

# Southern California Bridge News

Volume 45, #7

July 2010

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### District 23 GNT Winners

by Bill  
Schreiber  
ALACBU  
President

Congratulations to the winners of Flights A and C in the District 23 GNT. In Flight A, the team of **Gary King, Jordan Chodorow, Michael Mikyska, and Kismet Fung** emerged victorious. The winning Flight C team includes **Kris Sommer, Richard Stevenson, Marcia Lauffer-Rosner, and Elaine Moore**. I am sure that each team will do our district proud in New Orleans.

In Regional news, Bridge Week is fast approaching. This year's dates are July 5-11 with our three signature events: **The Mark Schreiber Memorial 299'er Pairs Championship** which features Barometer scoring in the final session (this event is on July 5); **The Mary Jane Ferrell 4-Session Open Pairs** starting on July 6 and also features Barometer scoring in the final session; and **The Marshall Miles 4-Session Swiss Teams**, which starts on July 10. There are numerous knockout and compact knockout events throughout the week as well as the requisite number of pair games including an IMP

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## \$1000 Charity Grant

by Rand Pinsky  
District Director

**Charity:** Last month I discussed the \$1,000 charity grant I am entitled to award each year. I solicited units that have not had an opportunity to receive this grant to contact me with the charity they would like to support.

I have not been contacted by any of these units for consideration. If I do not hear from any of these units I will contact units that have previously received this grant award. The requirements are as follows: the unit charity must be a registered charity with the Internal Revenue Service with 501(c) (3) status. All I ask in return is to have the charity provide free publicity for the unit and district for its contribution. I have found from past experience that these charities go out of their way to provide newspaper publicity for bridge and their organization.

**Election of First and Second Alternates to the ACBL Board of Directors:** I am pleased to announce that Bill Schreiber has been elected First Alternate to the ACBL Board of Directors and Roger Clough has been elected Second Alternate.

**Team Game Sectional Results:** Our Team Game Sectional raised more than \$1500 for our Grand National Teams. Combining these funds with monies from entries for the GNT, preliminary reports are that each team will receive approximately \$600 to help defray costs of travel to New Orleans. A special thank you to all of our members who participated in this event and to the Bridge Academy for hosting it.

**ACBL-Wide Senior Pairs:** Did anyone notice in the June Bulletin in the report of the ACBL-Wide Senior Pairs played on February 22, that our

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district was the only one that did not have any clubs participating? I am asking our club owners to consider participating in this event next year. Please contact me if you need any further information.

**“Special Fund” Games:** New regulations have been instituted for the running of “Special Fund” games. A “Special Fund” game is defined as a Junior Fund game, Charity game, International Fund, or Educational Foundation. These games now award masterpoints of 70% of Sectional Rating with a cap of 6.00 masterpoints. The month of February is reserved for Junior Fund games, April for charity games, and September for International Fund games. In these months, a club

can hold as many special games as they want provided the “special game” is for the named fund. In the remaining nine months of the year, a club may hold one game per month per sanctioned session and may be a special game for any of the defined “special games.”

The net effect of these new regulations is that the masterpoint awards have been reduced from 100% sectional rating and the number of games that can be special has been reduced. I am unaware of any of our clubs that this reduction has affected.

### It Is A Different View From Dummy

By the time this article is pub-

lished, I will have just returned from Horn Lake for the grand opening of the new ACBL Headquarters. I will try to take some pictures to share with our district. Also, it will be only a few days away from our Pasadena Regional. From the reports that I have received, it is projected to be an exciting and fun tournament. I look forward to seeing you there.

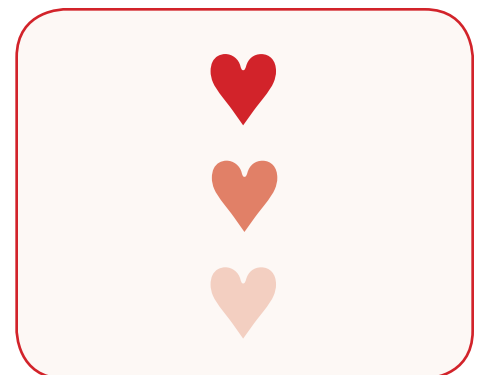
**PRESIDENT** *continued from page 1*

Pairs on July 9.

Our next Regional event is in October at the Marina del Rey Hotel in Marina del Rey. Come see this exciting new site for our tournament. For those of you who do not wish to travel to cold, snowy Philadelphia for the World Bridge Championships, our October Regional will have you looking out the windows of the playing area at our beautiful weather at thousands of boats in the Marina del Rey Harbor.

Finally, our plans for the Spring 2011 Regional have not yet been completed, but you will find out next month that we are planning something special.

I hope to see you at all of these great tournaments, and of course, our Unit-sponsored Sectional tournaments and the Summer NABC in New Orleans.



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# Around the Units in District 23

## Antelope Valley by Gin

We extend our condolences with great sadness to the friends and family of Joe Weber. Joe will be missed in the three clubs of our unit.

Elaine Moore and John Langor will represent District 23 at the Grand National Pairs in New Orleans. Elaine was a member of the winning team in Flight C and John was a member of the winning team of Flight B. Good luck to both of them in New Orleans.

Judging by my brief participation at the Las Vegas Regional it appeared to be a great success. All clubs of Unit 556 were well represented as well as the Laughlin (my winter home) clubs. Many of us were on a quest for "gold" and although I am sure there were some successful players, I did not get any reports of winners.

I am somewhat chagrined for misplacing my notepad. I am sure it is in a very safe place in Bullhead City. The brevity of this column is due to my unparalleled ability to misplace personal items.

The weekly club winners produced interesting results. The top 49er game on Thursday night was won by Debbie/Robert Powell with an impressive 81.25%. Lamonte Johnson/Basant Shah won three of the four Thursday morning games. Their best game was 71.24%. On Wednesday night Marlene and Brad Ward won with a 70% game. Not far behind were Janet Coussens/Charles Morrin with 69.42% on Tuesday afternoon. Tuesday night game was won by Hugh Bartlett and Gary Grey with 61.55%. Friday afternoon Dave Gasper/Lola Messiha won the high game of the week with 61.31%. The month's results were quite interesting having a 20% range in the winners of the seven regular games in our unit.

*Thank your unit columnist by  
sending them news.*

## Unit Game May 16

Overall	A	B	C
Charles Morrin/Barbara Shuping	1	1	-
Rand Pinsky/Kathy Swaine	2	-	-
Marlene and David Gasper	3	-	-
Bill Brodek/Pat Juenemann	4	2	-
Basant Shah/Roshen Hadulla	5	-	-
Mary Stauf/Henry Roediger	6	3	-
Doris Thompson/Lola Messiha	-	4	-
George MacDonald/Russell Buker	-	5	-
Nora Fincher/May Abagi	-	-	1
Barbara and Thomas Jones	-	-	2
Carol Ashbacher/Kristi Kubo	-	-	3
Hal Roberts/Mary Ann Jones	-	-	4

## Club Championship May 25

Brad Ward/Marlene Gasper	1	-	-
Bob Hart/Nora Fincher	1	1	1
Alfred Miller/Barbara Shuping	3	2	-
Charles Morrin/Doris Thompson	4	-	-
Willo Phillips/Janet Coussens	5	-	-
George Lewis/David White	-	3	-
Mary Stauf/Louise Levin	-	4	-
Sherry Vida/Beth Morrin	-	-	2

## Charity Championship May 28

Brad Word/Willo Phillips	1	-	-
Dorrie Destin/Marlene Gasper	2	-	-
Mary Stauf/George MacDonald	3	-	-

## Worldwide Matchpoint June 4

Mary Stauf/George MacDonald	1	-	-
Marlene and Dave Gasper	2	-	-
Basant Shah/Lamonte Johnson	3	1	-
Rita Vanetter/Bert Stock	4	2	1
Hugh Bartlett/Gary Grey	5	-	-
Charles Morrin/Janet Coussens	6	-	-
Viviane Dinehart/Lola Messiha	-	3	-
Mary Ann Shaw/Onorita Pallanti	-	4	-
Barbara and Tom Jones	-	5	2

Beth Morrin/Henry Roediger - - 3

### Worldwide Matchpoint June 5

Joanne Freatman/Mary Ellen Downs	1	1	1
Gilbert Stienbaugh/Arif Shah	2	-	-
Rand Pinsky/Kathy Swaine	3	-	-
Hugh Bartlett/Pat Juenemann	4	-	-
Russ Buker/Barbara Shuping	5	2	-
Kristi Kubo/Carol Ashbacher	-	3	2
Charles and Beth Morrin	-	4	-
Basant Shah/Lamonte Johnson	-	5	3

A parting thought... "Maturity is when we are content to feel we are right about something, without feeling the necessity to someone else is wrong." Sydney Harris (1917-1986)

## Glendale-Verdugo

by Dorothy LaMaie

**Unit game - 1:00 p.m., Saturday, July 17**  
**12:15 p.m. Buffet Lunch**

**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**11:00 a.m., Saturday, July 17**

Please note that the Regency Bridge Club will be closed during Bridge Week, July 5-11, so our unit game will be held one week later than usual, as noted above.

Having performed A1 overall in a Stratified Open Pairs game at the San Fernando Sectional, John Villalobos/ Paul Nason get the No. 1 spot in our column this month. With the likes of John Jones contending, congratulations are especially meaningful.

As for Las Vegas, Margaret Mataga gained a tremendous return on her investment when she made an overnight stay to take her aunt back home after her visit for a wedding. She netted \$25 from an investment of \$5 in the 1-cent slot machines! However she gave it all back when we attended the LV Regional. As for the bridge, her only excitement was bidding and making two grand slams. The only thing I did was assuage my long-held curiosity when we stopped for lunch with Sixten Ohman at Peggy Sue's Diner somewhat north of Barstow on the way home.

According to the LV Thursday Daily Bulletin,

William Ng's team tied for 3rd in a 2-day Bracket 3 Knock Out event. Also Jeanne Dea, Tai Wang, Georgiana Bierman, and Michael Horn of the Pasadena Unit tied for 3rd in Bracket 5, winning 6.69 MPs and then 7.51 MPs for an A3 tie in Wednesday's Swiss Teams. When last seen, they were beaming...

So were Joe and June Hasencamp when they were presented with a special gift from their children for their 54th wedding anniversary: a stay at the new Turranea Resort Hotel which is located on the site once occupied by Marineland on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Check out the cover of a recent Westways Magazine for the view from their room. Having enjoyed Sunday brunch at another time, they were most pleased to celebrate a return.

Tom Wan and Cathy had a wedding problem with two invitations; one for Tom's cousin's daughter in Milan, Italy, and the other for Cathy's nephew in Seattle. Resorting to "once removed" vs. "twice removed," they opted for the nephew, but it was difficult passing up that good Italian hospitality. Speaking of which, Gerry Belcher and Barbara did some serious vacationing when they embarked on a 2-week transatlantic cruise to Livorno, Italy. Being just up the road apiece, they visited Pisa and did some leaning with a hike up to the top of the tower. As Gerry indicated, the "degree of lean" has increased, so go soon! They retraced a bit of Florence before proceeding to Ravenna on the Adriatic Sea coast, a lovely area with special historic value. (They do good pre-trip research, and apparently have the intellectual curiosity prompting it.) Lastly, but not leastly, was a visit to the "lake" part of the country with time to explore Como Garda and Maggiore. How's that for an itinerary?

Well, Tracy Boys and Glen Eddy found a good one on a bridge tour to Egypt, Jordan and Syria. They appreciated their first class accommodations even more so in Jordan where many official-looking black limousines were present. No crowns were sighted, but there must have been a prime minister in the neighborhood with such pomp and ceremony.

As for the June unit ceremony, we began summer with hot dogs, sauerkraut, and baked beans with salads and desserts to match, thanks to Merry, Betsy, and Margaret. Susan Rhoades added to the nibbling with chips and dip, much appreciated. Well fortified, here are the game results:

**North/South**

A1		Carl Nelson/Abigail Nichols
A2		Melina Stevens/Carolyn Cohen
A3	B1	Patrick Cardullo/Mike Doll
A4		Ann Banta/Ron Moeckel
A5		Charo Holdo/Jeanette Devirien
A6	B2	Leon Alexander/Tim Stocks

**East/West**

A1			Hugh Bartlett/R. Hadulla
A2			Tim Lolli/Brad Beland
A3	B1	C1	Betsy Josias/Nancy Lyon
A4			Louise Reich/Amr El Ghamry
A5	B2	C2	Roland Pinedo/Sofia Pinedo
A6			Art Chacanas/D. LaMaie
	B3		Temo Arjani/Sixten Ohman

Reflecting on the above listing, it's good to have some voltage on one's dotage! Take care everybody, and report well on your Bridge Week accomplishments.

**Long Beach**

Unit website: [www.acblunit557.org](http://www.acblunit557.org)  
 Club website: [www.LongBeachBridge.com](http://www.LongBeachBridge.com)  
 by Jon Yinger

**Unit Game - Sunday, July 18**  
**Lunch at 12:30, Game at 1 p.m.**

**May 16 unit game:** Overall results: 1st in A: Aaron Jones/Jerry Cassady, 2nd Shinko Mauritz/Yokuyo Sheehy, 3rd Earl VanDerVord/Jon Yinger, 4th Janet Logan/Cory Hand, 5th Wayne Rapp/Linda Renkus, and 6th Cayce Blanchard/John Killian. B flight overalls: 5th Elinor Baratelle/Dorothy Thompson, and 6th John Melis/Kay Tseng. C flight: 4th Fay Beckerman/Sherry Troeger. Overall winners in the Non-Life Master game were: 1st Joyce Henderson/Jane Reid, 2nd David Hwang/Tsu Jan, and 3rd Pamela Cole/Rick Flucke.

**Tournament Director**

Scott Campbell

**Tournament Chairperson**

Lynda Crawford (714) 968-5870

Assistant

Ruth Ann Alpert (714) 962-3251



**2010**

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**10:00 A.M.**

Stratified Open Pairs

299er Pairs

Compact KO (Rounds 1&2)

**3:00 P.M.**

Stratified Open Pairs

299er Pairs

Compact KO (Rounds 3&4)

**Card Fees**

\$11 For Paid ACBL Members

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**Stratification For Open Pairs**

Strat A 2000+

Strat B 750 - 2000

Strat C 0 - 750

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Turn Left 466 ft

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Destination is on the right

Sanction No. 1007070

**Sun July 18<sup>th</sup>**

**10:00 AM & 3:00 PM**

**Stratified Swiss Teams**

2 Session Event

\$88 per team

**Swiss Teams Stratiflights**

Flight A 5000+

Flight AX 0 - 5000

Strat B 250 - 2000

Strat C 750 - 1250

Strat D 0 - 750

**299er Swiss Teams**

For 1 or 2 Sessions

Declare at sign-up

\$44 per team per session

## District 23 Rank Changes 5/1/10 - 5/31/10

### Junior Master (5 MPs)

Jane Canter  
Lynn Evans  
Barbara AP Fransen  
Marjorie Haneline  
Anthony Kordich  
Barbara Leider  
Rosalie Storc  
Roberta Swanson  
Kay Wardell  
Katherine Weisberg

### Club Master (20 MPs)

Edwin Bernstein  
Sharon Biederman  
Donald Garner  
Doug Green  
Donald Light  
Betty Borden Miller  
Gayle Owens  
Margaret Reichenbach  
Michael Sulman  
Sharry Vida  
Elizabeth Voss  
Sylvia Ziman

### Sectional master (50 MPs)

Lake Ellstrom  
Jacquelyn Fehrenbach  
Gloria Frankel  
Kay Hyland  
Michael Newman  
Sherry Newman  
Richard Schulman

### Regional Master (100 MPs)

Jack Chang  
Pamela Cole  
Phyllis Greenstein  
Nancy Klemens  
Doreen Maes  
Jane Reid  
Linda Renkus  
Elaine Schechter  
Rebecca Wernis

### NABC Master (200 MPs)

Nancy Collinge  
Richard Gliksman  
Jean Ingram  
John Stokdyk

### Life Master (300 MPs)

Roger Boyar  
Ronald Srenco

### Bronze Life Master (500 MPs)

Meredith Gibbs

### Silver Life Master (1000 MPs)

John C. H. Chang  
Gary Grey  
Suzanne Hand  
H Kraepelien

### Gold Life Master (2500)

Myrna Blaufarb  
Jordan Chodorow  
John Waken

Congratulations to all!

**June 13 unit game:** Overall results: 1st in A: Phyllis Parker/Bob Mault, 2nd Bob Lavery/Steve Skinner, 3rd Shinko Mauritz/Yokuyo Sheehy, 4th Jerry Cassady/Aaron Jones, 5th Fern Dunbar/Yolanda Medina, and 6th Marshall Pelle/Elinor Baratelle. B flight overalls: 5th Simon and Lina Cheng, and 6th Suzy and John Hand. C flight: 4th Muxin Li/Don Garner, and 5th Keith and Susan Hafen. Overall winners in the Non-Life Master game were: 1st David Hwang/Tsu Jan, 2nd Mike and Karen McKittrick, and tied for 4th/5th Renee Hoffman/Anne Munchow and Steve Ramos/Sharon Biederman. Congratulations to all!

**70+% games 5/16 through 6/15:** June 11 in the evening game Diane Starbuck/Eddie Gruber had a 70.14% game; in the open game June 15 Rich Wasser/Jon Yinger had a 70.67% game. Close calls: In the 99er game June 12 Bill Heck/Jim Warner had a 69.84% game, and in the NLM game June 14 Jane Okimoto/Darlene Harrison also had a 69.84% game. Congratulations to all!

**Big masterpoint awards:** 1st overall big point awards May 16 through June 15: In the May 16 unit game Jerry Cassady/Aaron Jones won 4.25mp. May 28 Rich Wasser/Jon Yinger won 7.00mp in the open game and Pat Peters/Rachel Lantz won 3.07mp in the NLM game. In the June 4 evening game Suzie and John Hand won 4.00mp. June 5 John Wong/Wei Pei won 5.17mp. In the June 13 unit game Phyllis Parker/Bob Mault won 5.50mp. Big awards for 2nd and 3rd overall: May 16 Yokuyo Sheehy/Shinko Mauritz won 3.19mp for 2nd, May 28 Steve

Skinner/Bob Lavery won 5.25mp for 2nd and Bill Wilson/Ralph Beazley won 3.94mp for 3rd. In the June 4 evening game Ron Lien/Stanley Snyder won 3.00mp for 2nd. In the June 5 open game Mark Teaford/Gary Paugh won 3.88mp for 2nd. In the June 13 unit game Steve Skinner/Bob Lavery won 4.13mp for 2nd and Youkoy Sheehy/Shinko Mauritz won 3.09mp for 3rd. Congratulations to all!

**New members and new status:** We issue a warm welcome to new members Audrey Healy, Susan Lovejoy, Sara McCracken, and Jane Okimoto. Status changes: Club Master: Bettyanne Houts; Silver Life Master: Cory Hand; and... wait for the drumroll... new Diamond Life Master (over 5000 master points!): Jo Daigle. Congratulations to you all!!

**Get well wishes to:** Betty Williams, Cooie Dampman, and Joy Rosenthal.

**Get on the email list for the newsletter:** If you

miss getting the newsletter by snail mail (it's been two years since the district quit mailing them out), you can have me send you a copy by email. Send me your email address and I'll put you on the list. My email is [jjyinger1@gmail.com](mailto:jjyinger1@gmail.com).

## Pasadena San Gabriel Valley

[www.acblunit559.com](http://www.acblunit559.com)

by Jan Wickersham and Roy Wilson

No matter how much the board tries, we always end up with crazy schedules for the unit games. I'm so glad that many of you pay attention and adapt so easily with us. June will host two unit games so as not to conflict with the Fourth of July holiday.

Jan Wickersham hosted the June game, serving the famous Marton's salad, croissants and guacamole with flan for dessert. Bernie Mateer/Peter Szecsi



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**October 18-22, 2010**  
Monday to Friday

**Monday, October 18**

10:00 a.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Bracketed Monday KOs Rd 1 of 3

2:30 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Monday KOs Rd 2 of 3

7:30 p.m. Stratified IMP Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Monday KOs Final Rd

**Tuesday, October 19**

10:00 a.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Bracketed Tuesday KOs Rd 1 of 3

2:30 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Tuesday KOs Rd 2 of 3

7:30 p.m. Stratified IMP Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Tuesday KOs Final Rd

**FREE!**

*Non-smoking Tournament with Hospitality Breaks*

**Wednesday, October 20**

10:00 a.m. Stratified IMP Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Bracketed Wednesday KOs Rd 1 of 3

2:30 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Wednesday KOs Rd 2 of 3

7:30 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Board-a-Match Teams  
Bracketed Wednesday KOs Final Rd

**FREE!**

**Thursday, October 21**

10:00 a.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Bracketed Thursday KOs Rd 1 of 3

2:30 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Thursday KOs Rd 2 of 3

7:30 p.m. Stratified IMP Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Thursday KOs Final Rd

**FREE!**

**Friday, October 22**

10:00 a.m. & TBD Stratified Swiss Teams (2-sessions)

10:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. Stratified Fast Pairs (This is a 2-session event, but single session entries may be sold at the director's discretion.)

*All stratified events are stratified by the average masterpoints of the team or pair.*

Strats: A: 2000+ B: 750-2000 C: 0-750  
I/N: 0-20/50/100/200/300

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\$11.00 per session/per player for all others**

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brought home the top prize, and Norma Simpson/Vern Vanderpoel were second in B. Roland Pineda/Madhu Sudan were first in C. Congratulations to you all. Karen Alpert was the winner of the 50/50 drawing. I don't know exactly how much she won, but probably not enough to retire. We were down a bit on our numbers, too, as I know we had members up at the Big Bear tournament.

The Regional is just around the corner, and, lucky for us, it's right in our backyard at the Pasadena Hilton. It's starting earlier this year, the first game is Monday, July 5 at 1:00 p.m. Hope to see lots of you there as this is the opportunity to earn those gold points. (If you prefer not to play at the regional, you might still find a game at the San Marino Bridge Club, but be sure to first check the game schedule with Marie.)

I wanted to bring to your attention that two members of our unit played exceptionally well at the South Bay Sectional held over Memorial Day weekend. Jeff Fang scored the most points with 17.70 and Roger Lee was close behind him with 12.35. Congratulations to you both. I'm sure we will see your names often in the winner's spot at the Regional.

There were some great scores at the Arcadia Bridge Center early in June... Gary Swinhart/Nolan Chang had a 77.08% game on June 2, but Carlos and Pat Campuzano did even better on June 7 with a score of 79.51%. Congratulations to all of you!

Two STaC games are coming in July at the San Marino Bridge Club. These games are scored across the district and award extra masterpoints. The points are silver, too. The first game will be Monday, July 19, and the second will be the Wednesday evening game on July 21.

Do you play Systems On after your partner opens 1NT and the next hand doubles? Some players say no, and agree that responder's 2-level responses are natural and non-forcing, while others say that since the double does not take away any bidding room they will ignore the double and bid as if it had not occurred. That agreement certainly allows you to use Stayman or transfer to a major, a bid you especially want to use with a weak hand, but how do you avoid playing at the 3-level when you have a weak hand with a minor? Here's a possible solution: make an agreement that responder's redouble requires partner to rebid two clubs, which responder may then either pass or correct to two diamonds. If

you want to go further, you can agree that responder's pass forces a redouble. You should know, though, that a redoubled contract is either going to get you a top or a bottom. It surely won't be an average!

## Pomona-Covina

by Vic Sartor

**Unit Game - Saturday, July 17**  
**11:00 a.m. Lunch**

The column may be a bit limited this month due to an unplanned vacation I took recently at the local Kaiser cardiac unit. It's hard being an ace reporter when you're running around in a little air-conditioned hospital robe doing a Gypsy Rose Lee impression. I'd like to see Clark Kent try to follow a big story in one of those robes without getting hauled out of his phone booth and arrested as a flasher. Another problem is lack of sleep. How can anyone rest in one of those places when they wake you up every two hours to take your blood pressure or just your blood? I think someone on the staff had a secret deal going with some vampires in Transylvania. At any rate, I missed a lot of bridge action while I was out of commission, so this opus will probably be as exciting as a Joe Friday arrest report – just the facts, ma'am, and not many of those.

One unhappy fact was the death of long-time unit player Nancy Roebuck. Nancy had been ill for some time and hadn't played much bridge recently, but she was a fixture on the local bridge scene for more than 40 years. Everyone who played with her knew there was one unbendable rule: 4♣ was **always** Gerber, no matter what the auction. It seemed to work for her, and she **never** had to worry about any misunderstandings when a 4♣ bid came up. All of her old friends will miss her.

The June unit game was too late for our deadline, so all we have are club results. Top game of the month was a 68% by Dave Ruoff/Gypsy Rose Sartor, narrowly edging Walt Otto/Richard Patterson, who had a 67.4%. Other winners included Ken Bloomfield, Kurt Trieselmann, Charlotte Capelle, Jacquelyn Fehrenbach, Marion Miller, Lulu Minter, Fred Minter, Clint Lew, Joe Unis, Edwin Kelly, Donald Naf, Karen McCarthy, Suzanne Wojcik, Denise Morgan, Roger Boyar, Mary Miller, and Lynne Parker.

Don't forget Bridge Week is coming up soon. Good luck to all, and I hope to have lots of wins from Pasadena to report next time. Until then...

## San Fernando Valley by Fran Kern

**Upcoming unit events:** Plans are underway for a unit game later this summer. Expect detailed information next month.

**The Top Ten Masterpoint Winners for May: 750 Bridge Club:** Ron Malkin 11.26, Gloria Malkin 8.42, Herb Zweig 5.99, Fleur Levine 5.46, Paula Rosenfeld 5.46, Don Rosen 4.13, Sue Sature 4.10, Eric Heilman 4.10, Chuck Sarture 4.04, Jim Gardner 3.80.

**Bridge Academy Under 750 Game:** Jim Gardner 6.07, Larry Gordon 4.90, Michael Klemens 4.55, Gregory Bozin 4.38, Wayne (Doug) Beagle 4.18, Allan Palansky 3.71, Bob Williams 3.62, Mil Sidell 3.55, Ron Stewart 3.37, Ron Malkin 3.29.

**Bridge Academy Open Game:** Andy Vinock 19.68, Tom Wylie 19.04, Marta Peltz 15.49, Gilbert Stinebaugh 15.12, Sheila Bozin 14.81, Armand Szulc 13.93, Babak Shafil 12.41, Ellen Anten 12.35, Joan Rubin 11.40, Leda Danzig 9.00.

**70% Games for May:** Seymour Zemlyn/Freddie Strauss 71.85, Joan Rubin/Donald Crum 71.67.

**Column news:** Make sure your bridge news will appear in the next edition of Bridge News by sending it to Fran Kern at [fkern818@aol.com](mailto:fkern818@aol.com).



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# PHOENIX DESERT EMPIRE REGIONAL AUGUST 9-15, 2010

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## MONDAY, AUG. 9

CHARITY PAIRS (single sessions)..... 1 & 7  
199er PRO-AM PAIRS..... 1 pm  
**Agave Bracketed KO** (1 of 4)..... 7 pm

## TUESDAY, AUG. 10

Side Game Series \* (1 of 5)..... 9, 1 & 7  
**Agave Bracketed KO** (2-4 of 4)..... 9, 1 & 7  
199er PAIRS (single sessions)..... 10 & 3  
SENIOR PAIRS (1 & 2)..... 10 & 3  
PRIME TIME OPEN PAIRS (1 & 2)..... 1 & 7  
**Barrel Compact KO** (1 & 2)..... 1 & 7  
**Stratified Open Swiss**..... 7 pm

## WEDNESDAY, AUG. 11

Side Game Series \* (2 of 5)..... 9, 1 & 7  
**Cholla Bracketed KO** (1 of 3)..... 9 am  
199er PAIRS (single sessions)..... 10 & 3  
SENIOR PAIRS (1 & 2)..... 10 & 3  
PRIME TIME OPEN PAIRS (1 & 2)..... 1 & 7  
**Ocotillo Bracketed KO** (1 & 2 of 4)..... 1 & 7  
**Stratified Open Swiss**..... 7 pm

## THURSDAY, AUG. 12

Side Game Series \* (3 of 5)..... 9, 1 & 7  
**Cholla Bracketed KO** (2 of 3)..... 9 am  
199er PAIRS (single sessions)..... 10 & 3  
DAYLIGHT PAIRS (1 & 2)..... 10 & 3  
**Ocotillo Bracketed KO** (3 & 4 of 4)..... 1 & 7  
**Stratified Open Swiss** (1 & 2)..... 1 & 7

## FRIDAY, AUG. 13

Side Game Series \* (4 of 5)..... 9, 1 & 7  
**Cholla Bracketed KO** (3 of 3)..... 9 am  
**Morning Open Swiss** (1 of 2)..... 9 am  
199er PAIRS (single sessions)..... 10 & 3  
SENIOR PAIRS (1 & 2)..... 10 & 3  
PRIME TIME OPEN PAIRS (1 & 2)..... 1 & 7  
**Saguaro Bracketed KO** (1 & 2 of 4)..... 1 & 7  
**Stratified Open Swiss**..... 7 pm

## SATURDAY, AUG. 14

Side Game Series \* (5 of 5)..... 9, 1 & 7  
**Morning Open Swiss** (2 of 2)..... 9 am  
199er PAIRS (single sessions)..... 10 & 3  
SENIOR PAIRS (1 & 2)..... 10 & 3  
PRIME TIME OPEN PAIRS (1 & 2)..... 1 & 7  
**Saguaro Bracketed KO** (3 & 4 of 4)..... 1 & 7  
**Yucca Compact KO** (1 & 2)..... 1 & 7  
**Stratified Open Swiss**..... 7 pm

## SUNDAY, AUG. 15

**Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams**..... 10 am  
7 x 7 with no break  
**199er Stratified Swiss Teams**..... 10 am  
no break, single session entries will be accepted

### Card Fees For All Events:

**\$11 for paid up ACBL members**  
**\$13 for all others**

\* Side Game Series run mornings, afternoons and evenings

## TOURNAMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- ♦ Four Diamond hotel just **\$90/night!**
- ♦ New facility with great accommodations
  - ♦ Best Pro-Am in the west!
- ♦ Senior and 199er Pairs are back at 10 & 3
- ♦ Pre-duplicated boards for all pair games
- ♦ Non-smoking with hospitality breaks
- ♦ Renowned hospitality with ample free parking
  - ♦ Carpooling encouraged
  - ♦ Daily speakers
- ♦ Nearby restaurants and shopping

### Stratified Events

- ♦ A: 2000+ B: 750-2000 C: 0-750
- ♦ All Pair and Swiss Team games will be stratified by average masterpoints (*new for 2010*)
- ♦ 199ers stratified at director's discretion  
*Note: no player with more than 200 mps will be allowed*

### Strati-Flighted Events

- ♦ A/AX A: 5000+/AX: 0-5000
- ♦ B/C/D B: 1250-2000/C: 750-1250/D: 0-750  
*Note: no player with more than 2000 mps will be allowed*

### Knockout Teams

Bracketed by average mps of the team, top bracket may be handicapped. Compact KO teams limited to 4 players.

### Tournament Chairs

Susan Kay Schultz  
[detailshm@cox.net](mailto:detailshm@cox.net)  
(480) 945-1490

Linda Tucker  
[tuckita@me.com](mailto:tuckita@me.com)  
(602) 300-1652

### Partnerships

Alice Pierce  
[apierce7@cox.net](mailto:apierce7@cox.net)  
(480) 247-8380

### Director In Charge

Gary Zeiger

Sanction # R1008027

Information and results at:  
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Scottsdale Road between Camelback and McDonald — one mile north of Fashion Square Mall

## Torrance-South Bay

<http://www.freewebs.com/bridgeatunit568>  
<http://www.bridgeclubs.org/index.php?id=sbbc>  
 by Steve Mager

### Upcoming Events at the South Bay Bridge Club:

Unfortunately a schedule for July special events was not yet ready when this column was sent in. Check schedules distributed at the South Bay Bridge Club or the SBBC website for July events.

**Club Championships:** The May 21 Club Championship was led by Fran Israel/Lucy Tredennick in Flight A and JoAnne Waller/Robert Grotz in Flight B. On June 1 Gabriela Jackson/Pat Schenasi won both Flights A and B while Dolores Nawa/Martin Cooper captured flight C. On June 11 Beverly Narahara/Marilyn Knauer led in both Flights A and B.

**Team Winners:** Winners of the Tuesday night handicapped Swiss Teams recently were as follows:

May 18	Bea and John Brailliar, Chiye and Bruce Horiguchi
May 25	Harold and Jean Brunner, Nancy Collinge, Sara Dokter
June 1	Barbara Shortwell, Henry Crowder, Winnie Ninneman, Bruce Merchant
June 8	CVal Gamio, Carole Mason, Bea and John Brailliar
June 15	Bo Bogema, John Farr, Dean Kaloudis, John J. McDermott

**Torrance South Bay Sectional:** The new venue at the Ken Miller Center proved to a popular place for the unit sectional. Pairs and teams of unit members who were first overall in events at the recent Torrance South Bay sectional are listed here:

The team of Krystyna and Dennis Hollingworth, Dolly and Bruce Weiner won Brackets A, B and C in the Friday night Swiss. Fran Israel/Ray Mack won the Saturday morning Open Pairs in Flight A. Diane Elliot playing with Robert Preece topped Flight C in this event. The Saturday afternoon pairs event was captured by CVal Gamio/Dean Kaloudis in Flight A.

Linda and Bill Lama won both Flights B and C in this event. The Bracket 2 Compact KO on Saturday was won by the foursome of Elizabeth Voss, David Lyons, and Sheila and John Bray. Jeanette Betts/Ron Burke

won both Flights E and F. in the 199er pairs.

On Sunday the Flight A winners of the Swiss Teams included John Farr/Mike Savage (you mean directors actually know how to play bridge?) playing with Jeff Fang and an unknown with the last name of Itabashi, I think. Tied for first in Flight B was the team of Carol McCully, Marie Willis, Ed Barad, and Mark Raggio.

**Milestones:** Longtime regular at the South Bay Bridge Club, Don Moses, recently passed away. Apologies for not including this last month. I actually didn't realize it until reading about it in the Bridge Bulletin. Don and I both worked at The Aerospace Corporation and I knew him as a successful manager of the Titan Rocket program.

**GUV Memorial Award:** Sometimes it's better to be lucky than good. In the Torrance Sectional Swiss I held: ♠AQTxxx ♥AJx ♦x ♣AQx. With this nice collection I opened 1♠ and my partner, Dean Kaloudis, responded 1♥. Unfortunately the opponents noticed this and called the director who ruled that if Dean didn't make the bid sufficient in hearts I would be forced to pass throughout. Well Dean chose to pass and I was out of the auction much to my chagrin. That same Itabashi guy mentioned above bid 1NT passed around to Dean who tried 2♥. Mark tried 3♦ ending the auction. Cards were favorable for the defense and we set 3♦ two tricks for plus 200.

This did not look like a good result for our side, however. Dean pretty much held king sixth of hearts, a spade void, and out. With everything working our way the hand actually made 6♥. I figured a 10-IMP loss, but then it occurred to me the auction at the other table might go 1♠ by my hand, forcing 1NT by pard, 3♠ my hand, all pass. Incredibly, that's the way it went and with spades splitting badly it went down 1 at the other table. A 7-IMP pickup allowed us a 2-IMP win in the match. As I said, it's sometimes better to be lucky than good.

Na Zdrowie

**West L.A.**  
 by candy

I was playing one of those online trivia games and the question was "where do you find a Yarborough?" I can't believe that "in my hand" was not the correct answer. I try not to arrive too early to a bridge game so

the director doesn't have to deal with the mass exodus from those sitting in my seat.

The June Pro-Am Game at Beverly Hills Bridge Club will be over by the time you read this, but as of my writing this column it hasn't come yet. Jeri Berger works so hard making sure everyone has a good time. Thanks to Rodger for directing and the Unit Board for all their work on this and the other upcoming events. I would like to thank all the Pros for giving their time to give back to the game and the Ams for their enthusiasm.

June gloom will be past us, and July with a hiss-boom-bang is upon us, which means the start of Bridge Week. In the last ALACBU meeting there was a complaint that the Daily Bulletin was dry as dust. After a brief discussion it was agreed: BORING. I volunteered to help spice things up, so someone besides Jen has to make sure I'm not having too good of a time at my spice rack. Any gossip, good hands, etc. tell me,

and I promise to protect all my sources.

Save Sunday, August 9 for the 9th Annual Bridge with Eddie Kantar MS Charity Bridge Tournament at the Barrington Bridge Club. Starting at 12:30, it is an afternoon of lunch, bridge tips, play, and prizes. \$50 per person, tax deductible, with all proceeds going to fight Multiple Sclerosis. Call Fern and Bob Seizer for reservations, 310-277-7050.

Sunday, August 22 is the Ice Cream Social Pro-Am Swiss Team Game at 5:30 at the Barrington Bridge Club. A Pro pair will be partnered with an Am pair as teammates. The Pros play against pros, the Ams against Ams, and all compare results over a bowl of ice cream (comfort food at its finest). It was a lot of fun last year and gets players to practice for the WLA Sectional coming up two weeks later.

*ATU continued on page 15*



# WEST LOS ANGELES FALL SECTIONAL

KAYNE ERAS CENTER • 5350 Machado Road • Culver City, CA 90230

SEPT 3 - SEPT 6, 2010



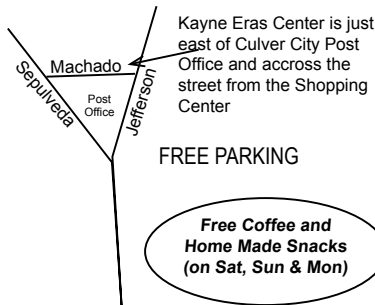
Friday Night Game at  
Barrington Bridge Club  
11514 Santa Monica Blvd.  
(310) 966-4144

## FRIDAY, SEPT. 3rd

7:30 pm

**BRACKETED KNOCKOUT TEAMS**  
(handicapped if only 1 bracket)

**STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS**



### DIRECTIONS FROM 405

- Exit at Jefferson and go east
- Turn left onto Sepulveda
- Turn Rt. onto Machado from Sepulveda (or left onto Machado from Jefferson)

## SATURDAY, SEPT. 4th

10:00 am

**SATURDAY COMPACT KO TEAMS** 1st & 2nd matches

### STRATIFLIGHTED OPEN PAIRS

Flight A/X (approx. 35% of field) 0 - unlimited MP  
Strats B, C, D 750 - 2000, 0 - 750, 0 - 300MP

### KNOCKOUT TEAMS - 2nd Session

3:00 pm

### STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS

**299er PAIRS**

### KNOCKOUT TEAMS - Finals

**SATURDAY COMPACT KO TEAMS** 3rd & 4th matches

## SUNDAY, SEPT. 5th

10:00 am

**SUNDAY COMPACT KO TEAMS** 1st & 2nd matches

### STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS

**299er PAIRS**

3:00 pm

### STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS

**299er PAIRS**

**SUNDAY COMPACT KO TEAMS** 3rd & 4th matches

## MONDAY, SEPT. 6th

10:00 am and TBA

### STRATIFLIGHTED SWISS TEAMS

Flight A/X 0 - unlimited MP  
[approximately 35% of field]

Strats B, C, D 750 - 2000, 300-750, 0-300MP

### Masterpoint Limits for all Stratified Events:

- Strat A: 2000+
- Strat B: 750-2000
- Strat C: 300-750
- Strat D: 0-300

### COMPETE FOR TWO TROPHIES

The West Los Angeles Unit player winning the most master points combined at the two 2010 West Los Angeles Sectionals will have their name engraved on the Jill Meyers Trophy. The 299er player winning the most master points at the West LA Sectionals will have their name engraved on the Mary Jane Farell Trophy. The 2009 winners were Margie Michelin and Alyssa Kennedy & Rick Turner.

### CARD FEES \$10.00 PER PERSON PER SESSION

Non-Members and Life Masters who have not paid service fees pay \$11.00.

**Students under the age of 19 play free!**

### WEST LOS ANGELES UNIT BOARD

Peter Benjamin	Howard Einberg	Mario Mory
Karen Byrd	Charles Fonarow	Barbara Nusbaum
Jordan Chodorow	Toby Green	Candy Scott
Roger Clough	Brana Hall	Robert Shore
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Tournament Manager - Peter Benjamin  
(310) 558-0888 EMAIL ahoneydo@aol.com  
(310) 720-6050 (cell Peter Benjamin)  
Tournament Director - Peter Knee

# Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: Leo Bell

Panel: Mark Bartusek, David Chechelashvili, Mitch Dunitz, John Jones, Eddie Kantar, Roger Lee, Marshall Miles, Mr. Mealymouth, Rick Roeder, and David Sacks

# 1

IMPs  
EW vul

West	North	East	South
------	-------	------	-------

2♠	3♥	4♠	?
----	----	----	---

You, South, hold: ♠76 ♥853 ♦KT642 ♣KT9

What call do you make?

**Bartusek: Pass.** I expect we have good chances to defeat 4♠, but I don't have sufficient values to double. 5♥ will probably go for at least 300 anyway.

**Chechelashvili: Pass.** I'm influenced by knowing the result, but I think I need a little more to double.

**Dunitz: Pass.** No clear-cut action. It could be right to bid, but I do have some defense and will likely go down at the 5-level.

**Jones: 5♥.** The vulnerability prevents the opponents from being extremely jocular. When faced with a close decision, and you know about a trump fit and partner does not, it's usually right to raise. Support with support.

**Kantar: Pass.** I think it is 50-50 whether we will beat this, but I feel sort of wimpy. My first answer was double. I'm not bidding 5♥ with this much defense.

**Lee: Pass.** If partner can't reopen, then I think we'll do fine on average by defending.

**Mr. Mealymouth: Pass.** Who's saving against whom? Presumably East, as a vulnerable first-seat

Weak Two bid is fairly narrowly defined, but I can't tell, and with three weak hearts in a weak balanced hand, I won't go to the 5-level and trade a possible +200 for a -300.

**Miles: Pass.** I have too much defense to sacrifice. My minor suit holdings are at least as good on defense as offense.

**Roeder: Pass.** I have lots of defense. When in doubt, don't violate the 11th Commandment: "the 5-level is for the opponents."

**Sacks: Pass.** Partner's overcall at the 3-level should not be on trash, but I have more defense than offense. Unless partner bids again, I have just few enough hearts not to bid.

*I doubled with this hand, showing values. The problem with double was that partner could not evaluate his heart honors as defensive tricks or not. Bidding 5♥ was the winning call. When your competent opponents bid a game red against white, they are usually bidding to make. In retrospect, however, I agree with the panelists who think passing is best.*

News for the Bridge News? Send your story to:  
[bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org](mailto:bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org)



West	North	East	South
4♥	pass	pass	?

You, South, hold: ♠J9542 ♥-- ♦K4 ♣KJT532

What call do you make?

**Bartusek: Pass.** I might take a shot at 4♠ at favorable vulnerability, but it's too scary vulnerable. Partner could easily have a heart stack and we go for a number in 4♠.

**Chechelashvili: Pass.** At IMPs, I'd have a tough decision.

**Dunitz: 4♠.** Some of the time it's right, and some of the time the opponents will double, and I can retreat to 5♣. And some of the time, I will just apologize to my partner.

**Jones: 4♠.** My first bid is easy, but do I run to 5♣ if I am doubled? Probably, but it depends on how confidently I'm doubled. Bidding 4♠ over freely bid 4♥ games is so frequently right that it pays in the long run to do it even with suits like this at unfavorable vulnerability. Occasionally this goes for a number, but occasionally it produces a double game swing. Oddly, this scary looking bid is better at IMPs than matchpoints, because at IMPs the maximum result is so good.

**Kantar: 4♠.** I really have to be at the table for this one. I want to see how fast that double card hits the table. *[I usually measure my opponents' drool rate.]*

**Lee: 4♠.** It's pretty gross, and I don't expect it to make, but partner should have 3+ spades more than 60% of the time and 4+ spades roughly 30% of the time. There are a lot of things that can go right (we could be cold or push them up) or wrong. Really tough

problem: I went back and forth on this a few times.

**Mr. Mealy-mouth: Pass.** Presumably, partner could have doubled for takeout, but he could not have made a penalty double with a strong balanced hand. If he is strong, that is his most likely hand-type on this auction. The trouble with taking any action is that partner will go a-slammng with a good hand, as he will read me for much more strength than I have as an unpassed hand entering vul vs. not at the game level. So instead of earning a game bonus when he has enough for me to make 4♠ or 5♣, I will have turned +50 or +100 on defense into -200. That, as much as the large penalty that awaits when partner has a mediocre or ill-fitting hand, is the danger of entering.

**Miles: 4♠.** If doubled by East (unlikely), I'll probably run to 5♣. *[Marshall, I didn't know you were such a coward!]*

**Roeder: Pass.** Preempts work. The opponents have fired an effective first shot, so this is a guess. Another bridge axiom is, "when fixed, stay fixed."

**Sacks: 5♣.** Pass is my second choice. If I bid 4♠, and they bid 5♥, a spade lead could be spectacularly wrong. It's hard to not bid on 6-5 at this vulnerability.

*It helps to know your LHO's preempt style. These days, many players will bid 4♥ aggressively to make it difficult for their opponents to bid. On the actual hand, partner who has ♠AQTx ♥JTxx ♦Qx ♣Axx, and 4♠ is a rousing success.*

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North	East	South	West
1♣*	pass	?	

\* May be a doubleton

You, South, hold: ♠K ♥74 ♦9 ♣AKQJ97642

What call do you make?

**Bartusek:** 2♣. 5♣ seems like a reasonable (under)bid opposite a potential short club, but it may get us past the only making game of 3NT. It may also cause us to miss a slam. Sure, an inverted 2♣ may allow LHO into the auction, but partner probably has a balanced hand and if so, the opponents may not be able to bid a lot.

**Chechelashvili:** 2♣. I'll try to find out more about partner's hand.

**Dunitz:** 2♣. Science vs. jamming it in. We could be cold for a lot of clubs and the opponents will often have a cheap save. Ifti Baqai is a strong advocate of 5♣ whereas I vote for a meek 2♣---so nice to have extras! *[Well at least you were nice enough to raise partner with 9-card support]*

**Jones:** 4NT. I faced this problem at the table, but I had the knowledge that partner had extras, normally a balanced 15-19 HCP. Even without that knowledge, I would still Blackwood. Yes, I have no control in an unbid suit, but if I jump to 4NT, I don't let my LHO overcall hearts at a low level. It's not terribly relevant in this case, because I have the ♠K, but I believe this is Key Card for clubs, not just vanilla Blackwood. Auctions that have a naturally bid suit should be RKCB unless NT has been bid. *[Many experts do not treat this as Key Card, but as just ace-asking.]*

**Kantar:** 2♣. I play this as a game force. Next, I'll bid 4♣, RKCB. I'll take my chances if partner has two aces. The problem is that this could be their hand and I may not be able to enjoy such a low-level ask. A direct 6♣ is another possibility.

**Lee:** 3♦. I'll splinter and see where the auction goes. It's harder for LHO to come in over 3♦ than 2♣, though

it's likely he'll want to bid over either. It would be nice to have a low-level key card ask on this hand, but it is hardly standard.

**Mr. Mealy-mouth:** 1♦. With no special partnership agreements about how to show a forcing raise in a minor, I can make a safe response in a new suit only in the unbid minor, because a subsequent jump in partner's minor will then be forcing, a consequence of limit minor raises. (Those who don't have this understanding must force via a series of bids in non-suits, e.g. reverses by responder and artificial fourth-suit bids.) Close second choice: 6♣, an entirely unscientific blast to a slam that may be beatable off the top but may make on East's blind opening lead.

**Miles:** 6♣. Since East didn't overcall, if either opponent is strong, it should be West, and his strength is finesseable. *[I guess you're not such a coward after all!]*

**Roeder:** 2♣. This assumes I'm playing inverted minors. Otherwise, I bid 3♦. The splinter bid would be a standout but for the erroneous implication that I have a heart card.

**Sacks:** 2♣. If we are not playing inverted raises, then I make whatever is our systemic forcing club raise.

*This was an actual hand from the Cavendish. Although the opponents have two aces to cash, they failed to do so against all the pairs who bid slam! Using science and staying out of slam didn't work out well. Our panelists had a very wide range of methods to handle this unusual hand.*





<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>
3♣	?		

You, South, hold: ♠KQ75 ♥62 ♦AKQ85 ♣92  
What call do you make?

**Bartusek: 3♦.** What's the problem? Double will work out badly when partner bids hearts.

**Chechelashvili: 3♦.**

**Jones: 3♦.** This hand is too good to pass, too short in spades to bid 3♣, and too short in hearts to double. 3♦ still leaves room for partner to bid 3♥ or 3♠, each of which make my next bid easy.

**Kantar: 3♦.** Maybe partner will bid 3♥, and I can bid 3♠. I won't be surprised if partner asks me where the hand is that I held during the bidding.

**Lee: 3♦.** I have too much to pass, and doubling is too dangerous. Honestly I'm not sure what the alternative is.

**Mr. Mealy-mouth: 3♦.** How nice to be able to enter at the 3-level instead of the 5-level for a change!

**Miles: 3♦.** Our most likely game is 3NT. Bidding 3♣ is too much of a gamble. *[I wish you would make up your mind as to how much of a gambler you really are!]*

**Roeder: 3♦.** Canapé is wonderful at the 1-level but for sadists at the 3-level. We may still be able to get to spades if that's right.

**Sacks: 3♦.** There is no other choice. Yes we may miss a 4-4 spade fit, but it's better to risk that than to find partner with four hearts and a ten-count and hear him bid 4♥.

*3♦ seems to be the normal action, but how does one ever find a spade contract when partner has spades and not quite enough to bid over 3♦, e.g. ♠AJxx ♥Axxx ♦xx ♣xxx?*

#### ATU continued from page 11

Another great segue. The WLA Fall Sectional will be September 3-6 over the Labor Day weekend. The full schedule is somewhere else in this not-a-paper, computer-generated, thing-a-ma-jig that I write this column for. Free coffee and homemade goodies. Friday night will be at Barrington and Saturday, Sunday, and Monday at the Kayne Eras Center. An ACBL (American Chocolate and Bridge League) silver point event.

Good news – all those people I was to say get well to are already back to the table, so never mind. I don't have enough room in the column to list those suffering from allergies, but I feel your pain.

Climbing up the bridge totem pole of success were: Junior Master: Frances Durslag and Ellie Lederman; Club Master: Christine and Thomas Hilger, Nathan Leanse, and Ilene Nathan; Sectional Master: Rochelle Blumfeld and Patricia Cross; Regional Master: Karen Schwartz; NABC Master: Frani Riddler and Lillie Tobin-Jackson; Bronze Life Master: Carl Keckett and Sue Ann Simon.

70%ers this month were Adam Myerson/Jordan

Chodorow, Marshall Wengrow/Sam Haveson, Richard Weinberger/Ed Feldmann, Louise Wasserman/Susan Rosenson. Hans Kraepelien/Michael Nash had four 70% games in June and since there are four weeks in June, let me get out my abacus and calculator... that makes it once a week. Sandy and Robert Carroll went overboard and had an 80% game!!!

Barrington Club Champs were A: Aram Bedros (2), Art Zail (3), Hans Kraepelien, Michael Nash, Rodger Harbin, Jeri Berger, and Mickey Haines; B: Lynne Bonner, Nelly Gordan, Robert Brogan, Joe Hooker, Trudy Sokol, Rhoda Weisler, Karen Byrd, Kurt Fritz, Minerva Krevoy, and Sue Ann Simon; C: Homa Nasserin, Berry Wilkinson, Norma Friedman, Alida Sirmenhoff, Suzanne Bornstein, Jodie Rachmill, Donna Eastman, and John Opdyke. BHBC Club Champs were: Beth Benson/Betty Feliciano, Charlotte Ukra/Rahim Israel, Sam Haveson/David Segal, and Brian Richardson/Bob Shore. Unit Champs were Guy Green/Donna Massman.

I'm ending this column one hour before game seven of the NBA Finals. I'm going to bet you know the results. See you next month as I again invade your computer.



West	North	East	South
1♠	4♥	4NT*	pass
5♣	pass	pass	?

\*takeout

You, South, hold:  
 ♠J975 ♥53 ♦K863 ♣AT6  
 What call do you make?

**Bartusek: Pass.** 5♣ will probably go down. If it happens to make, then 5♥ will assuredly go for at least -300 or -500. *[If so, either of those outcomes is a plus position at this vulnerability.]*

**Chechelashvili: Pass.** I have 1½ defensive tricks and no reason to believe partner doesn't have one.

**Dunitz: Pass.** This is similar to problem #1 where I have some defense. I'm not inclined to bid to the 5-level in these situations.

**Jones: DBL.** When I first looked at this problem, I considered pass, but I believe there are a few good reasons that tilt the scales in favor of the more aggressive double. Partner may be able to double 5♣ (and I intend on doubling 5♦). Also, if the 1♠ bidder has equal length in the minors and elects to pass, that puts me on opening lead, which is good because I may be able to lead through a heart honor in the dummy. Finally, theoretically I want to make it expensive for the opponents to bid over my side's preempts. Making close doubles is a way to do that.

**Kantar: DBL.** I'm willing to take my chances.

**Lee: Pass.** We have mostly defense but not enough to double, and I don't see any reason to bid 5♥, especially opposite someone like me, who bids 4♥ very loosely at this vulnerability.

**Mr. Mealy-mouth: Pass.** Who knows who can make what? East has twisted West's arm to bid at the 5-level, and West may not have had much to bid beyond his 1♠ opening. True, 5♥ doubled might be a profitable save, -300 or -500, but it might just as easily be a phantom. Add to that the possibility that West may not have meant 5♣ as natural at all (he may have misinterpreted 4NT as some form of Blackwood, especially if playing with screens), and passing becomes clear. Let partner's preempt do its work. Anything other than a pass may undo the benefit already obtained

**Miles: DBL.** Each of my high cards looks better for defense than offense. I think East is gambling on buying the contract undoubled as a safety bid or on pushing us one higher.

**Roeder: Pass.** Some axioms bear repeating: "The 5-level is for the opponents." Double might be OK if I were desperate for a board.

**Sacks: Pass.** This is the wrong hand for a lead-directing bid, and I see no reason to double and locate cards for the opponents.

*Once again the opponents have bid a vulnerable game when it's unclear whose hand it is. It seems unlikely to me that East is trying to sacrifice red vs. white at the 5-level. At the table, Mark Itabashi bid 5♥ which went down only 2 for -300 while EW can make 5♣. (East was 1-0-5-7.)*