

# Southern California Bridge News

Volume 49, #2

February 2013

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### From the USSR all the way to District 23

by Becky Clough, ALACBU President



Did you have any idea that you could take the California Driver's License exam in Russian? Well you can, and that's what Viktor Anikovich, this month's District 23 bridge personality, did. Viktor was born in Odessa, USSR in 1975.

Today Odessa is one of the major cities of the Ukraine, no longer a part of the USSR. After earning his college diploma in computer science, job opportunities in the Ukraine were scarce, so Viktor waited three long years for a visa to the United States. He immigrated in 2001 and felt lucky to have a family friend living in Los Angeles to sponsor him. Without a sponsor, he would have ended up in Indiana. He likes our climate better.

After immigrating to Los Angeles, Viktor took a crash course in ESL at Evans Adult School to brush up his English. He found a job in a small computer firm and then found a bridge club. Though the Ukraine is a country of 46,000,000 people, Viktor told me there are probably not more than 100 bridge players who travel and play regularly. Odessa has no bridge club, but clubs can be found in Kiev and Kharkiv, the Ukraine's two largest cities. Viktor, who began playing bridge in college, now found bridge to be his pathway to a livelihood in the United States.

Two years after coming to the United States, Viktor had become a full time bridge teacher and director. He became a citizen in 2006 and today

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### Woodland Hills Regional in the SF Valley

by Rand Pinsky, District Director



I know that this column should focus on national happenings in ACBL land but it is important to discuss our Los Angeles Regional that will be held at the Woodland Hills (Warner Center) Marriott beginning February 18.

For the first time in my bridge experience, and that goes back to the early 1970's this is the first time that a District 23 Regional will be held in the San Fernando Valley. All of the credit must go to our ALACBU president Becky Clough and the Regional Tournament Committee headed by Ellen Anten.

The schedule is well balanced with many two day knockout events, Gold Rush pairs, open pairs, and the popular Swiss set for Sunday. There are also two Educational Charity games to be held on Monday which will support the Educational Foundation of the ACBL.

Most importantly, for our new players there is a full schedule of 299er Games each day. Each game will have a free one-half bridge lecture by local teachers from our district. On Monday there will be a **free** two hour lesson by Teri Atkinson, followed by a light lunch. Advanced signups are required. For reservations, please call Jan Wickersham at 626-355-2666.

I look forward to seeing you there. And by the way, there are many good restaurants in the area, a large mall just across the street, and parking is only \$6.

## National News

Donald Mamula, the new ACBL president for 2013 has announced committee appointment for the year. Besides my responsibilities as treasurer of the ACBL, I will be on the following committees: Appeals & Charges, Bridge, Finance, League Counsel Review, and I will chair the Credentials Committee.

DIRECTOR *continued on page 2*

The Southern California Bridge News welcomes letters to the editor.

Letters to the Editor represent the opinion of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of District 23 or the Southern California Bridge News.

If you would like to submit a letter, send it to:  
 bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org

All letters must be signed.

The Southern California Bridge News reserves the right to edit or reject letters for space, style, and clarity.

## Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

Having recently attended District 23's Torrance Regional, yet another poorly attended tournament, I was energized to write the boards of the Districts 22 and 23 to strongly encourage a merger between the two.

The reasons for merger are numerous. For one, it will resolve District 23's well-known, considerable financial difficulties that prevent it from affording even small expenditures. In addition, merging the efforts of volunteers across the districts will create positive synergy for bridge in Southern California. Nobody benefits when the two districts have regionals on consecutive weeks in Torrance and Ventura—both money losers.

The Los Angeles basin needs help to regain its bridge vitality. While the glory days of huge tournaments at the Ambassador Hotel will never return, I have little doubt that a merged approach will be an overall benefit for Southern California bridge.

Sincerely,  
 Rick Roeder  
 Unit 539 of District 22

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**DIRECTOR** *continued from page 1*

## It's a Different View from Dummy

This past month I have had the opportunity to formally present our District 23 charity grants to the Unit designee charity. A presentation was made to the Long Beach WomenShelter and another one was made to the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Observatory. I was accompanied to the FOTO meeting by West Los Angeles Unit President, Robert Shore and Howard Einberg, past president of the WLA Unit. I also made a presentation to the Santa Clarita Senior Center with the donation being earmarked for their Home Delivered Meal program they support. I am still arranging for a presentation to the Toberman Neighborhood Center, the charity of the Torrance South Bay Unit.

Until next month, you can reach me at [Pinsky4Bridge@earthlink.net](mailto:Pinsky4Bridge@earthlink.net).

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# Bridge Retreat with Eddie Kantar

**Thursday, May 2 - Sunday, May 5, 2013**



*Lake Arrowhead  
Conference Center*

**Price: \$995 per person, based on double occupancy.**

This is an early bird special. A \$500 deposit is due by February 15, 2013 to confirm your reservation. For sign-ups after February 15, the price is \$1,145 per person. The single supplement price is \$100.

*Space is limited. Please register early.*

## This Great Bridge Vacation Package Includes:

- Private bedroom and bath in a beautiful condolet
- All occupancy taxes and gratuities
- All meals, from dinner on Thursday through lunch on Sunday
- Coffee breaks
- Free parking
- Wi-fi throughout the property
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- Tennis, basketball, ping-pong & volleyball courts
- Outdoor heated swimming pool
- Indoor hot tub with wood-burning fireplace
- Handicap accessible rooms & assistance if needed

- ♥ Meet & Greet Cocktail Reception
- ♠ Our own Bridge Room with views
- ♦ Eddie's lessons three mornings
- ♣ Sanctioned Duplicate Bridge sessions
- ♥ Our own Social Room

Lake Arrowhead in the San Bernardino Mountains is easily accessible on State-maintained highways and less than 2 hours from LAX, Orange County, Burbank and Ontario Airports. Altitude is 5100'.

For Map and Directions to the UCLA Lake Arrowhead Conference Center,  
log on to <http://www.lakearrowheadmeetings.com/location-directions/index.cfm>

**Sleeping Rooms.** The charming style of French Normandy architecture is the Conference Center's signature look, including the Condolet lodging rooms. Condolets provide old-world charm with all the comforts of home. Each Condolet features two bedrooms and two baths - on two levels - to ensure privacy for each guest. Each unit also has a living room area With comfortable furnishings.



**Experience the Great Outdoors.** There are many places activities to enjoy on the property, nearby on the lake, in the mountains or at Lake Arrowhead Village with its great outlet shops from Bass to Coach. The Conference Center has tennis courts, a putting green, volleyball courts a hot tub and an indoor fitness center. The UCLA Lake Arrowhead Conference Center is a Non-Smoking Resort.

**Superb Food...Graciously Served.** You will start your day with the Conference Center's hearty ranch-style breakfast buffet. Lunch is always abundant and offered buffet-style. Four-course gourmet dinners are served each evening. Alcoholic beverages are not provided by the Conference Center though guests may bring their own.



# Around the Units in District 23

## Antelope Valley

by Brad Ward

The holidays caused a significant schedule impact for our local clubs. Hopefully, everyone had a great holiday season in spite of the cold weather and the many ailments that abound in our community.. All our club owners look to see you again soon— happy and healthy.

It certainly seems that there are so many health problems in our bridge community that folks who are feeling OK are in a very small minority. The serious, debilitating ailments that abound are just so many that it would really be depressing to list all of our infirmed members, so I must offer just a sincere **speedy recovery** to all of you battling various health problems.

Our club owners did a great job trying to maintain a good playing environment, and Kathy, Rita and Paula offered, as always, great leadership. I had an opportunity to go recently to the Joshua Tree club in Palmdale and play with Dave Gasper. Dave and I had a wonderful time and Beth Morrin is to be congratulated for the splendid job she has done configuring their club. Yes, her husband Charles has been right there with her all the way, just as all our other club owner ladies have also had excellent male help getting their own clubs growing, but many kudos to the Morrins for the good job they have done with their activity in 2012.

The results from Santa Clarita show Paula's club winners this last month offering a nice mix, starting off with Fabian Fang and Anita Walker. Paul Gill was a two-time winner, once with Roy Ladd and then again with Kristi Kubo. Albert Stock was also a two-time winner, once with Rita Vanatter and again Marguerite Pinkers. The partnership of Nell Schanz and Hugh Bartlett also chalked up a win along with the strong Paula Millar-M. Eileen Engels duo.

The results from Rand and Kathy's club saw Tom Shudic and Elaine Moore win twice, as did the partnership of Kathy Flynn-Robert McBroom. Bert Stock and Rita Vanatter scooped up a win as did

Lamonte Johnson-Markle Vandervort.

Rita's Castaic club had a nice mix of winners with Lamonte Johnson-Basant Shah, Hugh Bartlett-Bill Brodek, Charles Self-MaryAnne Self, Rosemary Frankain-Kathy Swaine. and Albert Stock-Marguerite Pinkers all winning partnerships.

The Lancaster club saw Gloria Robinson-Brad Ward and Russ Buker-Barb Shuping as winning partnerships.

Next month we will celebrate the major 2012 masterpoint winners in each category.

## Glendale Verdugo

by Sharon Wolf

Unit Game, February 9, 2013  
Lunch at noon, game at 1:00

Our January Unit game was a catered chili cook-off, with delicious chili dishes, cornbread, Mexican salad, and an array of desserts. Here are the results:

N/S

A1	Tim Lolli & Carolyn Cohen
A2	Bernie Mateer & Peter Szecsi
A3	John Villalobos & Gerry Belcher
A4	Pat Abbey & Merry Besvold
A5	Phil Dessert & Dominique Moore
A6	William Ng & Shiu-Ming Huang
B1	Helen Malzer & Madelon Liebman
B2	Rufus Rhoades & Karen Alpert
B3	Leon Alexander & Adam Barron

E/W

A1	Herman Helber & Jake Frenkel
A2 B1	Brad Beland & Amr Elghamry
A3 B2 C1	Rick Weiss & Rhoda Weisler
A4	Bob Tayrien & Martin Blain
A5	Ann Banta & Ron Moeckel
A6	Karen Arase & Sandra Franciscus
B3	Temo Arjani & Robert Novell

→

B4 Paula Miller & Eileen Engels  
C2 Lyle Weideman & Eva Seri

Our next Unit Game is on February 9. Please join us.

## Long Beach by Jon Yinger

unit website: [www.acblunit557.org](http://www.acblunit557.org)  
club website: [www.LongBeachBridge.com](http://www.LongBeachBridge.com)

**December 23 Unit Game:** Overall results: 1st in A: Brandon Sheumaker/Kevin Lane, 2nd Dolores Backlund/Bob Goodman, 3rd Steve and Charlotte Sturm, 4th Sankar Reddy/John Petrie, 5th Pam and Michael Moreland. In the B flight overall Rand Pinsky/Kathy Swaine were 5th, Eileen Nelson/Julie Cunningham were 6th. In the C flight overall Linda Nye/Terre Premmer were 3rd, Lina and Simon Chen were 4th. And in the NLM game Monica Gettis/Claudette Barrack were 1st and Ronald Johnson/Nancy Toussaint tied with Louise Sperr/Shirley Tavlin for 2nd. Congratulations to all!

**70+%** Games in the club Dec 16 through Jan 15: In open games: Dec 22 Orhan Gurbuz/Hayim Ninyo had 70.16%, Jan 8 Larry Slutsky/Phil Schuster had 70.83%, and Jan 10 Aaron Jones/Steve Mager had 73.88%. In the 199er game Jan 2 Paul and Pei Chen had 70.60%. Congratulations to you all!

**Big Masterpoint Awards:** 1st and 2nd overall big point awards Dec 16 through Jan 15: In the Unit Game Dec 23 Brandon Sheumaker/Kevin Lane were 1st over-all winning 4.82mp; Dolores Backlund/Bob Goodman were 2nd winning 3.62mp. In the big game Dec 31 Linda Trent/Tom Dressing won 4.25mp for 1st, Ralph Beazley/Irwin Bender won 3.19mp for 2nd. Jan 7 Bob Mault/Jackie Hess won 3.25mp for 1st. Jan 8 Phil Schuster/Larry Slutsky won 3.90mp for their 71% game. Jan 9 Loren Hilf/Toni Morford won 3.36mp for 1st. Jan 11 Suzi and John hand won 4.55mp for 1st, Jo Daigle/Gary Paugh won 3.41mp for 2nd. Congratulations to all!

**Status Changes:** Junior Master: Mariann Satin; Sectional Master: Dustin Stout. Congratulations to both of you!

**Upcoming Events at the Club:** Saturday Feb 2 Groundhog Day, unit-rated game. Feb 11 through Feb

17 Junior Fund Week: week extra points. Feb 24 Unit Game—lunch 12:30, game at 1pm. Feb 28 Inter-Club Championship game.

**Get Well Wishes** to Betty McClellan and Gary King.

## News from Leisure World by Joan Tschirki

New to the bridge club: Dee Devey, Charlotte Mitchell, Mike Hung, Douglas Sikorski.

A new year and we're still here!! I would like to thank all of the members of Leisure World Bridge for participating. We are growing! Encourage your friends and neighbors to come and look us over. Be sure to greet new players, encourage them to return and offer to play with them sometime. Be lenient, they are new and perhaps unfamiliar with the rules.

As a membership you should be proud. Strength in partnerships, achieving new goals and more of those 70%+ games!

In Clubhouse #1, we hold Friday and Saturday games. We now have a new board. Let me introduce them: President Sharon Beran, Vice President Betty Scharf, Secretary Ron Yaffee, Treasurer Howard Smith, and Director at Large Lane Gibbons. Congratulations and we all salute you!

Let's keep shuffling along into the new year! Play cards!

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.

Results of all Leisure World games are posted on [www.acblunit557.org](http://www.acblunit557.org)

Get the Unit 557 Newsletter via email: Send your email address to: [jyinger1@gmail.com](mailto:jyinger1@gmail.com).

## Pasadena San Gabriel Valley by Jan Wickersham

Our February Unit game will be held on February 17th so as not to conflict with Super Bowl Sunday. →

I urge all members of the unit to attend. Rand Pinsky will be there on that day and award a \$5,000 check from ACBL to The Elizabeth House, a wonderful non-profit that aids homeless, pregnant women. They take them in and teach them life skills letting them live in their facility for five or six months to help them get on their feet. It's a wonderful organization, and we are proud to support them.

On March 3, the Election Party will be held. This year it is to be at the Marriott Courtyard in Monrovia. The game will begin at noon, followed by a buffet dinner and closing with Swiss Teams. Tickets are still just \$35.00 for a wonderful day, so get a partner and get your team together and join us at the Marriott. We have five new Life Masters in our unit this year; Sandra Rucker, Madhu Sudan, Zac Vedro, June Boyd and T.J. Wang. It is also the time of year to say good-bye to board members who are concluding their terms; Roland Pineda, Nancy Nakinishi, T.J. Wangand, and Jan Wickersham.

Come and meet our new board members as well as the ones who are continuing. Returning members are; Miriam Harrington, Sandra Franciscus, Peter Szecsi, Bernie Mateer, Marie Nimmrich, Mary Falvey, Karen Arase, and Amr Elghamry. New board members will be; Mike Marcucci and Frank Grant. There may be a few others that are still unknown at the time of this printing.

Also, the Winter Regional is coming to the Marriott at Woodland Hills, February 18-24. Flyers are available at the San Marino Club.

## Pomona Covina by Tom Lill

Unit Game: Saturday, February 16, 11:00 a.m.  
Individual: Saturday, February 2, 9:30 a.m. @ La Verne

First off this month, some sad news. Long time unit member Pat Radamaker suffered a heart attack recently and was admitted to the hospital... twice. Apparently, the strain of playing 6 boards in a team match with Yours Truly the night before was just too much. She's back home now and doing well, but feeling weak. Let's all wish her a speedy recovery and a return to the bridge tables. The Thursday evening games just aren't the same without her.

Because the December unit game was held early,

and was reported last month, there are no results to report this month.

The January individual, hosted by Penny Barbieri, was won by Gino Barbieri. Following were Richard Patterson, Helen Wang, Ann McClelland, and Luan Schirmer. As you may have noted above, we revert this month to our (new) standard location, Lois Snowden's place up in La Verne.

Pairs game winners this month included Karen McCarthy, Suzanne Wojcik, Walt Otto, Richard Patterson, Susan Ruoff, Herb Stampfl, Betty Sander, Kathy and Herman Helber, Billie Steiner, Kim Horn, David Ruoff, Vic Sartor, Mary Miller, Karen Olin, Eileen and Tim Finlay, and Clint Lew.

Top masterpoint winners in local games were Richard Patterson (6.2), Clint Lew (6.06), Penny Barbieri (4.25), and Sandy Jones (4.25). The top club game was a monstrous 74.48% turned in by Susan Ruoff-Herb Stampf. This easily eclipsed efforts which would be tops most of the time: 68.75% by Clint Lew-Richard Patterson, and 66.25% by Herman and Kathy Helber.

Note, these masterpoint totals are only inclusive of local club games. If I could include tournament results, Margie Hall would have run away from everyone this month. She cleaned up at the Palm Springs regional, earning more than 14 gold points, thereby achieving Life Master rank. Congratulations, Margie.

An apology for the egregious error in last month's hand. Obviously, it was partner who opened 1♥, not LHO. Surely, you figured that out. (Airplane! fans, you can complete this line for yourselves.)

Our hand of the month this time is a real gem. In a club game, you pick up this collection: ♠T4 ♥5 ♦T9876543 ♣43. That's right, an 8-card straight flush headed by the 10! (It was one of those nights.) Pard opens 1♣, RHO sticks in 1♥, and you ... well, at one table, this hand called 3♦ (at favorable vulnerability). Pass, pass, 3NT on your right. All pass.

After your lead of the ♣4 (a diamond lead being obviously futile), 3NT rolls for 12 tricks. Declarer's "stopper" in diamonds was Qx, pard holding AK tight. Even if you lead a diamond, it's 11 tricks away. 5♦ is down only 3, but with everyone else playing a part score, you are hosed no matter what.

Better luck next time! See you then.

Quote for the month: "Advice is like castor oil, easy enough to give but dreadful uneasy to take." (Josh Billings)

## San Fernando Valley by Deborah Levinson

Greetings and Salutations! I will be your Unit Reporter for this coming year. Many thanks to Fran Kern who did this column so well, for so long. I will do my best to follow her excellent example.

Remember, I cannot report it if I do not know about it, nor can I assume you want it reported if you do not let me know!

### Achievements

The Top Ten Masterpoint Winners for December 2012 are:

#### 750 Bridge Club

1. Ron Malkin - 9.01
2. Gloria Malkin - 7.48
3. Linda Silvey - 6.77
4. Jim Lechner - 6.42
5. Doug Beagle - 6.28
6. Herb Van Brink - 5.88
7. Elaine Keyes - 5.54
8. Jim Gardner - 4.99
9. Jody Lombardo - 4.75
10. Louise Nash - 4.73

#### The Bridge Academy (Open)

1. Armand Szulc - 11.36
2. Sheila Bozin - 7.65
3. Tammy Purkin - 7.23
4. Deborah Levinson - 7.19
5. Dick Lum - 7.07
6. Ellen Anten - 6.73
7. N Purkin - 6.49
8. Glenna Szulc - 6.16
9. Om Chokriwala - 5.92
10. Lorraine Adams - 5.69

#### The Bridge Adademy (<750)

1. Deborah Levinson - 7.19
2. Om Chokriwala - 5.92
3. Tracy Boys - 5.66
4. Samy Antoun - 5.58
5. Moheb Mansour - 5.58
6. Alene Friedman - 4.15
7. James Gardner - 3.16

8. Beatrice Hershfield - 2.83
9. Estelle Baron - 2.71
10. John Langer - 2.60

### 70 Percent Games

70.63% Ron Malkin, Gloria Malkin - 750 Bridge Club

### 2012 GW Holiday STaC

72.5% Game Sara Wilson, Alan Palansky

### Tournaments

Ventura Regional Winners: Carpenteria Compact KO II 1<sup>st</sup> - Freddie Strauss, Joel Schiff, William Rogers, John Clark; Thousand Oaks Compact KO II 1<sup>st</sup> – Freddie Strauss, John Clark, Marel Bates, Deborah Levinson

### Milestones

Congratulations to new Life Masters Martin Hurwitz, Eve Seri. And welcome to our newest unit member Deborah Wallen

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

### Condolences

Zenya Osadca passed away. She will be missed.

Bea Greenwood also passed away. Bea played at The 750 Bridge Club on Mondays with Maureen Lipman and on Tuesday and Thursday with Ellen Kaminsky. We will miss her sweet smile.

### Events

**Unit Holiday Party:** There were 114 entrants for the morning session, many of whom stayed for the good food and to play the second session. In the Morning session Flight A was won by Armand and Glenna Szulc, Flight B by Alene Friedman and Lorraine Adams, and Flight C by Moheb Mansour and Samy Antoun. In the Evening Session, Om Chokriwala and Tracy Boys swept Flights A/B/C for first overall playing E/W. N/S found winners were Madelon Liebman and Halen Malzer for Flights A/B and they were second overall for those same Flights. Flight C was won by the pair of Martin and Anne Hurwitz. Congratulations to all the winners!

**Mort's 102<sup>nd</sup> Birthday:** The 750 Bridge Club hosted a birthday for Mort Nagler's 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday. Mort still plays bridge four times a week, almost always scratching, and when asked the secret to his longevity proclaims, "I play East/West!"

**New Year Party:** The Bridge Academy hosted a New Year Bridge party with a sumptuous luncheon followed by a session of bridge. Awarded prizes for winning their directions were N/S Michael Fierman and Carol Diamant E/W Donna Davidson and John Langer, who were first overall. Flight B first overall were J Raymond Bush and Marilyn Urricco . Flight C first overall were E. J. (Jim) Lechner and James Gardner.

### Upcoming Events

**February 10:** Following on the heels of the New Year Party, the Bridge Academy will be hosting a Valentine's Day party on Sunday, February 10, with a savory lunch at 12:30, followed by Bridge at 1:30. Call 818-999-3131 to reserve your spot now.

**February 18-24:** Don't forget to make plans to attend the District 23 Winter Regional this coming February 18-24, to be held at the Warner Center Marriott in Woodland Hills. Tournament schedule is located at: <http://web2.acbl.org/tournaments/Ads/2013/02/1302041.pdf>

And a good time will be had by all! Don't be the one who looks up after it is over and says, "How did I miss that!?"

**Column News:** Make certain that your bridge news will appear in the next edition of this column by sending it to Deborah Levinson ([dlevinson@acesupms.com](mailto:dlevinson@acesupms.com)) with the subject BRIDGE COLUMN.

## Torrance-South Bay by Steve Mager

Unit: [www.freewebs.com/bridgeatunit568](http://www.freewebs.com/bridgeatunit568)  
SBBC: [www.bridgeclubs.org/index.php?id=sbbc](http://www.bridgeclubs.org/index.php?id=sbbc)

### Upcoming Events at the South Bay Bridge Club

Club Championship: Monday, February 4, 11:30

Club Championship: Friday, February 15, 7:00

Club Swiss Team Championship: February 12, 7:00

Handicapped Swiss Teams every Tuesday evening  
Friday Night games on February 1 and February 15

### Club Championships

The December 11 Club Championship was captured by Hank Sheehan/Jim Jensen in both Flights A and B. On January 9 the club championship was won by PAtty Taylor/Pat Berg in Flights A, B and C.

The Club Championship at Veterans Park on December 10 was won by James and Judith Scott in Flights A, B and C. The December 12 Championship saw Bill Malcolm/Jack Freeman on top in Flight A with Luda Kuprenas/Elena Buker capturing Flights B and C. The Friday afternoon Club Championship at Anderson Park on December 14 was won by Robert Fieselman/Robert Svensrud in both Flights A and B. The Friday evening Club Championship at Anderson Park was captured by Henry Crowder/Barbara Shortwell in Flight A and Clara Trummer/Marie Lynch in Flight B.

### Team Winners

Following are the winning quartets in recent Tuesday night handicapped Swiss games at the South Bay Bridge Club. **January 8:** Fran Israel, Luis Gamio, Jim Dutton, Bronek Felczer. **January 15:** John and Bea Brailliar, Steve Ramos, Ed Piken

### GUV Memorial Award

Well there was so little on the local bridge scene this past month I have no good nominations for the GUV Award. Instead I decided to include the award from the first column I wrote in 1998. It just goes to show you the longevity that Bernie Weinstein has when the subject of GUV Awards comes up.

The winner of that month's GUV award was MP Pigg who helped break Bernie Weinstein's long streak of consecutive bottoms. MP got to 3NT on a straight forward 1♣ - 1♥ - 2NT - 3NT sequence. Bernie on opening lead held ♠J854 and after much thought (so what's new), made the diabolical lead of the ♣J. Declarer Pigg caught ♣Q97 in Dummy facing his A32 and played the queen followed by the king and ace. After a few tricks and a couple good guesses the declarer could have cashed out for making 5 which would have been worth 10 of 12 matchpoints. But he saw a chance for 6 if he could slip through a spade trick and not have the opposition cash a winner in another suit. So he led towards the ♣97, stuck in the 9 and watched the opponents cashed 4 tricks which was worth exactly →

zero matchpoints for MP Pigg. As they say on Wall Street and the South Bay Bridge Club..Bulls win, Bears win, but Piggs lose.

Na Zdrowie

## West LA by Robert Shore

### Remembrance

I hope many of you had the chance to attend the memorial ceremony for Sue Frishberg, held at the Beverly Hills Bridge Club. Those of us who knew Sue only at the table got a precious glimpse of her rich, varied life. And those fortunate enough to know Sue in other capacities had the opportunity to share their memories. For me, the highlight of the evening was Richard Weinberger's key-word-filled remembrance. It was an event I'm sure Sue would have enjoyed.

### The Winners Are . . .

The results aren't quite official because the ACBL occasionally gets December points entered as late as February. But at the risk of jumping the gun, here in this space I'll reveal the unofficial winners of the Unit's 2012 Mini McKenney Awards. These awards are given to the Unit members in each point category (at the start of the year) who won the most master points in 2012.

The year's top Rookie was Martin Klein. Leading the way among Junior Masters was Barbara Fisher-Freeman. Katherine Weisberg followed up 2011's Junior Master win with this year's title among Club Masters, while Robert Feinberg followed up his win as 2011's Club Master of the Year by edging the competition among Sectional Masters. Nancie Barrier took top honors among Regional Masters, and Phyllis Selig-Kerns prevailed against the Unit's other NABC Masters.

Karen Schwartz won the award among Life Masters starting the year under 500 points. Bill Rogers capped a successful year by taking the Bronze Life Master title. Your Humble Scribe is at the top of the Silver Life Master list, and Viktor Anikovich rode his Grand National Teams title to victory in the Gold Life Master race. Aram Bedros was the Unit's top Diamond Life Master. Mike Savage continued his climb toward Grand Life Master status by leading the way among Emerald

Life Masters, and Becky Clough won the race among Grand Life Masters. Congratulations to the winners.

### Giving Back

Every few years, District 23's director, Rand Pinsky, has the opportunity to designate charity dollars from the ACBL's Charity Foundation. Rand's tradition has been to divide his grant into \$5,000 pieces and then accept recommendations from the units. Our recommendation this year, which Rand was happy to accept, was Friends of the (Griffith) Observatory and I had the distinct pleasure this month of attending the presentation ceremony. ACBL's mission, of course, is the promotion of the game we all love, but it's good to know we also give back to the broader community.

### The Shadow Knows

Our unit's slate of events continues apace as we use Groundhog Day as the occasion of our next Unit Game. If the queen drops, we can expect six more weeks of winter. If the finesse is right, we'll have an early spring. Either way, of course, there will be plenty of bridge.

Also on the calendar is our next regional, held for the first time at Woodland Hills. In an exciting development, the tournament's Daily Bulletin will be under new management and I have it on good authority that it will be worth playing the tournament if for no other reason than to have the opportunity to read the new editor's pellucid prose. Don't wait for the movie version. Attend the tournament, and be the first on your block to read the Bulletin. And if that's not enough, I hear there will be some bridge there as well.

In one further development, our district's Webmaster is looking to pass the torch. So if you know the difference between html and Java and would like to take on the task of maintaining our district's Web site, please send an e-mail to the appropriate address, which, oddly enough, you can find on the Web site.

### Honor Roll

Many of our unit's less experienced members found their way to the winner's circle over the last month. Our headline pair today is Barbara Fisher-Freeman and Susan Frank, who started the month with maybe 50 points between them. I feel fairly safe in speculating that the Blue Ribbon qualification this →

pair picked up for winning the Tues-Wed Open Pair event on the recent Caribbean Cruise Regional is probably the first for each player. Not to be outdone, Joe Lieberman traveled to New York to win the Wednesday afternoon 199er Regional game.

Our Unit's non-Life Masters led off Palm Springs with a bang. Minerva Krevoy and Frances Durslag won the Monday afternoon 299er Charity Game, while Barbara Federman won Monday evening's version of the event. Continuing the charge, Patricia Shellog Seal and Ellen Carrier won their bracket of the Cathedral City Knockout Teams event. Some of our more experienced players also got in on the fun. Joel Schiff won his bracket of the Indio Knockout Teams event and backed it by winning his bracket of the Sunday 0-2000 Swiss. Mike Savage's team won the Bermuda Dunes Compact Knockout Teams event, while Mauricio and Lidia Epelbaum teamed with Constance Abell to win their bracket of the same event. Finally, moving up the coast, Jill Meyers and Sid Brownstein traveled to Monterey where they won the Ernie Els Knockout Teams.

### **Redouble Trouble**

At a recent game, three of the first six hands at my table were played doubled and a fourth hand was played redoubled. (It turns out the 4♦ redoubled was worth -880. That didn't quite beat the club slam available to them, but only one pair found that slam.) By coincidence, one of my regular partners wanted to discuss the meaning of redoubles. After all, sometimes you'll want them to be for business, while at other times, you'll be sending an SOS flare with the call. And it's really important that you're on the same page.

So this is what my partner and I are going to try. In an auction (such as 1NT-3NT (dbl)) where the double is lead-directing, a redouble encourages partner to sit tight. On the other hand, in an auction where the double is a simple penalty double, a redouble encourages partner to look for a better spot. Any odds on how many hands we play before suffering our first redouble disaster?

### **Around the Clubs**

Club champions at Barrington last month were

WEST LA *continued on page 16*

### **PRESIDENT *continued from page 1***

directs at the Beverly Hills Bridge Club and runs his own game in Marina del Rey on Wednesday evenings. He teaches and plays professionally with a large number of clients who lineup for his expertise. Though usually very patient with any partner, the only hint you may have that you made a stupid mistake is his signature – the tell tale roll of his eyes.

When I asked Viktor about his favorite conventions, he told me that in college he played the Romax System, rarely seen in the United States. The system is characterized by a forcing one no trump, forcing 2 club and 2 diamond bids and strong passes in first and second seat. Now Viktor is fascinated by relay systems that allow the world's best players to very accurately describe both the high cards and distribution of their hands. I asked Viktor what he perceived to be his strengths and weaknesses as a bridge player. He replied that his bidding and declarer play were strongest and that defense continued to be a challenge. He loves to find a squeeze. He is still looking for the "perfect partner" to help him attain his goal of being a member of a national team within ten years.

When Viktor first left home to immigrate to the United States, his family was dubious about the move but are now firmly in favor. As an only child, Viktor worries about his widowed mother who is uncertain about whether to stay in the Ukraine or join Viktor here in California. I joked that maybe she'd come to the United States when he produced some grandkids. Victor replied that though he wanted marriage and children in the future, it would be a while. Meanwhile, he returns to the Ukraine several weeks a year to visit family and friends. Viktor hopes that when he does marry that he finds a Russian or Ukrainian girl because he believes they are more family oriented and less career driven than their American counterparts

Why did I think that Viktor Anikovich was a suitable topic for this column? First of all, Richard Vincent suggested it to me, so then upon reflection, I realized that Viktor's experience is another example of the power of bridge. For Viktor, bridge meant opportunity – the opportunity to use an extraordinary talent to make a living.

Finally, I asked Viktor what we could do to improve bridge in the United States. He answered that we need to bring more young people to the game. I agree. Bridge helps build skills needed in life. Bridge is a gentleman's game where people engage in a battle of the minds in a civilized and fair manner. Too bad our politicians can't do likewise.

## District 23 North American Pairs Finals 2013 in the Books

*by Mike Marcucci  
District 23 NAP Coordinator*

All the finalists for the NAP Flights met in Beverly Hills on January 20, 2013 to see who would go to St Louis. Thanks to Ellen Kent for our bridge cookies! When the dust settled after a long day of bridge, the results were lots of tired winners because the games were so evenly matched. The old saying that "every trick counts" was never more in evidence than Sunday. Ask all 3 pairs in the A Flight who tied for first! We cannot remember that happening before. They can break the tie in St Louis! The following folks will represent District 23 at the NABC Finals in March:

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| Flight A | 1. Steve Gross & Ellen Anten<br>1. Leo Bell & John Jones<br>1. Viktor Anikovich & Ed Piken (not pictured) |
| Flight B | 1. Bob Shore & Bruce Altshuler<br>2. Alyssa Kennedy & Rick Turner<br>3. John Langer & Om Chokriwala       |
| Flight C | 1. Fred Upton & Steve Woelfer<br>2/3. Bob Novell & Bob Verhoef<br>2/3. Marguerite Pinkers & Albert Stock  |

At the end of the day, only a total of 4 IMPs separated the top 5 places in Flight A (less than 1 board), less than 4 IMPs separated the top 4 places in Flight B (less than 1 board), and 3 IMPs separated the top 3 places in Flight C (1 board). Nice games all around.

We look forward to the games in St Louis and trust that all of District

23 will be wishing our folks good luck. The snacks will not be as good as home, but the NABCs give out other goodies and nice stickers! Good luck to all and remember—never lead away from an ace.



Steve Gross & Ellen Anten



Leo Bell & John Jones



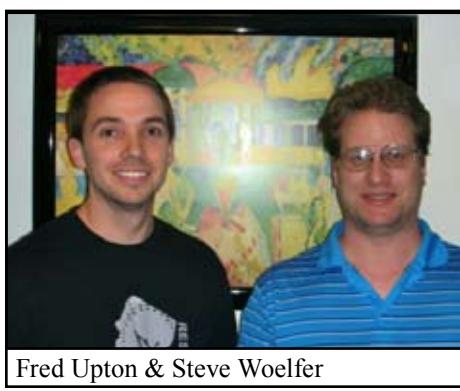
Bob Shore & Bruce Altshuler



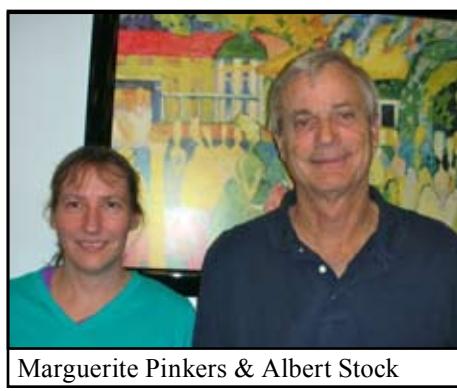
Alyssa Kennedy & Rick Turner



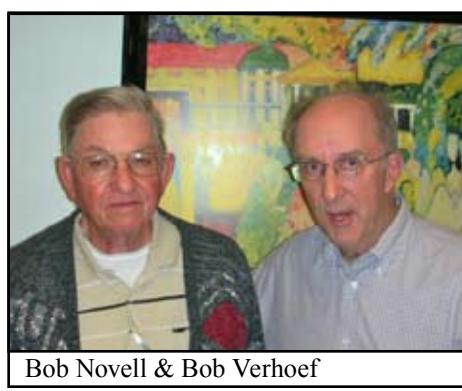
John Langer & Om Chokriwala



Fred Upton & Steve Woelfer



Marguerite Pinkers & Albert Stock



Bob Novell & Bob Verhoef

## ALACBU SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

497 E. California Bl., Apt. 309 Pasadena, CA 91106-3791

January 25, 2013

Dear ALACBU Units, Club Managers, Fellow Bridge Players,

For the past eighteen years, ALACBU has awarded scholarships to deserving high school graduates who have an affiliation with bridge. The purpose of the scholarships is not only to assist these students with their college education but also to further the game of bridge by encouraging students to stay connected with the bridge world. Some of the students are players, some are caddies, but all are part of the bridge scene when they receive their scholarships. The program is unique to our District 23 and the stipend currently is \$1000 per year for a maximum of four years. The candidates must reside within the District boundary and need to maintain a 3.0 GPA to qualify. For the 2012- 2013 academic year, we awarded seven new scholarships and two renewals totaling \$9000. Over the life of the program, we disbursed approximately \$90,000.

In order to continue with this program, the ALACBU Scholarship Fund needs to be replenished on a regular basis. All monies received come from units and from individuals. There are many avenues available for fund raisings. They include:

- "Name a Game." An event at the local regional may be named for an individual in your unit or for the unit itself. (South Bay Stratified Pairs or John Doe Stratified Pairs) Donations required for naming a game are \$100 for a single session, \$200 for a two-session event, and \$400 for a four-session event. These named events are published on the ALACBU website and in flyers advertising the tournament.
- Tributes. If your unit or an individual wishes to honor or pay tribute to a particular individual for achievement in the bridge world or for personal achievement, a donation may be made to the Scholarship Fund. The honoree will receive a letter from the committee acknowledging the contribution.
- Memorials. If a member of your unit passes away, and the family agrees, memorials may be made to the Scholarship Fund in lieu of flowers. A letter of acknowledgment will be sent to the family.
- Special Events. Your unit or club may hold special events with a portion of the proceeds donated to the Scholarship Fund. For instance, hold a unit game once or twice a year with the Scholarship Fund being the recipient of the proceeds.
- Fund Raisers. Your unit or club could hold special fund raising events such as a 50-50 drawing, Silent Auctions, "Dollar a Dip, Pot Luck Dinners. Let your imagination be your guide.

In order to award scholarships to deserving students in the future and to promote the game of bridge, the Scholarship Fund needs sustained funding. Please share this letter with your Unit Board and Club Members. Please take this request for support of the Scholarship Fund under consideration. We hope your Unit or Club can actively aid these deserving students in the pursuit of their college educations.

Sincerely,  
Peter Szecsi  
Chairman, ALACBU, Scholarship Committee

All donations should be sent to Peter Szecsi, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, 497 E. California Bl., Apt. 309, Pasadena, CA 91106-3791. Telephone number (626) 304-9535. The Scholarship Committee thanks you for your past support and sincerely hopes that you will continue to help fund this most worthy cause for bridge and aspiring students.

# Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: John Jones

Panelists: Jeff Goldsmith, Eddie Kantar, Adam Meyerson,  
David Sacks, Mike Shuster, and Jon Wittes

**1**

IMPs  
EW vul

North	East	South	West
2♦*	pass	?	

\*Multi, shows a weak two bid in either hearts or spades.

Any number of hearts or spades is pass or correct.  
2NT asks for a description. 3♣ is natural and forcing.

You, South, hold:

♠-- ♥AKJxx ♦A9xx ♣AQxx

What call do you make?

*Some panelists aren't familiar with Multi.*

**Kantar:** **2NT.** I don't play this convention, but I'm not bidding any number of spades this early in the auction.

**Sacks:** **2♠.** I have not played Multi, but it is hard to imagine that anything horrible will happen starting this way. I would pass a white versus red weak two in spades.

*The other panelists are familiar with this convention and are worried that partner doesn't have much.*

**Meyerson:** **2♠.** I would pass a natural weak two in spades. Maybe opponents will balance.

*WHAM, BAM, BIFF, SOCK, CRRRASH, POW, ZOKK!!! If East-West bid, then North-South will get in more punches than the Dynamic Duo fighting Gotham City villains.*

**Goldsmith:** **2♠.** If partner opened a white on red weak two in first seat, I'd pass. Yeah, he might have ♠KQJTxx  
♥Qx ♦xxx ♣xx, [JJ: With that, I'd bid 3♠ at white versus red.] but he's more likely to have something like ♠QT9xx ♥x ♦Qxx ♣xxxx. Yes, playing our 5-0 fit isn't great, but at least we will stay low. Opposite a sound preemptor (that excludes most of my partners), I

guess I could try 2NT, but most likely, that just means we get to go down at the three-level. Isn't Ogust just a relay to 3♣?

**Shuster:** **2♠.** If I wanted to introduce my hearts, I would have to start with 2♥ and then bid 3♥ over 2♠. That would risk playing a slam in a partscore, and there is no three-level safety when partner holds spades. So instead, I just sign off in 2♠ and hope one of the opponents can find a bid.

*If they do, we'll soon write Avogadro's number on our scorecards.*

**Wittes:** **2NT.** It's just too dangerous to bid 2♥ (pass or correct) over 2♦, because once in a while partner actually has hearts. When Grabel and I played Multi, we used 2NT as an artificial inquiry. 3♣ by partner now shows a terrible hand. Over 3♣, I will bid 3♦, which is a force to game. Over 3♦, partner will bid the major he does not have. Over the expected 3♥ rebid, I will pass, hoping not to give partner a heart attack. If partner bids 3♠, I will be content with 4♥. 3♦ over 2NT shows a medium hand in hearts. This response is not as unlikely as one might think. Partner could have ♥Q109xxx and an outside card or two at this vulnerability. Over 3♦, I will look for a heart slam. 3♥ over 2NT shows a medium hand in spades. Over this

**2**

IMPs  
no vul

S W N E  
?

You, South, hold:  
 ♠T8x ♥76 ♦void ♣AK876432  
 What call do you make?

*Most bid 4♣ and some of them thought it was obvious.*

**Goldsmith: 4♣.** This is a textbook 4♣ opening. If I had a gambling 3NT available, I'd still not do it; I like to have AKJ if I have an eight-card suit, so that opposite a singleton, I have a greater than 50% chance to run the suit.

**Kantar: 4♣.** That's what I think I am looking at.

**Shuster: 4♣.** If not now, when?

**Meyerson: 4♣.** If I bid five, I always just get doubled which doesn't seem like a good result on this hand. The four-level preempt forces opponents to guess.

*One panelist boosted it one higher.*

**Wittes: 5♣.** When you have the opportunity to preempt, especially at favorable vulnerability, do it. You are making life difficult for two opponents and only one partner, so the odds are two-to-one in your favor.

*One panelist went quietly, at least for now.*

**Sacks: Pass.** Partner needs three tricks in the majors plus two clubs for us to make 5♣. Most partscores will tend to belong to the opponents.

*I held this hand and opened 3NT, showing a four of a minor opening. Leo held ♠AKQxx ♥Jxx ♦KQx ♣Qx and signed off in 4♣. Game is on in either black suit. He thought I was too strong for my bid and thought I should pass. I was surprised at this comment, but when I asked Billy Miller (my teammate at the other table), he also thought pass was best. I still like a club preempt.*

## District 23 Rank Changes December, 2012

### Junior Master

Marianne Bakic, Josephine Danels  
 Natalie Englekirk, Rachel Gindi  
 Heather Ho, Judy Husted, Nancy Karnes  
 Betty Kinsel, Bill Kinsel, Gail Lenvin  
 Paula Millar, Glen Musicer, Craig Parker  
 Joan Parker, Sandra Price, Ben Sour  
 Rae Yan, Esther Zacks

### Club Master

Roberta Brown, Terry Durham, Frances Durslag  
 Barbara Haines, Chris Larson, Dave Larson  
 Tim Lee, Beverly Phillips  
 Marcia Strong, George Tien

### Sectional Master

Colleen Bilas, Edward Bucklin, Susan Coggins  
 Lynn Danielson, Mary Landroth, Susan Rosenson  
 Lora Smith, Carolyn Woo

### Regional Master

Janet Bennett, Terry Binns  
 Ellen Carrier, Linda Dillon

### NABC Master

Linda Camras, Michael Camras  
 Eilene Gittleman, Linda Renkus

### Life Master

Estelle Baron, Margie Hall, Martin Hurwitz

### Bronze Life Master

Estelle Baron, Carmen Gross, Robert Preece  
 Kathy Rudolph, Judy Sandberg

### Silver Life Master

Penny Barbieri, Gloria Anne Barrack  
 Thomas Shudic

### Gold Life Master

Shiu-Ming Huang

### Diamond Life Master

Peter Glatzel, Samuel Hayeson

**3**

IMPs  
all vul

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

You, South, hold:  
 ♠KQ8xxxxx ♥8xx ♦-- ♣A8x  
 What call do you make?

*One panelist cuebids to get help in selecting the best strain.*

**Goldsmith:** **3♦.** Partner has at most two spades and five hearts. He didn't choose to bid 1NT, so I suspect he has high cards in the majors. Versus ♠x ♥AKQxx ♦Kxxx ♣xxx, we have decent play for 4♥. Versus ♠Ax ♥KQxxx ♦Kxx ♣xxx, 4♣ looks pretty good. I'll try 3♦ and raise his major to game.

*Some bid game in spades.*

**Meyerson:** **4♠.**

**Sacks:** **4♣.** Most likely, this is the spot in which we belong. Partner tends not to pass 1♠ doubled with extreme shortness.

**Shuster:** **4♠.** Since partner couldn't bid 2♥, we're playing it in spades.

*Some select spades but are a bit more conservative.*

**Wittes:** **3♠.** This is certainly very conservative, but with the takeout double on my left and partner's failure to make a support redouble, I think a conservative view is called for. Hearts rate to be sitting poorly for us, and if partner has a stiff or void spade, that suit might not play too well either. As a general rule, when I have a decent seven-card suit with three small in partner's suit, I choose to play my suit rather than partner's unless the bidding indicates otherwise (for example if partner had rebid 2♥ over the double). If I have honor third in partner's suit, I would be a lot

more inclined to play in partner's suit.

**Kantar:** **2♠.** If I get another chance, maybe I'll try 3♥. I have an eerie feeling that spades are 7-4-1-1 and this hand is not nearly as good as it looks.

*The conservatives win this one. Partner had a 1-5-3-4 minimum. In spades, 8 tricks are easy and a 9th is available. In hearts, declarer has to play perfectly to get eight tricks. I was awful on this hand. I bid 4♥ and passed when my RHO doubled. We went -800. If I ran to 4♣, we probably would have avoided the double. If you are going to support hearts, I think 2♥ is best. This must show about limit raise values because otherwise you would not have bid spades before supporting hearts.*

PSP#1 *continued from page 13*

I will bid 3NT. 3♠ over 2NT shows a maximum hand in hearts. I will investigate a grand. 3NT over 2NT shows a maximum hand in spades. I will pass. It's nice to have a complex system of responses over 2♦ just for hands such as this.

*I played each of these hands with Leo Bell. All except #5 were played in knockouts at the 2012 Reno Regional. This was Leo's hand after I opened Multi. We have methods similar to what Wittes described. Leo tried 2NT and when I bid 3♥ showing spades and a minimum, Leo passed. One hand proves little, but on the actual hand exactly eight tricks were available in either major.*

## What do you think?

Send letters to the editor to: [bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org](mailto:bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org)

**4**

IMPs  
all vul

West	North	East	South
1♠	2♥	pass	?

You, South, hold:  
 ♠KT9642 ♥-- ♦KQJT2 ♣A2  
 What call do you make?

*Some try 3♦.*

**Kantar:** **3♦.** It's easier on paper than in real life. The real question: Is 3♦ forcing? I have always thought it should be until this hand came along.

*My agreement at the table was that 3♦ was forcing.*

**Goldsmith:** **3♦.** Partner will rebid 3♥, and I'll bid 3NT. I think that'll discourage partner's pulling 3NT to 4♥ more than a direct jump will, unless, of course, he has a big diamond fit.

*Others try some number of no trump.*

**Sacks:** **3NT.** Nothing seems clear-cut, and at least 3NT is game. It's hard to think they could find the scissors club king for a lead. With the likely spade lead, we need partner's vulnerable two-level overcall to have three tricks for us.

**Shuster:** **3NT.** Communications might be a nightmare, but still, we have the values for game, and they're

going to have to defend.

**Wittes:** **3NT.** It's tempting to bid 3♦ forcing, in case partner has a good hand with a diamond fit, but even if we have a fit, I have a lot of losing spades to worry about, and even if partner has reasonable support with spade shortness, right hand opponent is overruffing dummy.

**Meyerson:** **2NT.** This is a bit of an underbid but these misfits rarely play well. 2NT also removes a guess for partner of whether to pull 3NT to 4♥. (He can bid 3♥ and I can revert to notrump.)

*I confess that I don't ever remember this much of a misfit with such a strong hand. I took several minutes at the table going over sample hands for partner and envisioning how they would play. I eventually decided that any bid was against the odds. (I would have tried 3♦ if it was non-forcing.) Again, one deal proves little, but the actual hand was incredibly foul, and 3♦ was the only available plus score. 3NT might get doubled for a heart lead.*

PSP#1 *continued from page 10*

Sheldon Appel-Ted Gibbs and Sheri Rivera-Aram Bedros, while Aram Bedros and Harvey Katz won the club championship at Cyma's Game. Scoring 70% games were Aram Bedros and Harvey Katz (both at Barrington and at Cyma's Game), Don Krauss, Herbert Ehrmann, Peter Knee, Sheri Rivera, Michael Shaw, Stephen Goldstein, Sally Karbelnig, Danny Kleinman, and Miles Rubin.

Winning a Unit Championship at Beverly Hills were Bob Ashen and Richie Weinberger. Club champions were Marion and Frank Sirkus, Sam Namer and Les Rawitt, and Fuad Khuri and Viktor Anikovich. The month appears to have gone by with no one ringing the 70% bell at Beverly Hills.

## Climbing the Ladder

Our Unit's newest Junior Masters are Herbert Katz, Carol Katzman, and Jane Light. Jeanette Christy and Homa Nasseri are Club Masters, while Leslie Brucker, Kay Faguet, and Marlene Felix now are Sectional Masters. Andrea McNichol has become a Regional Master, and Michael Abeles, Diane Bishop, and Elliott Marshall have made the leap to NABC Master.

Our Unit's newest Gold Life Master is Maria Pendergast. Congratulations to all on your achievements.

Got news?

Send it to me at: [Bob78164@yahoo.com](mailto:Bob78164@yahoo.com).

5

IMPs  
all vul

West	North	East	South
pass	1♥	pass	1NT*
pass	3♣	pass	?

\* Forcing NT

You, South, hold: ♠T4 ♥K6 ♦A7654 ♣AT75  
What call do you make?

*Most panelists temporize with a semi-natural 3♦ bid, trying to find out if partner has clubs or just a strong hand with hearts.*

**Meyerson:** 3♦. This is semi-natural, but for now, I'm just staying out of partner's way.

**Sacks:** 3♦. I like to see where partner lives after this kind of jump shift. Three of a minor jumps after a forcing NT are one of the most abused bids in the 2/1 structure. 3♣ does not have to be a real club suit. Second choice is 3♥.

**Shuster:** 3♦. I'd like to know if we have any methods that prevent partner from manufacturing this call on a non-suit (in which case I'd select 4♣ to set trumps). For now I'll keep the auction low. I plan on driving to slam.

**Wittes:** 3♦. I have a fabulous hand for partner, but I will make a waiting bid hoping to get a clarification on partner's jump shift. 3♣ could be on a three-card suit with a very strong hand in hearts. Over partner's response to 3♦, I will bid aggressively towards a club or heart slam.

**Goldsmith:** 3♦. We have a slam. I don't want to commit to either clubs or hearts yet, so I'll start with 3♦ and rebid 4♣. I'll support hearts if his clubs are not real, which is likely. The minimum contract I'll play is 6♣. A grand could easily be in the picture: ♠A ♥AQxxx ♦Kx ♣KQxxx. At some point, I'd like to use key card and probably show all the keys. I'm not worried about a spade control; he can't have only one key card and no spade control.

**Kantar:** 3♥ and over 4♥, 5♣. If partner bids 3♣, over 3♥ I'm not stopping short of 6♣. I have three great cards to show partner and I can only figure out how to show two, so I picked the most important two.

*I normally like to give the conditions as they were at the table. I got the vulnerability right, but the scoring was matchpoints (the D23 NAOP final). I temporized with 3♦. Leo rebid 4♣, and I bid 6♣. He held ♠A2 ♥AQJ953 ♦--- ♣KQ986. 6♣ was cold, but 7NT, 7♥, 7♣, 6NT, and 6♦ were all better. We turned out to be a little above average on the board, but partner understandably wasn't impressed. The board was played 17 times over the three flights and proved difficult throughout. Only Zheng Zhang and Jack Chang got to any grand. Several pairs missed slam and one missed game.*

## 2013 District 23 Grand National Teams Qualifying

All games at Barrington Bridge Club (310-966-4144) at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

April 27-28: Open Flight (0+ MPs)  
Flight B (0-2000 MPs)

May 18-19: Flight A (0-5000MPs)  
Flight C (Non Life Master < 500)

The winning teams can represent District 23 in Atlanta this summer. They receive partial refunds for trip expenses. All teams must have 4, 5, or 6 players. It is Swiss Qualifying on Saturday for Sunday KO. Players can enter more than one event (one separate weekends).

Call Howard Einberg (310-475-9784) or Bill Wickham (310-234-3238) with questions. Complete Conditions of Contest at the ALACBU website: [www.acbldistrict23.org](http://www.acbldistrict23.org)

District 23  
Winter Regional  
Revised Schedule



February 18-24, 2013

Where: Warner Center Marriott

Address: 21800 Oxnard Street

Woodland Hills CA 91367

818-887-4800

\$129 guaranteed until January 31, 2013

Parking: \$6.00 self park day / \$9.00 overnight  
\$17.00 valet

Tournament Manager

Peter Benjamin

310-720-6050

Partnerships

Betty Jackson

562-594-4420 before 2/18/13  
626-665-0596 after 2/18/13

Sanction #R1302041

**Stratified Open Events**

A: 2000+  
B: 750 - 2000  
C: 0 - 750

**Stratiflighted/Gold Rush Events**

A: 3000+  
X: 0 - 3000  
B: 500 - 750  
C: 300 - 500  
D: 0 - 300

No averaging in Gold Rush Pairs  
**299er Events**

D: 200 - 300  
E: 100 - 200  
F: 50-100  
G: 0-50

**Entry Fees**

\$13 per session (all events)  
\$15 unpaid or non ACBL members  
Juniors and 0-5 play FREE  
Juniors 22-25: \$9.00 per session