

Southern California Bridge News

Volume 47, #12

December 2011

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Finding Friends at the Table

by Becky Clough
ALACBU President



Just why do we play bridge? I, got hooked while I was in high school. Just a few years later I met my husband, Roger, over the bridge table in college. When we married and moved to Chicago where he attended the University of Chicago Law School, we simply sought out a bridge club and found instant friends. That procedure has held us in good stead throughout our life together. We left Chicago in June of 1966 and drove our Volkswagen Bug across historic Route 66, pulling a trailer with everything we owned in life— primarily a sewing machine, a card table, and four chairs. Again, we found the closest bridge club and made friends.

After we both retired, we decided we wanted to join the bridge circuit and travel to tournaments all over the country. We've been fortunate to have done that and today we can find friends, partners and teammates in Minnesota, Michigan, Florida, Arizona, Nevada and Colorado as well as Alberta and British Columbia. In addition, as tourists, we have played bridge in Mexico, England, Australia and New Zealand. Although we may not always have known the local language well, bridge language is universal. Well, almost universal – we speak of stiff honors and being red versus white when we're vulnerable, but in Canada they have frozen honors and

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Agenda for Seattle

by Rand Pinsky, District Director



It is always difficult to write the December report as our news deadline is November 15 for a December 1 publication date. The ACBL Board meets usually after the deadline and before the publication. The news is then old as the meetings have concluded. Nevertheless, I will review in this report the items on our agenda that I think of are interest to our members.

For the fall meeting, the schedule is always extended. Instead of beginning our meetings on Monday (four days before the NABC begins), we begin our meetings on Sunday so that board members can go home on Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving. However, as I am on the Finance Committee, we meet a day before the general meetings, so that means I must leave Los Angeles on Friday to begin meetings on Saturday. To summarize, I will be in Seattle six days before the tournament begins. The Finance Committee meets early as we need to finalize the budget for 2012.

In the Appeals and Charges Committee there are some motions to further clarify that only the League has jurisdiction for discipline over club managers or staff based upon actions in pursuant of their club activities. There is also a motion to allow the League to take action with complaints about cheating at the club level. This is a very touchy issue as the League does not want to interfere with club owners and managers in adjudicating behavior issues at their club.

In the bridge committee there is a motion to deem a person who has more than 500 Platinum points a Life Master. I am against this as ACBL has requirements for becoming a LM and this circumvents our requirements and will open the door to other exceptions. There are other motions dealing with online points used for rank advancement and a motion changing requirements for achieving additional life master rankings.

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DIRECTOR continued from page 1

Finally, there is expected to be extended discussion about funding of the Junior Fund Money which was a motion deferred from Toronto. This involves ACBL funding through the United States Bridge Federation and Junior Team activities.

It's a Different View from Dummy

Kathy and I like to try to attend as many unit holiday parties as we can. We get home from Seattle on Friday night December 2. On Saturday we will be attending the Antelope Valley / Santa Clarita Unit party and on Sunday we will attend the San Fernando Valley party.

The following week Kathy will be in New York with Sheila Bozin so if any unit is having a party on the 10th or 11th, let me know and find me a partner and I will attend. I await your call. Hope everyone had a full Thanksgiving dinner and best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy Chanukah.

What do you think?

Send letters to the editor to: bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org

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Carolyn ~ 310-442-6270
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11900 W. Olympic Blvd.
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Editor/Designer.....Jennifer Einberg
Managing Editor.....Rebecca Clough
Contributing Editor.....John Jones

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are hot, not red, when vulnerable..

Looking around me today, I realize that most of our friends are also bridge players - some too who have used bridge as the medium for gaining friends and acceptance in a new place. Many of the players in our Los Angeles bridge clubs today are elderly retired folk for whom a major source of entertainment is the afternoon bridge game. Most of these players play several times a week and many play every day. Why is this so? It is so, because bridge supports friendships with like minded people.

I intend to play bridge as long as I possibly can. If we need to move from our two-story house for age or health reasons, you can bet your bottom dollar that wherever the bridge club is located will be a major consideration. Because we know we can go to the bridge club and find a friend.

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Around the Units in District 23

Antelope Valley by Brad Ward

Should you be an ACBL member in good standing (paid your annual fee into the Horn Lake Caverns), you actually have proof that **you** are **their** customer. Frequently, the most common way to quickly rate a service organization is to ask the question: **How user friendly are they to deal with?**

Had any recent experience with the ACBL? Perhaps you should call the Horn Lake Empire and wade through the phone system. Maybe, you should ask the user friendly question of your local club manager/owner and perhaps even of your unit president. What would the response to the question be? How is the ACBL doing?

Good Internet bridge operations are stripped of monster egos and hopeless ineptitude and simply offer a well managed and user friendly space for players to participate. The great social aspects of the game we love are cultivated by highly motivated units and club owners that strive every day to make the playing experience user friendly for **the paying customers**. Some ACBL members say it is only a matter of time before the Horn Lake Empire capitulates, purchasing and **installing** what it needs: brainpower, wisdom, and expertise— maybe that of a BBO, for example.

The Valencia club is doing well, as is its alliance partner, the Castaic club. Many congrats must continue to go out to Rand Pinsky, Kathy Swaine, Rita Vanatter, and all those that continue to make these clubs a popular place to play. The winners for the past month at Valencia are Carol & Gary Trender, Bert Stock & Rita Vanatter, Jackie Moor & Teri Mactin, Lamonte Johnson & Markle VanderVort, Gary Grey & Arif Shah, George Macdonald & Ted Maki, and Betty Pevy & Everett Dehn (**twice!**). Winners at the Castaic Club this past month are Nell Schanz and Hansford Rowe (**twice!**) as well as Hugh Bartlett and Bill Brodek (**twice!**). Notching lone wins were Lamonte Johnson & Basant Shah, Charles Self & Mary Anne Self, Jerry Burrill & Ruth Baker, and Roshun Hadulla & Everett Dehn.

The Lancaster club is also doing much better, thanks in a great part to the directors donating their services to the club. Winners have been: Thelma Nelson & Doris Thompson, Russ Buker & Linda Young, Sonja Plahn & Sharry Vida, Mary Stauff & George Macdonald, Erlene DeHass & George Lewis Jr., Dan Spector & Onarita Pallanti, Bob Hart & Brad Ward, and Marlene-Warren Gasper and Lola Messhia and Dave Gasper.

A big congratulations to the gold point winners Tracy Boys and Hansford Rowe for their performance at the Marina Del Rey Regional. Ms. Lola Messiha and Brad Ward with teammates Dave and Marlene Gasper won the Bracket II Knockouts at the Ventura Regional and bagged almost 20 gold ones. Let us all take a moment to wish the Horn Lake Empire lots of luck.

Glendale Verdugo By Ron Lifshutz

On Saturday, November 12 the Unit 553 game was held at the Regency Bridge club. Prior to the game, the players were treated to a fine luncheon compliments of the unit board and hosted by President Merry Besvold.

N/S

A1	Richard Banta & Ron Moeckel
A2	Herman Helber & Jacob Frenkel
A3	Peter Szecsi & Bernardine Mateer
A4	Pat Abbey & Merry Besvold
B1	Arthur Chacanas & Barbara McKissick
B2	Michael Doll & Patrick Cardullo

E/W

A1	Louise Reich & Amr Elghamry
A2	Bob Tayrien & Jack Futrell
A3 B1 C1	Adam Barron & David Rozzell
A4 B2 C2	Nancy Lyon & Betsy Josias
B3	Bob Hogan & Esther Tapelband
B4	Harold Knowles & Zachary Vedro

The Christmas Party will be held on December 10 with Turkey, dressing, and all the other good stuff. The cost is \$15.00 per person.

There will be a raffle for some fine prizes. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Boxes of See's candy will be sold at a discount from regular prices. As usual, we will be collecting teddy bears for "Friends of the Children Court."

Please join us then.

On our regular Saturday afternoon game on November 5, Phil Dessert and Ron Lifshutz turned in a 70.83 % game. Congratulations.

Long Beach by Jon Yinger

unit website: www.acblunit557.org

club website: www.LongBeachBridge.com

November 14 unit-rated game launching Education Week: Overall results: 1st in A: Jackie Hess/Lowell Andrews, 2nd Irwin Bender/Ralph Beazley, 3rd Judith Jones/Bob Mault, 4th Betty McClellan/Jon Yinger, 5th Sibyl Slutsky/Phil Schuster, 6th Mark Tang/Len Beck. In the B flight overall Lois Perovich/John Galliger were 2nd, Sharon and Al Appel 3rd, Bob and John Wiser 4th, Linda and Dick Stein 5th, and Bob Ballack/Kathy Batson 6th. In the C flight overall Janet Logan/Larry Topper were 5th. In the NLM game Juanita Smith/Marilyn Landau were 1st, Linda Dillon/Ruth Roe 2nd, Marlene Sneed/Rick Schaeffer 3rd, and Rosalie Storck/Jane Okimoto 4th. Congratulations to all!

70+% Games in the Club October 16 through November 15: In the NLM game Oct 17 Sharon Biederman/Susan Bibby had 71.09% E/W and Kiyo Nagaishi/Bob Mault had 70.44% N/S. In the Weds evening game Oct 26 Sandy Bernard/Al Lum had 69.79%. And in the open game Nov 7 Mark Tang/Len Beck had 70.96%. Congratulations to all four pairs!

Big Masterpoint Awards: In-club over-all bigpoint awards for first over-all October 16 through November 15: Oct 17 Ralph Beazley/Irwin Bender won 3.36mp; Oct 18 Rich Wasser/Jon Yinger won 3.58mp; Oct 19 Gary King/Bill Haskitt won 3.47mp; Oct 20 Bea and John Bralliar won 3.14mp; Nov 14 Jackie Hess/Lowell Andrews won 5.33mp; and Nov 15 Jackie Hess/Bob Mault won 4.00mp. Big awards for 2nd or 3rd over-all:

Oct 12 Loren Hilf/T S Chernuchin won 3.33mp; Nov 14 Irwin Bender/Ralph Beazley won 4.00mp and Bob Mault/Judith Jones won 3.00mp for 3rd; and Nov 15 Sharon and Al Appel won 3.00mp. Congratulations to all!

New Member: Mary Nan Meyer. Welcome to the club!

Status Changes: Club Master: Pamela Cronn; Sectional Master: Richard Dial; Regional Masters: Jerome Smith, Karen Watson; NABC Master: Reva Alban; New Advanced NABC Master: April Berg; Bronze Life Master: Vincent Remedios; Silver Life Master: Keith Hafen. Congratulations to you all!

A Special Thank You: from John Killian, manager of the Long Beach 2011 Sectional Tournament to Co-Manager Kevin Lane for designing and obtaining the sectional flyers, helping setup and tear down the rooms; to the directors Peter Knee (DIC), David White, and Brandon Shuemaker for running a smooth tournament, to Fern and Hank Dunbar for snacks arrangements, to Brandon also for beverage preparation, and to those wonderful players who also brought snacks; to Betty Jackson who arranged some fine partnerships; to Loren Hilf for administration of room rental; and to everyone else who helped make the Long Beach Sectional a huge success! And congratulations to all of the winners.

Upcoming Events at the Club: Sunday Dec 4 Charity Potluck Unit Game. Lunch at 12:30, game at 1pm. Dec 5 thru 11 Great Western Holiday STaC week: Hand Records, overall awards, card fees \$11. Dec 18 Holiday Party unit-rated game: Extra points, regular prices. Dec 19 Inter-Club Championship game: hand records and overall awards. Dec 31 New Year's Party unit-rated game. Extra points, regular prices. The club will be closed Thanksgiving day Nov 24 and Christmas day Dec 25.

News from Leisure World from Gene Yaffee

Big Games: Sue Fardette & Vince Remedios with a 70.68% on November 7 and Jack Dampman & Aaron Jones with a 67.5% on November 5.

Club Championship Game on October 28: Howard Smith & Dorothy Favre edged out Judy Carter-Johnson & Mary Largent by 1/4 of a match point to come in first overall. Third in Strat A (1st in Strat B) were Coorie & Jack Dampman; Second in Strat B were Ron Yaffee & Richard Norris.

Holiday party for Clubhouse #1 will be held on

Friday, December 9, following the weekly bridge game. The cost is \$3.00 per person for regular players which includes bridge playing fees. See Howard Smith to sign up.

For more information, please call Gene Yaffe at 562-430-7040.

Results of all Leisure World games are posted on www.acblunit557.org

Get the Unit 557 Newsletter via Email: Send me your e-mail address and I'll put you on the list. My email is jyinger1@gmail.com.

Pasadena San Gabriel Valley by Chuck Cordaro

Our Marathon Man

Congratulations to our director, Art Gulbrandsen, on completing yet another New York City Marathon. I'm sure Mayor Bloomberg is much happier seeing Art running past his banks instead of out of them.

To be fair, Art and his friends raised \$2,500 for this marathon and donated it to Achilles International. This charity was started by Dick Traum, a man who had lost his legs in a car accident. Instead of just coping, he learned to race in marathons and became the first to do so using prosthetics. He then started Achilles International to encourage other handicapped people to participate in sports, in part to counter the public's tendency to view handicapped people as fragile—a misapprehension not shared by those of us here in Arcadia.

When Traum saw a marathoner using a skateboard because his wheelchair was too rickety, he started new chapters in poorer countries. There are now about 70 chapters around the world with special events for women, children, and the blind. Here at home, some of our 44,000 soldiers seriously injured in Iraq and Afghanistan also participate.

Upcoming Events

Art would like you to keep the following dates in mind:

Beat The House Night

December 9 at 7:30
Arcadia Bridge Center

Unit Christmas Party

December 11 at noon

Arcadia Senior Center, 365 Campus Drive

Arcadia Christmas Party (for everyone)

Arcadia Bridge Center
December 18 at 1:00 p.m.

Christmas Party for rookies and newcomers

Arcadia Bridge Center
December 16 at 7:30 p.m.

Winners and Losers Night

Arcadia Bridge Center
December 31 at 1:00 p.m.

Marina del Rey Regional Tournament

I looked over the list of masterpoints won and saw some familiar names: Joe Viola, Bob Johnson, Dominique Moore, Amr Elghamrey, Dan Boataca, Peter Szecsi, Edward Hsi, Mike Marcucci and Jeff Fang all scored between 10 to 20 points. Congratulations to them, and to our frequent guest, Roger Lee, who scored 38 points.

Pomona Covina by Vic Sartor

Unit Christmas Party
Saturday, December 17 at 11 a.m.

As predicted in last month's incisive political analysis, the following lucky folks have been chosen to serve on next year's unit board: Clint Lew, Penny Barbieri, Roger Boyar, Richard Patterson, Tom Lill, Charlotte Capelle, Gayle Ginsburg, and Vic Sartor. They fought off hordes of rabid office seekers to retain their seats, which just goes to show what some people will do for power and glory.

Last month's unit game winners were Lary Alba and Cordell Goode, who posted a nice 66.7% game. Bill Papa and Jim Griffith were first in the opposite direction and second overall. Others placing OA were Roger Boyar and Richard Patterson (third), Bernadine Mateer and Peter Szecsi (fourth), and Michael Horn and Milt Kalikman (fifth). Boyar and Patterson were first in Class B, while Rosalie Roberts and Penny Barbieri took second. Hanan Mogharbel and Gayle Ginsburg

won Class C.

The November individual was won by Ann McClelland, followed by Tom Lill, Clint Lew, Luan Schirmer, Roger Boyar, and Richard Patterson.

Club results are a little sparse this month. The LaFetra game was shut down for two weeks while the building was being used for the big annual Christmas boutique. Top game of the month was a 68.5% turned in by Ron Purkis and Ann McClelland. Other club winners included Charlotte Capelle, Hanan Mogharbel, Cordell Goode, Milt

Kalikman, Bill Papa, Vic Sartor, Denise Morgan, Hans Hehnke, Donald Naf, Gayle Ginsburg, Pat Radamaker, Clint Lew, Kathy Helber, Herman Helber, Walt Otto, and Genise Hasan.

Our hand of the month illustrates the need for looking ahead, coolness under fire, carrying on when the going gets tough, keeping a stiff upper lip, and several other clichés. You are dealt:

♠Ax ♥x ♦AKJ987x ♣KJ8

Your LHO opens a weak 2♥.

Your partner overcalls 2♠, and RHO passes. Your call? Several practical (read chicken) players made a simple raise to 4♠—certainly a reasonable choice. A couple of enterprising (read psychotic, like yourself) bidders drove to an excellent 6♦ slam. Pard has:

♠KJ9xx ♥AQ108x ♦Q ♣KJ8

The opening lead is a low heart. Can you visualize any problem making this hand? Only one possibility comes to mind. The trumps might split 5-0. If so, it looks like you'll have two losers. Can you still make when an opponent has 10xxxx of diamonds? There's a small chance. You have to find Qxx or Q10 of spades onside paired with the diamond void. Sure enough, opener shows out when you cash the diamond queen. But you are up to the challenge. You now play a spade to the ace, finesse the spade queen (Qxx is onside), and continue spades. The opponent can ruff in if he chooses, but he then sacrifices his trump trick. If he chooses not to ruff you can pitch all your clubs. Six bid and made.

'Til next time...

San Fernando Valley by Fran Kern

A Unit Game was held at the Bridge Academy on Sunday, October 23. Lunch was once again catered by Northridge LA Lasagne Co., whose food has been a consistent favorite of our players. We welcome feedback from those who attended the October Unit Game. Among suggestions already received is consideration of a Saturday Unit

It's time for the 2012 GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS EVENT

Open Flight	March 3-4	0-unlimited MPs
Flight A	April 28-29	0-5000 MPs
Flight B	March 3-4	0-2000 MPs
Flight C	April 28-29	Non LMs < 500 MPs

The district-wide sectional on April 14-15 will raise funds for our teams.



Do you want to play in a FUN Team Event?
Do you want to play in events with large Master Point Awards?
Do you want to win Gold MPs without leaving Los Angeles?

Never played in the Grand National Teams before?
Want to know more? Read here!

- The format is the same as any sectional Swiss Teams and/or Knockout event
- The Master Points Awards are bigger and include Gold Points
- The event is Stratified so you only compete against people with similar MPs
- Feel the prestige and earn the recognition on both the local and national level when you win!

All Events:

- Take place at the Barrington Bridge Club, 11500 Santa Monica Blvd, Los Angeles
- Swiss Qualifying on Saturday for Sunday Knockout
- Teams must have 4, 5, or 6 players
- Game Times 10:00am and TBA
- Players can enter more than 1 event (on separate weekends)
- Winning teams can represent District 23 in Philadelphia this summer at the Nationals
- Winning teams receive partial refund of expenses for the trip to the finals
- For complete Conditions of Contest see the ALACBU website at www.acbldistrict23.org
- Questions? Call Howard Einberg (310 475-9784) or Bill Wickham (310 234-3238)

Game early next year.

The unit delegates to the District Board are Mike Fierman, Marge Romans and Ellen Anten. Marge reports that the District Board is concerned with the apparent lack of interest in available scholarship funding.

However, this situation may be a lack of information rather than a lack of interest. Therefore, we are calling on all grandparents who play bridge to be aware of this scholarship opportunity for their grandchildren and others. The requirements for these scholarships are very liberal. Applicants must be high school seniors who live in Los Angeles County and have a connection to bridge in any of the following ways: Either they play bridge, are learning to play bridge, caddy in a bridge game, or have a family member who plays duplicate bridge. Scholarships are in the amount of \$1,000.00 and there are funds available for a number of recipients. For an application form, contact Peter Szecsi, email: francespeter@att.net or 626-304-9535. Deadline for 2012 applications is May 1, 2012. Let's get busy and have some scholarship applicants and recipients recommended by our unit players.

This is the time of year when we send out a call for players who are interested in bringing their talents and efforts to the unit board. If you are one of those persons, please contact Board President Mike Fierman at mandhent@sbcglobal.net for further information.

The Top Ten Masterpoint Winners for October 2011

750 Bridge Club: Ron Malkin 12.34, Paul Endler 9.69, Bunnie Roth 8.34, Bob Williams 8.00, Gloria Malkin 7.34, Larry Kussin 6.33, Don Rosen 6.25, Jim Gardner 6.21, Mil Sidell 6.16, Phil Swan 5.84.

Bridge Academy Under 750 Game: Carol Stein 6.12, Sheila Bub 4.56, Tessa Finder 4.56, Harold Perla 4.25, Arlene Newman 4.25, Phillip Calloway 4.08, Wayne Beagle 3.68, John Van Egmond 3.41, Eva Seri 3.28, Fran Cohen 3.28.

Bridge Academy Open Game: Gary Frans 12.99, Seymour Zemlyn 11.49, Dick Lum 10.44, Leda Danzig 10.18, Gilbert Stinebaugh 10.12, Armand Szulc 9.84, Harvey Witt 9.81, Lamonte Johnson 9.09, Freddie Straus 6.57, Allan Palansky 6.54.

70% Games for October

At the 750 Club the following pairs had big game scores. Mil Sidell & Len Mendelsohn 72.92%, Doug Beagle & Bill Raines 71.67%, Michael Ellis & Jurek Zadrozny 70%.

Missing From the Table

Unit members send get well wishes to Herb Schneider, Lettie Odney, Barry Segal, and Loraine Krieger, and look forward to welcoming them back to the bridge table very soon.

Column News: Make sure that your news will appear in the next edition of The Southern California Bridge News by sending it to me 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>

Upcoming Events at the South Bay Bridge Club

Club Championship: Friday, December 2, 7:00

Western Conference STAC: December 5-11

Club Championship: Saturday, December 17, 3:00

Club Team Championship: Tuesday, December 20, 7:00

Unit Christmas Party: Sunday December 11

Lunch at noon, game at 1:00, reservations required

Handicapped Swiss Teams Every Tuesday Evening

There will be Friday Night games on December 2 and December 16.

Club Championships

On October 19 the Club Championship was won by Carole King/Beverly Narahara in Flights A and B with Mahin Khadivi/Charlotte Lewin winning Flight C. The Club Championship on October 25 was won by Charlotte Lewin/Nanci Schultz with Madge Weinstein/Marilou Lieman taking all flights in the NLM championship. On November 7 the Club Championship was won by

Marybelle Hoenig/Gerri Carlson in both Flights A and B with Harold Koletsky/Robert Van Lone capturing Flight C. The November 11 Championship was won by Betsy Amador/Rocky Williams in both Flights A and B. The NLM championship on this date was won by Joyce Field/Eleanor Panousis in Flight A and Gerri Dunford/Gerri Capers in Flight B.

Team Winners

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

Oct 18: Tie: Bea and John Brailliar, Bruce Horiguchi, CVal Gamio, Mary Ann Coyle, John Farr, Bo Bogema, John J. McDermott

Oct 25: Bea and John Brailliar, Robert Rothman, Carole Mason

Nov 1 STaC: Linda and Bill Lama, Karen and Mike McKittrick

Nov 8: Carol McCully, Ed Barad, Cecil Cook, Mark Raggio

Nov 15: Fran Israel, Luis Gamio, Jeff Strutzel, Andy Anderson

District 22/23 STAC

Following is a list of overall finishers during the recent District 22/23 STAC (October 31-November 6) for games played in unit clubs.

Monday Morning, SBBC
 Richard Cheng/Jeff Strutzel
 3B 1C Ed Srenco/Neal Kleiner
 5B Kim Wang/Luttrell Long
 3C Harold Koletsky/Robert Van Lone
 4C Christine Uriu/Bee-De Lim
 5C Pat Berg/Mary Overby

Monday Evening, SBBC
 1A 1B Stanley Greengard/Mark Raggio
 3A Gabriela Jackson/Claire Hulett
 5A Gerri Carlson/John J. McDermott
 6A Fran Israel/Steve Ramos
 2B David Peim/Neal Kleiner

LAS VEGAS

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Monday to Friday

GLITTER GULCH SECTIONAL



Monday, March 26

9:00 a.m. Stratified Pairs
 1:15 p.m. Stratified Pairs
 Stratified 0-300 Pairs
 Bracketed Mon-Tue KO Teams Rd 1 of 3
 7:00 p.m. Stratified Pairs
 Stratified 0-300 Pairs
 Stratified Swiss Teams
 Bracketed Mon-Tue KO Teams Rd 2 of 3

Tuesday, March 27

9:00 a.m. Stratified Pairs
 Stratified 0-300 Pairs
 Stratified Swiss Teams
 Bracketed Mon-Tue KO Teams Final Rd
 1:15 p.m. Stratified Pairs
 Stratified 0-300 Pairs
 Bracketed Tue-Wed KO Teams Rd 1 of 3
 7:00 p.m. Stratified Pairs
 Stratified 0-300 Pairs
 Stratified Swiss Teams
 Bracketed Tue-Wed KO Teams Rd 2 of 3

**Non-smoking Tournament
 with Hospitality Breaks**

Wednesday, March 28

9:00 a.m. Stratified Pairs
 Stratified 0-300 Pairs
 Stratified Swiss Teams
 Bracketed Tue-Wed KO Teams Final Rd
 1:15 p.m. Stratified Pairs
 Stratified 0-300 Pairs
 Bracketed Wed-Thu KO Teams Rd 1 of 3
 7:00 p.m. Stratified Pairs
 Stratified 0-300 Pairs
 Stratified Swiss Teams
 Bracketed Wed-Thu KO Teams Rd 2 of 3

Thursday, March 29

9:00 a.m. Stratified Pairs
 Stratified 0-300 Pairs
 Stratified Swiss Teams
 Bracketed Wed-Thu KO Teams Final Rd
 1:15 p.m. Stratified Pairs
 Stratified 0-300 Pairs
 Compact KO Teams (Rounds 1 & 2)
 7:00 p.m. Stratified Pairs
 Stratified 0-300 Pairs
 Compact KO Teams (Rounds 3 & Final)
 Stratified Board-A-Match Teams

Friday, March 30

10:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. Stratified Fast Pairs
 (finish by 4:15 p.m.) (This is a 2-session event, but single session entries may be sold at the Director's discretion.)
 10:00 a.m. & TBD Stratified Swiss Teams
 (2-sessions)
 Swiss Teams will finish by 5:15 p.m.

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

**CARD FEES: \$10.00 per session/per player
 for dues paying ACBL members
 \$11.00 per session/per player for all others**

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 March 5**

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Sanction S1203025

Tuesday Morning, November 1, SBBC, 299er Pairs

- 1A 1B Jamila Malika/Ron Smith
 2A Susan Cohen/Setsuko Malika
 3A Christine Uriu/Toshiko Saito
 4A 2B 1C Elaine Wagner/Johnny Arceri
 5A 3B 2C Carolyn Woo/Ed Bucklin

Wednesday Morning, SBBC

- 4A Fran Israel/Betsy Amador
 6B 4C Joanna Wallis/Tom Barna

Wednesday Afternoon, Veterans Park

- 4A 2B Robert Johnson/Linda Klein
 7B Neal Kleiner/Martin Cooper
 13B 7C Marsha Winer/Kathy Rudolph

Wednesday Evening, SBBC

- 4A 2B 1C David Peim/Neil Kleiner
 3B Ron Carlson/Mark Raggio

Thursday Morning, SBBC, NLM Pairs

- 1A Karen and Mike McKittrick
 2A 1B Jeanette Betts/David Lyons
 3A Elaine Bleiweiss/Carolyn Verin
 4A George Stinson/Setsuko Miyasaka
 5A Terry Arnush/Elaine Asch
 6A 2B Neal Hudson/John Soldano
 3B Richard Desantis/Elaine Godin
 4B Suzanne Kuuskmae/Shameem Rahimtoola
 5B 1C Madge Weinstein/Ann Lewis
 2C Norma Reynolds/Gerry Ketz
 3C Geri Dunford/Gail Capers
 4C Linda Bernard/Paul Green

Friday Morning, SBBC

- 4A Dean Kaloudis/John J. McDermott
 3B Gerri Carlson/Ron Carlson

Friday Morning, SBBC, 99er Pairs

- 1A Nancy Raisch/Gerry Gastelum
 2A Joyce Klossner/Elaine Wagner
 3A 1B Gerri Baluch/Susan Cohen
 4A 2B Russell LeFevre/Richard Hargrove

Friday Afternoon, Beach Cities

- 9A 4B William Baxter/Margaret Enders
 12A Bill MCClean/David Cheshire
 7B Ron Srenco/Neil Kleiner

3C Barbara and Peter Shen

Friday Evening, SBBC

- 2A Mary Ann Coyle/Bo Bogema
 3B Louis Bruhnke/Harry Wessells
 3/4C Ed Srenco/Lorna Wallace
 5C Dolly and Bruce Weiner

Friday Evening, Inglewood Beach

- 3A 1B Florence Niwa/Bill Malcolm
 6A Bruce and Chiye Horiguchi
 6C Jane Tourino/Arthur Eades

Saturday Afternoon, SBBC

- 3A Carole Mason/Gaye Herrington
 4B 1C John Monahan/Tom Barna

Marina Del Rey Heroes

Summarized here are unit members who came in First overall in events at the recent Marina Del Rey Regional.

Bruce Horiguchi was on a team which tied for the top spot with a team including Gary King and John J. McDermott in the Ketch Swiss Teams. Neal Kleiner and David Peim were on a team which won the Bracket 2 Marino KO Teams. Thomas Robinson and Diane Maye won the Tuesday AM 299er Pairs. Henry Crowder and Bob Bacharach won the first Side Series. Thomas Robinson and Robert Newsome won the Thursday Morning Side Game Series. Jeff Strutzel and Gary King were on a team which won the Spinnaker Swiss teams. Bruce Horiguchi was on a team which won the Bracket 1 Fiji Way KO teams. Gary King was on a team which won the Bracket 1 Anchor Compact KO's. Diane Elliot and Alan Fleuret won the Buccaneer Gold Rush Pairs.

GUV Memorial Award

I was playing in the Saturday Afternoon STaC game recently with Mike Savage. Somewhere in the middle of the game I picked up ♠AQTx ♥Qx ♦KQJT9x ♣-- and Mike opened 2♥. RHO bid 3♥ asking for a heart stopper. Suddenly a bell rang. I thought I had played this hand a few weeks earlier at the Marina Del Rey Regional in the Saturday Afternoon pairs. This was the kind of hand you don't soon forget. Sure enough it was the same hand. I played it straight and persisted to the 5-level in hearts, although I knew 6♦ was cold Double

Dummy. I won't tell you what my result was in MDR. I told the club director and some kind of adjustment was made.

A couple rounds later I picked up ♠AKQxxx ♥AKxxx ♦-- ♣Ax. Couldn't forget this one either. I essentially opened 6♠ and told everybody what dummy's hand was correctly. A couple more hands rang bells. Inspection of the hand records later rang a lot more bells on more mundane hands. I played the same hands I had played at the MDR Regional Saturday pairs game a few weeks earlier. And it helped. I had a 51% at the MDR game and a 54% at the STAC game... with a few adjustments made for the hands I had recognized.

I did email a director and told him what happened. I received a reply that they didn't see any way this could happen. Take it to the bank that I am right on this one.

Happy Holidays

Na Zdrowie

West LA by Robert Shore

The One Who Got Away

We start this month with another departure from the Unit's Board. After many years of service, Toby Green has decided to bring her tenure with the board to an end. Toby has always been there for the thankless tasks that are tedious, yet oh so necessary to making an event run smoothly. We will miss her on the board, but look forward to continuing to see her at the table. Persons interested in stepping into the board vacancy should speak to our Peerless Leader, Howard Einberg.

Silver and Gold

There was a fair amount of success on the tournament circuit to report this month. Congratulations to Phyllis and Mario Mory for winning the Thursday Open Pairs event at the Ventura Regional. Congratulations also to Robert and Sandra Carroll for winning the Friday Open Pairs event at the Rancho Mirage Sectional. (Did you really think you could escape notice by playing an out-of-district sectional?) Pete Benjamin and Gerry Bare were on the winning team at the Thousand Oaks Compact Knockout.

Our unit also scored multiple wins at the recent STAC. Bill Rogers picked up the win at the Thursday afternoon session. Sheri Rivera and Aram Bedros won the Saturday afternoon game, leaving it to your Humble Scribe and Bruce Altshuler to complete the weekend sweep by winning the Sunday afternoon game.

Ghosts and Goblins

The Halloween Individual was another rousing success. A good time was had by all, and many kind words were received. Perhaps by this time next year, ACBLScore will be able to score an event where the players in a three-board movement switch table positions every hand, in keeping with the true spirit of an individual. Congratulations to Lou Papp for winning the event.

The Halfway Point

It may seem as though life masters are everywhere, but it's just not so. If you have as many as 200 master points, you have surpassed more than half of the membership of the ACBL. The median holding of ACBL members is approximately 170 master points. So even when it seems that progress is slow, keep in mind that life masters have already surpassed a great many bridge players.

Wide-Range No Trump Rebid

Do you open 1NT with a five-card major? Playing my preferred methods, I'll always open one heart with five hearts. If partner makes a two-over-one response, I will rebid 2NT (showing extras if partner's response is not game forcing). This agreement requires structure, though, if partner responds one spade, because your only sensible rebid at that point is 1NT, giving the rebid an effective range of 12-17 points.

I handle this by using 2♣ as a checkback bid. After the auction 1♥-1♠, 1NT*-2♣, opener is expected to respond in two-point steps. A 2♦ rebid shows 12-13 points and exactly 2 spades, while a 2♥ rebid shows the same hand with 3 spades. (This gives partner the chance to get out in 2♦ if he responded 1♠ with a weakish 4-2-5-2 pattern.) With 14-15 points, opener rebids 2♠ with 3 spades (to give responder the opportunity to pass with a fit) and 2NT with 2 spades. With 16-17 points, opener responds 3♣ with 3 spades and 3♦ with 2 spades – both

of these bids are game forcing.

Get Well Wishes

Get well wishes to new board member David Raphel, who is expected back after completing his rehabilitation. Get well wishes also to Fumie Glenney. Further get well wishes to, well, you know who you are.

It's a Pozzlement

In going over the clubs' daily results, I've noticed an oddity. When Barrington holds a 99ers game, the open game consistently gets credit for those tables when calculating overall awards. On the other hand, when Beverly Hills holds a 99ers game, it's very much hit or miss whether the open game gets overall awards that include credit for the tables in the other game. Why do the clubs handle these awards differently? Inquiring minds (this one, anyway) want to know.

Around the Clubs

Thanks to club appreciation month, there is much to report from the clubs this month. Barrington champions were Bella Feniger and Robert Martin, Larry Scissors and Steven Yaffe, Anita Levine and Chuck Maltz, Aram Bedros and Art Zail, Sylvia Shallon and Alan Chapman, Denny Seltzer and Paul Smith, and Cecil and Ted ("Beanie") Glaessner. Vicky Ebin and Jerry Smith won Cyma's championship. Aram Bedros rang up 70% games playing with Harvey Katz and Art Zail, while your Humble Scribe hit that mark playing with Kevin Lane at Cyma's game, as did Adrienne Green and Laura Waisler.

Guy Green and Charlotte Ukra won the monthly Unit Championship. Club champions at Beverly Hills were Charles Fonarow and Marshall Wengrow. Winners of the Club Appreciation games were David Segal and Joyce Lelah, Ryan Wessels carried me home, Fred Mautner and Viktor Anikovich, Betsy Lutz and Marcia Fisher, Charles Fonarow and Fred Mautner, Valerie Aron and David Segal, Marie Pendergast and Robert Levy, Marie Pendergast and Joanne Minken-Levy, and Rhoda and Lew Himmell. Cecil and Ted Glaessner teamed with Roger and Becky Clough to take the club appreciation

District 23 Rank Changes October, 2011

Junior Master (5 MPs)

Mimi Brown, Kara Challman
Susan Chapman, Paul Chrisney
Marilyn Gore, Dhana Kaushik
Vidya Kaushik, Fran Lapides
Carol Provost, James Quinn
Irene Rosenthal, Joan Stein
Linda Tessier, Bobbi Zifkin

Club Master (20 MPs)

Richard Bakovic, Susan Bibby
Sophia Chang, Charlie Pastre

Sectional master (50 MPs)

Joyce Field, Judy Hopkins
Marilou Lieman, Hanan Mogharbel, Gail Windisch

Regional Master (100 MPs)

Michael Abeles, Sydell Aronson
Rochelle Blumenfeld, Suzanne Borenstein
Melinda Curry, Paul Endler
Leah Levin, Barbara Parsons
William Raines, John Tickner

NABC Master (200 MPs)

Jerry Burrill, Eileen Finlay
Joyce Henderson, Joan Mitchell, Berry Wilkinson

Life Master (300 MPs)

Mary Falvey, William Inglis
Clay Levine, Eleanor Levine
Sylvia Morstein, Karen Schwartz

Bronze Life Master (500 MPs)

Richard Glikzman, Clay Levine
Eleanor Levine, Donna Massman
Neil Sherman, Kris Sommer
Chi-Chong Yu

Gold Life Master (2500 MPs)

Milton Kalikman, Roger Lee

Diamond Life Master (5000 MPs)

Leda Danzig

Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: John Jones

This month's panelists: Leo Bell, Jeff Goldsmith, Eddie Kantar, and Marshall Miles

This month's five problems were taken from the Master Solver's Panel in a 1983 issue of Bridge World Magazine. A few of the 1983 panelists' answers are reprinted here in green, include Marshall's and Eddie's.

1

MPs
NS vul

South	West	North	East
	pass	1♣	pass
1♦	pass	1NT	pass
2♥	pass	3♦	pass
?			

You, South, hold: ♠7 ♥AJ83 ♦AQT752 ♣K3
What call do you make?

Goldsmith: 3♠. If partner bids 3NT, I'll pass, because it is matchpoints, and 3NT will surely score more than 5♦ if both make. If he bids something else, I'll make a try for 6♦, but subside in 5♦ unless partner bids past 5♦ himself. Partner could have ♠xxx ♥KQx ♦Kxx ♣Axxxx, in which case, he'll know his hand is perfect, but he could also have ♠Qx ♥Qxx ♦Kxx ♣AQxxx.

The complexities of matchpoint scoring raises the issue of how aggressive to be. Jeff has some esteemed company from 1983.

Al Roth (1983): 3♠. If partner bids 3♠, I will pass. However, I am hoping for a cooperative bid from partner, which will induce me to bid slam.

Eric Rodwell (1983): 3♠. I want to hear at least one more bid from partner before deciding what to do. 5♦ may make when notrump doesn't, but my principal hope is for a 4♣ or 4♦ cuebid from partner; then, I'll cue 4♥, leaving the final push to him. I'll pass 3NT – hopefully he won't bid it without a spade stopper

Bell: 4♠. At matchpoints, once I've decided to bypass notrump I might as well describe my hand with a splinter so partner can evaluate slam.

I agree with that assessment – bidding past 3NT isn't clear, but if we are going to move past 3NT, then 4♣ looks like the best bid.

Miles: 4♠. I don't see a good alternative.

Miles (1983): 4♠. This should show a singleton, and is the ideal bid if partner interprets it correctly – slam is likely opposite little wasted in spades.

In 1983, splinter bids were not yet part of Bridge World Standard, the system that the 1983 panelists were supposed to use to guide their decisions. It was mentioned that 4♠ could be Kickback Blackwood or an asking-bid. That didn't stop Marshall, who has great confidence in his partner's abilities to read his bids.

Kantar: 4♣. I'm a 4♣ bidder. I'm not giving up on slam just yet.

Kantar (1983): 4♣.

In 1983 4♣ was the largest vote getter. Nine bids were actually mentioned, 6♦ and every bid from 3♥ to 5♦ except 4♥ and 5♠.

2

IMPs
NS vul

South	West	North	East
1♦ ?	2♣	pass 2♠	pass 3♣

You, South, hold: ♠A5 ♥A54 ♦AK8764 ♣A4
What call do you make?

Bell: 4NT. All partner needs is something like ♠KJxxxx ♥Kxx ♦xx ♣x to have a play for 7♠. There's no need to pussyfoot around with cuebids as ace asking should do just fine.

Goldsmith: This is an impossible problem, but just about all auctions in standard which start this hand with 1♦ end up being distortions. Standard simply doesn't have a way to rebid with game forcing single-suited minor hands. Most "solve" the problem by getting their distortion over in the first round; they open 2NT (or 2♣ then rebid 2NT, which is reasonable with this hand; game is good enough versus a 4-3-3-3 Yarborough). "But partner, I had 150 honors!"

Anyone for a 2NT opening bid? It doesn't do well for getting to 6♦, but partner is a passed hand and it looks about right on playing strength.

Miles: 3♥. If I cue bid 4♣ right away, partner will think I have at least 3 card spade support and will not consider alternate contracts (diamonds being the most likely).

Miles (1983): 4♣.

Maybe Marshall 2011 playing with Marshall 1983 wouldn't be such a

great partnership.

Kantar: Double. I think double says 'tell me more.' It is not penalty after they have supported each other and a pass would not be forcing.

Kantar (1983): 3NT.

Note that double would have been penalty in 1983. Eddie's answer of double shows that bridge has come a long way in 30 years. The top vote getter in 1983 was 3♦, but many of those who answered 3♦ hated it, realizing it was a huge underbid.



District 23

Memphis- HERE WE COME!




North American Pairs

D23 Finals

15 JAN 2012, 11:00 AM

Barrington Bridge Club
11514 Santa Monica Blvd

2 Sessions with a break

Snacks ☉ Sodas ☉ Coffee ☉ Gold/Red Points

3

IMPs
all vul

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

You, South, hold: ♠A3 ♥AJ75 ♦63 ♣KQJ73. What call do you make?

Miles: Pass. I have a better defensive hand than I guaranteed, and I suspect that partner has good spades also.

Kantar: Pass. I expect to get rich on this one.

Goldsmith: Pass. Partner is showing a tolerance for diamonds and a spade stack. I have more defense than I might, and my having the space ace means we can get two rounds of trump going quickly. It's possible that they have a 5-4 diamond fit and this is terrible, but it is more likely that they have only an 8-card fit, and that is going to go for a number. Since there is no assurance that we have a game, let's try for the

number.

Bell: 3NT. Partner likely has a spade stack and expects me to have more in diamonds. I'll gamble that I can't beat 2♦ doubled enough to outscore a vulnerable game.

Are you sure partner has a diamond stopper?

The 1983 panel voted overwhelmingly (including Eddie and Marshall) for pass. I think that Leo and Jeff are much closer to being on target here. Double is really a double of spades, and pass is gambling that partner has three diamonds. I'm a 3♣ bidder.

4

IMPs
NS vul

South	West	North	East
			1♠
pass	4♠	4NT	pass
?			

You, South, hold: ♠T75 ♥3 ♦KQ62 ♣KJ874. What call do you make?

Miles: 5♣. I have a pretty good hand, but I don't know partner's distribution. He may have hearts and diamonds, in which case he will correct to 5♦.

Kantar: 5♣. Not brave enough to bid 5NT, we could easily be off two cashing aces. ♠x ♥AKJxx ♦AJT9xx ♣x. Of course one can always construct a hand to justify one's call. In fact it bugs me when other people do that.

Goldsmith: 5♣. Cut partner lots of slack. He probably has hearts and a minor. Even at red vs. white, partner is supposed to bid aggressively with shape to avoid a double game swing. Yes, we may miss a slam if partner has ♠--- ♥xxx ♦AJTxx ♣AQxxx (of course,

we'll never get to play it), but why can't partner have ♠x ♥KQJxx ♦AJTxx ♣xx? White vs. red opponents don't promise a ten-card fit here. If I know my opponents are the sort who will automatically save over 6♣, I might try that. But even if slam has no play, their save might be less than game.

Bell: 5♣. If I knew partner had both minors, this is a big underbid. In the more likely scenario, partner has the red suits. Therefore forcing to slam is a bit much.

The 1983 vote was 13 votes for 5NT, 12 votes for 6♣, with 5♣ receiving 8 votes. But I think our 2011 panel correctly allows for the possibility that partner has hearts as one of his suits.



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

You, South, hold: ♠AJ9742 ♥AK4 ♦4 ♣AT3
What call do you make?

Bell: 3♠. I'd like my spades to be a bit better for this, but otherwise it's a classic rebid. no-brainer.

Again Leo has some esteemed company.

Eric Rodwell (1983): 3♠. 2♣ would miss too many games.

Easley (1983) Blackwood: 3♠. Minimum for the bid, but I have enough.

Kantar: 2♣. I'm waiting to hear what the panel bids on this one. Maybe I will learn something.

Kantar (1983): 3♠. Not perfect, but less imperfect than any other distortion.

Goldsmith: 2♣. The hand is too good for 2♣, but the suit is not good enough for 3♠. So temporize with 2♣ and plan to rebid 3♠ over 2♣. Better still, if we are playing some sort of artificial 2♦ over 2♣, then partner has a way to bid 2♠ that tells me not to bid 3♠. Yet another bonus is that we might reach 4♥. This is an old chestnut, and was solved generations ago. It's a much harder problem at matchpoints. There, taking the low road isn't awful, because we won't miss a game often, and 2♠ will likely outscore 2♣ if partner passes. That makes it close between 2♣ and 2♠, but at IMPs, it's a

Miles: 2♣. Some risk involved, but good things can happen. Perhaps partner will bid hearts. If he takes a preference (quite likely a false preference) to 2♠, I don't know whether I will bid 3♠ or 3♥. If partner passes 2♣, we may be in our best contract. At least it will be better than 3♠.

Miles (1983): 2♣.

Yes, this is an old problem, and the theme of the problem is that hands with a 6-card spade suit that isn't terrific can consider rebidding a 3-card club suit. The worse the spade suit is, the more you want to consider rebidding 2♣ instead of 3♠. Having 3 hearts in the hand makes it even more attractive to try 2♣, because it makes it easier to find a 5-3 or even 6-3 heart fit. 3♠ was the top vote getter in 1983, it wouldn't be today.

The end of 2011 is here we took a look back at these problems from a 1983 Bridge World Master Solver's Panel. For readers of this column who are unfamiliar with Bridge World, it is in my estimation the best bridge magazine ever (and has been for several decades). Serious students of bridge should be BW subscribers.

UNITS *continued from page 11*

team game. Hitting 70% at Beverly Hills were your Humble Scribe and our Peerless Leader, Kurt Fritz and Bob Gish, Mario Mory and Steven Weiner, and Bruce Altshuler and Kevin Lane (who tried to give it back by reporting a scoring error, but held on by 0.04 match points).

Climbing the Ladder

Joining the ranks of Junior Masters this month are Barbara Fisher-Freeman, Karen Gidwitz, and Claudia Mirkin. Welcome to the addiction. New club masters are Yehudit Hasin-Brumshten, Jaclyn Hatfield, and Lois Rawitt.

Charles Kelley is now a Silver Life Master. And with four NABC+ titles to his credit, Don Krauss has finally reached Diamond Life Master. Congratulations to all on your accomplishments.

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