ as partner needn't have as much.

IVASKA: I'm a bit mystified for the third time in this set. (By the way, this is by no means a record.) It's hard to evaluate my hand. I don't have a singleton, and my diamonds may be utterly valueless, since partner figures to have clubs, so 4♥ is much too much. On the other hand, I almost never suppress 4-card support, particularly since North almost surely has five in these circumstances, so

it's hard to summon words of sufficient contempt for a pass. Perhaps if 3♦ implied hearts I could try that, but I don't see how it can, especially since I'm not a passed hand.

JONES: 3♥. The opponents will probably bid 3♠ and make it because both sides could easily make nine tricks. I can't do anything about that except make the opponents bid 3♠ if they want to play the hand.

LOLLI: 3♥. East is willing to play 2♠, so it appears partner has a decent to good hand. Also, if we defend, I want a heart lead, if appropriate, not a club.

SWANSON: 3♥. A 4♥ punishes our side when partner may have done well to enter the auction. This competition might be enough to keep the opponents from reaching a good 4♠ game. Also, partner is likely to be able to bid game himself after my call if we belong there.

I don't agree that the competition will make it harder for the opponents to reach a good 4♠ game. I don't remember the exact hand, but with a hand similar to this, I raised to 3♥, and opener, with three small hearts, realized that his partner probably had a singleton or void in hearts, and he bid 3♠. His partner then bid 4♠ with something like ♦KQxxx ♥x ♦xxx ♣Jxxx, which was cold. The strength is probably evenly divided between your side and the opponents, but you know they have a great fit and the higher ranking suit. Most of the time opener will pass the 2♠ bid unless you show a heart fit. If you do bid, I think 2NT is better, since you might have wanted to play in partner's minor if you have a good fit for it, and if you bid 3♥ later, it might just mean that you didn't fit partner's minor and reluctantly returned to hearts, perhaps with a doubleton. But my preference is to pass, just as Ed did.

Problems For June

1.Both vul, IMPs

North	East	South	West
1NT*	dbl	3♠	4♥
pass	pass	?	

What call do you, South, make with:
♠J87543 ♥6 ♦AQ96 ♣73?

*12-14

2. Neither vul, IMPs

North	East	South	West
1♥	pass	3♥*	3NT
pass	pass	?	*preemptive

What call do you, South, make with:
♠Q86 ♥Q754 ♦76 ♣J854?

3. EW vul, IMPs

North	East	South	West
1♠	pass	?	

What call do you, South, make with:
♠A8754 ♥K7 ♦3 ♣AJ864?

4. NS vul, MPs

South	West	North	East
1♣	pass	1♥	pass
?			

What call do you, South, make with:
♠AK9 ♥J96 ♦x ♣AK10873?

5. no vul, IMPs

West	East
♠764 ♥9 ♦K8 ♣AKQ10753	♠AKQJ ♥A754 ♦963 ♣62

West	North	East	South
1♣	2♦	dbl	pass
3NT	pass	4NT	pass
pass	pass		

Apportion the fault for missing a slam



Becky Clough was presented with a Grand Life Master Certificate last month from Rand Pinsky, District 23 representative to the National Board of Directors.

LA Regional Results

March 24-30, 2008

CHARITY PAIRS - 10.0 Tables

A	B	C	
1			Daniel Williams, Denver CO; Marcus Evans, La Palma 69.68%
2			Howard Einberg, LA; Robert Gish, El Monte 62.27%
3	1		Lawrence Hanna, Huntington Bh; Richard Hanna, Laguna Woods 59.26%
4	2	1	Roger Lee, Arcadia; Carol Frank, Burbank 58.56%
5			Harry Sacks, Hacienda Hgts; Robert Rubin, Whittier 56.71%
6	3	2	Ramona Rhoades - Paul Kimmel, LA 54.40%
	4		Ocki Krogfoss - Jim Rupp Jr, Thousand Oaks 53.47%
	5	3	Kathryn Luft, Yorba Linda; Carl Brick, Fullerton 49.77%
		4	Eknath Deo, Long Beach; Rashmi Shah, Pls Vrd Estates 49.31%

KICKOFF KO TEAMS I - 7 Tables

1	Hamish Bennett, Menlo Park; Peter Benjamin, Culver City; Larry Brasler, Thousand Oaks; Greg House, San Fran
2	Michael Ventri, Fullerton; Stanley Snyder, La Habra; Neil Sherman - M Futterman, LA;

RESULTS continued on page 9

ALACBU SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applications are now being accepted for the ALACBU District 23 Scholarship. Requirements are: You must be a senior in high school with graduating plans in 2008 and reside within District 23. You may be attending college anywhere in the US, but you must be a resident of District 23 when applying for this scholarship.

Present School: _____
School Address: _____
School Contact: _____
Grade Point Average through first semester senior year: _____
College/University Planning to Attend: _____
Intended Major: _____

Your connection to Contract Bridge (ie player, caddie, ACBL parent): _____

Your ACBL number (if applicable): _____ Approx Master Points: _____

Extracurricular activities: _____

Please write two paragraphs, in your own hand, about your goals, a little of your background, and your reasons for seeking this scholarship. High school transcripts may be required along with additional information (including letters of recommendation and financial statements).
Finalists can expect a personal interview at a later date.

The applicaton must be returned as soon as first semeser grades are available, but no later than May 15, 2008.

A copy of this application with the two paragraph essay should be sent to:
Peter Szecsi, 497 East California Blvd. #309
Pasadena, CA 91106

District 23 – Team Game Sectional

Saturday June 21 and Sunday June 22, 2008

San Fernando Valley Bridge Academy

Saturday, June 21

10:30 am –
Compact Knockouts
Rounds 1 and 2

3:30 pm –
Compact Knockouts
Rounds 3 and 4

3:30 pm –
Swiss Teams
Single Session - Stratified

Card Fees:
ACBL Members
\$10 per person/per session
Non-Members
\$11 per person/per session

Director in Charge: Peter Knee

Sunday, June 22

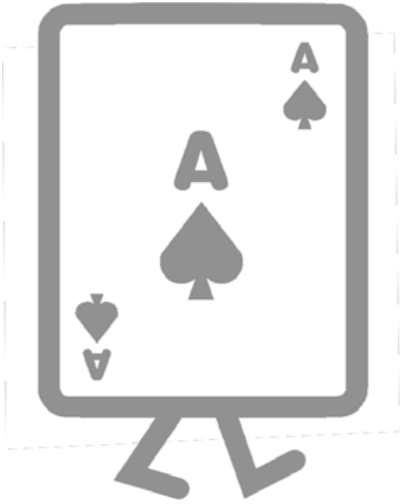
10:30 am –
Swiss Teams - Stratiflighted
First Session
Flight A/AX: 0 – unlimited masterpoints
Flights B, C, D: 0 – 2000 masterpoints

Second Session to be announced
NOTE: There will be a sufficient break to allow players to go out to a restaurant.

Stratified A: 2000+ masterpoints
Stratified B: 500-2000
Stratified C: 0-500

Location:
San Fernando Valley Bridge Academy
6733 Variel Ave. Canoga Park
2 blocks W. of DeSoto, just S. of Vanowen
Exit DeSoto from the 101 or 118 Freeway
(818) 999-9131

FREE PARKING



Partnerships & More Information:
Rand Pinsky
District 23 Nat’l Board of Directors
Pinsky4Bridge@earthlink.net
(661) 253-1105
OR
Howard Einberg (310) 475-9784
Grand National Teams Coordinator

*****All profits from this tournament will be given to our GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS to help support their expenses as they represent our district in the GNT National Competition *****

Around The Units in District 23

Antelope Valley Santa Clarita by Gin

Good things are becoming the norm at AV Bridge Club. Table count is up, thereby shrinking deficit spending. In fact the club is very close to operating in the black. Our objective to become totally solvent is within reach. Unit 556 has also experienced a slight rise in membership. Our members are working very hard to return our club to its former glory.

Many have contributed to the development and decoration of our new clubroom. Some contributions were financial while other supplied much needed labor. The latest contributors are Earlene DeHaas and Mary Ellen Downs. Not only did they purchase the plants that adorn the outside of our clubroom, they also took on the dirty job of filling the pots with soil and planting the blooming shrubbery. A huge thank you is extended to Earlene and Mary Ellen for volunteering their time and for shouldering the expense of the project.

Dave White has constructed two carts to transport tables and chairs with ease as needed. He spent many hours on this project. The club is very thankful for all the hours Dave devotes to improve our already elegant clubroom. His talents range from computer expertise to carper cleaning.

No job is impossible in his eyes. A simple thank you cannot cover the many things he undertakes and completes to make the operation and appearance of our club the best it can be. Let it suffice that we thank and appreciate Dave.

Snowbirds are on the move as temperatures rise and summer approaches. It is a bit of stretch for this reporter to be called a snowbird since the Antelope Valley is not known for severe winters, much less for great snow falls. However winter is an exciting time in the Lower Colorado River Valley and our comfortable ‘getaway’ home makes it easy to enjoy the winter months among the true snowbirds the migrate to Arizona every winter. Writing this column in Lancaster will make it easier to report bridge new more accurately. It is not easy to accumulate game results and noteworthy events from a distance. Suffice it to say that this reporter is homeward bound.

Top Five

Marlene and Dave Gasper played a 70.15% game for first place. Second place went to Betty Pavey and Evertt Dehn with 68.75%. 68.5% by Barb Shuping and Bobbi Thompson were in third place. George Lewis and Earlene DeHaas were in fourth place with 68%. Brad Ward and Dave Gasper came in fifth place with 67%. March games were hotly contested and in the special game category there were some 70%+ games as well but they are reported in depth else where in this column.

Tuesday Two Session Championship Games			
First Session 3/18			
	A	B	C
Nora Fincher & George Lewis	1	1	1
Janet Coussens & Marlene Gasper	2	-	-
Gloria Robinson & Bobbi Thompson	3	-	-
Bob Hart & Carolee Schupp	4	2	-
Nat Dent & Colin MacDougall	5	3	2
Second Session 4/1			
Lola Messiha & Doris Thompson	1	-	-
Janet & Marlene	2	-	-
Dan Crozier & Bob Hart	3	1	1
George & Nora	4	2	2
Ron & Sandi Oest	5	3	-
Overall Winners			
Janet and Marlene	1	-	-
George and Earlene	2	1	-
Alfred Miller and Barb Shuping	3	-	-
Colin and Nat	4	2	-
Club Championships 3/16			
Dave White and George Lewis	1	1	-
Ron and Sandi Oest	2	2	-
Dave and Marlene	3	-	-
May Abagi and Russ Buker	4	3	-
3/19			
Brad Ward and Onorita Pallanti	1	-	-
Dave Gasper and Pat Juenemann	2	-	-
Mary Ellen Downs and Jan Gibson	3	-	-
3/21			

Janet and Marlene	1	-	-
Gloria and Pat	2	-	-
Bobbi and Barb	3	-	-
Scarlett Damiano and Betty Reed	4	1	-
Nan Newland and Lila Merritt	-	2	-
Unit Game 4/6 overall			
Peggy Fleming and Jackie Moore	1	1	1
Dave and Marlene	2	-	-
Barb and Bobbi	3	-	-
Brad and Pat	4	-	-
Jan Gibson and Mary Ellen Downs	5/6	2	2
Hugh Bartlett and Roshen Hudulla	5/6	-	-

Coming Events	
May 4-11	Western Conference StaC
June 1 Two Session	Unit Championship
September 19-21	Unit 556 Sectional

A parting thought.....The best revenge is not to sink to the level of your enemies.

Downey – Whittier by Bernice Crelia

There is no doubt about it, spring is here. All the flowers are waking up and predicting a wonderful summer ahead. Marge Barning’s beautiful floral arrangements are something special — be sure to let her know you appreciate them. We want to start out by congratulating two of our players who have achieved new ranking. Stan Snyder has become a Gold life master and Mort Futterman became a Silver life master.

Now lets list the players who were winners of our 2007 awards. They were introduced and presented their awards at our April Unit Game.

Mini McKenney	Ace of Clubs
0-5 points	
Nick Gao	Betty Sander
Betty Sander	Jeanette Hamilton
Jeanette Hamilton	Nick Gao
5-20 points	
Terryl Williams	Terryl Williams
Kimiyo Chijiwa	Kimiyo Chijiwa
Anne Birch	Anne Birch
20-50 points	
Terry Binns	Terry Binns
Earl Liston	Earl Liston
Carlos Garcia	Carlos Garcia
50-100 points	
Fran Brant	Fran Brant
John Brant	John Brant
Gordon Marion	Gordon Marion
100-200 points	
Dick Holmes	Dick Holmes
Ken Bloomfield	Ken Bloomfield
Michi Yoshida	John McFarland
200-300 points	
Clinton Gorsuch	Betty Boss
Betty Boss	Renalda Rippe
Beverly Pokershing	Beverly Pokershing
300-500 points	
Chi Chong Yu	Annette Rayman
Carol Coplay	Joe Newman
Ron Coplay	Carol Copley
500-1000 points	
Chunky Hilton	Chunky Hilton
Lucile Thompson	Roy Rodenberg
Roy Rodenberg	Lucile Thompson
1000-2500 points	
Sabina Lim	Mary Kiechle
Mary Kiechle	Bess Kennedy
Bess Kennedy	Mary Graef
2500-5000 points	
Janet Ju	Marcie Evans
Marcie Evans	Janet Ju
Shirlie Faber	Shirlie Faber
5000-7500 points	
George Wang	George Wang
Walter Schafer Jr.	
7500-10000 points	
Robert Kerr	Robert Kerr
As always a special luncheon was enjoyed by	

everyone and the overall game winners were: first – Virginia and Clinton Gorsuch; second – Larry Bolls and Len Beck; third – Mary Graef and Bess Kennedy; fourth – Charlotte Sturm and Annette Rayman; fifth – Lina and Simon Cheng; sixth – Stan Snyder and Bruce Horiguchi.

Glendale-Verdugo by Dorothy LaMaie

Unit Game – 1 pm Saturday, May 10
12:15 pm – Buffet lunch
Board of Directors meeting – 11:00 AM Saturday, May 3

Sweet Springtime took a while coming, but it’s here now, with all the lushness and bright colors those winter rains could provide. Orange was the primary color recently on the Regency’s snack bar, thanks to Art Chacantias and one of the citrus trees in his well-designed garden. Gardeners may not get instant gratification, but their TLC is usually duly rewarded, and oft-times, when there’s over-abundance, so are we, as witness the oranges, lemons, kumquats, persimmons, figs, etc. that have been shared with so many by so few. Thankee kindly, oh youse of the green thumbs.

People take advantage of spring for a “break,” and Steve Guerrero took his from teaching, but it may have been too early for “Paris in the Spring;” however that beautiful city has much to admire at any time, and he did. Likewise London, with some good theater fare as well.

Wonder if he’s ever seen “The Mouse Trap” by Agatha Christie, the longest-running production of a play, ever. That’s the one Pat Abbey chose to see on her return from Egypt last March because rumor has it that it’s going to close – guess they finally caught the mouse! Pat and husband Norman also took a bit of an April break for a cruise to Ensenada for her birthday.

Carolyn Cohen and husband Lindsey got away from most of it all in beautiful weather and surroundings at the Surf & Sand in Laguna Beach. She may have dipped her toe in the surf of the Pacific, but we bet the warm sand garnered more attention.

Margaret and Zeke Mataga took their “break” with a sojourn in Hawaii at his brother’s time-share. As for the Island’s renowned pastime, am sure Margaret did a lot of surfing, but of a different kind – shopping!

R(obespierre?) Gerry Belcher and Barbara did some more cruising in French Polynesia, selecting Tahiti as their base, and no wonder since Bora Bora could be boring, n’est-ce-pas? END OF TRAVELOGUE. Oh yes, I went to Hemet...’nuf said.

We have another member who has suffered the loss of a sibling, this time Melina Stevens whose sister passed away recently. Sisters and brothers can play an important part in one’s life, and we hope good memories survive to help fill the void, not only for Melina, but for Margaret Mataga and Sherri Strube who have suffered similar losses.

Tim Lolli gave an excellent lecture at the Regency on a recent Saturday and was due to wax wisely in the latter part of April. He has indicated a willingness to tackle other subjects that give players trouble and is also scheduled for the 17th of May. If interested, please phone the club at (818) 500-8669 to reserve a spot.

Congratulations to Edward Hsi on obtaining his Life Master certification. He and C.C. Fang, who is a Silver Life Master, usually do well at our Unit Game (see below).

As for the March Los Angeles Regional, the only response to my repeated prying came from John Villalobos and Paul Nason who teamed up with R(ichelieu?) Gerry Belcher and Bob Tayrien for a 2nd place win in a Consolation Knockout event. In a subsequent KO, John and Paul joined others for a fourth-place tie.

Meanwhile at the club, Harold Gordon reigned for a week in the Numero Uno spots on the Regency’s scoreboard. As for the April Unit Day Game, Pat Abbey donned the toque and provided special provender: Both mild and spicy Mexican casseroles with cornbread to match. Sherri Strube brought a huge green salad and Nancy Lyon whipped up those tasty dressings. As for the dessert bar, Betsy Josias and Margaret Mataga loaded it with an array. It’s no small matter preparing food for so many, and we extend enthusiastic kudos to present and past providers. Likewise to our successful contenders, as set forth below:

NS	
A1	Ann Banta & Ron Moeckel
A2 B1	John Villalobos & Dick Plumer
A3 B2	Sharon Wolf & Phil Dessert
A4 B3	Jake Frankel & Ed Schwartz
C1	Edward Hsi & C.C. Fang
EW	
A1	Tim Lolli & Dan Oakes

A2		Harold Gordon & Tom Wan
A3	B1	Esther Tapelband & Bob Hogan
A4	B2	Harold Knowles & Zach Vedro
	B3	Sixten Ohman & Lyle Wiederman
	C1	Nancy Lyon & Betsy Josias
	C2	M. Horn & G. Bierman

Hope to see you at our next Unit game on May 10.

Long Beach
www.acblunit557.org
www.longbeachbridge.com
by Jon Yinger

LBBC 26th Anniversary Party: Wednesday, April 30
Dinner at 6:30, Game at 7:00 pm

The Anniversary Party game is a sectionally rated championship game. **May 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11** we will have Western Conference STaC games. Regular schedule, \$9 card fees. **Monday, May 5 at 7:00 pm** we will have a sectionally rated team game. On **Thursday, May 8** the 12:30 game is an International Fund Game, \$9 card fees. **Sunday, May 18** is the monthly unit game. Lunch at 12:30 pm, game at 1:00 pm. Remember the new time!

APRIL UNIT GAME RESULTS: 25 tables in two sections in the open game. Overall results were: 1st, Phyllis Parker and Eddie Kantar; 2nd, Jon Yinger and Bee Kinman; 3rd, Cory Hand and Irma Johnson; 4th, John and Suzie Hand; 5th, Pat Durand and Eileen Nelson; 6th, Barbara Balowitz and Marcus Evans. Other winners in the overalls were: Wang and Shiu-Ming Huang, 4th in B, Larry and Sibyl Slutsky, 5th in B, and in the C category, 1st: George Lawrence and Hashim Mahmood, 2nd: Kay Tseng and George Norman, 3rd: Keith and Susan Hafen, 4th: Skip Genebach and Ed Neuroth, 5th: Chuck Messall and Gregory Leach and 6th: Murat Veysoglu and Lisa Kuo. In the seven-table non-life master game over-all winners were: 1st, Barbara Shortwell and Bernard Mann; 2nd, Bob Ballack and Dorothy Andersen; 3rd, Miranda and Anthony Reddy; 4th, Howard Smith and Lottie Kostar; 5th, Renee Hoffman and Donna Sappia. Other winners: Harry Wang and John Kiang, 3rd in A, NS, and Shirlee Earley and John Kiang, 2nd in B NS and Claudette Barrack and Monica Gettis, 4th in B EW. The dinner, prepared by Sue Hafen, Peggy Waite and Pat Adam, assisted by Keith Hafen, was delicious. Congratulations winners!

NEW STATUS & NEW MEMBERS: We issue a warm welcome to our one new member during this reporting period, Lynne Finley.

The most recent status changes for our unit are: *Life Master* Tybie Becker and *Bronze Life Master* Curtis Johnson. Status changes announced at the April 13th awards banquet included: New *Life Masters*: Sue Sood, Jan Wagner, Barbara Frischkorn, Sue Fardette, Fern Dunbar, Chuck Messell and Peter Eddy. *Bronze Life Masters*: Gayle Harris, Dale Manos, Dick Stein, Linda Stein, Sue Hafen, Keith Hafen, Cory Hand and George Norman. *Silver Life Masters*: Steve Sulzby, James Smith and Donna Wenberg. *Gold Life Masters*: Irwin Bender, Diane Lynch and Irma Johnson. *Diamond Life Master*: Phyllis Parker. As a special surprise for Phyllis, Donna Wenberg, Cayce Blanchard and Bob Mault arranged to have Eddie Kantar play with her at the unit game. And she was genuinely surprised. Now that’s better than a new license plate holder, huh? To each of you – Congratulations!

70+% GAMES through 4/15: Four pairs hit that “magic” 70+% game this reporting period. Richard Dickens and Gary Dial had a 75% game on 3/17; Kay Hyland and Lynne Finley had a 71.67% game on 3/19 and Russell Maguire and Melanie Smith had a 73.33% game (E-W) in the same game. Rosemary Ford and Karen Wolf had a 74.29% game on March 21, and on April 2 Jane Reid and Penny O’Toole had a 70.83% game. Congratulations to all of you!

TRIVIA: On March 28 four pairs achieved the impossible: They all made the same score (50%). They were: Al Mastron/Morris Lorber, Ed Neuroth/Emma Trepinski, Skip Genebach/Fred Willbanks and Ralph Rivera/Frank Varga. Each player in that game won .26 master points.

GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS: At the San Fernando Valley Sectional April 5-6 a team consisting of Lenard Lakofla, Alan Flower, Kevin Lane (all Unit 557 members) and Kevin Lane won the qualifying event in Flight C and will represent District 23 at the Grand National Team Tournament in Las Vegas in July. Congratulations guys!

THIS MONTH AT THE CLUB: Starting Monday, April 14 will be a week of Championship Games ending with the Sunday, April 20, 1 p.m. game. The games will be the regular schedule, regular prices. On Wednesday, April

30, the LB Bridge Club will celebrate its 26th Anniversary. Dinner will be at 6:30, game at 7 p.m. It will be a sectionally rated Championship game. All these games will be extra points.

CONDOLENCES to the family of Terri Vedder who passed away last month after a long illness. And wishes for a speedy recovery to Steve Skinner, Darlene Sluder Greg Leach and Jeanne Landy. Greg and Jeanne were already back at the table last week, and we hope to see Steve and Darlene back soon.

ROSTER: After several false starts, the 2008 membership roster is available. Special thanks to Christine Frumen for her hard work in getting this job done!

COLUMNIST RETIRES: After six years of serving this club so ably as monthly columnist, Christine Frumen is retiring. We owe her an enormous debt of gratitude for her hard work taking over and completing work on the roster, as columnist and generally supporting the club. Thanks Christine! And thanks to Carol Murakoshi who has generously agreed to help me take over from Christine. If you have any news items you would like to see in the column, my email is jyinger1@gmail.com or you can reach me at 714-256-0250.

Pasadena
San Gabriel Valley
www.darbonne.com/bridge
by Jan Wickersham and Roy Wilson

Unit Game May 4, San Marino Community Center
lunch 12:30, game 1:00 pm

Our April Unit game was another fabulous success! Dominique Moore, (do I need to say more) was in charge of food. One thing we know - When Dominique is in charge in this capacity, there will never be a shortage! There was such variety and such a beautiful presentation. It is wonderful to be back in San Marino. We have a few items on the checklist to work out, but, over all, it is great to be there. We had 21 tables in the Open Section and four tables in the 299’ers. Arlene Johnson and Weezie Reich were the big winners with a 66.4% game. That fete allowed them to be first in A and B. Mark Hartzell and Sandra Franciscus were first in C. In the 299’er game, Mary Hodgson and Maureen Shay finished first with a 63% game. Please remember that an award will be given to the 299’er who earns the most masterpoints for the year. To win, you must play in the 299’er section.

Some special tournaments took place in March. The first one was the Nationals in Detroit. Very few people from our area were there, but Jeff Fang finished 8th in our district in masterpoints, earning 36.03. Immediately after Detroit came San Diego where Mike Shuman walked away with 36 points, followed closely behind by Jeff Goldsmith with 35 and Mike Pudlin with 30. Then, on the heels of San Diego, was the Los Angeles Spring Regional at Pacific Palms. An interesting observation is that Roger Lee netted 49 points from the tournament, and was ahead of Mark Itabashi with 48.78. Quite impressive, Roger!

Two of our unit members became Life Masters in March; Edward His and Eli Wang. Rae Murbach became a Gold Life Master at the LA Regional. Congratulations to you all!

It’s great to see Jimmy Rodgers back at the bridge table. Our members have had more than our share of illnesses this past month. Margery Gold was in the hospital with a blood clot in her neck, Riley Metz is recovering from pneumonia, and Marion Miller went in for a valve replacement and ended up with an additional bypass and three days later they had to add a pacemaker. That’s quite a lot for one very special lady. We miss you and hope to see you all back soon. Grace Wynheusen has recently been successful in overcoming some major health problems, and it’s great to see her doing so well now. It’s nice to have you back with us, Grace, and we would like to see the others join us, too.

Fred Thuerkauf and Herman Helber seem to be playing free at the San Marino Club lately. Not only did they win the weekly random drawing for a free play, but twice now they have come in first overall which gets them free passes. One of those times was the Club Championship game last month. Also, Herman moved up a couple of places in the Top 30 list for players in our unit, as did Jan Wickersham.

Big scores at the Bridge Center - Jim and Ellie Cowen had a 75% game in the Rookies and an even bigger game was brought in by Louise Dockey and Mary Clarke who scored a 79% in the Beginners game. Congratulations!

The Bridge Center has some special events in May:

Mother’s Day - closed
May 18 - Winners/Losers
May 23 - Beat the House
May 25 - Swiss

And STaC game will be held on Tuesday evening, May 6; Friday evening, May 9; and Saturday afternoon, May 10. STaC games are Sectional Tournaments at Clubs and you can earn silver points if you play.

If you haven’t bought your raffle ticket yet for the beautiful hand-made quilt with the bridge motif, you might be too late. If you want one, call Mark Hartzell at 818 472-7226 and he will see that you get it. The proceeds of the sale will be donated to LaSalle High School where we have our annual sectional. Only 200 tickets will be sold, so you best hurry.

I asked Rae Murbach if she would like to pass along a bridge tip and this is what she suggested... Most players know the *Rule of Eleven* when an opponent leads fourth best, but not all players use fourth best leads. Some partnerships prefer third and fifth best leads – and the Rule of Eleven doesn’t apply when they do. When you are declarer you should get in the habit of asking about your opponent’s lead conventions after the opening lead is made. It could keep you from making a big mistake. You need to change the rule if you are told the lead is fifth best: Subtract the spot card’s value from 10, not 11, to determine how many cards held by your RHO are larger than the lead. If the lead is a 3rd best spot card, subtract the value from 12. (If you are not familiar with the rule, the total you get tells you how many cards larger than the lead are not in the leader’s hand.)

If you get in the habit of asking about lead conventions you might also find out that not all players lead the top honor from a sequence. There is a method of leading called *Rusinow Leads* where the partnership agrees to lead the second highest honor rather than the top one. Doesn’t that sound like something you should know?

And finally, wouldn’t you like to know that a small discard by one of your opponent’s really tells his partner that he likes that suit? Or that they lead low from small doubletons? If you don’t ask, you won’t find out that they are playing Upside Down signals and discards.

Since leads and signals are not alertable, (but must be properly marked on the convention card) Rae’s tip is this: *Always ask the opponents about their leads and signals*

See you at the table

Pomona Covina
by Tom Lill

Unit Game-Sunday, May 18
Lunch-12:30 Game-1:00 pm

After a month’s hiatus due to computer woes, this reporter is back at the old stand. (There will now be a short pause while readers reply, “Who cares?”) I’d like to thank Tom Lill for filling in and writing last month’s column.

Roger Boyar would like to remind you that he is offering a new series of classes on Wednesdays at the Glendora Knights of Columbus building (2024 E. Old Rte. 66). The 9:00 am session is for novice players. At 1:00 pm he is teaching the 2/1 bidding system, and at 6:30 there are general lessons. New students are welcome even if they have missed some of the initial lessons. If you have a friend or relative looking for a new interest or wishing to brush up on pre-existing skills, send them over to Roger.

Before getting to last month’s results, we have a few social notes. Margaret Jacobs was honored at the recent L.A. Regional with an open pairs event named for her. She played with Tom Lill and placed high enough to take home some points in her own event. Hans Henhke is hosting a big two-week family gathering in Hawaii. Lastly, Kerry Tillman and I ran off to Santa Barbara and got married. We both deny Roger Boyar’s insinuations that I got her drunk and kidnapped her and we would like to thank the unit for the thoughtful gift.

Speaking of the regional, several unit members did well. Lary Alba and Dave Ruoff topped all “B” entrants in two open pairs, and Dave, Susan Ruoff, Gary Olson and Herb Stampfl took second in a Swiss. Donald Naf and Edwin Kelly took first in a 299er. Tom Lill and Ann McClelland’s team took sixth in a Swiss and took a lot of satisfaction out of knocking the top team out of first on the last round. In overall MP totals, Dave Ruoff led local players with 26.07, followed by Lary Alba (18.87), Gary Olson (16.53), Susan Ruoff (13.97), Cordell Goode (8.69), and Lynne Parker, Karen McCarthy, Georgiana Bierman, Kathy Helber, Sue Rottner, and Consuelo Ledbetter (all about 6.5). Others winning MP’s were Lulu Minter,

UNITS continued on page 10

Torrance – South Bay Sectional (Unit # 568)
May 23rd, 24th, 25th & 26th
(Sanction No. S 0805121)

- **BRACKETED KNOCKOUTS**
- 1ST Round Registration Closes at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 23, 2008
 - Round 1 – Friday, May 23rd, 7:45 p.m.
 - Round 2 – Saturday, May 24th, 10:30 a.m.
 - Round 3 – Saturday, May 24th, 3:00 p.m.
- **OPEN PAIRS**
 - **Friday, May 23rd**
 - 1:00 p.m. – Stratified
 - 1:00 p.m. – 0 – 49'er
 - 7:30 p.m. – Stratified
 - **Saturday, May 24th**
 - 10:30 a.m. – Stratified
 - 3:00 p.m. – Stratified
 - 7:30 p.m. – Stratified
 - **Sunday, May 25th**
 - 1:30 p.m. – Stratified
 - 7:30 p.m. – Stratified
- **SWISS TEAMS**
 - **Monday, May 26th**
 - 10:30 a.m. – First Session
 - T.B.D. – Second Session
- **STRATIFICATION**
 - **Open Pairs**
 - 0 – 500
 - 500 – 1500
 - 0 – Unlimited
 - **Swiss Teams**
 - 0 – 1,500 - - Victory Point Scale
 - 0 – Unlimited - - Victory Point Scale
 - 0 – 500 - - Win/Loss

- **Tournament Director** **Peter Knee**
- **Tournament Manager** **Ray Mack**
 - **Telephone Number** **310-374-4906**
- **Partnership Chairperson** **Gabby Jackson**
 - **Telephone Number** **310-831-8727**
 - **Cell Number** **310-720-8177**
- **Card Fees**
 - **ACBL Members** **\$10.00 per session**
 - **Non-ACBL Members** **\$11.00 per session**
 - **Individuals 18 and Under** **Play for free**
- **Location** **Hollywood Park Casino**
- **Address** **3883 W. Century Blvd.,
Inglewood, CA 90303**
- **Parking** **Self Parking - Free
Valet Parking - \$2.00
(with validation)**



Venue Location
3883 W. Century Blvd.
Inglewood, CA 90303

Note: All Open Pairs are single session events.

Tournament Director

Scott Campbell

Tournament Chairperson

Ruth Ann Alpert (714) 962-3251

Assistant

Vicki Macclyment (949) 552-5648

Tournament Managers

Partnership Desk

Audry Wicks (949) 559-5990

Hospitality Desk

Linda Crawford (714) 968-5870

Marilyn Christy (714) 968-3048

Card Fees per Session

\$10.00 per Person

\$11.00 Non & Unpaid Member

\$25.00 per Person for Sunday
Swiss Teams - Two Sessions;
including a box lunch

***Stratification Levels**

[Friday & Saturday Only]

Strat A 2000+

Strat B 750 -> 2000

Strat C 0 -> 750

Food for Sale

at Eagle Rock Cafe

Sandwiches and grill available
on Friday and Saturday

- Free Parking
- Non-Smoking Tournament
with Smoking Breaks

Sanction No.: 0806039



Friday, June 6th

10:00 AM

- Stratified* Open Pairs
- 299er Pairs
- Compact K.O.s
(Rounds 1 & 2)

3:00 PM

- Stratified* Open Pairs
- 299er Pairs
- Compact K.O.s
(Rounds 3 & 4)

Saturday, June 7th

10:00 AM

- Stratified* Open Pairs
- 299er Pairs
- Compact K.O.s
(Rounds 1 & 2)

3:00 PM

- Stratified* Open Pairs
- 299er Pairs
- Compact K.O.s
(Rounds 3 & 4)

Sunday, June 8th

10:00 AM

- Stratiflighted
Swiss Teams

• TBA

Second Session

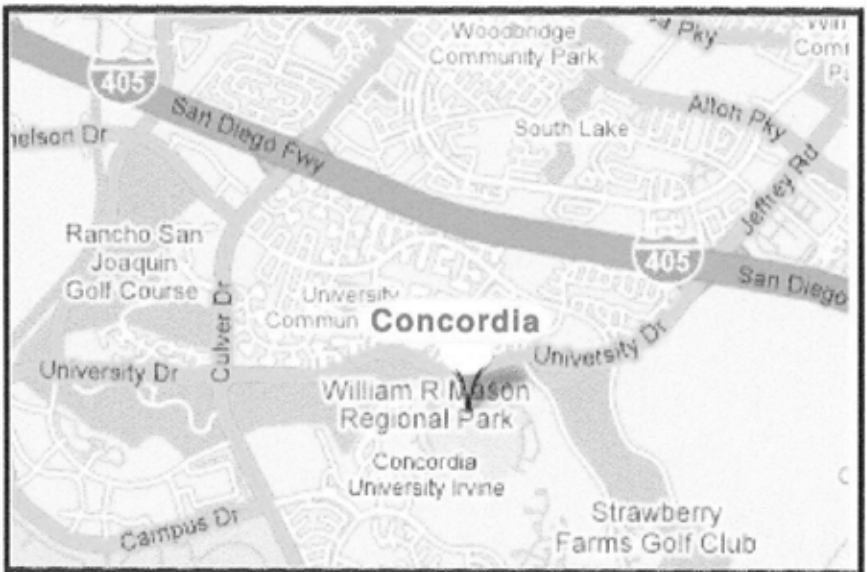
Flight A	5000+
Flight AX	0 -> 5000
Strat B	1250 -> 2000
Strat C	750 -> 1250
Strat D	0 -> 750

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Concordia University
1530 Concordia West
Irvine, CA

Directions

South of 405 Fwy
Between Culver and
Jeffrey / University
• Take University to
Ridgeline
• Take Ridgeline to
Concordia East



Regional Resultst Continued From Page 5

B Horiguchi, Gardena; Zeev Collin, Tustin		
KICKOFF KO TEAMS II - 7 Tables		
1	James Edmondson - Judy Edmondson, Santa Barbara; Mitch Towner, Salt Lake City UT; Steven Towner, Salt Lake Cty UT	
2	James Andrews - Shay Andrews, San Diego; Charlotte Blum, La Jolla; Shirley Eide, Bakersfield	
3	Justine Hancock - Barbara Dunkley - John Scibelli - Thomas Shulman, Las Vegas NV	

SUNRISE OPEN PAIRS - 15.0 Tables		
A	B	C
1		Lucy Tredennick, Lomita; Steve Mager, Hermosa Beach 60.82%
	2	1 Lary Alba, Ranch Cucamonga; David Ruoff, Corona 59.46%
3	2	Thompson Jin, Northridge; Chi-Chong Yu, Hacienda Hgts 58.25%
4		Fred Theurkauf, Pasadena; Herman Helber, La Verne 56.49%
5	3	Gayle Grubb, Newport Beach; Betty Williams, Long Beach 56.17%
6		Mike Albert - Ray Pape, Omaha NE 54.25%
	4	Arlene Johnson, Arcadia; Lynn Ryan, Glendale 53.45%
	5	1 Ed Wills - Theresa Martell, Newport Beach 53.29%
	6	David Waterman, St George UT; Terry Waterman, Saint George UT 53.21%
	2	Eleanor Levine - Clay Levine, LA 51.92%
	3	Lee Johnson, Huntington Bch; Carol Klahr, Huntingtonca Bh 50.16%
	4	Richard Ford - Kathy Ford, Saint Louis MO 49.12%

TUESDAY AFT 299ER PAIRS -5.0 Tables		
A	B	C
1		Mike Ullman, Seal Beach; Sherry Troeger, Long Beach 66.50%
2	1	1 J Robinson, Newport Beach; Fred Dyle, Huntington Bch 60.50%
3		Lyle Wiedeman, LA; Charles Cordaro, Pasadena 58.50%
4	2	2 Paul Gill, Santa Clarita; Jerry Burrill, Newhall 52.50%
	3/4	3/4 Frank Pinkus, Tarzana; Barbara Parsons, Woodland Hills 51.50%
	3/4	3/4 Nancy Lee, San Mateo; David Solin, San Marino 51.50%

AFTERNOON SIDE SERIES - 5.0 Tables		
A	B	C
1	1	1 Lavonne McQuilkin, Long Beach; Carol Murakoshi, Cypress 63.00%
2	2	Theodore Maki, Northridge; Lorraine Adams, Granada Hills 59.00%
3/4	3/4	2 Jim Canty, Berkeley; Gretchen Smith, Piedmont 53.00%
3/4	3/4	Todd Knapp, Costa Mesa; William Morton, Woodland Hills 53.00%

TUES AFT SWISS TEAMS - 12 Tables		
A	B	C
1	1	David White, Agoura; Samuel Wang, Monterey Park; Harish Singh,

			Diamond Bar; Arif Shah, Granada Hills 67.00
2/3	2/3	1/2	Thomas Harris, Garden Grove; Cindy Matsuk, Lakewood; Barbara Frischkorn, Seal Beach; Jean Kato, Westminster 51.00
2/3	2/3	1/2	Ellen O'Brien, San Clemente; Sally Pelmear, Mission Viejo; Diana Black, Newport Beach; Jerry Schreider, Irvine 51.00
4	4		Daniel Raider, San Mateo; James Merzon, Templeton; Teri Atkinson, Bakersfield; Janet Wickersham, Sierra Madre 49.00

MORNING SIDE SERIES 5.0 Tables		
A	B	C
1		Nunzio Martorina, Midland TX; Patricia Al-Hakeem, Laguna Beach 64.00%
2	1	Charles Fox, Sun City; Harry O'Neil, Perris 59.50%
3	2	1 J Robinson, Newport Beach; Fred Dyle, Huntington Bch 55.00%
4	3	2 Barbara Fenmore - Barton Fenmore, Rancho Mirage 54.00%
	4	3 John Stokdyk, Pacif Palisades; Robert Martin, Pacifi Palside 52.00%

KRAZY KOMPACT KO I 12 Tables		
1	Ellen Anten, Encino; Steve Gross, Westlake Vlg; Mark Itabashi, Murrieta; Ann Nixon, Irvine	
2	Mollie Campbell, Rancho Mirage; Leslie Strong, Santa Ynez; Larry Gilbert, Union WA; Brian Gilbert, Irvine	
3	Toby Rothman, Beverly Hills; Phil Clayton, San Juan Capo; V Everett Boyer, San Bruno; Viktor Anikovich, LA	
4	Wei-Bung Wang - Chien-Yao Tseng, Riverside; Jack Chao, Oceanside; Roger Lee, Arcadia	

KRAZY KOMPACT KO II - 10 Tables		
1	Lutrell Long, Rncho Pls Vrd; Doris Ayers, Compton; Kim Wang - Hank Sheehan, Torrance	
2	Angelika Hederer - Anita Levine - Lynne Bronner - Constance Fishbach, LA	
3	Richard Ziock, Garberville; Bonnie Taylor, Menands NY; Robert Willmann, San Diego; Helen Howard, Santaluz	

KRAZY KOMPACT KO III - 14 Tables		
1	Jane Dober, Dana Point; Richard Leach - Sandra Leach, Laguna Beach; Ronald Rudderow, Laguna Niguel	
2	Anne Andres - Mary Overbey, Pls Vrds Pnsl; Bee-De Lim - Margaret Yeh, Pls Vrds Est	
3	Ronald Malkin - Gloria Malkin - James Gardner, Northridge; Paul Fuson, Winnetka	
4	Constance Abell - Herbert Ehrmann - Dorothy Lipsky, Los Angeles; Audrey Pauly, Beverly Hills	

KRAZY KOMPACT KO IV - 12 Tables		
1	Thomas Jones - Barbara Jones, Canyon Cntry; Tracy Boys, Sherman Oaks;	

Regional Results Continued Next Month



BRIDGE WEEK

REGIONAL

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2008

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♣ ♦ **NEW PLAYING SCHEDULE** ♥ ♠

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(Tuesday/Wednesday) (Thursday/Friday)

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KNOCKOUTS EVERY DAY

HOSPITALITY EVERY NIGHT • FREE COFFEE

New Features: Three session KO starting Monday night
More two session Swiss Games • All games in the Main Ballroom

Bridge Rate: \$119.00 Ask for ACBL Bridge rate
Concierge Level \$149.00 • Reservation cut off date: June 21

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1 800 524-4557 - Reservations
www.pacificpalmsresort.com

UNITS

continued from page 7

Warren and Mary Ann Wottring, Mary Miller, Joe Unis, Tom Lill, Walt Otto, Richard Patterson, Ann McClelland, Ron Purkis, Ned Sissel, Susan Emminger, Russell Drew, Tim and Eileen Finlay, Edwin Kelly, Penny Barbieri, Kurt Trieselmann, Jerry Androus, Denise Morgan, Helen Wang, Albert Lax, Margaret Jacobs, Dolores Kelley, Carolyn Moyers, and Roger Boyar.

In local results, the April unit game was won by Bill Papa and Helen Wang, followed by Cordell Goode and Lary Alba. Section winners in the unit individual (Saturday May 3 this month) were Luann Schirmer and Walt Otto. A special award for most unusual performance in two consecutive individual sessions goes to Roger Boyar, who posted a spectacular 81.25% and followed it with an even more stupendous 28.5% to average out at 51%. He blames his partner for the second result. Top club game of the month was a nice 69.2% posted by Herman and Kathy Helber. Other winners were Mary Miller, Karen Olin, Helen Wang, Joe Unis, Kurt Trieselmann, Walt Otto, Rick Whitham, George Altinus, Ken Bloomfield, Ken Lowenthal, Vic Sartor, Dave Ruoff, Roger Boyar, James Rhodes, Richard Patterson, Edwin Kelly, and Donald Naf. With all these results,I'd better save the hand of the month 'til next time. So long 'til then.

San Fernando Valley

www.sfvbridgeacademy.com

by Jimmie Swan

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE

MINI-MCKENNEY AND ACE OF CLUBS

AWARDS CELEBRATION GAME!

This game will be held on Sunday, May 18, at 1 pm

at the Bridge Academy. The award winners will play for free, compliments of the unit.

Congratulations to the new Unit Sectional Masters

Harriet Belasco and Marlene Brounstein

Congratulations to the new Bronze Life Masters

Allan Bloom and Marta Peltz

UNIT 561 SECTIONAL WINNERS

Congratulations to the Kaiser Perpetual Trophy

Winners! Sam Antoun and Moe Mansour, each with 5.16 masterpoints

The Leaders were Andy Vinock, 12.12 masterpoints, Steve Gross, 10.35, Marta Peltz, 9.91, and Marty Blaine, 9.25. These players were first overall or first in section, in their stratification: Janet Kordakis--Barbara Pinchuk, Lamonte Johnson--John Van Egmond, Rita Weil--Elaine Schecter, Gary Frans--Leda Danzig, Irv Drooyan--Larry Gordon, Morris Cody--Dave Posley, Steve Gross—Gayle Andrews, Marel Bates--Jeff Millman, Alene Friedman--Nazli Zahedi, Marta Peltz--Andy Vinock, Zenia Osadca--Bob Williams, Martin Hurwitz--Jeff Millman, Sam Faye--Shelley Linick, Merri and Tom Anderson, John Clark--Freddi Straus, Sam Antoun--Moe Mansour, Fran Cohen—Eva Seri, Marty Blaine—John Clark, Greg Bozin—John Tickner, JoAnne and Charles Kelley, Susan and Jim Munday, Sharon David—Judy Rosenstiel, Dawn Kowalski—Dorothy Lazar, Noel and Tammy Purkin, Lewis and Rhoda Himmell, Barry and Janet Cooper, Michael Shaw—Robert Shore, Rosemary Crusier—Michael Zieper, and Joyce Hart—Fran Mink.

70+% GAMES AT THE BRIDGE ACADEMY

Bill Morton and Gil Stinebaugh had a 77.38% game, bypassing the fantastic game of Gloria Malkin and Merkie Rowan by 1/100 of a point. Other 70%+ games were by Armand Szulc and Andy Vinock, 75.00%, Ron Malkin and Bill Taylor, 73.71% game, Robert Bass and Steve Gross, 72.49% game, Arlene Newman and Hal Perla, 71.18% game, and Gloria and Ron Malkin, 70.19% game.

MARCH LEADERS AT THE BRIDGE ACADEMY

Open Leaders: Gil Stinebaugh, 24.86 masterpoints, Leda Danzig, Andy Vinock, Tom Wylie, Armand Szulc, Marty Blaine, Joan Rubin, Sy Zemlyn, Sheila Bozin, and Seymour Weg.

299 Leaders: Sam Antoun, 7.58 masterpoints, Moe Mansour, Robert Glasser, Jim Gardner, Mel Lerner, Janet Cooper, Ellen Carrier, Lee Wells, Don Rosen and Herb VanBrink.

LA REGIONAL: Pat Shellogg-Seal and Myrna Kalman, and teammates Eva Seri and Jim Lechner, were

thrilled with their first place win in a knockout consolation game. This was their first experience in a Regional Knockout event and they are looking forward to many more.

SAN DIEGO REGIONAL: Glenna and Armand Szulc came in three overalls in pairs games.

VENTURA SECTIONAL: Harriet Belasco and Toby Rothman also played in a Knockout event for the first time, and came in second. Sheila Bozin and Freddi Straus won the open pairs.

NORTH COUNTY 299ER SECTIONAL: Allan Palansky was fourth in a field of 123 winners, winning 4.30 in this sectional.

Congratulations to all of you for these accomplishments! That’s all for now.

Torrance South Bay

http://home.netcom.com/~asmager1/sbbchp.htm

http://www.bridgeclubs.org/indexphp?id=sbbc

by Steve Mager

Torrance South Bay Unit Sectional

The annual Torrance South Bay Unit sectional will once again be held over the Memorial Day weekend at the Hollywood Park Casino. The dates of the tourney are Friday May 23 thru Monday May 26. There will be stratified Open Pair games at 1 pm and 7:30 pm on Friday, May 23. There also will be a 49er game at 1 pm on that day. A Knockout event starts Friday night with registration closing at 7:30 pm. There are three stratified Open Pair events on Saturday starting at 11:30 am, 3 pm and 7:30 pm respectively. Two more stratified Open Pair games will be held at 1:30 pm and 7:15 pm on Sunday. The tournament concludes with Swiss team events STARTING AT 10:30 am on Monday, Memorial Day, May 26.

Please note that unlike previous years there will be an Open Pair and 49er game on Friday afternoon at the Hollywood Park Sectional. The South Bay Bridge Club will be closed all day that Friday.

Upcoming Events at the South Bay Bridge Club

Upgraded Club Championship: Friday, May 2, 11:30 am

Western Conference STAC: Mon May 5-Sun May 11

STAC Swiss Teams: Tuesday, May 6, 7:00 PM

STAC Swiss Teams: Sunday, May 11, 1:00 PM

(TENTATIVE)

Call South Bay Bridge Club to make sure this game is on

Club Championship: Monday, May 12, 7:00 pm

NLM Club Championship: Wednesday, May 14, 6:30 pm

Club Championship: Monday, May 19, 11:30 pm

The South Bay Bridge Club will be closed during the TSB Unit Sectional May 23 - 26. There will be Friday night games on May 2 and May 16. There are now Handicapped Swiss Teams every Tuesday night at 7:00 pm.

Club Championships

The March 19 Club Championship was captured by Grace Conde/Pat Schenasi in Flight A with Sheryl Kohlhoff/Carol McCully taking both Flight B and C honors. On March 21 the Club Championship winners in Flight A were Bea and John Brailliar with Beth Weinstein/Marilyn Smith on top in Flight B. The April 4 Club Championship was won by Dean Kaloudis/Jerome Drayton in Flight A with Henry Crowder/Bob Bacharach capturing Flight B. On April 9 the Club Championship saw Bruce Horiguchi/John Brailliar taking Flight A followed by Kim Wang/Lutrell Long winning flight B and Dorothy Laird/Carol Mason ahead in Flight C.

Swiss Team Winners

The Swiss teams on March 16 was won by Kim Wang, Harry Wang, G. T. Tseng and Hank Sheehan in Flights A and B. The March 18 Swiss teams was captured by the quartet of Bo Bogema, Mary Ann Coyle, John Farr and John J. McDermott. On March 25 the leaders were Barbara White, John Farr, Mary Ann Coyle and Bo Bogema. It’s no April Fool on April 1 the winners were Bernie Weinstein, Ernie Frank, Gabby Jackson and Harry Wessels in Flight A followed by Mark Raggio, CharlesLaFranchi, Arlene and Stanley Greengard in Flight B. The April 8 Swiss teams was won by the quartet of Betty Williams, Stanley Greengard, Freddie Spradlin and Henry Crowder in both Flights A and B.

GUV Award

I’ve bragged in the past at what an expert I am at handling hands with limited Trump holdings. Most of the time I arrived at these contracts I was playing with Paul Boudreau and forgot one of the crazy bidding treatments he had laid on me. In order to check out whether I really deserved to brag about my expertise as a declarer with limited trumps a partner of mine at a recent tournament tested me out three times.

The first was not successful at all. She opened 1 Spade and I splintered 4 Clubs. She tried 1430 Blackwood and it was my misfortune to have 1 control and respond 5 clubs. Apparently she forgot we were playing Splinters and she dropped me there. Down 4 in a 4-1 fit where we were stiff for 6 Spades.

Next, we were playing New Minor Forcing but she must have thought it was New Minor Not Forcing. The sequence went 1♦ by her, 1♠ by me, 1NT by her. At this point I tried 2♣, New Minor forcing and started getting worried when there was no alert and she started thinking. Sure enough she passed and I was playing 2♣ in a 4-2 fit. I proved my playing skills this time by bringing the contract in with an overtrick. Unfortunately we still got zero matchpoints as 3NT was cold for 5 and the rest of the world bid it.

Lastly, I held 23 HCP in fourth seat and the bidding went pass, pass 1♥, Dbl, pass, 2♦, pass, 2♥ by me, all pass. Yes she dropped me in a cue bid and I even mentioned it as the Yarborough dummy came down. If she was testing me I passed with flying colors this time. I played a 3-2 trump fit holding 9xx in dummy and QJ in my hand. Well thank god the opponents didn’t lead trumps and I scored 3 trump tricks with this holding and made 2♥. We actually got some matchpoints on this one. It was almost worth it after the lady on my left, who smiled condescendingly when I mentioned I was dropped in a cue bid, was shocked enough to blurt out at the hands end “You mean he made it?!?”

Na Zdrowie

West LA

by candy

Many years ago Sandy Rink, Diana Schreiber, Terre Primmer and myself wrote the Culver-Marina Unit Column under the pseudonym “The Lunchboxes.” Our motto was “Death, Taxes & The Monthly Column”. Every April 15 I’m reminded of this as I have just come back from mailing my taxes and am now working on the unit column.

Hopefully we will see you at the WLA tournament May 2-4. Results will be reported next month, so play and maybe you can be my column material for June.

Speaking of June, no gloom here ...It’s a party!! The WLA Annual Pro-Am Game Sunday June 8 at the Beverly Hills Bridge Club. Sign-ups at the clubs. Jeri Berger is in charge again and we’re expecting a large turn out. Come join the fun. Gloomy faces are checked in at the door, black tie is optional, but smiles are not.

Barbara Brat succumbed to cancer last month and her numerous friends that let me know is a testimony to all those lives she touched.

Cyma threw Art Zail a surprise party for his 60th birthday. This reminded me of a favorite story of the two of them playing at a regional and at that time if you played any non-standard defensive carding you had to announce it. They come to this table and this flight “C” pair start in with a litany of conventions to which Art responded “We play Polish suit preferences.” The man asked about this and Art said he’d point it out if it came up. First hand Cyma leads a 5 and Art announces “There’s one.” “What?” “She wants me to play a 5.” Winning the ace and switching to his 5 defeated the contract. Second hand Art wins a trick while Cyma discards a 7. “There’s another one” “What?” “She wants me to play a 7.” Art plays a 7, lightening struck twice and the contract went down. The man now wants to know more about thus convention. Art is retelling this story and someone looks at Cyma for confirmation. “Oh, I don’t listen to him.”

70%ers were Susan Somogyi & Marty Blain, Aram Bedros & Art Zail,. Suzanne LeBendig & Gary King, Gil Stinebaugh & David (Don) Crum, Fumie Glenlynn & Dave Segal, Betsy Lutz & Chuck Fonorow (no free play came in 2nd behind Fumie & Dave)

Club Champs ... Beverly Hills “A” Toby Green & Marjory Malloy, Rhoda & Lew Himmell, Toby Green & Albert Cohen “B” Ruth Shayne & Audrey Parker, Helen Palmer & Joyce Lelah , Carolyn Taff & Ed Feldmann “C” Elliot Marshall & Timothy Harris, Brenda Schonfeld & David Szlos., Barrington Marilyn & Irv Sobel.

I just got a new computer and it is testing my intelligence. I’m not sure but I don’t think I’m up to its standards. I’m signing off so I can take the next hour figuring out how to ship this column to my editor. ‘Til next month....

District 23 Bridge Club Directory

<u>Antelope Valley-Santa Clarita #556</u>		
AV Bridge Club		
661-940-8522 or 661-943-5712		
858 W Jackman St. Lancaster, 93534		
Tuesday	noon	Open
Wednesday	6:30	Open
Friday	noon	Open
Sunday	1:00	Open

Valencia Bridge Studio		
Senior Center 661-253-1105		
22900 Market St, Santa Clarita 01321		
Manager: Kathy Swaine Dir: Rand Pinsky		
Tuesday	6:45	Open/Stratified

<u>Downey-Whitier Unit #564</u>		
Downey Women’s Club 714-322-5505		
9813 Paramount Blvd., Downey 90240		
Wed	10 am	Open
Friday	10 am	Open
1st Friday	10 am	Unit Game

<u>Glendale-Verdugo Unit #553</u>		
The Glendale Regency Bridge Club		
818-500-8669		
303 W. Glenoaks Blvd., Glendale 91202		
All games are open/stratified		
Tuesday	noon	dir: Calvin Smith
Wednesday	7:15	dir: Pat Abbey
Thursday	noon	dir: Tim Stocks
Saturday	1:00	dir: Calvin Smith
2nd Sat	1:00	Unit game, 12:15 lunch

<u>Long Beach Unit #557</u>		
Long Beach Bridge Center 562-498-8113		
4782 PCH Long Beach 90804		
Monday	9:30	Open
	12:30	Open
	7:00	NLM
Tuesday	12:30	Open & 299er
	4:15	OPEN
Wednesday	12:30	Open
	7:00	Open, 199er, & Bridge Plus
Thursday	12:30	Open & 99er
	7:00	49er
Friday	9:00	Open
	12:30	Open, NLM & 199er
	4:15	Open
Saturday	12:30	Open/Stratified
Sunday	1:000	Open

<u>Pasadena-San Gabriel Unit #559</u>		
Bridge Center		
626-445-3797 or 626-357-1590		
333 N. Santa Anita Ave, Arcadia 91006		
Director: Art Gulbrandsen		
Monday	noon	299er & 99er
	7:15	0-1500 MP & 99er
	7:30	Open
Tuesday	11:00	Open & 99er
	7:15	Open
Wed	7:15	299er
	7:30	Open
Thursday	11:00	Open
	7:15	0-1500 MP & lessons
Friday	11	Open
	7:30	Open & 299er
Saturday	10:30	99er & 299er
	1:00	Open
Sunday	1:00	Open - except 1st Sun

Elk’s Lodge of Arcadia		
27 W Huntington Dr.		
Arcadia, 91007		
Dir: Marie Nimmrich		
Monday	noon	Open
Unit Game - 1st Sunday		
lunch at noon, game at 1 pm		

<u>Pomona-Covina Unit #551</u>		
LaFetra Bridge Club - 626 335-1985		
Two Locations		
333 E Foothill Blvd, Glendora 91741		
Tuesday	8:45am	Open
Thursday	7:00pm	Open
Friday	8:45am	Open

Knights of Columbus Building		
2024 E. Route 66		
Glendora, 91740		
Wednesday	9:30	easybridge lesson
Wednesday	1	thinking bridge lesson
Wednesday	6:30	all levels lesson
2nd Sun	1:00	Unit Game
		lunch - 12:30

<u>San Fernando Valley Unit #561</u>		
San Fernando Valley Bridge Academy		
818-999-9131		
6733 Variel		
Canoga Park, 91303		
Monday	11:00	Open & NLM
	7:15	stratified
Tuesday	11:00	Open & NLM
Wednesday	11:00	Open & NLM
	3	clinic
	7:15	stratified & novice clinic
Thursday	11:00	Open & NLM
	3	conventions class
Friday	11:00	Open Stratified
Saturday	1:00	lunch & stratified

<u>Torrance-South Bay Unit #568</u>		
Beach Cities Bridge Club		
714-526-3129		
3007 Vail, Redondo Beach 90278		
Director: Thelma Donovan		
Friday	12:30	Open

Inglewood Beach Club 714-526-3129		
3007 Vail, Redondo Beach 90278		
Director: Warren Briggs		
Friday	7:00	Open

South Bay Bridge Club		
310-325-7222		
24100 Narbonne Ave. St 105,		
Lomita 90717		
Monday	11:30	Open/Stratified
	7:00	Open/Stratified
Tuesday	7:00	Open/Stratified
2nd&4th Tuesday at	7	Handicap Swiss
Wednesday	11:30	Open/Stratified
	6:30	NLM
Thursday	10:30	NLM (10:00 lecture)
	7:00	Open/Stratified
Friday	11:30	Open/Stratified
1st&3rd Friday at	7	Open/Stratified
Saturday	10:00	Novice Game
3rd or 4th Sunday at 1:00-Swiss Teams		

Veterans Park Bridge Club		
301 Esplanade, Redondo Beach 90277		
Director: W. Briggs		
Monday	6:00	Open
Wednesday	12:30	Open

<u>West Los Angeles Unit #562</u>		
Beverly Hills Bridge Center		
310-657-6933		
games at Beverly Hills Tennis Center		
325 S La Cienega Blvd., BH 90211		
FREE PARKING - all games, all the time		
Monday	12:30	Open
	7:15	Open
Tuesday	12:30	Open
	7:15	Open
Wednesday	12:30	Open & Jr/Nov Clinic
Thursday	12:30	Open
	7:15	Open
Friday	12:30	Open
Saturday	1:00	Open
	7:15	Open
Sunday	1:00	Open , D: Cyma Aronow
11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025		
Tuesday:	7:15	Open

Barrington Bridge Club 310-966-4144		
11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025		
Monday	9:30	Lesson & I/M
		with Adrienne Green
		Novice & Advanced
		Beginning With Pat Banks
	12:30	Open Stratified
Tuesday	9:30	Lesson beginners & novice Pat Banks
	12:00	* with George Siegel
		Open Stratified
Wednesday	10:00	* with Wayne Karson
	12:30	Stratified 199er
7:15	I/M 2/1	with
		Adrienne Green
Thursday	10:00	Thinking Bridge
		class - Wayne Karson
	12:30	Open/Stratified
	7:15	Novice/ Int Bridge Clinic
		With Pat Banks
Friday	10:00	Advanced Beginners/ Int.Bridge Class-w/ Pat Banks
	12:00	* with Sandy Rink
	12:30	Open/Stratified
	7:15	Open/Stratified with special bracket for 199er
Saturday	1:00	Open/Stratified
Sunday	1:00	Open/Stratified
		*supervised play

Bridge With Cyma		
Tuesday:	7:15	Open
at the Barrington Bridge Club		
11514 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90025		
310-659-7978		

Marina City Club		
(310) 713-8647 or (323) 369-5494		
Dir: Viktor Anikovich		
4333 Admiralty Way		
3rd floor, Center Tower		
Tuesday	7:30	open w/ free lesson

The Palisades Game		
Pacific Palisades Woman’s Club		
901 Haverford (Sunset at Temescal)		
90272		
818-535-7410 (game time)		
818-883-0690 (reservations)		
Wednesday	7:15	Open (dinner at 6:30)

for directory changes,
please email

bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org

Orange County, Southern Gold Coast, Santa Ana

<u>Anaheim Unit #513</u>		
Anaheim Bridge Club 714-520-9632		
201 E. Center St., Anaheim 92805		
www.youhold.org		
Monday	12:30	
	7:00	
Wednesday	12:40	
	7:00	
Friday	12:30	
	7:00	
Saturday	1:00	
2nd Sun	1:00	Team game
4th Sun	1:00	Unit Championship
all games Open Stratified		

Placentia Public Library		
411 E. Chapman (near Kraemer) 92870		
Wednesday	7:00	Open

<u>Dana Harbor Unit #538</u>		
Dana Harbor Bridge Center		
www.danaharborbridgecenter.org		
24921 Dana Harbor Dr. #B103,		
Dana Point 92629 949-248-1268		
Monday	12:30	Open/Stratified
	7 pm	Easy Bridge
Tuesday	12:30	Open/Strat & 299er
Wednesday	12:30	Open/Strat & NLM
	6:30	Charity Swiss Teams
Thursday	12:30	Open/Strat & NLM
Friday	12:30	Open/Strat & NLM
	7	Charity Pairs
		Open/Stratified
Saturday	12:30	Charity Pairs
		Open/Stratified
3rd Sun	12:30	Unit Game
4th Sun	12:30	Charity Swiss Teams

Balboa Unit		
http://www.acbldistrict22.com/515/		
Halecrest Tennis & Swim Club		
3107 Killybrooke Ln		
Costa Mesa, 949-233-6655		
1st Sun	1:15	Unit Game, Open
Monday*	12:15	99er (lesson at 11)
Wed	12:15	Open & 299er
		(lesson at 11)
* phone # for Mon game - 949-347-1356		

Park Newport Clubhouse		
Jamboree & San Joaquin Hills Rd.		
Tuesday	12:15	Open/Stratified
	7:00	Open/Stratified
Thursday	12:15	Open/Stratified
	7:00	Open/Stratified

Huntington Beach Club 714-842-3838		
Huntington Beach Women’s Club		
420 10th St., Huntington Beach 92648		
Monday	12:15	Open/Stratified
Friday	12:15	Open/Stratified

<u>Saddleback Unit #525</u>		
Leisure World Clubhouse 7		
Moulton Ave (north of El Toro Rd)		
2nd Sun	1:00	Unit Game

Bob’s Game 949-586-9488		
Monday	12:30	Murray Center
Thursday	noon	Sea Country Center

Leisure World - games everyday		
home.fea.net/~lwdbc		
949-268-2420		

<u>Santa Ana Unit #541</u>		
Orange County Bridge Club		
714-569-1960		
13912 Ponderosa, Santa Ana, 92705		
Monday	7:00	Open
Tuesday	6:00	beginner lesson
Wednesday	7:00	Open
Thursday	6:00	novice lesson
	7:00	NLM
	7:15	INV game
Friday	7:30	Open
Saturday	11:00	INT/ADV
	12:30	Open (lunch at 12)

Orange County Unit Game		
LW Duplicate Bridge Club		
(Thomas Guide OC 891 D7)		
2nd Sun	1 pm	Stratified

Bob’s Games (949)586-9488		
Monday	12:30	Mission Viejo
Thursday	noon	Laguna Niguel

LWDBC Games Everyday		
home.fea.net/~lwdbc		

<u>Southern Gold Coast Unit #532</u>		
Bridge Academy II 805-495-0385		
77 Rolling Oaks Dr,		
Thousand Oaks 91361		
Monday	10:30	Open
Tuesday	10:30	Handicap
	7:00	Handicap
Thursday	10:30	Handicap
	7:00	Novice, Handicap
Friday	10:30	Handicap
Saturday	10:30	Handicap

ANNOUNCEMENTS continued from page 1

ALACBU Scholarship

The ALACBU Scholarship Foundation is pleased to offer \$1000 scholarships to high school seniors graduating in June 2008. Eligible candidates must reside within the borders of District 23 and should have some connection to bridge. Playing the game, taking lessons or caddying at tournaments would be helpful. Deadline for submitting applications is May 15 2008. Copy of application form can be found on page 5 of this paper or can be downloaded from the ALACBU website: www.alacbu23@aol.com. Completed forms with supporting documentation should be sent to Peter Szecsi 497 E.California Blvd #309 Pasadena CA, 91106. Call 626-304-9535 for more information. Pass the word and good luck.

WLA Spring Sectional

By Mario Mory

On May of last year the West Los Angeles Sectional was moved to the Kayne Reas Center. Since then attendance has risen and the comments we receive have been very favorable. This year's Spring Sectional will take place on the weekend of May 2-4. As before, the first session will be held at the Barrington Bridge Club, 11502 Santa Monica Blvd. (310-966-4144) at 7:30 pm. On Saturday and Sunday the action moves over to the Kayne Reas Center located at 5350 Machado Road in Culver City. Machado Road runs between Sepulveda and Jefferson Boulevards, just north of where these two main arteries intersect. There is ample parking at this facility, but in the event of an unusually large turnout, the parking lot of the neighboring shopping center will take care of the overflow. Many convenient restaurants are located at this shopping center.

The first session at the Barrington Bridge Club, will feature a Stratified Open Pairs event and the first round of the Bracketed Knockout Teams. The first session on Saturday, May 3 starts at 11:00 am and includes the second round of the Bracketed Knockout Teams and the Stratiflighted Open Pairs event in honor of West Los Angeles Player of the Year, Jan Nathan. The second session on Saturday starts at 4:00 pm and features the third and final round of the Bracketed Knockout Teams as well as a Stratified Open Pairs event. Finally, on Sunday, the Stratiflighted Swiss Teams event will start at 11:00 am with a lunch break at a time to be announced.

Two trophies are at stake. The West Los Angeles Unit player winning the most master points combined at the two 2008 WLA Sectionals and the 299er player winning the most master points will have their names engraved on the Jill Meyers Trophy and the Mary Jane Farell Trophy respectively. The 2007 winners were Peter Benjamin and Carolyn Taff.

Card fees are \$10.00 per session, but students under 19 years of age play free. Non-members and Life Masters who have not paid service fees pay \$11.00. On Saturday, May 3, the winners of the 2007 Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney awards will be acknowledged, and they have been invited to play as guests of the unit at the 11:00 am

session. The Tournament Manager is Peter Benjamin and he may be contacted via email at ahoneydo@aol.com or by phone at (310) 558-0888 or his cell phone (310) 720-6050. The Tournament Director will be Peter Knee. Free coffee and homemade snacks will be offered on Saturday and Sunday

The 2008 WLA Fall Sectional will take place from August 29 to September 1.



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Los Angeles, CA 90064

Long Beach Bridge Center

4782 Pacific Coast Hwy., Long Beach 562-498-8113

www.LongBeachBridge.com

All Games are Stratified

Regular Daily Events

Sun.	1:00*	Open	Open Game w/ lots of goodies
Mon.	9:00*	Open	Free Continental Breakfast
	9:30	Bridge Plus	
	12:30	Open	Free Lunch at Noon
	7:00	NLM	"After Game" ???'s for Director
Tues.	12:30	Open & 299er	Free Salad and Nachos
	4:15	Open	Free Dinner at 6 p.m.
Wed.	12:30	Open	Free Lunch at Noon
	7:00	Open, 299er & Bridge Plus	Three <u>VERY</u> friendly games
Thurs.	12:30	Open & 99er	Free Chili during game
Fri.	9:00*	Open	Free Continental Breakfast
	12:30	Open, NLM & 199er	Free Lunch
	4:15	Open	Free Dinner at 6 p.m.
Sat.	12:30	Open	Jackpot Game - Snacks

*NEW TIME

Class Schedule

CLASS	DAY	TIMES	COST	STARTING
Beginning Bridge	Mon.	7:00 - 9:00 pm	\$50 for 8 classes	May 5
Beginning Bridge	Tues.	9:45 - 11:45 am	\$50 for 8 classes	May 6
Intermediate Bridge	Thurs.	9:45 - 11:45 am	\$50 for 8 classes	May 8
Supervised Play	Thurs.	9:30 - 11:30 am	\$4 per class	Ongoing
Conventions	Wed.	6:00 - 7:00 pm	\$3 per class	Ongoing



May Special Games

May 5 - 7 & 9 - 11	Western Conference STaC
(Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun)	Regular Schedule, \$9 Card Fees
Thur, May 8 12:30	Int'l Fund Game, \$9 Card Fees
Mon, May 5 7:00	Team Game (Sectionally Rated)
Sun, May 18 1:00	Unit Game
	NLM Free Play - 13 table section
Thur, May 29 12:30	Membership Game

June Special Games

Sat, June 6 1:00	Worldwide Bridge Contest
	Card Fees - \$11
Mon, June 9 7:00	Team Game
Wed, June 18 12:30 & 7:00	Membership Games
Sun, June 22 1:00	Unit Charity Game
	NLM Free Play - 13 table section

Happy
Fathers
Day!

Call ahead 562-498-8113 to reserve your table