

Southern California Bridge News

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bridge in Victoria, BC

by Becky Clough



Mark your calendars for April 17 – 23, 2017, the next time an ACBL Regional Bridge Tournament will be held in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. I went this year with my friend Paula. We had a marvelous time and hope to return again.

Victoria is the capital city of British Columbia, Canada and is located on the southern tip of Vancouver Island off Canada's Pacific Coast, about equal distance (62 miles) from Vancouver and from Seattle by airplane or ferry. The city is bounded by ocean on three sides

Spring is a spectacular time to visit Victoria. Those of us who live in Southern California have forgotten how special spring can be. While we were there temperatures ranged from 55 to 65 degrees and flowers were in bloom everywhere. Victoria's temperate, sub-Mediterranean climate has earned the city the nickname of "The Garden City." Not only do gardens bloom early and long, but they contain many plant species rarely found elsewhere in Canada. The city also sports more than 40 regional, provincial, and municipal parks.

Before we left for Victoria, my friend Nelly gave me a Fitbit so I could keep track of my walking. It was a pleasure to see how many steps I built up during the day. Paula surpassed 13,000 steps most days, while I was happy to near 10,000. Just outside our hotel, which overlooked the downtown harbor, was a car- and bicycle- free path that went along the waterway for several miles. Every morning either before or after breakfast we walked.

Now you ask, what about the bridge? I've written about the Canadian bridge scene before. They are hospitable and fiercely competitive. Though they might not have as many master points as some of their US counterparts, it isn't because they aren't as good, but rather that they have to travel farther to attend tournaments and there aren't many close by in the

PRESIDENT *continued on page 2*

Board Meeting Highlights

by Rand Pinsky, District Director



Besides my duties as District Director on the National Level, on the District Level in addition to sitting on the Executive Committee, I am the chair of the Nominating Committee. Every two years ALACBU holds its elections for our corporate officers during our summer regional. This July we will hold elections. The election will be on Saturday July 11 during our meeting.

The ALACBU Bylaws state that each Unit shall have directors to ALACBU proportionate to the units' membership. Units with fewer than 100 members have one director; 100-300 members – two directors; 300-600 members – three directors; and 600-1200 members – four directors. We do not have any units over 1200 members (They would have five directors.)

Prior to the meeting it is important to identify the people from each unit who are the voting designated directors. I am asking each unit president or unit board to let me know who will be attending and voting at the election meeting.

From the membership records I received from Horn Lake following are the number of directors each of our nine units are entitled according to our Bylaws:

Unit	Number of directors
551 Pomona-Covina:	2
553 Glendale-Verdugo:	1
556 Santa Clarita-Antelope Valley:	2
557 Long Beach:	3

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winter. They are happy to offer you a ride or invite you for dinner or for a late night drink at one of their homes or hotel suites- to make you part of the family. This was true, too, in Victoria.

We were glad the games were 1:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. because this gave us time to walk and explore in the morning. If you plan to come early or stay a few days longer, there are many things to do. You might choose to spend an afternoon playing golf, visiting Beacon Hill Park, going whale watching or visiting downtown Victoria where you might enjoy high tea at the Empress Hotel, tour one of several museums, or walk through Market Square. Make sure to pack your walking shoes and layers to be comfortable all day long.

One attraction not to be missed is The Butchart Gardens located approximately 35 minutes from downtown. The Butchart Gardens feature 55 acres of meticulously manicured grounds with intimate stone paths and streams lined with colorful arrays of flowers and trees. The floral displays are adjusted seasonally so they are as spectacular in spring and fall as in summer.

Another very nice surprise was the food. Breakfast was usually in the hotel looking out on the runners and walkers and across



Victoria, BC

the downtown harbor watching the ferries empty their passengers and glide out again. One morning we found a little hole in the wall bakery/breakfast place that was wonderful. For dinner we found that Victoria has an extraordinary assortment of cuisine - from elegant fine dining to casual bistros, and waterfront pubs. We only had the opportunity to sample several.

From the time of our 24-minute plane ride from Vancouver to Victoria to our return the same way six days later, Victoria was a magical place. The weather was superb, the people welcoming and the bridge was good. The one change we would make for the next time would be to rent a car. Though taxis were readily available, they

were expensive, thus renting a car would be at least a break-even deal and definitely more convenient.

I know this is long term planning, so if you want to experience Canadian bridge hospitality sooner, the annual Penticton Regional Tournament is scheduled this year for June 15 - 23, 2015.

Over the years we have gotten there by flying first to Vancouver, Seattle, or Spokane, renting a car and driving from that city. This year we are flying to Kelowna – only an hour's drive to Penticton. We've gone so often that we now have many Canadian teammates. We look forward to playing with them once or twice year.

Southern California Bridge News

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LOS ANGELES REGIONAL PASADENA!

July 6th - 12th 2015

♣ *GOLD RUSH PAIRS* every day -Tuesday through Saturday ♣

♥ *New KO's* start every day - Monday through Saturday ♥

♦ *299er* games twice a day (Monday - Friday) ♦

♣ *Daylight* schedule Saturday and Sunday ♣

Enjoy downtown Old Pasadena

NEED PARTNER OR TEAM MATES?

Betty Jackson 626-665-0596 or
rjackson6277@roadrunner.com
or try partnership desk at
LosAngelesRegional.com

TOURNAMENT MANAGER:

Peter Benjamin 310-720-6050,
ahoneydo@aol.com

DIRECTOR IN CHARGE:

Brian Russell

HOTEL:

The Westin Pasadena 191 North Los
Robles Avenue. **119\$/night**

Reserve at 626.792-2727 (ALACBU),
till 5PM June 15th. **Reserve early,**
rooms will sell out!

* Complimentary WiFi

* Self parking \$6, overnight parking \$9 (in
and out privileges)

* 15 min walk to Pasadena downtown

♣ MONDAY, JULY 6, 2015 ♣

♥ 10:15 AM ♥

299er Free Lesson

♦ 1:15 PM ♦

Pro Am Game
Stratified Side Game

♣ 7:00 PM ♣

Educational Foundation Stratified Charity Pairs
299er Game
Roses KO Session 1

♣ TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2015 ♣

♥ 9:00 AM ♥

Morning Side Game Series 1 of 5
Roses KO Session 2
First AM Stratified Swiss 1 of 2

♦ 1:15 PM ♦

Midday Side Game Series 1 of 5
Flight A/B Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 2 Sessions
Gold Rush Pairs (750/300/100) 2 Sessions
Roses KO Session 3
Arroyo Seco KO Session 1
299er Lecture (12:30 PM) & Game

♣ 7:00 PM ♣

Evening Side Game Series 1 of 5
Roses KO Session 4
Arroyo Seco KO Session 2
299er Game
Single Session Stratified Swiss

♣ WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2015 ♣

♥ 9:00 AM ♥

Morning Side Game Series 2 of 5
First AM Stratified Swiss 2 of 2

♦ 1:15 PM ♦

Midday Side Game Series 2 of 5
Flight A/B Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 2 Sessions
Gold Rush Pairs (750/300/100) 2 Sessions
Arroyo Seco KO Session 3
Huntington KO Session 1
299er Lecture (12:30 PM) & Game

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2015, CONTINUED

♣ 7:00 PM ♣

Evening Side Game Series 2 of 5
Arroyo Seco KO Session 4
Huntington KO Session 2
299er Game
Single Session Stratified Swiss

♣ THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2015 ♣

♥ 9:00 AM ♥

Morning Side Game Series 3 of 5
Second AM Stratified Swiss 1 of 2

♦ 1:15 PM ♦

Midday Side Game Series 3 of 5
Flight A/B Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 2 Sessions
Gold Rush Pairs (750/300/100) 2 Sessions
Huntington KO Session 3
First Compact KO Session 1
299er Lecture (12:30 PM) & Game

♣ 7:00 PM ♣

Evening Side Game Series 3 of 5
Huntington KO Session 4
First Compact KO Session 2
299er Game

♣ FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2015 ♣

♥ 9:00 AM ♥

Morning Side Game Series 4 of 5
Second AM Stratified Swiss 2 of 2
299er Game

♦ 1:15 PM ♦

Midday Side Game Series 4 of 5
Flight A/B Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 2 Sessions
Gold Rush Pairs (750/300/100) 2 Sessions
Busch KO Session 1
299er Lecture (12:30 PM) & Game

♣ 7:00 PM ♣

Evening Side Game Series 4 of 5
Busch KO Session 2
Single Session Swiss
299er Game

♣ SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2015 ♣

♥ 10:00 AM ♥

Morning Side Game Series 5 of 5
Busch KO Session 3
Second Compact KO Session 1
Flight A/B IMP Pairs (0-2000/2000+) 2 Sessions
Gold Rush Pairs (750/300/100) 2 Sessions

♦ 3:00 PM ♦

Midday Side Game Series 5 of 5
Busch KO Session 4
Second Compact KO Session 2
299er Lecture (2:15 PM) & Swiss Teams

♣ 7:30 PM ♣

Evening Side Game Series 5 of 5
Single Session Stratified Swiss

♣ SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2015 ♣

♥ 10:00 AM & TBA ♥

Marshall Miles Flight A/B Swiss
(0-2000/2000+)
Bracketed Swiss (No player over 2000)
299er Game - 1 session
♦ 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM ♦
Mary Jane Farrell Stratified Fast Pairs

ENTRY FEES

\$14 per session (all events)
\$18 unpaid or non ACBL members
Juniors: \$8

Flight A/X 0-2000/2000+
B/C/D 0-2000 Bracketed
Flight A/B 0-2000/2000+
Strat A 2000+ B 750-2000 C 0-750
All Stratified events are stratified by
average masterpoints of the team or pair

Midchart allowed in Top Flight of any KO
with at least 2 brackets.
KO Events with only one Bracket may be
Handicapped

Bridge Stories

This recurring series in the Southern California Bridge News includes short bridge stories from District 23 players who earned a new rank last month, as collected by Rand Pinsky

I enjoy the game. The people at the 750 Bridge Club make the experience better. I also play poker which I believe has helped my bridge game.

Since I haven't been playing long, I would like to improve my bidding. There are a lot of different bidding options. I would like to learn which conventions are the most effective and work well together.

*Mike Mintz
Junior Master*

At 72 years of age I can't remember the last time I was enthused about being "Junior" anything. I guess it's time to set the next ACBL goal.

I very much appreciate the events that led to today. My wonderful bridge partner and I met on the golf course. At some point, after several rounds of play, our conversation revealed that we were both closet bridge players. We had played in the middle of the last century but circumstances resulted in 50 years off. We both wanted to play but neither of us had a partner. Partners we became!

We took lessons from Bob Mault at the Long Beach Bridge Club and started playing with the District 23 members in Leisure World. We are doubly fortunate. Bob put us on the right track to success and the Leisure World players were kind enough to allow us no slack. When we made a mistake or misbehaved, they were kind enough to make a correction. I think it's true that you don't learn a rule until you break it and get reprimanded... even penalized. We are most appreciative.

*Stan Johnson
Junior Master*

I'm afraid I don't really have a story to tell. My regular partner and I just keep plugging along - sometimes we do well, other times not, but as for reaching the next milestone - that will take some time. We started playing duplicate about seven years ago and very much enjoy playing at Bridge Academy II. We

have made some good friends there.

*Inger Hogan
Sectional Master*



I played bridge in the 70's and stopped in 1974 and didn't start up again until 2013 at age 64. My wife suggested, one day, that perhaps I seek out a bridge club for an added activity in my life. Lo and behold, I found a novice get together for newcomers to bridge in Spring, Texas. I signed up and the rest is history. I love a bridge club that is friendly. The Spring club was friendly. The directors and members alike (with thousands of points) said "hi" and "how is your family." They knew my first name and some of the better players would even ask my advice on a play of a hand. I drove to the Spring club twice a week. I started to love the game again. While I didn't play much, I did well. I encourage others of all ages to join and play. We have players as young as 6 and as old as 99 in our club. I loved that club and I hated to leave it. I returned to Los Angeles in 2014.

I play now in Arcadia, once or twice a week. This is a friendly club and I enjoy playing there. My goal is to become a life master in three years. My goal is 1.5 points a week and 10 points per tournament. Bridge is fun, addictive, competitive, and frustrating at times. Finding a decent partner is hard. I play regularly with an 89-year old man; we talk out hands and bids all the time. We talk out hands and scenarios at least once per week. Communication is key and it's sad that other pairs don't do this as much as we do. Our game is improving as a result.

*Stephen Page
Regional Master*

My trek to gain silver has been interesting. I had about 150 points almost 20 years ago and stopped playing for a long time. I am a lawyer working full time for Honda North America and stopped playing completely as my career took off. I started playing with essentially one partner, Neal Kleiner about three years ago. I had my 300 points to make life master within a year of playing again, but because I had not played for so long, I re-signed up with the ACBL a few weeks after they required 500 to make life master and they would not →

District 23 Rank Changes March 2015

Junior Master

Lina Ashar
Marjorie Barg
Barbara Betz
Sally Boardman
Douglas Carlson
Phoebe Chang
Hilary Clark
Lynn Edelson
Ellen Glaser
Henriette Goldstein
John Hagman
Louie Hasson
Brenda Heyob
Stan Johnson
Stanley Kangas
Andrew Limbach
Marilyn Limbach
Mike Mintz
Anna Nelson
Dennis Nelson
Mark Pash
William Power
Suzanne Prince
Herta Schultz
Louise Seifert
David Shultz
Monique Shultz
Andrei Verona
Maria Verona
Joseph Walters
Sue Wittner

Club Master

Suzanne Barbis
Margaret Brull
Audrey Healy
Abraham Kleks
Kari Kolderup
Johanna Kuang
Meressa Naftulin
Raymond Primus

Marilyn Satuloff

Doni Sidell

Richard Stammerjohn

Sectional Master

Ralph Brunson
Hsuehching Chang
Inger Hogan
Marty Husted
Zorina Pelant
Saul Prierer
Tate Shafer

Regional Master

Virginia Brewer
James Deflon
Carol Gillis
Carole Hamburger
Stephen Page
Carol Ramseyer
Lora Smith
Linda Tessier

NABC Master

Leslie Brucker
Lee Hausner
Mary Landroth
Steve Shanker

Life Master

Nancie Barrier
Susan Bibby

Silver Life Master

Renee Hoffman
David Peim

Gold Life Master

Joan Mesias

retro it, so I had to wait until I got the 500 points to make life master. In the 3+ years I have played with Neal, while working full time I have earned over 850 points. I rarely play club games and play a few days at about 4-5 tournaments a year as time permits. My wife, Joyce has been unbelievably supportive of my achieving these goals and it has been a lot of fun for me. I am now looking forward to the daunting goal of getting to gold.

David Peim
Silver Life Master

District 23 2015 Grand National Teams Qualifying

District 23 is proud to announce the winners of the 2015 Grand National Teams Events. The 1st Place teams will represent our District at the Chicago Summer Nationals August 5-9 at the start of the tournament. The qualifying event for District 23 takes place early in the year and players from our district can enter more than one event as long as they are eligible. Look for the 2016 event dates and locations in the Bridge News and on the district website at the end of this year.

Capturing 1st Place in the Open Flight and earning 36 masterpoints each were Mitch Dunitz, Billy Cohen, Jill Meyers, Ed Davis, Alexander Kolesnik, and Jeffrey Goldsmith. The 2nd Place finishers were Howard Einberg, Paul Markarian, Robert Kent, Ellen Kent, Mark Leonard, and Edward Piken.

In Flight A, the winners of the event and 30 masterpoints were Edward Piken, Ron Feldman, William Schreiber, and Viktor Anikovich. Closely following them were Robert Shore, Bruce Altshuler, Kevin Lane, Marel Bates, Frederick Upton, and Om Chokriwala.

Flight B winners (26.0 masterpoints) were Om Chokriwala, Frederick Upton, Kevin Lane, and Bruce Altshuler. 2nd Place went to Rick Turner, Alyssa Kennedy, Joel Schiff, Stanford Holzberg, Neal Kleiner, and David Peim.

The winners of Flight C earning 15 Master Points each were Nolan Chang, Sophia Chang, Jack Chang, Lucy Zhang, and Eric Chenteh Tang. Finishing 2nd were the team of Jeff Grotenhuis, Nancy Karnes, Katherine Weisberg and Lee Hausner.

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL PASADENA!

Around the Units in District 23

Glendale Verdugo by Sharon Wolf

Unit Game, May 9, 2015
Lunch at 11:15, game at noon

Results of the April Unit game, which honored the winners of the 2014 Mini-McKinney and Ace of Clubs races, were as follows:

N/S		
A1	B1	Patrick Cardullo & Mike Doll
A2		Caroline Cohen & Tim Lolli
A3	B2	Adam Barron & Leon Alexander
	B3	sLorraine Adams & Ted Maki

E/W		
A½	B1	Sandra Rucker & Ann Raymond
A½		Jack Futrell & Rae Murbach
A3		Paula Olivares & Bill Brodek
A4	B2	Sharon Wolf & Steve Shanker

Please join us on May 9 for our next Unit game.

Long Beach by Jon Yinger

Unit website: www.acblunit557.org
Club website: www.LongBeachBridge.com

March 29 Unit Game: Overall results: 1st in A: Alfred Lee/John Ionescu, 2nd Wei Pei/Phil Hiestand, 3rd Steve Mager/Gerri Carlson, 4th John Petrie/Louis Shen, 5th Jackie Hess/Wayne Otsuki, 6th Betty Jackson/Diance Sacs. In the B flight overall Doug and Benjamin Kuschner were 1st, Paul Pettler/Barbara Shuping 2nd, Betty Witteried/Christine Frumen 3rd, Judy Jones/Wayne Rapp 4th, Robert and Richard Bakovic 5th. In the C flight overall Phyllis Greenstein/Doreen Maes

were 2nd, Joyce Roberts/Time Cole 3rd, and Sherry Royce/Nancy Karl 4th. Congratulations to all!

70+% Games: March 16 through April 15: On March 30 Bonny Walsh/Karen Watson had 72% in the NLM game. Congratulations!

Big Masterpoint Awards March 16 through April 15: In the unit game March 29 Alfred Lee/John Ionescu won 4.67mp for 1st, Wei Pei/Phil Hiestand 3.50 for 2nd. April 13 Earl VanDerVord/Mike Daley won 4.08mp for 1st, Paul Pettler/Barbara Shuping 3.06mp for 2nd. April 14 Earl VanDerVord/George Welsh won 5.10mp for 1st, Xingping Kand/Louis Shen 3.83 for 2nd. And on April 15 Cecil Cook/Eugene White won 3.65mp for 1st. Congratulations to all seven pairs!

Get Well Wishes: Mary Thomas.

Condolences to the families and friends of Al Masteron and John Chang, both of whom passed away earlier this month.

New Members: Debra Fudge, Donald Houser. Welcome to the club!

Status Changes: New Life Master: Colleen Bilas. New Bronze Life Masters: Bettyanne Houts, Norma Krueger. Congratulations to you all!

Upcoming Events at the Club:

April 26 Unit Game and awards banquet. Lunch 12:00, awards 12:30, game begins at 1 p.m.

May 4 through May 10 Western Conference STaC. Silver points; all games \$12

May 24 Unit Game. Lunch 12:30, game 1pm

May 25 Memorial Day unit-rated game. Extra points, regular price

News from Leisure World

by Judy Carter-Johnson

Club Championship game March 16-- Clubhouse #3 Verna Burns/Bee Kinman 1 in A. Joyce Henderson/Howard Smith 2 in A, 1 in B. Judy Carter-Johnson/John Chang 3 in A. Simone Chottin/Fred Benedetti →

4 in A, 2 in B. Paul Scott/Howard Sloan 5 in A, 3 in B, 1 in C. Bobbi and Brent Johansson 4 in B, 2 in C. Thuan Gwynn/Cookie Pham 5 in A. Audrey Healy/Bill Power 3 in C.

Club Championship game March 21-- Clubhouse #1 Verna Burns/Joan Tschirki 1 in A Sharon and Al Appel 2 in A. Dorothy Favre/Bee Kinman 3 in A. Cookie Pham/Chuck Cutchshaw 4 in A, 1 in B, 1 in C. Christine Frumen/Jaye Woodington 5/6 in A, 2 in B. Betty Jackson/Dick Sands 5/6 in A. Sharon Beran/Chie Wickham 3 in B. Jean Byer/Thuan Gwynn 4 in B, 2 in C. Joyce Henderson/Howard Smith 5 in B. Lottie Kostar/Dick Stammerjohn 3 in C.

Congratulations - 70% games - On March 23 Joan Tschirki and Bill Linskey had a 70.99% and on March 30 Eileen Nelson and Bill Linskey had a 75.69% game.

Condolences to Cooie and Jack Dampman on the death of their beloved son, John. And to the family of John Chang, he will be missed.

Bee Kinman Appreciation Day Friday, March 20 was at Clubhouse #1. Cards and flowers were presented to Bee who has been an inspiration to all as a Director and Teacher.

Upcoming Events

April 25: Unit-rated game at Clubhouse #1
 May 16: Club Championship Game at Clubhouse #1
 May 21: Pro-am game at Clubhouse #3
 June 18: Unit-rated game at Clubhouse #3
 June 19: Unit-rated game at Clubhouse #1
 July 20: Club Championship Game at Clubhouse #1

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 Marty Weiss

Our Players Score

San Diego Regional: Herman Helber – 27.53 masterpoints, Rae Murbach - 11.51, -Jerry Murbach- 11.51, Graetchn Torres – 5.00, Edward Schwartz – 4.65.

National - New Orleans: Jeffrey Goldsmith- 58.5, Joerg Rottenbacher- 22.77, Andrew H. Rottenbacher –

22.77, Joseph A. Viola III – 11.21.

Over 70% - John Waken and Sharon Larman: Aracdia, April 14.

Unit Game: Flight A: Roselyn Teukolsky - Saul Teukolsky, Flight B: Harold Knowles II - Zachary Vedro, Flight C: Edward Hsi - Zu Ming Cheng

Upcoming Events

Unit Game: Sunday May 3, 1:00 San Marino

Beat the House Night
 Beat Art and Diane and win a free play
 Friday May 22, 7:15

Winners and Losers Sunday
 May 24 1:00

In 2001, shortly after Bev and I first got together in N.J., she accepted an offer of a consulting job in Irvine, and within a couple of weeks, we were ensconced in sunny Southern California. Since I was already retired, the plan was that I would play bridge while she was working, so step one for me was to find a partner.

I contacted the director of what appeared to be a good sized, thrice weekly game, and she set me up with a partner for the next day's game, which was to begin at noon. Of course, in preparation for a new partner, I was there before 11:30 am. He, Doug, arrived at 11:59.

An inauspicious beginning, I thought. And, it quickly seemed to me at the time, we might well be polar opposites. Doug was short, rotund, heavily bearded and mustached, and a self-proclaimed 'Orange County Conservative' while I was a tall, thin, clean-shaven, and East Coast non-conservative. My initial apprehensions to the contrary, however, we were immediately successful, and surprisingly well-suited to each other, and not just at the bridge table. People frequently commented that our partnership was 'greater than the sum of its parts.' We had fun playing, and soon we were socializing together regularly, in addition to bridge at least 3x weekly.

If there was to be any problem between us, it would be his penchant for arriving either exactly when the game was to begin or at most, 1-2 minutes before. I soon remedied that, however, by prevailing upon the director to make a fake announcement one day that the game would henceforth begin 15 minutes earlier (the room had been forewarned that the announcement →

was fake). Thereafter, Doug was always 15 minutes early, though, in truth, I really believe that at some point he had become wise to my devious strategy.

During the 16 months Bev and I were in California, we were often a foursome at dinner with Doug and either his then current lady or with the woman he referred to as 'my favorite ex-wife.' He owned a plane in which he flew regularly down to Baja where he had a trailer, on a strip of leased seaside property, and just before Bev and I were to return to N.J., I accompanied him on a weekend jaunt down to Baja. Our partnership/friendship continued to flourish even after Bev and I returned to the East coast. A few times each year, when I flew out to visit my son and grandchildren in Santa Barbara, Doug would fly up in his plane, we'd play bridge there, have dinner, then he'd fly home. A couple of times he visited us on the East coast, for more bridge and twice I stayed at his place in Huntington Beach.

We had become good friends and stayed in frequent contact with each other via email and telephone. During the 6-7 years we played together, the closest we ever came to a bridge dispute was once, when Doug opened 1NT (15-17 pts), and, with 10 or 11 points and 4-3-3-3 distribution, I chose to ignore my 4-card spade suit and jumped to 3NT. I don't recall how my decision worked out, but when the hand was done, and our opponents had left the table, he leaned over and quietly said, "You know, there's a new convention making the rounds, that we should consider using. It's called Stayman." Though I thought then, and still think, my bid was OK, I could not help laughing at the way he expressed his disagreement.

Five years ago, I received a telephone call from Doug's 'favorite ex-wife,' informing me that while flying home from Baja, Doug's plane had crashed into a mountain. There were no survivors. The cause of the crash was never determined.

From Last Month

Late Scratch: Who's racing silks are below? One of our top players is an owner, breeder racing enthusiast: John Waken



Pomona Covina by Tom Lill

Unit Game – Saturday, May 16, 11:00 a.m.

Individual – Saturday, May 2, 9:30 a.m., LaVerne Site

Biggest news for this month is that your Unit is once again participating in the Longest Day event. In case you missed the last two years, this is a nationwide fundraiser in support of the Alzheimer's Association (AA). It's not restricted to bridge – all sorts of sports and games sign up to participate – but in our case, we will be holding two pairs games on Monday, June 22. Yes, yes, the summer solstice is on June 21 (at 9:39 a.m. PDT, if you *really* want to pin it down), but that is Father's Day, so the ACBL is extending the event into Monday. We will be playing at our usual unit game site, the Knights of Columbus hall in Glendora. Games are at 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Nominal entry fee is \$6 but of course this is a fund raiser so donations to the AA are encouraged. Note that ALL entry fees go to the AA – neither your unit nor the ACBL (so far as I know!) retain any money from this. One important difference this year: we will not be pre-ordering lunches for purchase by the players. We've tried to schedule the games to allow everyone a change to grab a fast bite to eat somewhere. The usual snacks and beverages will be on hand, of course. Stay tuned to this station for more information.

The April Individual was won by Clint Lew, followed by Jeddud Cartagena, Tom Lill, Linda Tessier, and Sofi Kasubhai and Rona Schneider tying for the fifth spot. The May game will be a FunD game, in support of district-wide events such as Grand National Teams. This means it will pay extra master points – with NO additional entry fee. How can you lose? (Well, for *some* of us, that just comes naturally ...)

The March Unit Game was taken by Ken Lowenthal - Steve Dorse. Following were Genise Hasan - Linda Ananea, Kiran Kumar - Anand Kumar, Margaret Merritt - Kerry Sartor and Richard Patterson - Roger Boyar. April's Unit game was captured by Bill Papa - Vic Sartor, with Janet Wickersham - Kevin Lane taking second, Karen Olin - Karen McCarthy in third, Dan Botoaca - Amr Elghamry fourth, and Clinton Lew - Patricia Radamaker rounding out the leader board.

Promotions this month: Roger Ginsburg to Junior Master; Kai Liu and Dale Quasny to Club Master; Hanan Mogharbel to NABC Master; and Sherman →

Gao to Silver Life Master.

The top game in open pairs this month was a whopping 75.0% effort by Vic Sartor and Bill Papa. again. It wasn't the top score overall, though: Clint Lew scored 75.5% in our monthly Individual. Other winners: Richard Patterson, Hanan Mogharbel, Kurt Trieselmann, Penny Barbieri, Claudia Cochran, Susie Emminger, Genise Hasan, Gayle Ginsburg, Pat Radamaker, Jeanette Lynn, Paul Chrisney, Sandy Jones, Sofi Kasubhai, Barbara Killebrew, Lulu Minter, Fredy Minter, Karen Olin, Karen McCarthy, Roger Boyar, Mary Miller, and Yours Truly.

Sad to relate unit member Ron Porter passed away on Saturday, April 18 after a long illness. I'm sorry to say I did not know Ron too well – just meeting him at unit and individual games – be I'd say he was a fine fellow, and will be missed by all who knew him.

Our hand-of-the-month this time is a little different – an exercise in delayed frustration. You'll see. With RHO having bid spades, you are declaring 4♥ on the following layout:

Dummy: ♠J63 ♥QT2 ♦AJ76 ♣Q95

You: ♠Q84 ♥AKJ94 ♦Q ♣AK82

As expected, the opening lead is a spade. RHO cashes ♠A and ♠K, and gives LHO the expected ruff. Back comes a nondescript diamond. The defenders are competent, and the size of the diamond gives nothing away. You have to find a place to park your fourth club. Over to you.

Well, you could run the diamond to your queen, but RHO is likely (not certain) to have the king. You could hope for a 3-3 club break – against the odds. Anything else come to mind?

Yes. Win the ♦A, ruff a diamond with the ♥9, small trump to dummy's queen, ruff a diamond with the Jack, ♥A, small club to the queen, ruff a diamond with your last trump. Trumps were 3-2, to you can cash the ♣AK and the ♥10 takes the last trick.

Big deal, you say. A garden-variety dummy reversal. So why is this an exercise in frustration?

Because Mrs Guggenheim, Timothy the Toucan, Brother Aelred, and everyone else will make this contract. The diamond hook wins. Clubs are 3-3. Trumps are 3-2 with the long trump getting the ruff. Unless you had money on the opponents, you cannot fail to make this hand no matter what you do. And you planned the play soooooo carefully!

Quote for the Month: "I can't say I was ever lost, but I was bewildered once for three days." (Daniel Boone)

Until next month ...

San Fernando Valley by Linda Silvey

Special Congratulations

New Life Master Achievements by Unit 561
Players are: Joseph Hooker (Life and Bronze), Barbara Pinchuk (Gold – 2,500), Gary Frans (Diamond - 5,000), and Ellen Anten (Platinum – 20,000).

March Top Ten Masterpoints at the 750 Club were Phil Calloway 13.79, Susan Raphael 10.59, Ron Malkin 8.19, Ray Primus 7.40, Bill Raines 5.91, Doug Beagle 6.93, Vera Mandell 6.82, Gary Baxley 6.78, Gloria Malkin 5.72, and Phil Berk 5.48.

The 750 Bridge Club in Woodland Hills is ranked 49 of the ACBL "Top 50 Clubs-2014" for the United States and Canada. This was accomplished with a total of 5,707 tables of duplicate bridge last year. Thanks to all the players, directors, and helpers who made this possible.

Current News

Braemar Dinner/Bridge Night on March 17 was a smashing success with 14 tables. This was due in large part to Dennis and Florence Forst who brought a large group from El Cabellero Country Club to participate for the first time. In order to enhance the experience, Braemar served a great Mexican buffet. Tentative plans are to serve an Asian buffet for the next dinner/bridge night on May 19, starting at 6 p.m. Dinner is \$17.95 and Bridge (ACBL sanctioned) is \$5.00. In order to participate in the bridge, you must have dinner. For reservations/partnerships, contact nrklemens@aol.com or (818) 609-1071.

The 750 Club will host "May Madness Week" during May 18 – 22. Special events include: "Munchies Monday" (May 18) with salty and sweet munchies to share; "Two Free-Play Tuesday" (May 19) with a drawing for Free Plays for players who wear their name tags; "Wake-up Wednesday" (May 20) with a continental breakfast before the game; "Thirsty Thursday" (May 21) with root-beer floats during →

the lunch break and before the night game; and, "Fresh Friday" (May 22) featuring fresh, healthy snacks.

Calendar

Monday, May 4, 750 Club closed for morning game, open for the night game.

Monday-Friday, May 18-22, "May Madness Week," at the 750 Club, details listed above under "Current News."

Tuesday, May 19, Braemar Dinner/Bridge Night, details listed above under "Current News."

Monday, May 25, Memorial Day, Morning game only at the 750 Club, closed for night game.

Friday, June 5, Carol Lang Memorial Game at the 750 Club, Game starts at 11 a.m., Lunch at 12noon – 1 p.m., Game continues 1 – 3:15 p.m. Reservations required.

Monday, June 22, "Longest Day" Charity Games, at the 750 Club.

Santa Clarita-Antelope Valley by Beth Morrin

The Magic Mountain Sectional will be held this year on October 24th and 25th. The board voted to hold the sectional again at the Friendly Valley Community in Santa Clarita.

Unit 556 will offer two Unit sponsored Mentor Games that will be free to all participants. The first one will be held on Tuesday, May 5th at the Senior Center in Santa Clarita at 6:00 p.m. The second one is scheduled for Sunday, August 2nd at the Joshua Tree Bridge Club in Palmdale at 12:00 noon. Refreshments will be provided and there will be a short lesson before the game to discuss the convention card. Reservations are required. Anyone interested in participating should contact Paula Olivares (paula@pacbell.net) or Beth Morrin (morrin@sbcglobal.net).

This month we would like to highlight The Friendly Bridge Club's Monday Morning Junior game. This game is for beginners and junior players. Some of the players played bridge 30 or 40 years ago and are coming back to the game. Others have taken a series of beginning lessons and want to learn more and have regular practice. Every Monday at 9:00 a.m. the session starts with a 25 minute lesson on beginning and or intermediate topics. Then an easy duplicate game

is organized and runs from 9:30 a.m. to approximately 11:30 a.m. In two hours 12 hands are played so the pace is perfect for junior players. No partner is required as folks without partners are matched with one another. The cost for lesson and game is \$8 and the location is the Santa Clarita Senior Center in Newhall, the first exit on the 14 freeway north of the Newhall Pass. For more information contact Paula Olivares, 661-755-8543 or paula@pacbell.net.

Congratulations to Bill Brodek and Paula Olivares who placed first in the Friday Afternoon Open Pairs at the Woodland Hills Sectional on April 24th. On Saturday, April 25th, the team of Lamonte Johnson, Arif Shah, John Van Egmond, and Samy Antoun won the Swiss Team event.

Unit Game Results:

Thursday, March 26th in Castaic		
1	65.83%	Albert Stock - Marguerite Pinkers
2	59.58%	Carol Ashbacher - Russ Buker
3	57.08%	Kathy Cresto - Lamonte Johnson
4	53.75%	Theodore Maki - George MacDonald
5	53.33%	Roshen Hadulla - Anita Walker

April 23rd in Castaic		
1	63.46%	Albert Stock - Marguerite Pinkers
2	59.94%	Carole Provost - Nell Schanz
3	58.97%	Roy Ladd - Bill Brodek
4	58.65%	Roshen Hadulla - Anita Walker
5	54.17%	Barbara Jones - Tom Jones
6	53.21%	Theodore Maki - George MacDonald

April 26th in Palmdale		
1	59.63%	Paul Reukauf - Carol Reukauf
2	57.78%	Hansford Rowe - Mira Rowe
3	54.07%	William Brodek Jr - Paula Olivares
4/5	52.22%	Rita Vannatter - Kathy Cresto
4/5	52.22%	Roy Ladd - Ruth Baker

Upcoming Unit Games

- Monday, May 4 at the Friendly Bridge Club in Santa Clarita at 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, May 21 at the Valencia Bridge Studio in Castaic at 10:00 a.m.
- Friday, May 22nd at the Joshua Tree Bridge Club in Palmdale at 12:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 9th at the Senior Center in →

Santa Clarita at 6:45 p.m.

The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, June 9 in Santa Clarita.

Visit us on facebook for pictures from various tournaments and other activities. <https://www.facebook.com/ACBLUnit556>

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

NLM Club Championship: Thursday, May 7, 10:30

Club Championship: Tuesday, May 12, 7:00

Club Championship: Wednesday, May 20, 7:00

Friday Night games on May 1 and 15

Club Championships

The March 13 Club Championship was led by Fran Israel/Gabriela Jackson in Flight A and Stanley Greengard/Robert Rothman in Flight B. On March 27 the Club Championship was captured by Kim Wang/Rocky Williams in Flight A with Carole King/Dolores Nawa on top in Flight B. The April 8 Club Championship was won by Cal Waller/Stanley Greengard in both Flights A and B. On April 13 the Club Championship was led by Gabriela Jackson/Ray Mack in Flight A with Lorraine and Michael Kammerman on top in Flights B and C.

The Club Championship at Veterans Park on March 23 was led by Luda Kaprenas/Elena Buker in both Flights A and B. On March 27 the Club Championship at the Beach Cities Bridge Club was won by Ed Srenco/Neal Kleiner in Flight A with Elaine Godin/Robert Fieselman ahead in Flight B and Valerie Takahashi/Joe Packey on top in Flight C. The Club Championship at the Inglewood BC on March 27 was captured by Rachel and Barry Simon in Flights A and B with Esther Zacks/Bob Hildreth leading Flight C.

Team Winners

The following are the winning quartets in recent Tuesday night Swiss team games.

March 24: Gabriela Jackson, Sharon Biederman, Steve Ramos, Ed Piken

March 31: Fran Israel, Luis Gamio, Jim Dutton, Bronek Felczer

April 7: Fran Israel, Luis Gamio, Jim Dutton, Bronek Felczer

April 14: Mary Ann Coyle, John Farr, Bo Bogema, John J. McDermott

Congrats

He may not be in our unit or even our district but I would like to congratulate an occasional partner of mine. At the recent New Orleans NABC Aaron Jones won the Nationally rated IMP pairs. He was playing with a lady he never played with before in a tournament. Guess I can try believing Aaron won because I taught him everything I knew about the game. Maybe one reason I never can seem to win a National title is that he didn't teach me everything he knew about the game.

GUV Memorial Award

Well I didn't set the world on fire at the New Orleans NABC but there was one memorable hand. For this I will award this month's GUV award to my partner Gerri Carlson. Playing with Gerri I held at matchpoints I held ♠5 ♥AKT3 ♦Q52 ♣AQJ53

V vs NV. Gerri held ♠AKQxx ♥J8742 ♦Ax ♣K. If I told you the contract at most tables was 6♥ making 6 or 7 and the contract at our table was 4♥ doubled you probably would think we got a bad score because even two or three doubled overtricks doesn't beat the score you get for a slam. However you would be wrong.

After a pass by East I opened 1♣, LHO bid 2♦ alerted as showing the Majors. Gerri after a long huddle jumped to 3NT. As I was pondering whether to make a slam try RHO bid 4♥. Even at the vulnerability I couldn't resist doubling this which was passed out. Turned out the opponents had a misunderstanding, my LHO had some Diamonds and a heart void. RHO had ♥Q965 and little else. We could have taken all 13 tricks but only took 12. We did miss a heart slam and even a Grand Slam if played carefully. However even with our sloppy defense and the unfavorable vulnerability we got a top for our plus 2300. I won't name the opponents →

(from Indiana) who were laughing about the result as much as us. I won't even give them the GUV award but instead will give it to Gerri who I felt was responsible for dropping the trick which would have enabled us to take all 13 tricks on defense.

Na Zdrowie

West LA by Robert Shore

Unit Games

May 23, 24, 28 (Beverly Hills)

May 26 (Marina)

May 25, 27, 29 (Unit-wide)

Spring Sectional: May 2-3, at Barrington

Champing at the Championship Bit

The United States has selected its teams for the Venice Cup competition. In the trials, our own Jill Meyers has earned the opportunity to add to her already-considerable haul of world championships. Jill will defend her 2013 Venice Cup title this fall in Chennai, India, and we wish her luck commensurate with her considerable skills.

Closer to Home

Of course, there's no need to fly to India, or to wait for the Fall, to find great bridge. The Unit has restored its Spring Sectional to the schedule. It will be held May 2 and 3 at Barrington. Game time on Saturday, May 2, will be 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Game time Sunday, May 3, will be 10:00 a.m. and the ever-popular TBA. Please make a reservation. We're getting LOTS of inquiries and if we need to spread out to more space, we'd like to know that as soon as possible.

Later in the month, we'll hold a solid week of Unit Championships. We're starting things off Memorial Day weekend. May 23 and May 24 will feature Unit Championships at Beverly Hills at its usual weekend game time of 1:00 p.m. Memorial Day, May 25, will be a Unit-Wide Championship, held at 12:30 p.m., at both Barrington and Beverly Hills. We'll go to the Marina Tuesday evening, May 26, at 7:15 p.m. for another Unit Championship. Wednesday, May 27, back to 12:30 p.m. for another Unit-Wide Championship at Barrington

and Beverly Hills. Team players will get their shot at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, May 28, as the Beverly Hills team game will be a Unit Championship. Finally, one last Unit-Wide Championship for the road at 12:30 p.m. Monday, May 29, at Barrington and Beverly Hills.

Finally, we take a moment to note the passing of Cecelia Guttenberg. We convey our sympathies to Cecelia's family and friends.

New Orleans and a Hat Trick

Our Unit wasn't about to let a little thing like a couple of time zones come between us and the winner's circle at the Spring Nationals. A number of us made the trip, and as usual, some of us grabbed the glory. Viktor Anikovich finished ahead of the pack in the 1st Saturday Daylight Open Pairs game. Ifti Baqai won the 2nd Friday AB Pairs. Paula Nataf grabbed a pair of wins, taking first in her bracket of the Eleanor Onstatt Knockout Teams and again in the 2nd Saturday Compact Knockout. Mike Mikyska capped things off by winning the 2nd Saturday AB Pairs.

I didn't see Bill McClean in New Orleans, but he did make time to play the Las Vegas Sectional. They say what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas, but I am nonetheless compelled to report that Bill won the Tuesday evening Swiss Teams. Your Humble Scribe managed a weekend getaway to the Palm Springs Sectional, where he managed a hat trick — winning the Saturday afternoon Swiss, the Sunday morning Stratified Open Pairs, and the Sunday afternoon Stratified Open Pairs. Finally, Bill Schreiber and Viktor Anikovich earned the right to represent our District in Chicago for Flight A of the Grand National Teams.

Summertime Treats

Qualifying for North American Pairs will begin in June. Find a qualifying game (which pays half red points at full sectional rating) and get eligible for the Unit Finals, usually held in October and November. The District winners in all three flights get a nice fat check from the ACBL to help defray their expenses to the Spring Nationals, which in 2016 will be in Reno.

Also coming in June, the ABA takes its annual turn hosting the ABA-ACBL Game. The game will be Sunday, June 7, at the ABA's Los Angeles Unit, 134 N. Market St., Inglewood, CA. Space is limited and the

WLA continued on page 18

Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: John Jones

Panelists: Gerry Bare, Mark Bartusek, David Chechelashvili, Jeff Goldsmith, Eddie Kantar, Rick Roeder, and John Swanson

1

MPs
no vul

South	West	North	East
		Pass	Pass
1♥	3♠	Pass	Pass
?			

You, South, hold: ♠A8 ♥KJT82 ♦KT753 ♣K
What call do you make?

Kantar: 4♦. Is there really a 'right answer' to this one?

Chechelashvili: 4♦.

Roeder: Pass. If you can make 4♦, you probably cannot play there since partner will often get enthusiastic if you reopen with a double and convert club bids to diamonds. Example #27,646 of the bridge axiom, "When fixed, stay fixed." Bidding only seems right when partner has a penalty pass: a probability I put at less than 10%. *[Partner will pass more often at MP than he would at IMPs. The disaster when pass is wrong is smaller.]*

Swanson: Pass. I will be delighted with a plus score.

Bartusek: Pass. Bidding on seems reckless and a gamble. The stiff ♣K is generally not an offensive value. It could be right to bid, but it's anti-percentage.

Goldsmith: Pass. It's possible that versus a passed hand we can make a game, but it's not likely. My spade holding doesn't encourage me to think partner has a stack, so it's not critical to double, which is my second choice.

Bare: Double. Even if partner is very weak, a diamond fit could play well. And a diamond fit seems likely. *[What action are you taking if partner bids 4♣? Are you passing? Bidding 4♦? Double works if partner passes, or bids some number of diamonds. Double might be OK if partner bids 3NT or 4♥. But double is a big headache if partner bids 4♣. At IMP scoring, the potential disaster of doubling and seeing partner bid 4♣ or 5♣ makes doubling very dangerous. At MP we are interested more in the bid that will work most often. Partner will pass 3♠ doubled more often at MP scoring. I still prefer pass but double is much more plausible at MP.]*

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2

MPs
no vul

South	West	North	East
	1♣	Dbl	1♥
?			

You South hold:

♠Q83 ♥K ♦Q9853 ♣KT73

What call do you make?

Chechelashvili: Pass. *[OK, so there is no obvious bid. That's why it is presented as a problem. But the panel's most aggressive real life bidder passes? David didn't say why he was passing. Maybe he passes because he expects more aggressive doubles from his partner than the rest of us expect. Maybe he expects the opponents, at least temporarily in a forcing auction, to possibly get into trouble. Maybe he wants to listen to the rest of the auction before balancing. I wish he had given us more of his reasoning; David is quite good at getting successful results on low level part score fights.]*

Let's hear from the diamond bidders.

Swanson: 2♦. Leaves a bit in the tank. I'll try no trump if offered another chance.

Bartusek: 3♦. Seems clear. We know that the opponents will be getting to 2♥; why let them find their fit via a support double or an easy 2♥ raise? This auction may force them too high if they now compete

to 3♥ (or hinder them if 3♥ is their best spot).
Now the no trumpers can have their say.

Bare: 1NT.

Goldsmith: 1NT. Partner rates to have hearts covered.

Roeder: 1NT. Three factors point toward no trump. The Viagra card (stiff king) usually carries more weight in no trump. Second, my five card diamond suit is not robust. If we have a game, it is most likely 3NT not 5♦. The lack of an ace should rule out the exuberant thought of 2NT.

Kantar: 1NT. For Marshall. Nobody ever loved singleton kings more than he.

Eddie is right. And we will talk about "what would Marshall do?" for many years now. What a legend at the table and a monstrous contributor to bridge theory!

1964-1972 Southern California Bridge News Copies Needed

The Association of Los Angeles County Bridge Units is compiling a history of the district - some of it even going back to 1935.

This history is a work in progress and is in need of a favor from some unknown, kind bridge player in LA. We need issues of the District 23 Bridge News that are, so far, hard to find. The very first issue of the Bridge News was in June 1964. If anyone knows of the existence of any issues from #1 through December of 1972, we would like to borrow them for a short time as part of our history research. If you know of anyone who can help on this matter, please contact Mike Marcucci at 818 903-2471. Thanks from ALACBU.

What do you think?

Send letters
to the editor to:

bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org

3

IMPs
EW vul

South	West	North	East
1♠	2♦	4♠	5♦
5♠	Pass	Pass	6♦
?			

You, South, hold: ♠KQJ753 ♥6 ♦6 ♣KQ642
What call do you make?

This problem generated an almost unanimous vote. We hate to get pushed around by the vulnerable opponents, but we have little defense, and partner has stated that he has little defense. If this were a MP problem I would expect more passers (see Kantar). At IMPs it's a real disaster if we allow -1370 if we could go for -300 or -500.

Bare: 6♠. East could be overbidding thinking non vulnerable opponents will save but my hand is so lacking in defense that 6♠ is a must.

Swanson: 6♠. I hope they don't bid 7♦. [If they bid 7♠ what do we do now? We could pass, and regret bidding 5♠ and 6♠. We would then worry about the opening lead (I would choose a trump) hoping we can find a way to beat it. Alternately, we can take out insurance and bid 7♠. We don't have much defense even against a grand.]

Chechelashvili: 6♠. I cannot risk passing. If I pass, partner can easily double with ♣Axxx and nothing else.

Goldsmith: 6♠. If they bid 7♦, I bid 7♠. I have zero defense and won't lose more than four tricks. Partner has a big fit and little defense, so the only problem was whether to bid over 5♦. I think it's right to have done so; the chance that they'll bid seven is not great, and even then, the loss (800 vs. 640) isn't that big.

Bartusek: 6♠. Tough guess! 6♦ could be going down but there is no way to tell. Since I rate to be going for only 300 against a vulnerable game I should probably take out insurance in case the slam is making. They do say to bid one more at IMPs.

Kantar: 6♠. At IMPs I'm sacrificing, at matchpoints I'm hoping for a plus.

Roeder: Pass. You gambled when you bid 5♠ that you could buy the contract there. You lost. Now you have no earthly idea what to do. It is possible, but unlikely, that partner has a better clue. Yes, 6♠ provides a degree of insurance, but remember that insurance companies are sufficiently profitable to own a lot of tall skyscrapers.



LAS VEGAS REGIONAL

June 22-28, 2015
Monday to Sunday

Tournament Co-chairs:

Jane Rubin (jane1212@aol.com), Bruce Rubin (brr32196@aol.com)

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All events will be held in the Convention Center.

See LVregional.com for complete details and a schedule of events.



4

IMPs
no vul

South	West	North	East
1♥ ?	Pass	1♠	Pass

You, South, hold:
 ♠K2 ♥AKJ652 ♦A32 ♣A9
 What call do you make?

One panelist doesn't like the conditions and would have opted for a stronger opening bid.

Kantar: 2NT. Why torture us by not allowing us to open 2♣ or at least 2NT with this hand?

Some panelists take a stab at what they think the best game is.

Bare: 4♥. 3NT is a close second.

Chechelashvili: 3NT. I think this is the best of bad bids. [David didn't state it, but in standard expert practice, jumping to 3NT in an auction of this type shows a six card major.]

Other panelists opt for a jump shift

into a short minor.

Bartusek: 3♦. I'm too good to bid 2NT. Besides, this does not seem like a notrump hand. I hope partner can preference to 3♥ or rebid 3♠ showing six (or a great five-bagger).

Roeder: 3♦. Since a 3♥ rebid would be as top heavy as Dolly Parton, time to manufacture a jump shift. You will still not be out of the woods and will have a guess if partner then bids 3NT: I would guess 4♥. An immediate 4♥ bid is OK but this 19 count is on steroids. I would like to be a bit more encouraging.

Swanson: 3♦. 2NT is an underbid. 3NT shows a better heart suit and

lack of interest in a spade contract, but is nonetheless a consideration.

Goldsmith: 3♣. It's normal to bid 3♦, but I like to make my fake jump shifts in clubs and let partner believe my diamond jump shifts. The hand is too good and too sharp for 2NT.

I'm with Jeff on this one. The jump shift into 3♣ is no more deceiving to partner than a jump shift into 3♦ would be. We aren't going to want to play diamonds even if partner raises. 3♣ saves a tempo, allowing partner to bid 3♦ and then we can rebid 3♥. We have lost little if that sequence doesn't occur.

DIRECTOR *continued from page 1*

559 Pasadena-San Gabriel:	3
561 San Fernando Valley:	3
562 West Los Angeles:	4
563 Downey-Whittier:	1
568 Torrance-South Bay:	3

Mentor Games: Many units and clubs are holding mentor-mentee games. This is a great way to help our newer players feel comfortable in the "big" room. Kathy and I had the pleasure of playing in the Over/

Under game last month sponsored by the Pasadena-San Gabriel Unit at the Arcadia Bridge Center. I know that there will be some additional games this month in Santa Clarita and Torrance. If you want additional information, please email me and I will provide you with further information.

Next month I should have the financial report from the Spring NABC held in New Orleans. I will be able to discuss its impact on the ACBL budget for 2015.

And remember, I can always be reached at Pinsky4Bridge@earthlink.net

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL PASADENA!
July 6th - 12th 2015

5

IMPs
NS vul

South	West	North	East
Pass	1♠	Dbl	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
?			

You, South, hold: ♠Q7 ♥T87 ♦J97 ♣AQJ92
What call do you make?

One partner has doubled and then bid a new suit. This normally shows a hand too good to merely overcall originally. Partner is a passed hand, but has jumped to show strength. The jump should be close to an invitational hand, something like a great 7 HCP to about an 11 HCP hand. The hand that doubled then bid a new suit is unlimited. This is a 100% forcing situation.

Bare: 3♠. Converting clubs to diamonds doesn't guarantee a huge hand but 3NT seems like a possible make and 5♦ may also make.

Goldsmith: 3♠. 3♦ is forcing, 3NT is the most likely game, and I'm not lying about a major which rates to get raised, so what other choice is there?

Bartusek: 3♥. Temporizing (second choice is 3NT). I will then bid 3NT over partner's 3♠ continuation.

Kantar: 4♦. Assuming 3♦ is forcing, I'm not inclined to fake a major suit stopper

Come on Eddie, channel Marshall again! Give 3NT a try.

Roeder: 3NT. Do it confidently and in a reasonable tempo. Our esteemed moderator did not specify whether we play equal level conversion from clubs to diamonds. *[In this forum, you are allowed to make normal assumptions or to bid using conventions that you play. This is one level too low for me to play Equal Level Conversion Doubles, but if you play them at the 3 level, then by all means assume them.]* Regardless, my answer is unchanged but I will have more trepidation if we employ equal level conversion.

Swanson: 3NT. 3♠ was perhaps a bit exuberant but 3♦ is forcing; pass is not a consideration. I almost have a spade stopper and, obviously, there is a positional advantage to no trump from my side.

Chechelashvili: 3NT (confidently). Bidding 3♠ will only complicate or wrongside the contract, so based on auction, I am going to play my partner for ♠Kxx, or ♠Ax.

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL PASADENA!

July 6th - 12th 2015

♠ *GOLD RUSH PAIRS every day - Tuesday through Saturday* ♠

♥ *New KO's start every day - Monday through Saturday* ♥

♦ *299er games twice a day (Monday - Friday)* ♦

♣ *Daylight schedule Saturday and Sunday* ♣

Enjoy downtown Old Pasadena

WLA continued from page 12

ABA always outdoes itself with the food, so make your reservations early.

Welcome Mat

Two full tables of new members this month. We welcome Mary Jo Bakken -Andrew, Susann Bauman, Sandra Lee Knebel, Lique Li, Susan Morse-Lebow, Judith Nussbaum, Beth Wagner, and Stephanie Williams to our ranks. Please welcome them when you see them at the table.

Around the Clubs

The winners of last month's Unit-Wide Championship were Rhoda and Lew Himmell.

Barrington saw the 70% mark reached by Brana Hall and Brian Conley, Chuck Maltz and Rodger Harbin, Aram Bedros and Art Zail, and Wayne Karson and Art Zail.

At Beverly Hills, Nancy Heck and Danny Kleinman won a club championship, as did Julie Kimelman and Trudy Sobel. Hitting 70% were Ellen Anten and Steve Gross and Mike Savage playing with your Humble Scribe.

The Marina City Club plays Tuesday nights at 7:15 p.m. at 4333 Admiralty Way in Marina del Rey. Call Robin at (310) 713-8647 with any questions or to find a partner.

Climbing the Ladder

Our Unit's newest Junior Masters are Sharon Grossman, Ruth Lerner, and Jackson Tsao. Jerrold Felsenthal, John Glovka, Carol Katzman, Steve Reitzfeld, and Jill Thesman are now Club Masters, while Sin Orensztein and Bobbi Zifkin have become Sectional Masters. Ravness Amar is a Regional Master, and Katherine Weisberg has become an NABC Master.

Carol Bell and Joe Hooker are our Unit's newest Life Masters, with Joe Hooker also achieving Bronze Life Master status. Alyssa Kennedy has reached Silver Life Master. Congratulations to all on your accomplishments.

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

Next Month's Problem Solvers Panel Problems

1. IMPs no vul:

South	West	North	East
	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠*	Pass	2♦	Pass

? * WJS was not available

You, South, hold: ♠J8642 ♥9 ♦-- ♣KT96543

What call do you make?

2. IMP EW vul:

South	West	North	East
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass

?

You, South, hold: ♠AKT8642 ♥K52 ♦A ♣KJ

What call do you make?

3. MPs no vul:

South	West	North	East
			Pass
1♥	3♣	4♣	4♠

?

You, South, hold: ♠8763 ♥AQJT6 ♦KQ62 ♣void

What call do you make?

4. MPs no vul

South	West	North	East
	Pass	1♥	1♠

?

You, South, hold: ♠AK962 ♥T64 ♦T962 ♣K

What call do you make?

5. IMP Pairs all vul

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦*
3♣	3NT	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

* Game forcing

6♦ had almost no play missing the top two spades. Please assess the blame. What percentage of the blame does each partner deserve? Which bid was the worst?

North: ♠JT976 ♥Q83 ♦A5 ♣AJT

South: ♠Q8 ♥AK96 ♦KQJT96 ♣6