

Southern California Bridge News

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Bridge Invitation

by Becky Clough, ALACBU President



Have you ever thought about bridge as a foreign language? It is a language that has only 38 terms: one through seven in clubs, diamonds, hearts, spades and no-trump and pass, double and redouble. Like multiple meaning words in English, those 38 terms have different meanings depending upon the context in which they are used, i.e. "The old men began to desert the hike as it got hotter in the desert."

Have you ever considered which of these terms has the most varied meanings in the bidding. It is the double. I've come up with 19 different doubles you might encounter in the bidding. You may play some of these and some of them might be completely foreign to you. Read carefully, there will be a test at the end.

When I first played bridge, there were only two basic types of doubles: the TAKEOUT DOUBLE which is a request for your partner to bid and the PENALTY DOUBLE, which seeks to maximize the penalty your opponents receive when they overbid and go down in as contract. Other doubles you might encounter are presented here in alphabetical order.

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Don't Forget: ABA/ALACBU Game

by Rand Pinsky, District Director



If you read this column before June 2, do not forget to attend the ABA/ACBL bridge mixer with the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Bridge Association. The game will take place on Sunday June 2. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. and game time is 2:00 p.m. Card fees are \$10. The address for the game is 134 North Market St. Inglewood. The telephone number of the club is 310-672-7705. Please call the club for reservations and also let me know if you are going. From past experience, I know that the members do not dress casual for their games. I will be wearing a coat and tie.

ALACBU Elections

Every two years during our July regional, ALACBU holds elections for new officers. This July we are scheduled to hold our bi-yearly election. Our current officers are Becky Clough – President, Penny Barbieri – Vice President, Roger Clough – Treasurer and Sheila Bozin – Secretary.

I am chair of the Nominating Committee. The bylaws state that I need to form a committee of five members of different units to serve on it. Anyone interested in serving on this committee please contact me immediately.

Currently, Becky has volunteered to serve again as president of our district, Penny has volunteered to serve again as vice president, and Roger has volunteered to serve again as treasurer. Joan Rubin, a member of the San Fernando Valley Unit has volunteered to serve as secretary. If anyone wishes to run for office, please let me know. Also, if you know of anyone who will make a good officer, let me know. Besides from officers, there are many committees that one can serve. Bridge is a volunteer organization and if you care for the game, please step up and get involved.

DIRECTOR *continued on next page*

Long Beach Regional July 4th Week

Do not forget to make plans to play in our Long Beach Regional this Fourth of July week. Highlights include the Pro-Am game on Monday July 1. Last year, under the direction of Ellen Anten the game drew 27 tables and this year she is planning on at least 50 tables. If you are interested in the game, contact Deborah Levinson if you are an Am at dlevinson@acesupms.com or if you are a Pro contact Ellen at ellenanten@aol.com. Other highlights include Gold Rush Pairs and a July 4th Swiss. For additional information, visit our web site at LosAngelesRegional.com.

I just received confirmation that Robert Hartman, CEO of the ACBL will be attending our Long Beach Regional and will be present for the ALACBU board meeting on Saturday.

It's a Different View from Dummy

Congratulations to Cecil Cook on reaching the Diamond Life Master Rank.

Until next month, you can reach me at Pinsky4Bridge@earthlink.net.

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Novice game/Panel Show *by candy*

On Sunday, June 9 the WLA Unit will be running a special Stratified Intermediate/Novice Championship game (0-99, 0-49, 0-19) with a panel show by John Jones at the Beverly Hills Bridge Club. The panel show is the first "Master Solvers Live" and will start at 12:15 with game time at 1:00. John has taken his wit and wisdom as moderator of the ALACBU column Problem Solver's Panel in the Bridge News and turned it into a live show. A yellow card event, the show and bridge cost just \$10.00. Join in the fun, points, and pointers. For reservations call the Beverly Hills Bridge Club (310) 657-6933. With questions or reservations call or email Candy (310) 652-6116 or candysbridgeclub@aol.com.

District 23 Grand National Teams Qualifying Results

Winners of the 2013 District 23 GNT Qualifying for each of the four flights are listed below. These teams will represent us in Atlanta this summer at the national finals event.

Open Flight: Mitch Dunitz, Jill Meyers, Ed Davis, Roger Lee, Billy Cohen

Flight A: Fred Zhang, Robert Kent, Ed Piken, Michael Piken, Paul Markarian, Howard Einberg

Flight B: Xingping Kang, Matt Chiwo Leung, Jeff Lang, Ernest Wong, Eric Chenteh Tang

Flight C: Noland Chang, Jack Chang, Fred Upton, Yichi Zhang

PRESIDENT *continued from page 1*

- The ACTION DOUBLE or the “Do something intelligent partner double,” allows partner to either penalize or compete further.
- BALANCING DOUBLES allow the person in the pass-out seat to keep the auction alive.
- The ELWELL DOUBLE and the FISHER LEAD DIRECTING DOUBLE are both doubles of opponents’ 3NT contract based on a long running suit. The ELWELL DOUBLE asks for a heart lead and similarly, the FISHER LEAD DIRECTING DOUBLE asks partner to lead their shortest suit without any primary honors.
- The EQUAL LEVEL CONVERSION DOUBLE allows the doubler to have shortness in clubs with 3,4,5,1 distribution. This allows the doubler to rebid diamonds when partner responds in the clubs suit.
- LEAD DIRECTING DOUBLES request a specific leads by the doubler’s partner. Most common use is the double of 2 clubs, Stayman, or 2 diamonds or 2 hearts, Jacoby.
- LIGHTNER DOUBLES request an unusual lead against a slam, usually the first bid suit by the dummy.
- MAXIMAL OVERCALL DOUBLES show a game invitational hand when the opponents bid and raise the suit immediately below your suit.
- NEGATIVE DOUBLES aid partnership to find a fit in unnamed suits with a preference for the major/s.
- A NEGATIVE SLAM DOUBLE shows partner you have NO defensive tricks, a pass implies one. This leaves partner well placed to decide whether to sacrifice or pass for penalty against a slam.
- REOPENING DOUBLES are used by the opener to compete for a low-level auction.
- RESPONSIVE DOUBLES are used to show at least 4-4 shape in the unnamed suits after partner makes a takeout double or an overcall and your right hand opponent raises opener.
- ROSENKRANTZ DOUBLES are made by the partner of an overcaller to describe his top honor card (usually A or K) holding in the overcaller’s suit. This is useful if the overcaller becomes the opening leader.
- The SNAPDRAGON DOUBLE is a conventional double by fourth seat after the first three players bid three different suits showing 5 in the unbid suit and tolerance for partner’s suit.
- The STRIPE-TAILED APE DOUBLE is a double of an enemy game contract, in hopes of stopping the

opponents from continuing on to slam.

- STOLEN BID DOUBLES are played after partner opens 1NT and RHO intervenes with an overcall at the two level. A double here advises the 1NT opener that the opponent’s overcall “stole” the bid that the responder wanted to make to allow Stayman and Jacoby transfer sequences to proceed as if no overcall had been made.

- A SUPPORT DOUBLE is used by the opening bidder to distinguish between 3-card and 4-card support for partner’s suit response to his opening bid when the response is either overcalled or doubled by the opponents. Raising the suit promises 4-card support and the double or redouble promises 3.

See if you can match the followings auctions with one of the above defined doubles.

1.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1NT	Pass	2♣	Double

2.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1NT	2♠	Double	Pass

(Some of you may play this double for takeout)

3.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1NT	Pass	3NT	Double

4.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	2♥	2♠	3♥	double

5.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♣	Double		

6.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♦	1♥	Double	

7.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♠	Double	Pass	2♣
	Pass	2♦		

8.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
	Double			

9.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♦	1♥	1♠	Double

PRESIDENT *continued from previous page*

10.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
	3♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
	5♠	Pass	6♥	Pass
	Pass	Double		
11.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♥	1♠	4♥	4♠
	6♥	Double		
12.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1NT	2♥	Double	Pass
	2♠			
13.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♦	1♠	2♠	4♠
	4NT	Pass	5♦	Double
14.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♦	1♥	2♦	Double
15.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♠	Double	2♠	Double
16.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♦	Pass	Pass	Double
17.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♦	1♥	Pass	Pass
	Double			
18.	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1♣	1♠	2♣	2♠
	Pass	Pass	Double	

Answers can be found on page 19.

I'm sure some of you know other doubles that I haven't heard of or read about and I'm sure that in future times more meanings for the double bid will be invented. That is one of the things that makes our game so interesting. If you want to know more about some of these doubles go to Google. There is lots of good stuff out there.

District 23 Rank Changes April, 2013

Junior Master

Brenda Berland, Edward Blahut
Kelley Butcher, Robert Eisenstein
Dennis Forst, Robert Glickman
Joanne Hadley, Jeri Herman
Marty Husted, Charles Jarai
Robert North, Tony Smalarz
Susan Snyder, Nancy Toussaint

Club Master

Jerry Athans, Pamela Boyer
Ian Kravitz, Helene Levine
Roz Pinkus, Sandy Rathbun
Michael Winston, Stephen Woelfer

Sectional Master

Carolyn Bloom, Marilyn Flekman
Tsu Jan, Sharyn Miller
Homa Nasseri, Lawrence Newman
Marianne Newman, Kathleen Pecarovich

Regional Master

Sue Boswell
Martin Lipman
Albert Stock

NABC Master

Carol Bell

Life Master

Sharon Biederman
Nancy Klemens

Bronze Life Master

Charles LaFranchi

Silver Life Master

Russell Buker

Emerald Life Master

Gilbert Stinebaugh

Platinum Life Master

Leo Bell



LosAngelesRegional.com

Tournament Manager:
Peter Benjamin 310 720-6050

Los Angeles Regional

at Long Beach

Looking for **Gold Points**? The entire tournament schedule is packed with **Gold Point** events including our newest game, the **Bracketed B Sunday Swiss** where the top three teams in each bracket of eight win **Gold Points**, and nobody in the bracket will have more than 2000 points. We also have four days of **Gold Rush Pairs** in which you can win **Gold Points** and nobody you play against will have more than 750 masterpoints.

July 1 - 7, 2013



REVISED
SCHEDULE!

Highlights

Gold Rush games, 0-2000 Bracketed Swiss, Fast Pairs, 299er games & a 4-session Marshall Miles Swiss

Bracketed 0-2000 mp Sunday Swiss--no players over 2000 masterpoints and lots of Gold Point awards

Monday morning Free Lesson for 299ers

Monday afternoon Pro-Am Game

Early 10/3 Playing times on the Fourth of July so you don't miss the Fireworks!

Stratified games: 0-750/750-2000/2000+
 Flight A/B and Flight A/X: 0-2000/2000+
 Gold Rush: 0-100/100-300/300-750
 Bracketed B Swiss: 0-2000

Knockout events with only one bracket may be handicapped



The Westin Long Beach

333 East Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, California 90802
Telephone: 888 627-8403

The beach is a short walk from the hotel.

\$129 or \$149 w/breakfast

Reserve by June 10
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Partnerships

Betty Jackson
562 594-4420 Before July 1
626 665-0596 After July 1

Need a Partner? Need Teammates?

Visit our on-line partnership desk at

LosAngelesRegional.com

Entry Fees

\$13.00 per session for all events
\$15.00 for non-paid members or non ACBL members
Players with 0-5 MP play FREE

Sanction #R1307014
Gary Zeiger, Director in Charge

Long Beach has many waterfront attractions, including a new, state-of-the-art aquarium with a fabulous shark exhibit, two excellent art museums, charming shops, and lots of recreational activities along its eight-mile stretch of beach.

Monday, July 1, 2013

10:15: 299er Free Lesson

1:15 PM
Pro Am Game
Educational Foundation Stratified Charity Pairs

7:00 PM
Educational Foundation Stratified Charity Pairs
299er Game
Mike Pudlin Memorial KO Session 1

Tuesday July 2, 2013

9:00 AM
AM Side Game Series 1 of 5
Mike Pudlin Memorial KO Session 2
Single Session Swiss
299er Game

1:15 PM
Midday Side Game Series 1 of 5
Flight A/B Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 1 of 2
GOLD RUSH PAIRS(100/300/750) 1 of 2
Mike Pudlin Memorial KO Session 3
Minute Men KO Session 1
299er Lecture (12:15) & Game

7:00 PM
PM Side Game Series 1 of 5
Flight A/B Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 2 of 2
GOLD RUSH PAIRS(100/300/750) 2 of 2
Mike Pudlin Memorial KO Session 4
Minute Men KO Session 2
299er Game
Single Session Stratified Swiss

Wednesday, July 3, 2013

9:00 AM
AM Side Game Series 2 of 5
Summertime AM Single Session Swiss
299er Game

1:15 PM
Midday Side Game Series 2 of 5
Flight A/B Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 1 of 2
GOLD RUSH PAIRS(100/300/750) 1 of 2
Minute Men KO Session 3
Paul Revere Compact KO Sessions 1 & 2
299er Lecture (12:15) & Game

7:00 PM

PM Side Game Series 2 of 5
Flight A/B Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 2 of 2
GOLD RUSH PAIRS(100/300/750) 2 of 2
Minute Men KO Session 4
Paul Revere Compact KO Sessions 3 & 4
299er Game
Single Session Stratified Swiss

Thursday, July 4, 2013

10:00 AM
AM Side Game Series 3 of 5
4th of July Stratified Swiss 1 of 2
299er Game

3:00 PM
Midday Side Game Series 3 of 5
4th of July Stratified Swiss 2 of 2
299er Game

10:00 AM & TBA
Miriam Collup Fast Pairs

7:30 PM
PM Side Game Series 3 of 5
Single Session Swiss

Friday, July 5, 2013

9:00 AM
AM Side Game Series 4 of 5
Marian Beerman AM Swiss 1 of 2
299er Game

1:15 PM

Midday Side Game Series 4 of 5
Flight A/B Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 1 of 2
GOLD RUSH PAIRS(100/300/750) 1 of 2
Benjamin Franklin KO Session 1
299er Lecture (12:15) & Game

7:00 PM

PM Side Game Series 4 of 5
Flight A/B Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 2 of 2
GOLD RUSH PAIRS(100/300/750) 2 of 2
Benjamin Franklin KO Session 2
299er Game
Mike Emminger Single Session Stratified Swiss

Saturday, July 6, 2013

9:00 AM
AM Side Game Series 5 of 5
Marian Beerman AM Swiss 2 of 2
299er Game

1:15 PM
Midday Side Game Series 5 of 5
Benjamin Franklin KO Session 3
Flight A/B Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 1 of 2
GOLD RUSH PAIRS(100/300/750) 1 of 2
Samuel Adams Compact KO Sessions 1 & 2
Marshall Miles 4-Session Swiss Qualifying
299er Lecture (12:15) & Game

7:00 PM
PM Side Game Series 5 of 5
Benjamin Franklin KO Session 4
Flight A/B Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 2 of 2
GOLD RUSH PAIRS(100/300/750) 2 of 2
Marshall Miles 4-Session Swiss Qualifying
Single Session Stratified Swiss
299er Game

Sunday, July 7, 2013

10:00 AM & TBA
Marshall Miles 4-Session Swiss Finals
Flight A/X Swiss (0-2000/2000+)
Bracketed B Swiss Teams (no player over 2000)
\$124 per team includes lunch

10:00 AM & TBA
Mary Jane Farrell Stratified Fast Pairs
\$62 per pair includes lunch

Stratified games: 0-750/750-2000/2000+
Flight A/B and Flight A/X: 0-2000/2000+
Gold Rush: 0-100/100-300/300-750
Bracketed B Swiss: 0-2000

LosAngelesRegional.com

Around the Units in District 23

Antelope Valley by Brad Ward

A Short Interview

The beginning of this column will feature a short interview with the unit president.

Question from your intrepid reporter:

"Mr. Ward, several in this unit have questioned your leadership style, your incessant pursuit of identification of character, your drive to expose and distribute the truth about hopeless, inappropriate and/or obnoxious behavior, regardless of how high up that goes and who it might be. Why are you constantly trying to move the narrative needle toward exposing truth?"

The answer from the Unit 556 President follows:

A great question. I know that the trend of moving the needle toward truth is not in favor at this time in this nation. A vital decision was made in this country late last year, and we all now reap the sweet rewards of our political process. Perhaps Antelope Valley/Unit 556 is merely a microcosm of the country. Skill in lying, covering up facts, and embracing incompetence are all now in vogue and are rewarded in this nation. The hits may just still keep on coming in the old USA. What about here locally? Well, unfortunately, we continue to see folks that get away with saying whatever they want, wherever they want, without any consequences. With **every** unit in District 23 now paying \$2 per member to the District for the truly outstanding and well done district online publication, I hope more interest may rise from membership to read what is going on in their unit and in their district.

With District 23 still without a disciplinary committee almost half way through the year, don't expect things to change soon on the consequences of behavior front.

I am cognizant of the "what's done is done" contin-

gent within the unit, so I can only welcome the chance to talk privately with any member curious about the events of the past several months and offer to those that inquire witnesses to verify the truth.

Other Column News

My apologies to all the winners that were not mentioned in the column I failed to write last month. All players should know that their clubs appreciate their continued support and are thankful that there still exists a desire, and a physical ability, for folks to come together and play in competition with their friends. Regardless of how you do in the game, regardless of your objectives in playing the game, the club is a great place to gather and see folks that embrace this great diversion called bridge, as long as everyone behaves. **So, from all the club owners, thanks to all of you for your continued patronage.**

We shall see two large regional tournaments in the next two months— Las Vegas in mid June and Long Beach in early July. So firm up your plans for these great gold point opportunities.

Last month Paula's club saw several dual winners with Basant Shah notching two wins with Jerry Burrill as partner, Albert Stock winning once with Roy Ladd and once with George MacDonald. Not to be outdone, Nell Schantz chalked up one win with Bill Brodek Jr. as partner and once with the unit culinary Master Chef Carol Provost. George MacDonald joined the dual win club with a win partnered by Ruth Baker. Rosemary Frankian and Sam Khayat posted a lone win.

Last month Rand's club saw George MacDonald tally 3 wins, two partnered with Ruth Baker and one with Ted Maki. Congratulations on a fine month, George! Gary Grey and Arif Shah notched a win along with Jackie Moor and RoseMary Frankain. Rand Pinsky and Alene Friedman grabbed a win as did Betty Pavey and Basant Shah. Markle Vandervort-Lamonte Johnson returned to the winners circle as did Tom Shudic -Elaine Moore. Marlene Warren-Gasper and her →

husband Dave traveled from the wilderness of Lancaster to scoop up a win.

Last month Rita's club saw some hotly contested battles won by Barbara Jones partnered with her husband Tom, Lamont Johnson and Basant Shah and George MacDonald partnered with Russ Buker. Russ was rewarded again for the trip to Castaic by another win playing with Linda Young.

The swan song days of the Lancaster club as we have known it for several decades is rapidly approaching. Certainly one game a week will be on tap for the new location of the club, perhaps two. But the days of big attendance for bridge over the hill are long gone. Barb Shuping and Alfred Miller had a nice win as did Russ Buker and Linda Young. Barb Shuping had another win playing with Doris Thompson as her partner.. Doris bagged another win with Lola Messhia as her partner. Marlene -Warren Gasper struggled to bring Brad Ward into the winners circle twice and topped off that Herculean task with a solid win partnering Lola Messhia.

Truth, may you rest in peace.

Glendale Verdugo by Sharon Wolf

Unit Game, June 8, 2013
Lunch at noon, game at 1:00

It's time to start thinking about our annual sectional, which will once again be held at the Scottish Rite Temple in Pasadena on August 9, 10, and 11. This year, we have added a stratified pairs game on Sunday to coincide with the traditional Swiss event.

The May Unit game, which included a luncheon of cottage pie, salad, rolls, and an alluring variety of desserts, had the following results:

N/S

A1	Mike Doll & Patrick Cardullo
A2	Tim Lolli & Carolyn Cohen
A3 B1	Gloria Balfour & Carol Lessin
A4	Karen Arase & John Barrow
B2	Rufus Rhoades & Bill Martin

E/W

A1 B1	Ted Maki & Lorraine Adams
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A2 B2	Brad Beland & Amr Elghamry
A3 B3	Eva Seri & Lyle Wiedeman
A4	Rae Murbach & Cathy Martin

Our next Unit game is on June 8. Please join us for a summer BBQ.

Long Beach by Jon Yinger

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

April 28 Unit Game: Overall results: 1st in A: John and Jo Melis, 2nd Mark Teaford/Kimi Matsumoto, 3rd Stanley Snyder/Alfred Lee, 4th Carmela Chiurazzi/Bob Mault, 5th Steve Skinner/Baum Harris, 6th Charlotte and Steve Sturm. In the B flight overall Larry and Sibyl Slutsky were 3rd, Joan Tschirki/Betty Wittereid were 4th, Al and Sharon Appel were 5th, Joan and Ted Weiber were 6th. In the C flight overall Keith and Susan Hafen were 3rd, Fern and Hank Dunbar were 4th, Rob Preece/Usha Bansal tied with Sherry Royce/Nancy Karl for 5th. And in the NLM section, Pam Cronn/Susan Bibby were 1st, Jack and Cooie Dampman were 2nd. Congratulations to all!

70+% Games in the club April 16 through May 15: In open games-- Apr 20 Keith Hafen/John Melis had 69.94%, May 1 Sibyl Slutsky/Diane Schmitz had 70.10%, May 6 Mark Teaford/Gary Paugh had 74.36%. In NLM games-- May 6 Martin Lipman/Rick Schaeffer had 70.50%. In the evening NLM game May 13 Darlene Harrison/Bill Dilks had 70.83% NS and Colleen Bilas/Dalia Hernandez had 76.67% EW. Congratulations to all six pairs!

Big Masterpoint Awards April 16 through May 15: Apr 24 Lois Abramson/Charlotte Sturm were 1st winning 3.50mp. Apr 25 Steven Alt/Kiyo Nagaishi were 1st winning 3.30mp. Apr 26 Steve Ramos/Lucy Gellner were 1st winning 4.23mp and Jo Daigle/Marcie Evans were 2nd winning 3.17mp. Apr 27 Sharon and Al Appel were 1st winning 3.27mp. And in the Unit Game Apr 28 John and Jo Melis were 1st winning 4.68mp, Mark Teaford/Kimi Matsumoto were 2nd winning 3.51mp. Congratulations to all seven pairs!

Status Changes: New Club Master: Mary Jean Giotta; new Sectional Masters: William Dilks, Linda Nye. Congratulations to you all! →

Upcoming Events at the Club: Worldwide Bridge Contest Friday evening June 7 and and Saturday afternoon June 8. Hand Records, Overall Awards, and Analysis Booklets. North American Pairs Qualifying Weeks Sunday June 1 through Friday June 7 and Sunday June 16 through Saturday June 22. Unit Game Sunday afternoon June 23-- lunch at 12:30 pm, game at 1:00 p.m.

Get Well Wishes to Mary Thomas and Skip Genebech

s

News from Leisure World

By Joan Tschirki

Who says there's no free lunch? Thursday April 18 a complementary lunch was served to 56 hungry bridge players. To top it off Bee Kinman celebrated her 90th birthday **again!** Winners: NS Bee Kinman/Dorothy Favre were 1st in A, NS Jeanette Estill/Ted Cooper 1st in B. EW Susan Bibby/Sharon Biederman were 1st in A and B. Congrats to all!

70%+ games this last month: Bill Linsky/Gloria Sedore, Verna Burns/Joan Tschirki, Howard Smith/Verna Burns. Who will be next?

Long Beach Unit game: We were well represented April 28. Not only did we have 3 locals make the Ace of Clubs for 2012: Jack Dampman, Ted Wieber and Howard Smith and the Dampmans placed in C, Ted and Joan Wieber in B, Bee Kinman/Verna Burns 2nd NS in A and Joan Tschirki/Betty Wittereid 2nd EW in A. The Slutskys were 3rd in A in section II. We're not dead yet!

May 11 game at Clubhouse 1: 1st in A NS Linda Carder/Gloria Sedore; 1st EW Verna Burns/Joan Tschirki. In the B flight Chuck Cutchman/Cookie Pham were 1st NS and Jerry, Jane Reid were 1st EW.

Games are held on Mondays and Thursdays at Clubhouse #3 and on Fridays and Saturdays at Clubhouse #1 at 12:30 p.m. Players are asked to be there by 12:15 to confirm their reservations. Reservations are necessary because Leisure World is a gated community and you name must be at the gate for entry--reservations may be made by calling Ruth Kaller at 562/430-0316.

Keep on shuffling!

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

Get the Unit 557 newsletter via email. Send me your email address, and I'll put you on the list. My email is jyinger1@gmail.com.

Pasadena San Gabriel Valley by Chuck Cordaro

Marguerite Gordon Brown

Marguerite had played at the Bridge Center for over 25 years. Several members of our club attended her memorial service last month and learned of her long and fruitful life of 99 years. She was a teacher, author of children's books, and banker. She started modestly in banking, helping customers with their safety deposit boxes, until at age 69, when she started her own bank in Rosemead. At age 86 she began to study watercolor, and was pumping out several pictures a week until recently. God speed Marguerite. You are an inspiration to us all. Buddy Spoke Softly and Carried a Big Stick

The recent election of Pope Francis reminded me of the time my grand uncle Reno tried to become our ambassador to the Vatican. As a young man Reno went to school with a fellow named Eugenio Pacelli, who later became Pope Pius XII.

Reno could dream big. I mean Walter Mitty big. He sent Pius II a picture of himself in a group of students toasting somebody at a banquet table, along with a proposal that he be made US ambassador to the Vatican. Reno never heard back, and the Pope kept the picture.

As a result of this snub, Reno's son, Buddy, was denied the perks of an ambassador's son. Instead of zipping around New York tearing up parking tickets with impunity, he was sent to the jungles of South Asia to fight for Gen. Vinegar Joe Stillwell, who commanded a combined army of Chinese and American troops in WWII. Just as well; Pius XII became known as "Hitler's Pope" for turning a blind eye to the Holocaust, and for not even speaking out against Nazi depredations. I think Dante called ahead to reserve a special place for him in a warm climate zone.

Before going out in the bush, Buddy and his fellow soldiers were lectured about the dozens of venomous snakes in Burma, now Myanmar. Besides the pythons (which are now endangering the alligator population in Florida) there were cobras and their relative known as the six-step krait. (After a bite you get to take at most six steps before you fall down dead.) A former Green Beret once told me that when living off the land behind the lines on long-range patrols in Viet Nam, poisonous snakes were considered the tastiest. This must be what they mean by the term "acquired taste." →

During Stillwell's campaign, despite cautions, the troops would roll up the sides of their tents because of the stifling heat and humidity. One night, as Uncle Buddy was falling asleep on his cot, he felt something sliding up his back. It would stop, then slide up higher.

Buddy was afraid to yell for help. The best he could manage was a rasping "snake...snake...SNAAAKE!" When this failed to rouse his sleeping tent mates, he leapt out of bed and whirled around to meet his fate. Buddy found himself staring into the face of a cow. The animal looked at once sad at having lost its own private salt lick, and puzzled because it had never scared anything before.

Buddy's fear quickly changed to anger, whereupon he grabbed a big stick and administered several brisk blows—another new experience for the recipient – and sent it out of camp at a brisk trot.

Temecula Sectional

Congratulations to Janet Bennett and Pat Serio, who scored a 59.5% in the 299er pairs, and to Bridgit O'Sullivan and Dan Botoaca, who also came home with silver points.

Art's June June Events

- World-wide pairs: Friday, June 7 at 7:15 p.m.
- Beat-the-House night: Friday, June 14 at 7:15
- Winners and Losers special: Sunday, June 16 at 1:00 p.m.

Pomona Covina by Tom Lill

Unit Game – Saturday, June 15, 11:00 a.m.
Individual – Saturday, June 1, 9:30 at LaVerne

We begin this month's column with some sad news. Long time unit member and former World Champion Erik Paulsen has shuffled of this mortal coil and is now (we presume) shuffling (and dealing, playing) in a better spot. Your correspondent did not know Erik well, having met him only once, and so does not have any anecdotes or memories to relate. Instead, I will borrow this little gem from Mr. Eddie Kantar's excellent book (if you haven't read it, do so) Kantar on Kontract. "My favorite Erik Paulsen story is when he

returned to Downey, California after winning the World Championship and went back to his roots at his favorite local club. Nobody had believed he would ever show up there again. During the course of the game, Erik and his partner were competing in spades against two fellows who were bidding hearts. When the opponents arrived in three hearts, Erik thought they could probably make it and, besides, they wouldn't dare double him in three spades, World Champion and all, so he bid it – loudly, just to make sure he wasn't doubled.

"The 3♠ bid was met with a resounding double by his left-hand opponent. Erik turned to his opponent and asked, 'Do you know who I am?'"

"Yes, I know who you are."

"Do you know how many master points I have?"

"No, I don't, but do you know how many spades I have?"

Ya gotta love it. For the record, Mr. Paulsen ended with around 12,170 master points. Rarefied air, indeed. In the April Unit game, the top spot was captured by Bill Papa – Vic Sartor, who edged out Penny Barbieri – Rosalie Roberts by 1/6 match point. (Ya gotta hate it!) Next up were Susan and Dave Ruoff; Susan Emminger – Ann McClelland; and Gino Barbieri – Larry Clark. The April Individual was a tie between Charlotte Cappelle and Linda Tessier. Tom Lill and Larry Clark tied for third. In related news, the site for the Individual will be moving around a bit. Lois Snowden will no longer be our permanent host; the game will rotate among the three possible sites, so Watch This Space for the game locations.

There were three monster games this month. Bill Papa – Vic Sartor posted two of them, 72.8% and 70.2% efforts. Sandwiched in between were Fredy and Lulu Minter at 72.3% Other winners included Penny Barbieri, Clint Lew, Karen Olin, Georgiana Battuello, Paule Ford, Denise Morgan, Hanan Mogharbel, Don Naf, Joe Unis, Gino Barbieri, Larry Clark, Ken Bloomfield, Kurt Trieselmann, Susie Emminger, Ann McClelland, Billie Steiner, Kim Horn, Genise Hasan, Pat Radamaker, Amr Elgamry, Susan Ruoff, Sandy Jones, Mary Miller, Tom Lill, Hans Henke, and Herb Stampfl.

Okay, here's the scoop for the "Longest Day" event. We will not be having a joint venture with the rest of the district – that seems to have fallen through. Here's our schedule for June 21:

8:45 a.m. – Open Pairs at La Fetra, as usual

1:30 p.m. – Open Pairs AND an Individual, at →

the Knights of Columbus

5:30 p.m. – Open Pairs at the Knights of Columbus

In addition to the usual fine snacks (provided by Roger at La Fetra, and by Vic at the Knights), we plan to bring in something more substantial for those who wish to play both the afternoon and evening sessions. Sandwiches of some sort, no doubt, still to be decided. Unlike the snacks, these won't be free, there will be a nominal charge. (Hey, remember, we aren't making any money off this – all proceeds go to the Alzheimer's Association.) We'd appreciate your letting us know if you wish to partake of this service, so we have enough on hand.

Also– although we plan an Individual, for those who enjoy it and also to hopefully attract some non-duplicate players to our game – “try it, you'll like it” – we need enough players. So if you plan to play in the Individual on the afternoon of the 21st, please let someone on the Committee know. The Committee is Roger Boyar, Penny Barbieri, Susie Emminger, Richard Patterson, Cordell Goode, Tom Lill, Clint Lew.

Lots of promotions this month

Paul Chrisney to Sectional Master
Karen Olin to NABC Master
Nona Stokes to Life Master
Ramona Hernandez to Bronze Life Master

Our hand for this month is back to the old freak style. (Well, how many 4-4-3-2 10 counts do you want to see?)– for a change – a wild freak, a real dog, or a rock crusher. In fact, it's pretty run-of-the-mill – at first glance. Partner deals at equal vulnerability, and you find yourself looking at this interesting collection:

♠-- ♥JT954 ♦AQT7632 ♣T.

You hate preempting in a minor with a side major, even in third seat, but partner spares you the decision by opening 1♣. RHO overcalls 1♠, and it's up to you now. Which red suit will it be?

Well, majors outscore minors, so you call 2♥. True, “it's only 7 points” but unless your initials are WW (and you play at the Griffins) you see a lot of playing strength here, if partner would just cooperate by holding a few red cards. LHO calls 2♠ (of course – the opponents always have the spades) and partner surprises and delights you by calling 4♥, which ends the auction. It's actually an odd call, because after LHO tables a low

spade, partner flops with: ♠AK42 ♥Q72 ♦J8 ♣K852.

Amazing. That's not much of a hand. At least one of the two spade honors figure to be wasted, since the opponents should have 8 or 9 spades between them. Be that as it may, you pitch your club loser on the top spade, lead a small diamond, and up pops the ♦K on your right! Making 5, the opponents getting the two top spades and nothing else (diamonds were 3-1, that ♦K was stiff). No one else bid the heart game. Would you?

Until next month...

Quote for the month: “I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand.” (Confucius)

San Fernando Valley **by Deborah Levinson**

Greetings and Salutations!

Achievements

The Top Ten Masterpoint Winners for March 2013
750 Bridge Club

1. Linda Silvey - 11.06
2. Bob Williams - 7.87
3. Jim Lechner - 7.30
4. Jim Hawkins - 7.26
5. Paul Endler - 7.22
6. Jody Lombardo - 7.20
7. Gloria Feerst - 6.70
8. Carol Winston - 6.60
9. Susan Raphael - 6.50
10. Don Rosen - 6.34

The Bridge Academy (Open)

1. Deborah Levinson – 11.09
2. Gary Frans – 10.31
3. Dovid Crum – 9.60
4. 7.51 Armand Szulc – 7.51
5. 7.47 Joan Rubin – 7.47
6. 6.89 Leila Greenfield – 6.89
7. 5.68 William Carlson Jr – 5.68
8. 4.95 Tom Wylie – 4.95
9. 4.72 Robert Rice – 4.72
10. 4.41 Fara Kaufman – 4.41

The Bridge Academy (<750)

1. 11.09 Deborah Levinson – 11.09
2. 4.18 Jerry Goodman – 4.18

3. 2.37 Sheila Singer – 2.37
4. 2.20 Rik Richter – 2.20
5. 2.18 John Van Egmond – 2.18
6. 2.15 Howard Cohen – 2.15
7. 1.37 Philip Berk – 1.37
8. 1.22 Gregory Bozin – 1.22
9. 1.19 Beverly McLeod – 1.19
- 10.1.10 James Fu – 1.10

70 Percent Games

Marion Weis and Russell Weis had an 85.71% game at the Bridge Academy in the Novice game held on April 9. Novice games are held weekly at the Bridge Academy, Tuesday evenings, at 7:00. A partner will be provided, if needed.

Remember - if you are reading this, and you want your name to be here, but you do not see it, it is because you did not send your "news" to Deborah Levinson at dlevinson@acesupms.com or leave a note in the "Bridge News" envelope at either of our clubs!

Milestones

A great time was had celebrating Gil Steinbaugh's reaching the rank of Emerald Life Master! Don't forget to watch for Signs and Sign Up sheets at the 750 Club and the Bridge Academy so you don't miss out on any special events!

Remember! New ranks? Life events? Let me know!

Upcoming Events

There will be a Pro-Am Game at the Upcoming Los Angeles Regional at the Westin Hotel in Long Beach July 1, 2013 - 1:00 p.m. Not an "expert?" Come play with an experienced partner for just the cost of a card fee! (Players 0 - 5 points play free!)

Amateurs - Contact Deborah Levinson for reservations 323-719-3190 or dlevinson@acesupms.com

Pros - Contact Ellen Anten to be involved 818-634-3231 ellenanten@aol.com

Other News

Column News: Make certain that your bridge news will appear in the next edition of Bridge News by sending it to Deborah Levinson (dlevinson@acesupms.com).

com) with the subject BRIDGE COLUMN.

Torrance-South Bay by Steve Mager

Unit: www.freewebs.com/bridgeatunit568
SBBC: www.bridgeclubs.org/index.php?id=sbbc

Upcoming Events at the South Bay Bridge Club

Club Championship: Monday, June 10, 7:00 p.m.
Club Championship: Tuesday, June 18, 11:30 a.m.
Club Championship: Friday, June 28, 11:30 a.m.
Handicapped Swiss Teams Every Tuesday Evening
Friday Night games June 7 and 21

Club Championships

The NLM Club Championship on April 18 was won by Thomas Robinson/Robert Newsome in both flights A and B. On April 29 the Club Championship was won by Lucy Gellner/Jeff Strutzel in Flight A with Arlene and Stanley Greengard on top in Flight B and Mary Overby/Jeanette Betts ahead in Flight C.

Team Winners

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

April 16: Fran Israel, Luis Gamio, Jim Dutton, Bronek Felczer
April 23: Ed Srenco, Elaine Godin, Neal Kleiner, Robert Svensrud
April 30: Fran Israel, Luis Gamio, Jim Dutton, Bronek Felczer
May 7: Ed Srenco, Neal Kleiner, Yvonne Godfrey, Bob Svensrud
May 14: MaryAnn Coyle, John Farr, Bo Bogema, John J. McDermott

One Big Game

We don't report 70% games at district clubs but an 80% game is different. Jeanne Tamaki and David Cheshire recorded an 81.55% game at the Anderson Park evening game on April 19. →

Western Conference STAC

Pairs that placed in the overalls in games played at the South Bay Bridge Club during the recent Western Conference STaC are shown in the following.

Monday Morning May 6	
20A	Patty Taylor/Fran Israel
Monday Evening May 6 Aux Pairs	
1A	Fran Israel/Steve Ramos
4A	Gerri Carlson/John J. McDermott
Wednesday Morning May 8	
3A	Gerri Carlson/Jerome Drayton
18B	Carol Mason/Pat Schenasi
Thursday Morning May 9 499er Pairs	
3A	Joanna Wallis/Marianne David
Thursday Evening May 9 Aux Pairs	
2A	Fran Israel/Ray Mack
6A 5B 2C	MaryBelle Hoenig/Trevor Coolidge
Friday Morning May 10 99er Pairs	
1A 1B	Judith Tomic/Nancy Guenther
2A 2B	Gerry Gastelum/Betsey Nicassio
3A	Carolyn Woo/Ed Bucklin
6A 5B	James Deflon/Kathy Shinkle
2C	Nora Gecks/Toshie Bergan
Friday Morning May 10 Aux Pairs	
1A	Fran Israel/Gabriela Jackson
4A	Ted Gibbs/Jeff Strutzel
5A 2B2C	Cal Waller/Betsy Amador
3.5B 3C	Robert Rothman/Stanley Greengard
3.5B	Ernie Frank/Dick Jones

Saturday Afternoon May 11 Aux Pairs	
5.5A 2.5B 1C	Booth Tarkington/Joanna Wallis
5.5A 2.5B	Arlene and Stanley Greengard

2012 Winners

I was a bit negligent for not mentioning in earlier editions of this column the unit leaders in the 2012 Mini-McKenney and Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs masterpoint races.

**Torrance South Bay Unit leaders
2012 MiniMcKenney Race**

0-5	Colleen Bilas	34
5-20	Gerald Ketz	29
20-50	Richard Bakovic	74
50-100	Linda Dillon	65
100-200	Elaine Godin	104
200-300	David Lyons	95
300-500	David Peim	176
500-1000	Neal Kleiner	356
1000-2500	Kim Wang	314
2500-5000	Gary King	507
5000-7500	Bruce Horiguchi	836
Over 10000	John J. McDermott	715

**Torrance South Bay Unit Leaders 2012
Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

0-5	Roberta Brawn	12
5-20	Gerald Ketz	15
20-50	Richard Bakovic	54
50-100	Linda Dillon	39
100-200	Jeanette Betts	85
200-300	David Lyons	69
300-500	Robert Svensrud	72
500-1000	Henry Crowder	78
1000-2500	Kim Wang	113
2500-5000	Gary King	195
5000-7500	Bruce Horiguchi	105
Over 10000	Jerome Drayton	189

GUV Memorial Award

Well I finally made the pilgrimage to the Regional in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. My results there were spectacularly unspectacular. However my sometimes partner Gerri Carlson taught me something about psyching. Most all players when they psych like to bid something they don't have. Gerri reversed this by not bidding something she had.

Gerri held ♠Jx ♥AKxxxx ♦Axx ♣xx while I held ♠Axxx ♥x ♦K ♣AQT9xxx. We were playing against a renowned couple who have won many Bridge Championships. I opened 1♣ and Gerri responded 1♥. I bid 1♠ and it was herbe that Gerri made her reverse psych. She bid a very weakfish sounding 2♥. Well, rightly or wrongly I decided I wanted to play this hand so I opted for 3♣. Gerri now laid a 3♦ bid on me and →

it sounded both to me and the opponents that things had gotten way off the track. I retreated to 4♣ and the wife sitting on my left holding ♠KJx and a smattering of other strength decided it was time to double. Opponents and I all gasped when the dummy came down and I easily made 4♣ doubled for a top. I heard the husband mumble as he left the table "Welcome to matchpoints."

Perhaps Gerri will make her contribution to bridge literature by writing a book on reverse psyching.

Na Zdrowie

West LA by Robert Shore

June Is Bustin' Out All Over

Lots to look forward to in the coming month. First, on June 2 we are teaming up with the American Bridge Association to hold a joint ABA/ACBL game. It'll be my first experience at an ABA facility and I'm really looking forward to it.

On June 9 at Beverly Hills, John Jones and a cast of thousands (well, several, anyway) will present a live Master Solvers Panel show, designed to dovetail with an Intermediate/Novice Unit Championship. The Unit is sweetening the deal by providing food to the Intermediate/Novice players, so we won't be competing with the regular game for food. Card fees will be \$10.00, and Yellow Cards and handouts will be available to all who come. The panel show will start at 12:15 p.m. and game time, as usual, will be 1:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity for those who are still learning the game to gain insight into how experts approach the auction.

And then on June 16, the Unit holds its annual Ice Cream Social. This event will be held at the Beverly Hills Club in conjunction with its regular 1:00 p.m. game. This is always one of our most popular events (after all, who doesn't like ice cream), so don't miss out on the fun. And this year, for only a dollar extra, you can even take the first step on the road to Dallas by qualifying for North American Open Pairs.

The Bigger Picture

Of course, the Unit isn't the only organization around here that puts together bridge events. The Los Angeles Regional of Long Beach will start July 1 and

runs through July 7. Let me particularly encourage you to give the July 1 Pro-Am game a try – it's an opportunity for our less experienced players to share table time with more experienced partners.

And as is always the case, the start of June means the start of qualifying for North American Open Pairs, with the ultimate prize being a check from the ACBL to defray your expenses to the Spring Nationals in Dallas. Barrington is holding qualifying games June 22 and July 13, while Beverly Hills has scheduled qualifying games for June 3's evening game, the June 16 afternoon game, and the July 24 evening game.

Transitions

Stephanie Young has agreed to join the Unit Board to fill the spot opened up by Fred Mautner's passing. Unfortunately, the Board has again dipped below full strength because Jeri Berger has chosen to step down from her position. I am hopeful that the vacancy will be filled by the time most of you read this — watch this space next month for further news.

We also take this opportunity to welcome the Unit's newest members. Please welcome Albert Myers and Lynne Rabineau the next time you see them at the table. In addition, Gordon Hubbard has transferred to our Unit so please welcome him as well.

Table Talk

There weren't many tournaments to report last month, but as usual our Unit picked up its share of success. Jill Meyers and her team will, once again, represent our District in the Championship Flight of the Grand National Teams event in Atlanta. Mike Savage headed down to the Oceanside Sectional to pick up a win in the Saturday Compact Knockout Teams event.

Choose the Right Card

You hold: ♠-- ♥ Q108 ♦ 542 ♣ AKJ10854. After a 1♠ opening bid on your right, your club competition pushed the opponents to the 3-level and partner doubles. You lead a top club, of course, and see the following dummy: ♠ J1084 ♥ J43 ♦ AJ76 ♣ Q2.

After cashing two clubs, everyone following, you decide to shift to a heart on the theory that if partner has diamond tricks coming, he won't need your help to get

West LA continued on page 16

Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: John Jones

Panelists: Leo Bell, Ross Grabel, Eddie Kantar and John Swanson

1

MPs
no vul

South	West	North	East
		3♦	dbl
?			

You South hold: ♠8642 ♥T ♦JT8 ♣A8732
What call do you make?

This was a Bridge World problem from February 1976.

Kantar: 4♣. Maybe the only lead to beat 6♥. Last second switch, 5♦ was my original first choice. *[I'll bet Eddie didn't realize how accurate that last sentence was. His original bid 37 years ago was, in fact, 5♦, although he wasn't quoted in the BW article.]*

John gets the Mr. Consistency award.

Swanson (1976): 4♦. I'll grab one level of bidding away from the opponents, although I don't expect it to gain. 5♦ is too risky, particularly since there is little prospect of defeating a five-level contract. I don't bid 4♣, since that is unlikely to be the best lead unless partner finds it on his own.

Swanson (2013): 4♦. I'm willing to take one round of bidding away from the opponents with the slight risk of being caught with my hands in the cookie jar. Bidding 5♦ would be like sticking your head in the cookie jar. 4♣ doesn't appeal- I suspect a diamond lead is better, and partner is apt to lead a singleton against 4♥ anyway.

Bell: 5♣. This makes it a lot more difficult for the opponents to explore for slam, and at the same time may elicit the right lead from partner to beat a slam. I could make the "joke" bid of 3♥, but I don't expect to gain from that. The other choice, obviously, is to bid some number of diamonds.

Grabel: 4♦. While it might be right to bid 5♦, or 5♣

as a lead-director, we should not assume partner has 7 diamonds or 3 hearts. It would probably take both to make 5♦ a good dive, and that assumes a NT lead. I reject clubs, as I don't want a club led, unless partner wants to lead one. I will freely admit that 5♦ could work out well in certain constructions, but we could just as easily push them into a makeable slam. 4♦ allows them to bid 4♥ while showing ambiguous strength.

Miles (1976): 4♣. Bidding beyond the 4♦ level risks a 500 set. So, I'll just make a mild lead-directing preempt, and let the opponents play the hand.

The Bridge World votes in 1976 were: 5♦ = 15, 4♣ = 7, 4♦ = 6, 5♣ = 2, 3♠ = 2, 3♥ = 1. (The 3♥ bid may have been an intentional psych, but the two 3♠ bids were likely from panelists who misread the problem).

There is one other possibility that no panelist discussed. Passing takes no room away from the opponents, but it also doesn't give them the information that responder has a fit (and that one of them must be short in diamonds). Passing also runs zero risk of going for too much at matchpoints. The BW rarely gives the exact hands, but they did this time. West held: ♠QJ5 ♥AJ842 ♦5 ♣J754, while East held: ♠AK97 ♥KQ653 ♦A7 ♣KQ. 5♦ is down three, but 6♥ makes. The winning action might be to bid at the five level, to take away Blackwood, and maybe the slam would be missed.

This is the third in a series of problems originally published by the late Marshall Miles, the former editor of this column.

2

IMPs
NS vul

South	West	North	East
1♠	3♥	1♣	pass
?		4♥	5♥

You, South, hold:
 ♠QJ985 ♥7 ♦84 ♣JT742
 What call do you make?

Almost all experts play that some auctions are so strong that it is inconceivable to allow the opponents to play undoubled, and, therefore, a pass is forcing. All the panelists agreed that pass would be forcing here. In situations where a pass is forcing, a slam try can be made by passing (forcing), and pulling partner's double.

Kantar: 5♠. With a serious double fit, I've got to bid on. Passing (forcing), and then pulling partner's double, would show a stronger hand the way I play.

Grabel: 5♠. A reluctant 5♠, as a pass-and-pull auction shows a better hand, and I have no idea whether or not we can beat 5♥.

Swanson: Pass. This should be a 'pass-and-pull' situation. Thus, if I don't plan to sit for partner's double of 5♥, I need to bid 5♠ immediately; a delayed 5♠ should be considered a slam try. I expect partner to hold a balanced 19 or so (with four spades) for his cue bid, not a distributional hand. It is possible

to argue that partner should double 3♥, planning to bid 4♠ on the next round with something like: ♠AKxx ♥Ax ♦Axx ♣Axxx, but I don't believe that is standard practice.

Bell: Pass. This should be forcing. Normally, I would double with such a lousy hand, as I don't want to encourage partner to bid more, but whose hand is it anyway? Give partner ♠AKxx ♥Ax ♦x ♣KQxxxx and both 5♥ and 5♠ could make. I won't be thrilled if partner doubles 5♥, but I'll live with it. The only other logical choice here is to bid 5♠ myself, but I don't want to encourage partner to bid 6!

Miles: 5♠. (from Stronger Competitive Bidding, 1992) Choose your least encouraging sequence, whether it is to bid 5♠ right away or to pull partner's double, but don't let the opponents play 5♥. It is unusual to bid beyond game as a possible sacrifice in front of partner. Partner could have enough to set 5♥. But your hand has negative defensive values. Besides, 5♠ might make.

LosAngelesRegional.com

Tournament Manager:
Peter Benjamin 310 720-6050

Los Angeles Regional

at Long Beach

Looking for **Gold Points**? The entire tournament schedule is packed with **Gold Point** events including our newest game, the **Bracketed B Sunday Swiss** where the top three teams in each bracket of eight win **Gold Points**, and nobody in the bracket will have more than 2000 points. We also have four days of **Gold Rush Pairs** in which you can win **Gold Points** and nobody you play against will have more than 750 masterpoints.

July 1 - 7, 2013

3

IMPs
NS vul

South	West	North	East
1♥ ?	pass	4♥	pass

You, South, hold:

♠AK9 ♥AK765 ♦Q92 ♣A2

What call do you make?

Problems 3 and 4 come from the June 2005 Problem Solver's Panel. Ross was on that panel also, so I'll include his responses.

Some like their hand but think the percentage action is passing.

Swanson: Pass. Sometimes the wrong side gets preempted. Although partner could hold the hand to make slam cold, it is unlikely. More frequently we will be in danger at the five level.

Kantar: Pass. A bit craven.

Bell: Pass. It's very tempting to bid more, but the five level may be too high.

Grabel (2005): Pass. I have a very nice hand, but

even the five-level isn't safe. I like to play that partner is 5-5 here, but this could be a disaster if partner has six hearts in a more balanced hand or some 1=5=4=3.

Ross' current answer makes a slam try, showing his spade control.

Grabel (2103): 4NT (♠ cue bid). I cue bid spades, which for me is 4NT, as 4♠ is KCB [*Kickback Blackwood*]. At NV vs. Vul, I would probably pass, but at this combination of vulnerability, I expect more.

Miles (2005 Problem Solver's Panel): Pass. Although I made a slam try with this hand, which worked out well, the examples and comments of the panelists convinced me that passing is the percentage action.

West LA *continued from page 13*

them.

But which heart do you lead? If you recognize a "surrounding" play, you'll lead the 10-spot because that protects the position if declarer has A9x. Unfortunately, at the table partner chose to lead the 8-spot. Fortunately, the 9 lived in my hand, not declarer's, so when I ducked it forced declarer's ace and we eventually collected two heart tricks to go along with two clubs and the trump ace.

Around the Clubs

Barrington club championships last month went to Hans Kraepelien-Michael Nash and to Priscilla Blakely-Robert Lesser. Cracking the 70% mark were Michael Nash, who did it twice, as well as Hans Kraepelien, Richard Marken, Linda Westerschulte, Judy Fischer, Rena Solmovic, Suzanne Borenstein, Bella Feniger, and Ted Glaessner. Marty Blain and Mike Mikyska won a

Unit Championship at Barrington, while Bill Rogers and Michael Shaw won a Unit Championship at Cyma's Game.

Club champions at Beverly Hills were Joyce Lelah-Chuck Fonarow and Maria Pendergast-Alan Schneider, while your Humble Scribe picked up a Unit Championship playing with Ryan Wessels. Racking up 70% games were Joyce Lelah and Chuck Fonarow, Ellen Anten and Steve Gross, and Lee Hausner and Eddi Samandar.

Climbing the Ladder

Miles Rubin is our newest Junior Master and Sally Weil has reach Club Master Status. New Sectional Masters are Bonnie Butler, Bennett Kerns, and Minerva Krevoy.

Cecil Cook has become a Diamond Life Master. Congratulations to all on your achievements.

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

4

IMPs
EW vul

South	West	North	East
	1♦	1♠	pass
?			

You, South, hold:

♠-- ♥T9865 ♦KQT62 ♣A52

What call do you make?

Kantar: 1NT. Waiting for partner's spade rebid. It never fails.

Grabel (2005): 1NT. I have to do something, and I guess I will bid 1NT, although I rate it only slightly ahead of 2♥. I would love to be able to pass, but wouldn't consider it against anyone other than a truly aggressive LHO who I felt was certain to reopen the bidding.

Grabel (2013): 2♥. Tough problem. I prefer 2♥ to 1NT where partner will rightfully play me to have at least 1 spade. If I bid 2♥, several good things may happen. Partner may keep the bidding alive with something other than 2♠, and we may still get to a better spot. I do have good values, and 3NT, while not likely, can't be ruled out. *[It's much easier to bid 2♥ if the partnership plays that after a one-level overcall that a two level advance is not forcing. Many good pairs play that 2♥ would be forcing].*

Swanson: 1NT. I suspect we are in the opponent's best contract. I will invest a bid in the hopes that partner can find another suit or that notrump will play better than spades.

Bell: Pass. If I'm playing transfer advances after

overcalls, I might bid 2♦ as a heart transfer, although I wouldn't be surprised if partner rebids spades. Without the transfer advance, bidding could be disastrous.

Miles (2005): Pass. I wasn't too stubborn to change my mind about problem 3, based on the arguments of the panel, but I am not swayed by the unanimous vote *[the 2005 panel voted unanimously for 1NT]*, on this problem. Nothing bad will happen in 1♠ undoubled. In fact, I suspect that 1♠ is our best part-score contract. We will make some spade tricks by ruffing, and probably score three or four tricks with high cards. In fact, I suspect that we can take more tricks in spades than in NT with this misfit. We may have a game if partner's second suit is hearts, but maybe not even then. What are the odds on partner's having four hearts opposite my five? Partner may not have a second suit, and if he does, why should it be hearts? And while nothing bad is likely to happen in 1♠, I can't say the same for 2♠ or 3♠. The chances for game are remote, and the chance of partner's rebidding spades is great if we keep the bidding open. A 1NT response doesn't show a misfit, but it is somewhat encouraging.

The man who loved overcalling on four card suits advocates pass.



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July 1 - 7, 2013

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IMPs
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South	West	North	East
pass	pass	1♠	3♥
?			

You, South, hold: ♠84 ♥85 ♦Q83 ♣AK8642
What call do you make?

Grabel: Pass. If partner has nothing more to say, I'm willing to sell out. If partner reopens, I'll try 5♣.

may come if I double and partner bids 4♦. Now 4♠, 5♣ or pass might be best.

Swanson: Dbl. Seems clear. The hope is that partner has the cards to bid 3NT, but if he rebids spades or passes for penalties, my hand should be adequate.

I'll share an interesting letter to the moderator I received following last month's PSP. Rick Roeder (a panelist last month) wrote:

Kantar: Dbl. And hope partner can bid 3NT. A toughie.

I wanted to compliment you on your presentation of some old Marshall problems in terms of comparing some of the panel's answers in 2004 versus today. For the folks who changed their answer (from pulling the double in 2004 to converting it for penalty in 2013) on the 4333 near Yarborough (Problem #5, May 2013 PSP): I wonder if this is due to increasing wisdom or a reflection that bidding has become more adventuresome."

Bell: Dbl. This creates maximum flexibility. At this level, partner shouldn't expect perfect distribution. After a 4♦ rebid, I can correct to 4♠.

Bob Hamman (2009): Pass. Partner with 17 or 18 points and a heart stopper will bid 3NT, playing me for a useable number of missing points.

Miles (from "It's Your Call," 2009): Pass. I didn't have an opinion of what was best when I presented the problem, but I am now persuaded by Bob's choice, based upon his extensive experience against international experts.

Undoubtedly preempts have gotten more aggressive over the years. A way to combat aggressive preempts is to penalize them more frequently. Possibly, those experts who changed their mind on that problem were affected by dealing with the aggressive preempts.

I'll dare to disagree with Marshall and Bob. I can't have a much better hand since I am a passed hand.

Passing here puts too much pressure on partner. I think double is the best call. The most difficult auction

Have a comment or a question you'd like answered? Send me an email at johndjones44@yahoo.com .

Answers to President's Message Doubles Quiz

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Lead directing | 9. Snapdragon or Rosenkrantz | 17. Reopening |
| 2. Penalty | (you can't play both) | 18. Action |
| 3. Elwell or Fisher (you can't play both) | 10. Lightner | |
| 4. Maximal | 11. Negative Slam Double | |
| 5. Take-out | 12. Stolen Bid | |
| 6. Negative | 13. Stripe Tailed Ape | |
| 7. Equal Level Conversion | 14. Responsive | |
| 8. Support | 15. Responsive | |
| | 16. Balancing | |

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