

Southern California Bridge News

Volume 47, #4

April 2011

Published By ALACBU

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hoping for Good Results

by Bill Schreiber, ALACBU President



Well, I waited as long as I could to write this column, so I could report on the high finishers from ALACBU in National Events at the Louisville, Kentucky NABC's...to no avail. Through Thursday of the Nationals, I did not see one of our names in the top 5 anywhere.

On the positive side, the Flight A and Flight C Grand National Teams from our district have been decided and they will represent us in Toronto at the summer NABC. The winning Flight A Team is: Howard Einberg, Edward Piken, Robert Kent, Roberto Scaramuzzi, Viktor Anikovich, and Paul Markarian. The winning Flight C Team is: Nolan Chang, Jack Chang, Eric ChenTeh Tang, Jeff Lang and Xingping Kang. Good luck to both teams as well as our Open Flight and B Flight, whose winners were mentioned in last month's column.

By the time you read this, our Regional-At-Sea will be underway as well as the West LA Sectional.

Other upcoming Regional tournaments are Bridge Week (actually 10 days) in June/July and our Fall Tournament in Marina Del Rey in October.

Do not forget about volunteering for ALACBU and/or your unit. Nominations for ALACBU officers

PRESIDENT *continued on page 2*

Inside This Issue

Around the Units	page 3
Grand National Teams Qualifying.....	pages 2
Las Vegas Regional.....	page 13
Problem Solvers' Panel	page 12-16
Rank Changes.....	page 11
Torrance-South Bay Sectional	page 2
WLA Sectional	pages 7

Updates from Louisville

by Rand Pinsky, District Director



For me, the board meetings in Louisville were very long. Even though our official meetings began on Monday, Kathy and I arrived on Saturday March 4 as I had pre-meeting for the CEO Review Committee on Sunday. Monday, our meetings began at 8:30 a.m. and they ended for me at 9:00 p.m. as chair of the Audit Committee, I had a dinner meeting with the outside auditors. Our meetings ended on Thursday, but Friday I had a meeting for the CEO Search Committee, Saturday was the Educational Foundation, and Sunday the Board of Governors. Finally, there was some time to play bridge.

I found the Board of Governors meeting very interesting. This body has the responsibility to make recommendations to the national board. The first motion considered by the BOG was to change the Zero Tolerance Policy to only give warnings when there is no clear violation or in cases where the facts cannot be determined. This motion was defeated by the BOG.

The second motion at the BOG was to recommend to the ACBL Board of Directors that player conduct at the club level be made subject to the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations. This motion passed and will be sent to the national board for consideration in Toronto. Your comments on this motion are requested.

It's a Different View from Dummy

My time in Louisville was not all bridge and meetings. I did have the opportunity to visit the Louisville Slugger museum. Any baseball fan should try to visit this museum as you can tour its baseball bat making factory and partake in many of their exhibits.

DIRECTOR *continued on page 17*

Torrance – South Bay Sectional (Unit #568)
May 27th, 28th, 29th & 30th
Sanction No: S0905131

Friday, May 27th
7:30 PM
 - Stratified Open Pairs
 - One Session Stratified Swiss Team

Saturday, May 28th
10:30 AM
 - Stratified Open Pairs
 - 99ers Pairs Game
 - Compact Knockout #1 - Round 1&2
3:00 PM
 - Stratified Open Pairs
 - 99ers Pairs Game
 - Compact Knockout #1 - Round 3&4

Sunday, May 29th
10:30 AM
 - Stratified Open Pairs
 - 99ers Pairs Game
 - Compact Knockout #2 – Round 1&2
3:00 PM
 - Stratified Open Pairs
 - 99ers Pairs Game
 - Compact Knockout #2 – Round 3&4

Monday, May 30th
10:30 AM
 - Swiss Team – First Session
TBD time
 - Swiss Team – Second Session

Stratification
 Pairs:
 A = 1500+ B = 500 – 1500 C = 0 – 500
 Swiss Teams:
 A = 2000+ B = 500 – 2000 C = 0 – 500

Location:
 South Bay Bridge Club
 24100 Narbonne Ave.
 Lomita, CA90717
 310-3257222

Tournament Director:
 Peter Knee
Tournament Manager:
 Ray Mack 310-374-4906
Partnership Chairperson:
 Gabby Jackson 310-8318727
 Cell: 310-7208177

Card Fees:
 ACBL Member - \$10 per session
 Non Member - \$11 per session
 18 and Under - Free

All Open Pairs are single session events

Parking: Behind Bridge Club, on the street, or behind Lomita Public Library across from Bridge Club
 No parking in front of the club



PRESIDENT *continued from page 1*

are still open for elections, which occur July 2, 2011. Contact Rand Pinsky, our District Director, if you have an interest. His e-mail is pinskyforbridge@earthlink.net.

District 23 GNT Qualifying Winners

by Howard Einberg

The final two of the four teams that will represent our district this summer in Toronto have won their spots by finishing first in their flights of the Grand National Teams.

The winning Flight A Team is Edward Piken, Robert Kent, Roberto Scaramuzzi, Viktor Anikovich, Paul Markarian, and Howard Einberg.

The winning Flight C Team is Nolan Chang, Jack Chang, Eric ChenTeh Tang, Jeff Lang and Xingping Kang

As announced last month the Open Flight winners were Mitch Dunitz, Roger Lee, Ed Davis, and John Swanson. Flight B winners were Bruce Altschuler, Bud Bates, Zalman Perelman, and Ryan Wessels.

The four teams have won the right to go to Toronto with a subsidy from our district to battle winners from the other districts in the ACBL. District 23 has had a history of doing well at the national level with frequent wins and other high finishes. Be sure to wish these teams good luck and thanks to everyone who participated in the qualifying events. .

For a Grand Slam in Real Estate, Call Your Own ACBL Members

Carolyn Taff & Marion Napier
Realtors
Bringing You Tomorrow's Lifestyle Now



Relocation, Negotiator, Seniors, E-pro Certified,
 Representing 1st Time Buyers and Sellers,
 Probate & Trust Transactions, Estate Properties,
 Clients with Complex Real Estate Matters and
 World-wide Executive Transfers

Carolyn ~ 310-442-6270
 Marion ~ 310-442-6198
 11900 W. Olympic Blvd.
 Los Angeles, CA 90064

Southern California Bridge News

Published monthly by ALACBU, Inc.

16430 Ventura Blvd. suite 108, Encino, CA 91436 Phone: 562-492-6693
 email bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org

Editor/Designer..... Jennifer Einberg
 Managing Editor..... William Schreiber
 Contributing Editor..... John Jones

Subscription Rates: \$12.00 per year, private; \$2.00 as portion of District 23 dues; \$3.00 Units outside District 23 if subscribed by entire unit. Copy deadlines: advertising and editorial material by 10th of month; unit columns by 15th of month. Classified ads are payable in advance and only for a 6-month period or more with no changes in content. Opinions expressed in the Southern California Bridge News are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of ALACBU, Inc., The Bridge News or the Editor. The Bridge News reserves the right to reject material it considers to be in poor taste or deems otherwise unsuitable for publication.

www.acbldistrict23.org

Around the Units in District 23

Antelope Valley by Brad Ward

Our bridge family experienced the passing of Dan Axtell and Jack Dudley this past month. Our deepest sympathies go out to Dan's wife Ellie and Jack's wife Ginny.

There is a lot of news to report this month but the most important news is that our our tireless administrative workers continue to do a great job in keeping our clubs and the playing experiences at a high level.

Special thanks goes out to Kathy Swaine, Marlene Warren Gasper, Mary Stauf, Carol and Richard Ashbacher, and Rita Vannatter for continuing to do great work.

District 23 has thousands of ACBL members and upon scanning the final Mini-McKenney standings for 2010, the performance of our players was truly outstanding.

The table below lists the winners in our unit in each of the masterpoint categories, with the player's overall district rank in parenthesis after the name. If you made this list, you should be really proud of your achievement. Congratulations to all!

0-5 MPs:	Fabia Fang (8)
5-20 MPs:	Sharry Vida (13)
20-50 MPs:	Ruth Baker (6)
50-100 MPs:	Beth Morrin (8)
100-200 MPs:	John Langer (5)
200-300 MPs:	Henry Roediger (almost 25)
300-500 MPs:	Thomas Jones (19)
500-1000 MPs:	Lola Messiha (15)
1,000-2,500 MPs:	Brad Ward (25)
2,500-5,000 MPs:	Marlene Warren Gasper (16)
Over 10,000 MPs	John Swanson (8)

The following players deserve recognition because even though they did not win their category in the unit, they distinguished themselves because they finished in

the top 25 within the entire district.

In the 0-5 bracket, Renee Dorret finished #11 and Sonja Plahn finished 24th. In the 50-100 bracket, Jerry Burrill finished 12th. In the 300-500 bracket, Barbara Jones finished #21 and Carol Ashbacher finished just behind her at #22. In the 500-1000 category, Charles Morrin finished # 21.

I cannot leave this summary of 2010 player performance without mentioning that Ms. Dorrie Deston, our 100 year-old Lancaster gem, accumulated 20.77 masterpoints in 2010. I wonder if any ACBL member in the nation over 100 years old won more points than this last year?

In the Lancaster club it seems that it is the usual suspects doing well, Marlene-Warren Gasper and her husband Dave, Mary Stauf, Brad Ward, Doris Thompson, Lola Messiha, Beth Morrin, Henry Roediger, Barbara Shuping, Ron & Sandi Oest and Russ Buker. In the Castaic club Lamonte Johnson, Fabian Fang, Albert Stock, Marguerite Pinkers, Hansford Rowe, Roshun Hadulla, Paul Gill, and Roy Ladd are doing well. The Valencia Club is still securing great attendance from the membership and Elaine Moore, Tom Shudic, Lamonte Johnson, Markle Vandervert, Donna Davidson, Freddie Straus, Arif Shah, John Langer, Barbara Jones and Tom Jones are all playing strong.

We hope that more of the Valencia and Castaic club players will carpool to the monthly unit game and test their play in the tough field that populates the unit game. The food is great and the atmosphere is charged for this special game. The food is so good that some of the formidable partnerships have been observed over-indulging in stuffed eggs and desserts (does anyone ever eat too much salad?) and then blaming their sluggish performance on the small attendance, using the lame excuse that they do not want to see food wasted (not at today's prices).

Come, eat well and go home with a smile, a good bridge story and some well-earned points!

ATU *continued from page 3*

Glendale Verdugo by Dorothy LaMaie

Unit Game
1:00 Saturday, April 9
12:15 Buffet Lunch

We had duality in quality last February with Sharon Wolf and Bob Tayrien sharing the spotlight, each with a week's worth of wins. They even tested each other by joining forces for one successful go-round. Also Lorraine Adams and Ted Maki who registered a 2nd place in a compact K.O. at the Riverside Regional.

As for the year 2010, here are the results of our unit members' placings in the usual two categories:

Mini McKinney	Ace of Clubs
0-5	
Donald Zachary	Donald Zachary
Glenn Silcott	Marleme Rubin
Marleme Rubin	Barbara Eliades
5-20	
Sara Seeley	Sara Seeley
Nishan Odabashian	Peter Woiceshyn
Peter Woiceshyn	Martha Marcon
20-50	
Kathleen Tejeda	Dennis Teng
Dennis Teng	Kathleen Tejeda
Drana Callery	Drana Callery
50-100	
Temo Arjani	Kathryn Riedel
Kathryn Riedel	Temo Arjani
100-200	
Elaine Moore	Elaine Moore
Eva Seri	Eva Seri
Nancy Lyon	Nancy Lyon
200-300	
Lyle Wiedeman	Lyle Wiedeman
Joanne Parada	Joanne Parada
Thomas Annese	Thomas Annese
300-500	
Sharon Wolf	Sharon Wolf
Joe Hasencamp	Joe Hasencamp
S.K. Leech	Caro Van Stryk
500-1000	
Dan Botoaca	Harold Knowles

Carol Frank	Leon Alexander
Harold Knowles	Art Chacanas
1000-2500	
Richard Weinberger	Richard Weinberger
John Villalobos	Pat Juenemann
Paul Gelb	Michael Doll
2500-5000	
William Ng	Melina Stevens
Paul Nason	Paul Nason
Melina Stevens	Carolyn Cohen
5000-7500	
Tim Lolli	Tim Lolli
Steve Cohen	Steve Cohen
10,000+	
Jim Looby	Jim Looby

ACBL award certificates for 1st placers will be given out at the April 9 Unit Games.

In vacation mode, Dennis Semain ventured far afield to visit beautiful landscapes of Vietnam and the ancient monuments at Angkor Wat and other sites in Cambodia. Shortly after his return, there was a spread on the latter in the L.A. Times, which must have added some perspective, n'est-ce-pas?

Pat Abbey made a special trip to Scottsdale AZ to check up on Sherry Strube, who seems to be making some progress through physical therapy in seeking recovery from her stroke. At a later date, Pat and Norman drove down to Palm Springs to help their younger son celebrate his 40th birthday. Merry Besvold opted for the very-less-balmy weather of Chicago to visit friends who showed mercy and loaned her proper attire with which to contend with those 25 degree temperatures—plus that wind factor!

Merry and Pat joined forces to provide the corned beef, boiled potatoes and cabbage entree for the March Unit Game, while Betsy Josias tossed the salad. Eva Seri brought rolls and Margaret Mataga loaded the dessert counter - all ever, ever so good and we thankee all kindly. As for the raison d'être, herewith, game results:

	N/S
A1	Gerry Belcher & Brad Beland
A2	Carolyn Cohen & John Villalobos
A3/4	Herman Helber & Jacob Frenkel
A3/4	Ann Banta & Ron Moeckel
B2	Pat Abbey & Mike Doll
B3	Madelon Liebman & Carol Lessin

E/W

A1	Bob Tayrien & Bill Holmquist
A2	Louise Reich & Amr Elghamry
A3	Tim Lolli & Dan Oakes
A4 B1	Art Chacanas & Dorothy LaMaie
B2	Harold Knowles & Zach Vedro
B5	Eva Seri & Gloria Balfour

California poppies to you all (the hills should be really golden this year, n'est-ce-pas?) Take care, everybody and continue to enjoy...

Long Beach by Jon Yinger

unit website: www.acblunit557.org
club website: www.LongBeachBridge.com

MARCH 13 Unit Game: Overall results: 1st in A: Betty McClellan/Jon Yinger, 2nd Xingping Kang/Sam Wang, 3rd John Farr/Jackie Hess, 4th Sharon and Al Appel, 5/6/7 Bee Kinman/Joan Tschirk tied with Mark Tang/Bernie Garbose and Diane Sachs/Lois Abramson. B flight overalls: 2nd Sibyl and Larry Slutsky, 3rd Ted and Alice Nicholas, 4th Penny Wentworth/Eva Mroz, 5th Susan and Keith Hafen. In the C flight: 3rd Todd Knapp/Fred Willbanks, 4th Paul Pettler/Shinko Mauritz. In the NLM game 1st in A: Regina Boll/Joe Lau, 2nd Melanie and Jerry Smith. 2nd over-all in the B flight were Claudette Barrack/Monica Gettis. Congratulations to all!

70% Games February 16 through March 15: On in the open game Feb 17 Jo Daigle/Doris James had 73.84%; Feb 25 Mark Itabashi/Subba Ravipudi had 70.37%. In the Monday evening NLM game March 7 Joyce Henderson/Sandy Nelson had 73.33%, and in the 99er game Wednesday March 9 Melanie and Jerry Smith had 71.43%. Congratulations to you all!

Big Masterpoint Awards: Big master point awards for 1st over-all in club games Feb 16 through March 15: Feb 20 Bob Mault/Phyllis Parker won 3.33mp; Feb 21 Mark Tang/Eric Tan won 5.17mp; Feb 22 Phil Schuster/Larry Slutsky won 4.33mp and the evening game Sheri Held/Larry Topper won 3.17mp; Feb 23 Mark Tang/Bernie Garbose won 5.33mp; Feb 24 Cecil Cook/Mark Teaford won 4.67mp; Feb 25 Subba Ravipudi/Mark Itabashi won 6.00mp and in the

evening game Cecil Cook/Stanley Snyder won 3.83mp; Feb 26 John Killian/John Wong won 5.17mp; Feb 27 Bea and John Bralliar won 3.00mp, March 13 Betty McClellan/Jon Yinger won 3.83mp, and in the evening game March 15 Jo Melis/Janet Logan won 3.67mp. Big master point awards for 2nd over-all: Feb 21 Toni Morford/Steve Rowe won 3.88mp; Feb 23 Brandon Sheumaker/Gary King won 4.00mp; Feb 24 Doris James/Jo Daigle won 3.50mp; Feb 25 Rich Wasser/Jon Yinger won 4.50mp; and Feb 26 John and Bea Bralliar won 3.88mp. Big master point awards for 3rd over-all: Feb 23 Mark Teaford/Kimi Matsumoto won 3.00mp; and Feb 25 Bruce and Chiye Horiguchi won 3.38mp. Congratulations to all!

Status Changes: New Junior Master: Toni Whitesell; Sectional Masters: Bernhard Haderler, Marcia Myers. Bronze Life Master: Rosemary Ford. Congratulations to you all!

Upcoming Events at the Club: Sunday April 3 Awards banquet and Unit Game—lunch 12 noon, awards 12:30, game at 1pm. Weds April 6 unit-rated Inter-club championship game. April 11 through 17 club championship games: extra points, regular prices.

Get Well Wishes to Maruxa Cargill and Judy Lorber.

Condolences to the family and friends of Merlin Hansen who passed away earlier this month. A delightful man who brightened up the room with his radiant smile. He will be missed.

NEWS FROM LEISURE WORLD

There were 13 tables in play at the ACBL-wide Senior Pairs event held on February 28. Overall winners were Sharon Beran & Camden "Bud" Parish. First in B strat were George & Joy Rosenthal.

In the Club Championship game held on March 10, overall winners were Betty Jackson & Gloria Sedore with a 69.9% game. Second place were Bee Kinman and Eileen Nelson, third were Judy Carter-Johnson and Gene Yaffee. Making a good showing in B strat were 1st--Betty Scharf & Bill Robinson, 2nd--Jean Byer & Sebbie Thompson.

Circle Thursday, April 14, on your calendar! There will be a "free luncheon" at noon followed by bridge at 1:00 p.m. (note change of time for bridge). Reservations are a must! Sign-up no later than April 7. For more information call Ted Weiber, president, at 596-8661.

Status Changes: Sharon Beran not only became a Life Master but became a Bronze Life Master at the

same time. Congratulations!

Ace of Clubs Standings: Leisure World's own Howard Smith placed third in the 100 to 200 Masterpoint Race and Midge Dunagan placed fourth in the 200 to 300 Race. Good going to you both.

Special Event: Leisure World Duplicate Bridge Club is excited to host one of the ACBL-wide Senior Pair games on Monday, February 28, at 12:30 p.m. in Clubhouse #3. Players must be 55 years of age or older. The boards will be duplicated and hand analyses will be available. Call Ruth Kaller at 430-0316 for more information.

Get Well Wishes to Hessel Sikkema.

Results of all Leisure World games are posted on www.acblunit557.org then click on "Leisure World Results" on left hand side.

Get the Unit 557 Newsletter Via Email: Send me your e-mail address and I'll put you on the list. My email is jjyinger1@gmail.com.

Pasadena San Gabriel Valley by Jan Wickersham and Roy Wilson

**Unit Game April 4
San Marino Recreation Center**

News from Jan

Our Election Party was another special event. It was held this year at The Elk's Lodge in Arcadia. We had a smaller group than usual, but for those who participated, it was a great day. Karen Arase with some assistance from Joann Sasaki provided our centerpieces, which did so much to add to the atmosphere. John Villalobos and Paul Nason were the winners of the Open Pairs event and Jake Frenkel and Miriam Harrington were first in B. Finishing first in C were Margie Hall and Ann Raymond. Winners in the Swiss Team game were; Dominique Moore, Ann McClelland, Ron Moeckel and Ann Banta. First in B were Margery Gould, Paul Gelb, Martin Blain, and Rick Weiss. The best C team was Mary Falvey, Jon Harvey (husband to Arleen who served as our fabulous director), Sandra Franciscus and Connie de Rosa. Congratulations to you all.

The Election Party is held partly to honor those in our unit who have reached various achievements. Dominique managed to receive two of the top three awards for the year 2010. She had the top scores in our Unit games, and she received the most points in the

John Waken Tournament. It's hard enough to earn one of those awards, but two is truly exceptional. Weezie Reich and Amr Elghamry were the winners of the Holiday/Election Party having the most points overall in these two events. Our board has elected officers for this coming year and Sandra Franciscus is president, Peter Scezsi is vice-president, Mary Falvey is secretary, and Miriam Harrington is our treasurer. Other members of the board are Marie Nimmrich, Amr Elghamry, Karen Arase, Joann Sasaki, Mike Marcucci, Jan Wickersham, and our newly elected members, Bernie Mateer and T.J. Wang. It is hard work and a big commitment to serve, so please thank a board member for their contribution to our unit.

In early March, Karen Nieman and Susan Daniels had a terrific game at the Bridge Center with a 75.90% game. That's a great score, but the best for the Bridge Center in any year was played in February by Beth Holsted and Margarita Mussenden who had a score that will probably stand for a very long time — 86.67% — Beth also had a 75.00% game with Betty Weber in the same month. Would you like to give lessons, Beth?

The district held a Grand Nationals Team event last month and the flight C winners were on a 5-member team from our unit! Congratulations to Nolan and Jack Chang playing with Jeff Lang, Eric Tang, and Connie Kang. They won 3.75 gold points and 11.25 red points. Good luck in the next round!

This will be my last column, and I want to thank Chuck Cordaro for his willingness to step in as the writer for Roy and me. Let's all help him by remembering to give him noteworthy "stuff" for the column.

A Problem From Ray

Here's a bidding problem that many good players in the bridge world have not resolved, even when playing with their favorite partner... What agreements have you come to with your partner? Consider this: Your LHO opens a weak-two bid in 1st seat and your partner overcalls 2NT. (That is not the problem. That's good!) Most players agree that it shows about the same hand as a 1NT opening bid, and you probably play it that way, too. The question is, what do your responses indicate? Do you play three clubs as Stayman or is it a natural call? What about transfer bids? Are they applicable? If so, what does a transfer into the opponent's suit indicate? I can't tell you the "best" way, as that's a matter of personal style and preference, but if you don't have an agreement with your partner you

will be wondering what to do when the situation comes up. Here are some suggestions, though... Agree that all 3-level responses are natural and non-forcing, and that a cuebid should be treated as Stayman. That's simple, right? With a good hand you can raise partner to 3NT unless you have a wildly distributional hand, in which case you could jump to the 4-level. If partner rebids 4NT, consider it as an "I want to play here" bid, not Blackwood. If partner likes your jump, she can cuebid her aces or simply raise you. However, if you really don't like this method and you prefer to keep transfer bids as an option, then you might play this: All responses at the 3-level are transfers, and what at first looks like a transfer into the enemy suit is actually a transfer through it. For example, if your LHO opens two hearts and your partner overcalls 2NT, then a three diamond bid by you is not a transfer to hearts, but thru hearts to spades. This preserves a cuebid as Stayman. Now you can use a response of three clubs as a transfer to diamonds. Most players believe that transfers have

an advantage, but the cost is a bit more complicated bidding structure. Don't you think you really need to discuss this with your partner?

Now that Chuck Cordaro will be writing the column each month (I will limit my discussions about bridge to the website) and I certainly welcome him! I've been contributing to this column for over 40 years and it's time for a break.

Pomona-Covina by Vic Sartor

Unit Game Saturday, April 16, 11:00 a.m.
Lunch Served

Did you know that houseflies hum in the key of F? Or that a Twinkie will explode in a microwave in approximately 45 seconds? Well, now you do. You also now know how desperate I'm getting for something

WEST LOS ANGELES SPRING SECTIONAL



Friday Night Game at
Barrington Bridge Club



KAYNE ERAS CENTER
5350 Machado Road
Culver City, CA 90230
APRIL 29 - MAY 1, 2011



Friday Night Game at
Barrington Bridge Club
11502 Santa Monica Blvd.
(310) 966-4144

FRIDAY, APRIL 29th
7:30 pm

BRACKETED KNOCKOUT TEAMS

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS

SATURDAY, APRIL 30th

10:00 am

**STRATIFLIGHTED OPEN PAIRS IN HONOR
OF WEST LOS ANGELES**

PLAYER OF YEAR BILL SCHREIBER

Flight A/X (approx. 35% of field) 0 - unlimited
Flight Strats B, C, D 0 - 2,000 MP

COMPACT KNOCKOUT TEAMS 1st & 2nd matches

BRACKETED KNOCKOUT TEAMS - 2nd Session

3:00 pm

BRACKETED KNOCKOUT TEAMS - Finals

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS

COMPACT KNOCKOUT TEAMS 3rd & 4th matches

Masterpoint Limits for all Stratified Events
unless otherwise noted

- Strat: Flight A/X 0 - Unlimited
- Strats B, C, D 0-2000, 0-750, 0-300

KNOCKOUT TEAMS

Not handicapped unless only 1 bracket

1st Round	Friday, April 29	7:30 pm
2nd Round	Saturday, April 30	10:00 am
Final Round	Saturday, April 30	3:00 pm

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	Bob Shore
Cecil Cook	Fred Mautner	Carolyn Taff

SUNDAY, MAY 1st

10:00 am and TBA

STRATIFLIGHTED SWISS TEAMS

Flight A/X 0 - Unlimited MP
(approximately 35% of field)

Strats B, C, D 0 - 2,000 MP

COMPETE FOR TWO TROPHIES

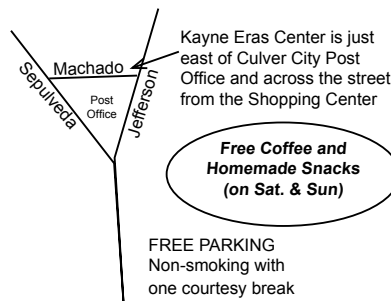
The West Los Angeles Unit player winning the most master points combined at the two 2011 West Los Angeles Sectionals will have their name engraved on the Jill Meyers Trophy. The 299er player winning the most master points at the West LA Sectionals will have their name engraved on the Mary Jane Farrell Trophy. The 2010 winners were Peter Benjamin and Norma Friedman & Leah Levin.

**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!

Tournament Manager - Peter Benjamin
(310) 558-0888 EMAIL ahoneydo@aol.com
(310) 720-6050 (cell Peter Benjamin)
Tournament Director - Peter Knee



DIRECTIONS FROM 405

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

Be sure to hold the date for our Fall Sectional • Sept. 2 - Sept. 5

original to say in this column. I'm beginning to see why Ernest Hemingway shot himself and F. Scott Fitzgerald drank himself into an early grave. But enough about my literary problems. I guess I'll have to forget the Pulitzer Prize and settle for a mundane summary of the past month's results.

The February unit game was won by Richard Patterson and Roger Boyar (63%), followed by Hans Hehnke and Vic Sartor, who took first in opposite direction. Also placing in the overalls were Lary Alba-Cordell Goode, Ann Raymond & Margie Hall, Ned Sissel & Ron Purkis, and Dave & Susan Ruoff. Raymond and Hall took first in Class C. March unit game results will have to wait til next month's column.

Luan Schirmer won the March invitational championship with a 64% game, followed by Steve Mancini, Tom Lill, Bob Kakade, Sid Monroe, and Jacquelyn Fehrenbach. The April individual game will be held April 2.

Top club game of the month was a 70.6% posted by Joe Unis and Genise Hasan, narrowly edging Clint Lew And Walt Otto's 70%. Other winners were Roger Boyar, Richard Patterson, Lary Alba, Dave Ruoff, Bill Papa, Vic Sartor, Penny Barbieri, Sandy Jones, Susan Ruoff, Herb Stamfl, Gloria Balfour, Charlotte Capelle, Hanah Mogharbel, Donald Naf, Carrol Robinson, Ann McClelland, and Ron Purkis.

Our hand of the month is a bidding problem. You hold the following hand:

♠KJxx ♥x ♦JTxx ♣AKxx

Your LHO opens 1♥. Your partner bids 3♥! First, what do you think your partner has? Second, what do you bid? You have a minute to decide.

As for the first question, I play that the 3♥ bid shows a running 7-card minorsuit and asks you to bid 3NT with a heart stopper. But even if you don't have that agreement, pure logic would force you to that conclusion. There simply are not enough high card points available for partner to hope to make 3NT without ♦AKQxxxx.

Now, for the second question. What is your bid? Obviously, 3NT is not a possibility. If you do a little visualization, the best answer becomes clear. It's unlikely partner has absolutely nothing outside his suit. Even if he had nothing, 5♦ would be a decent bet. But what if he has the ace of spades? 6♦ should be cold. And how can you find out? Call me crazy, but I think that is why they invented Blackwood. A 4NT bid stands out. If he only has one ace his answer will be 5♦, which you will pass. If he shows two aces, you will bid 6♦. As

you hope, his Blackwood response is 5♥, allowing you to bid the laydown slam. Partner's hand is: ♠A ♥xxx ♦AKQxxxx ♣Qx

Til next time...

San Fernando Valley by Fran Kern

February was a very busy month for Unit 561 and March is expected to be another exciting month.

Upcoming Events: On Sunday, April 10, the Bridge Academy will be the location of a Unit Game and Awards Ceremony. A catered Italian lunch will be served at noon and the bridge game begins at 1 p.m.. Games are planned for stratified open and intermediate pairs. We will have predealt cards, birdgemate scoring, and hand records. The cost is \$10.00 for ACBL members and \$11.00 for non-members.

During the afternoon, Mini McKenney and Ace of Clubs Awards will be presented. As always, reservations are appreciated and can be made by contacting the Bridge Academy at 6733 Variel Avenue, Canoga Park, 91303, telephone 818-999-9131. Reservations can also be emailed to Mike Fierman at mandhent@sbcglobal.net.

For those of you who do really long range planning, our sectional is scheduled for August 12-14.

The Friday game will be at the 750 Club Prince of Peace Church location, the Saturday and Sunday games will be at the Bridge Academy. Specifics of the games will follow next month.

Unit News: On Sunday afternoon, February 20, the Bridge Academy hosted a Farewell Party for Mary Dougherty who is moving away from Los Angeles. Twenty tables were filled with players who love Mary and will miss her. Barbara Pinchuck wrote a poem entitled "Mary, Mary, almost never contrary" which was oh, so true and expressed how much Mary will be missed. We all wish Mary a safe move and invite her to visit her Los Angeles bridge friends often.

On Sunday evening, February 20, the Unit Board joined for a "Hail and Farewell Dinner" for past, continuing, and new members. Before the delightful evening concluded, President Mike Fierman took the opportunity to hold a brief business meeting with the current Board members.

If you are having "Bridge Withdrawal" on Fridays,

the Bridge Academy now has a Friday Junior Game. Mike Fierman provides a free lesson from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. Bridge begins at 11:00 a.m. and ends at about 2:30 p.m. with a 15-minute break for lunch. The cost is \$10.00. If you need a partner, Mike will assist in getting a partner for you or he will be your partner. For additional information, contact the Bridge Academy at 818-999-9131

Congratulations to James Gardner who recently became a Life Master and to Noel Purkin who became a Silver Life Master.

In celebration of Claude LeFeuvre's birthday, February 21st evening players were treated to birthday cake provided by Bobbi LeFeuvre. Although we have not seen him at the bridge table recently, Happy Birthday wishes are being sent to Burt Doling who will celebrate his 90th birthday on St. Patrick's Day.

Top Ten Masterpoint Winners for February 2011

The 750 Bridge Club: Ron Malkin 14.32, Gloria Malkin 8.94, Claude Le Fleure 7.84, Margie Bullmer 7.57, Jimmie Swan 7.39, Bunny Roth 7.27, Don Rosen 6.77, Larry Kussin 5.71, Dan Strauss 5.61, Jody Lombardo 4.90

Bridge Academy Under 750 Game: John Van Egmond 4.73, Phil Calloway 4.44, Doug Odney 3.43, Carol Stein 3.24, Joe Friscia 3.03, Sam Antoun 2.86, Mo Mansour 2.86, Annette Cohen 2.45, Paula Cohen 2.45, Paula Olivares 2.30, Doug Beagle 2.23.

Bridge Academy Open Game : Armand Szulc 12.58, Sheila Bozin 11.05, Tom Wylie 10.99, Carol Diamant 10.84, Allan Palansky 10.55, Donald Crum 10.42, Leda Danzig 10.02, Gary Frans 9.52, Joan Rubin 8.87, Tammy Purkin 8.57.

70% Games for February: There was intense competition in February with a number of pairs scoring high game percentages.

Claude LeFeuvre and Jerry Goodman exceeded the 70% level in two games with 75.38 and 72.58 percentages. This pair of high achievers was closely followed by Frank Nordyke and Deedy Nordyke 73.33, Dick Wiggins and Gerry Cohen 72.62, Arline Borovay and Jeff Millman 71.50, Mike Klemens and Allan Palansky 71.44, and Sam Antoun and Mo Mansour 70.31.

COLUMN NEWS: Make sure that your bridge news will appear in the next edition of Bridge News by sending it to Fran Kern at fkern818@aol.com by the 10th of the month.

Torrance-South Bay by Steve Mager

Unit website:

<http://www.freewebs.com/bridgeatunit568>

SBBC website:

<http://www.bridgeclubs.org/index.php?id=sbbc>

Club Championship: Friday, April 8, 11:30 a.m.
Club Championship: Wednesday, April 13, 11:30 a.m.
NLM Club Championship: Thurs, April 21, 10:30 a.m.
Handicapped Swiss Teams every Tues night at 7 p.m.
Friday night games on April 1 and April 15 at 7 p.m.

Club Championships

The March 3 Club Championship was won by Sharon Biederman/Lorna Wallace in both Flights A and B. On March 7 the Club Championship was led by Maurice Suhre/John J. McDermott in Flight A with Ron Prando/Tom Barna topping Flights B and C. The Unit Swiss team Championship on March 13 was won by the quartet of Yokuko Sheehy, Jeanette Betts, Elizabeth Voss and David Lyons.

On February 23 at Veterans Park the Club Championship was won by Robert Svensrud/Neil Kleiner in Flights A and B with Barbara and Peter Chen ahead in Flight C. At Anderson Park on February 25 Ted Gibbs/Gary King won the afternoon Club Championship. The evening Club Championship on February 25 at Anderson Park was won by Ron Carlson/Ernie Frank.

Team Winners

Following are the winning quartets in recent Tuesday night handicapped Swiss games at the South Bay Bridge Club.

February 22:	Mary Ann Coyle, John Farr, Bo Bogema, John J. McDermott
March 1:	Fran Israel, Luis Gamio, Bronek Felczer, Jim Dutton
March 8:	Ron Carlson, Gerri Soffa Carlson, Marybelle Hoenig, Morris Lorber
March 15:	Beth Weinstein, Nancy Collinge, Marilyn Smith, Sara Doktor (tied with) Krystyna and Dennis Hollingworth, Dolly and Bruce Weiner

Milestones

It is with great sadness that this column reports the passing of Barbara White in early march. Barbara was the grand lady of bridge in the South Bay. She was an Emerald Life Master and the leading MP holder by far of ladies in the TSB Unit.

I always had a lot of fun playing against Barbara. Her bidding was a little on the conservative side. On those rare occasions she went down in a contract against me I never could resist saying "There goes Barbara overbidding again." We will all miss her and her presence at the table very.

GUV Memorial Award

In the finals of a National event in Louisville I breathed a sigh of relief as I claimed a ticklish 2♠ making on a 4-3 fit. Later at the bar during Post Mortems my partner Mike Mikyska asked why I didn't make 3 since Deep Finesse said I could. I looked at the hand record and, lo and behold, it occurred to me I did make 3. Having placed in the overalls of a National event I looked on the computer and found out that having accepted the contract as only making 2 cost us 5 places of overall.

So the next day I went looking for the pair we played the board against to get a correction.

I knew their names but not their faces. Now it was time for me to win some kind of Dingbat award. Not knowing where to start after the afternoon session I checked every score sheet in both the National Mixed Pairs and Open Pairs that day for the names of the players.... well every one except one, my own. I didn't find their names. After the second session I went up to look at our score and sure enough both of the players were playing in my section in my direction, one at the very next table. But it was too late and I couldn't find them. Dumb, I would say.

Na Zdrowie

West L.A. by Robert Shore

Hail to the Chief

The district selected its teams on March 5 and 6 for Flights A and C of this summer's Grand National Teams to be held in Toronto. Congratulations to the

Flight A champs, captained by Peerless Leader (a/k/a Unit President) Howard Einberg. Howard's team included unit members Roberto Scaramuzzi, Robert Kent, and Victor Anikovich, as well as Edward Piken and Paul Markarian. We will be very well represented in Toronto.

Because We're Bridge Players

By the time you read this, a special Unit Swiss "Lucky Eleven" game will be just around the corner. Scheduled for Sunday evening, April 3, the game is similar to an Eight Is Enough team game. But we have to make things a little more complicated because we're bridge players. Depending on your master point holdings, you'll be assigned a point value from 1 to 4. No team may have more than 11 points on it, so you won't have to worry about facing a team chock full of world champions. Give it a try! We'll look forward to seeing you there. By the way, this game and a Unit Championship weekend tentatively scheduled for June are the brainchild of my predecessor in this space, Candy Scott. If you enjoy the game, tell her thanks when you see her.

No Place Like Home

Our Unit Sectional will take place at the end of the month. We will again be in the Kayne Eras Center, home of our last several sectionals. The volunteers and staff members who make it happen have this event down to a fine art. And maybe if we're lucky, this year Peter Benjamin will leave some master points over for the rest of us.

Lucky Thirteen

Did you play at Beverly Hills on Sunday, March 13? Then you may have had the chance for one of the less common squeezes if you played 3NT on Board 13:

Dummy: ♠A10954 ♥A6 ♦7 ♣KJ1098

You: ♠K ♥K105 ♦AJ9632 ♣Q62

The opening lead is a small heart which you let ride to the queen and king. When you put the spade king on the table, righty drops the queen. You lead the club queen and Lefty wins the ace and return a second heart. The spade ace finishes the job of dropping Righty's ♠QJ as you discard a diamond.

Lefty still has a spade stopper, so it looks like you're going to score 4 spades, 4 clubs, 2 hearts, and a diamond. Looks can be deceiving, though. A third

spade confirms the 5-2 spade break as you pitch a second diamond. And after the play at trick one, it's a bridge certainty that Lefty was dealt the heart jack along with his 5 spades. So when you run the clubs, coming down to ♠95 ♦7 facing ♥10 ♦AJ, Lefty has to keep two spades and the heart jack. Sure enough, he pitches ♦Q10 along with a heart. Now that the heart 10 has done its work, you pitch it on your fourth high spade, and then finesse the diamond jack for twelve tricks. Making six on a guard squeeze.

The defense had two chances, by the way, to hold you to 11 tricks. The first way was to avoid a heart lead on the go. The other opportunity was to lead a diamond when in with the ace of clubs. Unfortunately, I was Lefty and I didn't find either play.

We play this game because sometimes magic happens. Your Humble Scribe was the beneficiary about a month ago. At the Monday night game at Beverly Hills, Ryan Wessels and I managed a 75% game. My very next trip to the table at the Beverly Hills Wednesday night game, Joe Viola and I hit 76%. Other 70% games at Beverly Hills belonged to Ed Feldmann and Richard Weinberger, Fumie Glenney and David Segal, and Rhoda and Lew Himmell (who did it twice). Congratulations to all, and also to Ed Feldmann and Richard Weinberger for their Unit Championship victory. Beverly Goldstein and Estelle Baron took home a club championship from Barrington, and Jill Richmond, Gary King, Anita Levine, and Art Zail rang up 70% games. My apologies if I missed your big game from the Marina, but I haven't received a report from

Do You Believe in Magic?

ATU *continued on page 14*

District 23 Rank Changes February, 2011

Junior Master (5 MPs)

Selma Archerd
Marsha Bocan
Julie Crum
Betty Feliciano
Manny Flekman
Elizabeth Georgeon
Carolyn Gore
Jaclyn Hatfield
Ann Hinchliffe
David Hwang
Richard Jackson
Jeff Lang
Donald Logsdon
Amy Macklin
Cydney Osterman
Clara Satterfield
Lois Snowden
Patricia Staub
Eric ChenTeh Tang
Robert Thoren
Barbara Zarzycki

Club Master (20 MPs)

Susan Cohen
Darlene Harrison
Tsu Jan
George Newell
Sonja Plahn
Jerry Reid
Ann Rittenhouse
Ralph Rittenhouse
Susan Rosenson
Louise Wasserman

Sectional master (50 MPs)

Lynn Dotts
Donald Garner
Muxin Li
Jacqueline Moor
Shelley Singer
Bob Williams

Regional Master (100 MPs)

Mary Ellen Downs
Robert Glasser
Kenneth Okel
Melanie Smith
Ryan Wessels

NABC Master (200 MPs)

Roberta Le Feuvre
Dolly Messick Weiner
Elizabeth Morrin
Larry Olson
Zalman Perelman
Madhu Sudan

Adv NABC Master

David Peim

Bronze Life Master (500 MPs)

Thomas Jones

Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: Leo Bell

This month's panelists are: Gerry Bare, David Chechelashvili, John Jones, Marshall Miles, David Sacks, Walt Schaefer, Mike Shuster, and for his annual April 1 appearance, Horrendous Hogg (hereafter known as HH).

1

MPs
all vul

South	West	North	East
1♠	pass	1♦	pass
?		3♣	pass

You, South, hold: ♠AJT53 ♥KJ42 ♦5 ♣Q53

What call do you make?

BARE: 3♠. This bid allows room for opener to describe his hand. Over 3NT, I'll bid 4NT. Over 4♠ or 5♣, I'll bid 6♣.

CHECHELASHVILI: 3NT. Tough choice between 3♥ and 3NT. Being matchpoints, I choose 3NT... too much of a danger of not being able to stop in 4NT if I bid 3♥. Of course the only reason to bid 3♥ would be to investigate possible slam.

HH: 3NT. I definitely need to avoid a bid that would allow my partner to play the hand.

JONES: 3NT. This looks about right on values. We don't necessarily have a club fit, given that jump shifts into 3♣ are frequently somewhat manufactured. Some theorists have suggested using artificial methods over 3♣ jump shifts.

MILES: 3♥. My hand is much too strong to bid 3NT. If partner rebids 4♣, I will raise to 6 (too hard to find out about everything, and some of my major honors will probably be wasted.) If he bids 3NT, I will raise to 4NT.

SACKS: 3♥. This isn't quite the hand for a false preference to 3♦, a unilateral 3NT or a forcing 3♠. Let's see if partner can further describe his hand. I will pass 3NT by him, but perhaps bid more aggressively over 3♠ or 4♣.

SCHAEFER: 3NT. Automatic. We have more than enough HCP for game, but not enough for slam and no fit... it screams 3NT. Slam is possible, but it's not likely. If partner bids over 3NT we can cooperate. 3♥ will be a popular answer but it will box partner sometimes and we want to play 3NT from our side anyway.

SHUSTER: 4NT. If partner moves over this, we'll wind up in 6♣, but I can't risk giving up on notrump by bidding 4♣ at this form of scoring.

I wondered if any panelist would suggest bidding 4NT as a natural, invitational call. It seems to be a good balance between the conservative 3NT and the aggressive 3♥. Partner shouldn't interpret this as ace-asking since responder should first rebid 3♦ or 4♣ to establish the trump suit.

What do you think?

Send interesting hands or letters to the editor or bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org

2

IMPs
all vul

South	West	North	East
1♥ ?	3♣	3♦	5♣

You, South, hold: ♠AKJ62 ♥AKJ8432 ♦-- ♣5
What call do you make?

BARE: 5♠.

CHECHELASHVILI: 6♥. It makes no sense to bid 5♠ with the potential risk for misunderstanding (thinking it could be a cuebid for diamonds). I'll bid what I think I can make, hoping partner has something outside of diamonds.

HH: 5NT. If partner bids 6♦, I'll correct to 6♥ showing both majors. If partner bids 7♦, I will create a diversion, replacing my 5NT bid with 6♥.

JONES: 5♠. A direct 5♠ should be less constructive than a forcing pass followed by 5♠. Bidding a slam

is a gamble but if partner has both major queens it will be cold. Unexpected length in either major would compensate for missing the queen in the other major. Solid diamonds would do the trick, as would the ♣A or a void. The opponents might save even if we are wrong.

MILES: 5♠. Will partner bid 6♣ with ♠Qxx ♥Qx ♦AJ10xx ♣Axx? I doubt it, but I can't very well bid 6♣ immediately since he won't know about my second (very strong) suit.

SACKS: 5♥. I'm taking the low road on a pre-

PSP #2 continued on page 15



LAS VEGAS REGIONAL

JUNE 20-26, 2011



Riviera Hotel & Casino "on the strip"
2901 Las Vegas Blvd.

Room rate \$59.00

For room reservations call 800-634-6753
or reserve online at LVRegional.com

Need a partner? Need teammates?
Visit our online partnership desk at
LVRegional.com

Tournament Chairman: Tom Shulman
702-301-5856 or Tom@LVRegional.com

♥ Gold Point Program ♦

Speakers will present helpful bridge tips before the 0-299er games most afternoon and evening sessions.

Looking for **Gold Points**? The entire tournament schedule is packed with **Gold Point events** including the popular **Knockout Teams** and our *newest game*, the daily **Gold Pairs** in which you can win **Gold Points** and *nobody you play against will have more than 750 masterpoints.*

See full schedule of events at www.lvregional.com ♦ Zero Tolerance Policy will be in place ♦ Thank you for not wearing fragrance.



South	West	North	East
1♥ ?	4♠	pass	pass

You, South, hold: ♠-- ♥AJ9852 ♦A7 ♣QT976
What call do you make?

BARE: PASS. 5♣ could be a big winner, but it's a total guess. If the ♦A were the ♣A, it would be more attractive to bid.

CHECHELASHVILI: 5♣.

HH: 5♣. Since I can't bid notrump, I'll take out an insurance policy, hoping partner wasn't waiting for the reopening double.

JONES: 5♣. This would have been easier in the days where partner's double of 4♠ was strictly penalty.

MILES: 5♣. We may be cold for slam, but I don't know how I can bid more. Maybe partner can? *[If partner has enough for slam, I think he was asleep in the previous round of bidding.]*

SACKS: 5♣. I bid with 6-5 since this could be easily a double game swing.

SCHAEFER: 5♣. Lots of good things can still happen. 6-5 with decent spots is too much to pass.

SHUSTER: 5♣. Please don't tell me you are angling to find a panelist who will double here. To me, this call is very clear.

I thought someone might try double. With modern methods, partner's double of 4♠ is showing values, so we can't catch our opponent speeding if we don't ever double?

5♣ is the near unanimous choice and it may well work, but I would have the suspicion that partner's hand won't be very useful on offense. I thought someone might try double. With modern methods, partner's double of 4♠ is showing values, so we can't catch our opponent speeding if we don't ever reopen with a double.

PSP#2 *continued from page 11*

that venue.

Movin' On Up

A big welcome to the unit's newest Junior Masters, Judith Farber-Weissman, Jerome Katzman, Stanley Lederman, Joan Oliver, and Patricia Reiner. Welcome to the addiction. You'll find there's no getting rid of it. Congratulations to Ron St. John for reaching Club Master and to Carolyn Mitchell, a new Regional Master.

Our unit's latest proud possessor of a Life Master's gold card is Stephen Massman. Sheri Rivera has reached Silver Life Master and Ted Gibbs is now a Gold Life Master. Congratulations to all on their achievements.

Got news? Send it to me at Bob78164@yahoo.com.



ALACBU Elections

At our July ALACBU Board Meeting at the Pasadena Hilton, District 23 will be holding elections for ALACBU officers.

The position is a two-year term. Positions for election are president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. To be eligible, candidates for the above offices must have previously served or currently be serving ALACBU as an officer, director or committee member.

Anyone interested in serving or anyone wishing to nominate a candidate should notify Rand Pinsky, Director of Elections, at Pinsky4bridge@earthlink.net.



South	West	North	East
			1♠
dbl	pass	1NT	2♠
?			

You, South, hold: ♠-- ♥AQT6 ♦T9743 ♣AKQ4
What call do you make?

BARE: PASS. This is like problem #3, because your guess could be a big swing.

CHECHELASHVILI: 3♦. If I knew 2NT would be taken as for minors, I would bid it. 3♦ should not be forcing on this auction.

HH: Double. Nothing gives more more pleasure than watching partner trying to interpret my brilliant bids. Besides, I can blame partner if his action doesn't work out.

JONES: Double. I'll lead a club if it goes all pass. I owe partner a spade, but double here is mostly penalty and I'll try for a top. [*I would think double here is takeout oriented, showing extra values.*]

MILES: 4♠. I hope partner doesn't think this is exclusion Blackwood when we have no suit agreement. If I just bid 3♠, I won't know what to do over his next bid, whatever it is. Over 4♠, perhaps he can bid six of something. [*It seems pretty optimistic to think we might have a slam when all partner could bid was 1NT*]

SACKS: Double. I would really like to have a trump even though this double is for takeout, but I wasn't dealt one. I do give thanks that this is not IMPs. At matchpoints, the risk-reward of getting plus 200 makes the double worthwhile.

SCHAEFER: Double. Automatic. You still have your takeout double with shows extra values. The opponents are vulnerable so I hope partner passes, but he'll make a good decision since I've described my hand perfectly.

SHUSTER: 3♦. I must compete for the part score and my longest suit is safe. Even if 2NT asks for a minor (it should) it is wrong, since partner will default to 3♣ with no opinion and we have the combined whammy of holding fewer trumps and being tapped out of our honors. It is best to just bid our long suit. Additionally, if we have a game, it is most likely 5♦.

Bell: I agree with the panelists that 3♦ shouldn't be forcing, but won't partner expect a better suit? With ♠KQTx ♥xxx ♦Kxx ♣xxx, they will surely bid 3NT which will have little play.

PSP#2 *continued from page 13*

empted hand. It would help if I knew the minimum systemic values for the 3♦ bid. With minor suits switched, I would bid 6♣ with the intention of correcting 6♦ to 6♥, implying something resembling what I have. I think that is too much with the stiff small club.

SCHAEFER: 5♠. As Al Roth would have done, I object! [*Al Roth was a famous expert and Bridge World panelist*

who frequently and colorfully objected to the conditions imposed in the problems.] I opened 1♥ with a hand with a hand that can make a slam opposite a 2-3-4-4 zero count? Nah. If I'm taking over for someone, I would bid 5♠ now. What else?

SHUSTER: 5♠. There is some legitimate concern that 5♠ will be interpreted as a try for 7♦. However, when I convert 6♣ or 6♦ to 6♥, partner should get the picture that I'm bidding naturally.

ACBL CEO Retiring

The ACBL is looking for a new CEO for when Jay Baum retires as planned in June of 2012. See the job description for details: <http://www.acbl.org/about/jobs/CEO.pdf>



South	West	North	East
		1♥	dbl
?			

You, South, hold: ♠AQ64 ♥JT3 ♦J42 ♣J75
What call do you make?

BARE: 1NT. I like to play that 2♣ shows 8 to 10 points and three hearts, but without that agreement I'll bid notrump and maybe have a chance to show support later. Second choice is 2♥.

CHECHELASHVILI: 2♥.

HH: 1NT. Naturally, I make the bid that's most likely to allow ME to play the hand.

JONES: 1NT. The heart fit is nice, but 1NT is right in values and should play nicely. Take away either jack, and I'd raise hearts. Many pairs are using transfers after takeout doubles of 1-level bids.

MILES: 1NT. I have too much strength to remain silent forever, and the best time to bid is now. Partner is not likely to have four spades, and even if he does, spades are not likely to break 3-2 on this bidding.

Besides, this is not the type of hand I like to play in a 4-3 fit. *[How about the known 5-3 fit?]*

SACKS: 2♦. I play this as a semi-constructive raise to 2♥.

SCHAEFER: 2♥. Again, this is automatic to me. They doubled 1♥ and we have a random 9-count with 3-card support. It's probably going to be a competitive hand. We want to follow "The Law," so if we bid 2♥, our side will be well placed. Bidding 1♠ will work poorly most of the time, it's just not practical.

SHUSTER: 1NT. Raising hearts is misguided.

Bell: I have 9 HCP that looks more like 6. I'm 4-3-3-3, so I'm not ruffing anything. Seems like 1NT best describes this hand and if partner bids a new suit, we can support hearts.

DIRECTOR continued from page 1

Just as exciting was my tour of Churchill Downs. The Kentucky Derby museum is a must see as is the actual race track.

Last month I discussed my current district responsibilities. As I did not get any responses, I will repeat them. As head of the ALACBU Election Committee,

our committee is to draft a slate of candidates for ALACBU offices which will be voted on at the July ALACBU meeting (look for an article about the election in this paper on page 14).

If anyone wishes to run for an ALACBU office, please contact me. The second responsibility I have is to run a District Spring Sectional whose sole purpose is to raise

money to help our Grand National Teams offset some of their costs of representing our district at the GNT Finals this summer in Toronto. Anyone wishing to help with this event please contact me.

Next month I will report on the actual board meeting. And do not forget you can always reach me at pinsky4bridge@earthlink.net.

Want to be added to the District 23 Email List for this newsletter and other important announcements?

Send an email to: bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org