

Southern California Bridge News

Volume 52, #5

May 2016

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Whispers or Not

by Mike Marcucci, District 23 President



There are lots of little things about playing bridge that are forgotten in the heat of battle. "Lead before you write." How many of us have heard that before? How many do it religiously? How many ways can you politely ask an opponent to follow this guideline? How many

ways can you politely ask a partner!

And then there is technology. Those friendly BridgeMates that make life easier for us. Maybe more so for the Directors than us! Everybody does a little so one person doesn't have to do a lot. Good philosophy. Should prevent a lot of mistakes since more than one person looks at the results input. I've heard that even our beginners start to like them after a few sessions. There is always that "new gadget" period where anything new is bothersome. And poor eyesight can always interfere with something new being liked and being irritating instead. Overall, I think players are getting used to them, like them, and they are a benefit to the game. And who can not like getting the results immediately after that last button is pushed?

BridgeMates are expensive. This is an impediment to many clubs and units. No argument there. But more and more clubs are finding a way to afford them. They are probably with us for good until the next great innovation. Tournament players see them pervasively. The clubs will catch up.

One little drawback in the way we use them is irritating to me and I learned a long time ago that, if I am bothered by something, lots of other folks are bothered by the same thing! Interestingly, the exact same issue comes up whether score slips are being used or if BridgeMates are being used.

Too many players cannot seem to write or enter the

PRESIDENT *continued on page 2*

Mississippi Politics

by Kevin Lane, District Director



*Bridge is a game
and should be fun*

Mississippi politics

The headquarters of the ACBL is located in Mississippi. ACBL leadership wrote a letter in early April to Phil Bryant, the Governor of Mississippi, expressing opposition to a legislative bill, HB1523, passed by the Mississippi legislature that ACBL leadership perceived as negatively impacting LGBT rights. Governor Bryant, in fact, signed the bill into law.

I side with ACBL leadership – in this case the ACBL CEO and the ACBL President – in encouraging the state in which our organization's headquarters is located to be protective of civil rights. The ACBL has internal rules prohibiting status-based discrimination in employment or membership. No doubt the ACBL board of directors in conjunction with league management will investigate our duties and options in light of the passage of HB1523.

Feel free to contact me with questions, concerns or opinions on this subject.

Grass Roots Fund Attention

District 23 club managers. Please support our district by running Grass Roots Fund games in the month

DIRECTOR *continued on page 3*

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contract or the results during the scoring process without broadcasting those facts to the rest of the room!

Some players insist on broadcasting the facts multiple times. A minor thing perhaps. Perhaps not. If the N/S players, who are doing the scoring, will think carefully about this, they can determine that the only players hurt by this practice are themselves. It only **helps** the E/W players!

Think about it: if the N/S pair at the next table knows the contract and/or the results on a board, they may inadvertently take advantage of this knowledge and get a better result. That result, therefore, **lowers** the score of the N/S pair who “announced” the result and **helps** the E/W pair at that last table even though they are now gone.

Whether acted upon or not, the temptation to take advantage of such knowledge is a distraction from the business at hand and that is to play the hand you are dealt as best you can.

To be fair, you should have **no** knowledge of any previous result and that is exactly what will take place if the scoring process is done in **silence** or in whispers.

There is nothing wrong with writing down a contract and letting your opponent see what you have written in silence! There is nothing wrong with writing down a result and showing it to your opponent in silence! The same holds with Bridgemates. Enter the contract before play starts and show it to your opponent. Anything wrong with that? Enter the result and show it to the opponents for verification. **Silently!**

If a lot of N/S's will start practicing this recommendation, not only will our playing area be quieter, it will be one more small matter taken care of to level the playing field at a game and prevent any hint of foul play. Something we should all strive for in all aspects of our game.

Lest you readers think I am forgetting about something related to this – the discussions about **all** the results once you see them on the slip or the screen and the sometimes loud discussions that ensue, never fear. We will discuss that in the future. Tempus fugit, or something like that.

For now, hope everyone is learning something every day to improve your game and we'll see those results at the July Regional in Long Beach.

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Southern California Bridge News

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*What
do
you
think?*

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

DIRECTOR continued from page 1

of May. You can offer extra masterpoints, and most of the money is returned to our district. District 23 had the lowest contribution of any district to the Grass Roots Fund. Let's turn that around.

Note that if our district becomes a strong contributor to the Grass Roots Fund, we can get back more than we contribute to the fund. Three districts received back over 120% of the amount they contributed to the Grass Roots Fund.

For your information: May is designated as Grass Roots Fund month. During May, a club may hold as many games as they have sessions to benefit the North American Pairs and the Grand National Teams. During any other months, excluding January, April, and September, one game per month per sanctioned session may be a special fund game for the Grass Roots Fund.

Other News

The Longest Day will be held Monday June 20 this year: a day earlier than normal due to Leap Year.

In the past year the ACBL has increased its membership by 1214 people.

The biggest club in our district for 2015 remained the Long Beach Bridge Center, with the 750 Club and the Beverly Hills Bridge Club coming in second and third, respectively. You may review the list in more detail at: <https://web3.acbl.org/club-table-count/?year=2015&type=R&district=23>

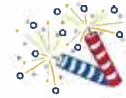
The first grant nominee for this year's District 23 charity grants is the West Valley Food Bank. The West Valley Food Pantry was nominated by Unit 561 – San Fernando Valley. The West Valley Food Bank provides emergency food to the needy. The WVFP began in 1975 and currently provides about 850 families with 20,000 meals per month. The WVFP has a close connection to Unit 561 members by virtue of being physically located next door to the very successful 750 Bridge Club.

The summer NABC will be held in Washington D.C. In July. Reach me at kland23@gmail.com

TORRANCE – SOUTH BAY SECTIONAL (UNIT #568) MAY 28TH, 29TH, 30TH 2016 SANCTION NO. S1605145			
SILVER POINTS! SILVER POINTS! SILVER POINTS!			
LOCATION: THE TOM RICO CENTER AT LOMITA PARK 24424 ESHELMAN AVE. LOMITA CA LOCATED ON ESHELMAN AVE. JUST NORTH OF LOMITA BLVD. PARKING AVAILABLE AT LOMITA PARK			
SATURDAY, MAY 28TH 1:30 PM - Stratified Open Pairs Single Session - NLM Pairs (0-500 pts.) Single Session	SUNDAY, MAY 29TH 10:00 AM - Stratified Open Pairs Single Session - NLM Pairs (0-500 pts.) Single Session 3:00 PM - Stratified Open Pairs Single Session - NLM Pairs (0-500 pts.) Single Session	MONDAY, MAY 30TH 10:00 AM - Swiss Teams Session 1/2* - NLM Swiss* (0-500 pts.) Session 1/2* TBA (30 min break) - Swiss Teams Session 2/2* - NLM Swiss* (0-500 pts.) Session 2/2* <i>*Food will be available for order at registration</i>	Tournament Director: Peter Knee Tournament Manager: Stan Greengard stangreengard@gmail.com Partnership Chair: Gabby Jackson 424-263-4639 Card Fees: ACBL Members - \$14 per session Non-members - \$17 per session Stratification: Open Pairs: 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+ NLM Pairs: 0-50/50-300/300-500 Swiss: Stratification by team avg. Open 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+ NLM: 0-50/50-3000/300-500 No team member may have more than 500 points

Los Angeles Regional

Long Beach, CA
June 27 - July 3 2016



Tournament Highlights

Gold Rush Pairs - Tuesday through Thursday!
New Gold Rush Swiss - Friday!
Star Speakers every day!
299er games every day!
Daylight Schedule all week!



Monday Pro-Am Workshop & Game

Free two-hour bridge lesson on Monday June 27 from 10:30 am to 12:30, followed by lunch and a Pro-Am pairs game.
Card fees for Pro-Am: \$14 (pros play for free)

Registration Required!

Please call Jeff Grotenhuis
310-600-4275

Hilton Long Beach

701 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA

Room rate: \$129 (please refer to ALACBU)

Reserve at 800-445-8667 by Thursday, June 2nd
Self parking: \$7

Card fees: \$14 (\$18 for non-ACBL Members)



Eat ... Sleep ...
BRIDGE!!!

Need a Partner?

Diane Sachs
dianesachs@yahoo.com
562-981-4884

Tournament Manager:

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

Director-in-Charge:

Ken Horwedel

Tournament Chair: Stan Holzberg
District 23 President: Mike Marcucci

Tournament Sanction: R1607031
Flyer Designer: Mr. F

Los Angeles Regional

Long Beach, CA
June 27 - July 3 2016



Monday, June 27, 2016

299er Free Workshop/Lunch Reserv. Rqd.....10:30 am
PRO-AM (single session) Reserv. Rqd.....1:15 pm
AM Side Game Series (1 of 6).....1:15 pm
Single Session Stratified Charity Pairs (ALACBU Scholarship).....7:00 pm

Tuesday, June 28, 2016

AM Side Game Series (2 of 6).....10:30 am
AM 299er Pairs (single session).....10:30 am
Betsy Ross KO (1 & 2 of 4).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Gold Rush Pairs (1 & 2 of 2).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Marvin Grabel Memorial Open Pairs (1 & 2 of 2).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm

Guest Lecture.....2:30 pm

Stratified Swiss Teams (single session).....3:15 pm
PM Side Game Series (1 of 5).....3:15 pm
PM 299er Pairs (single session).....3:15 pm

Dinner Break.....6:45 pm - 7:30 pm

Tue-Wed Evening Swiss Teams (1 of 2).....7:30 pm

Wednesday, June 29, 2016

AM Side Game Series (3 of 6).....10:30 am
AM 299er Pairs (single session).....10:30 am
Betsy Ross KO (3 & 4 of 4).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Firecracker KO (1 & 2 of 4).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Gold Rush Pairs (1 & 2 of 2).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Wed. Open Pairs (1 & 2 of 2).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm

Guest Lecture.....2:30 pm

Wednesday, June 29, 2016

Stratified Swiss Teams (single session).....3:15 pm
PM Side Game Series (2 of 5).....3:15 pm
PM 299er Pairs (single session).....3:15 pm
Dinner Break.....6:45 pm - 7:30 pm

Tue-Wed Evening Swiss Teams (2 of 2).....7:30 pm

Thursday, June 30, 2016

AM Side Game Series (4 of 6).....10:30 am
AM 299er Pairs (single session).....10:30 am
Firecracker KO (3 & 4 of 4).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Stars and Stripes KO (1 & 2 of 4).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Equinox Compact KO (1 & 2 of 2).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Gold Rush Pairs (1 & 2 of 2).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
John Wreede Memorial Open Pairs (1 & 2 of 2).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm

Guest Lecture.....2:30 pm

Stratified Swiss Teams (single session).....3:15 pm
PM Side Game Series (3 of 5).....3:15 pm

Friday, July 1, 2016

AM Side Game Series (5 of 6).....10:30 am
AM 299er Pairs (single session).....10:30 am
Stars and Stripes KO (3 & 4 of 4).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Liberty KO (1 & 2 of 4).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Gold Rush Swiss Teams (1 & 2 of 2).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Friday Open Pairs (1 & 2 of 2).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Guest Lecture.....2:30 pm
Stratified Swiss Teams (single session).....3:15 pm
PM Side Game Series (4 of 5).....3:15 pm

Saturday, July 2, 2016

AM Side Game Series (6 of 6).....10:30 am
Sandy Rink Memorial 299er Pairs (single session).....10:30 am
Marshall Miles Stratified Pairs (1 & 2 of 4).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Liberty KO (3 & 4 of 4).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Queen Mary Compact KO (1 & 2 of 2).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm
Saturday Open Pairs (1 & 2 of 2).....10:30 am & 3:15 pm

Entertainment Event.....2:30 pm

Stratified Swiss Teams (single session).....3:15 pm
PM Side Game Series (5 of 5).....3:15 pm
PM 299er Pairs (single session).....3:15 pm

Sunday, July 3, 2016

Marshall Miles Stratified Pairs (3 & 4 of 4).....10:30 am & 3:00 pm
Stratified Fast Pairs (2 sessions).....10:30 am & TBA
Flight A/X Swiss Teams (2 sessions).....10:30 am & TBA
Bracketed Flight B/C/D Swiss Teams (2 sessions).....10:30 am & TBA

Event Colors:

Now Events: Gold

Teams: Green

Pairs: Blue

299ers: Black

Breaks: Hot Pink

Stratified Games:
0-1500/1500-3000/3000+
Gold Rush:
0-100/100-300/300-750

Bracketed Flight B/C/D:
Bracketed by average points of
team. No player over 3000 MPs

KOs may be handicapped.
Games will be stratified
by average masterpoints.

District 23 Grand National Teams Qualifier Results

by Howard Einberg

Teams to represent our district this summer in Washington DC earned their spots with victories in the competition in April and May. Listed below are the winners and runner-ups along with master points won.

Open Flight

1. Mitch Dunitz, Billy Cohen, Ed Davis, Jill Meyers (36 mp)
2. Robert Shore, Mike Savage, Joseph Viola III, Steve Mager (27 mp)

Flight A

1. Edward Piken, Ron Feldman, William Schreiber, Viktor Anikovich (30 mp)
2. Vic Sartor, Bill Papa, Shiu-Ming Huang, Amr Elghamry (22.5 mp)

Flight B

1. Om Chokriwala, Frederick Upton, Zheng Zhang, Noland Chang, Jack Chang, James Perkins (26 mp)
2. Joel Schiff, Marta Monheim, R. Turner, Alyssa Kennedy, Steve Ramos Jr., Neal Kleiner (19.5 mp)

Flight C

1. Sophia Chang, Lucy Zhang, Chihwen Chen, Yunkai Song, Kai Liu (15MPS)
2. Jeff Grotenhuis, Dalia Hernandez, Bruce Schelden, John Janus (11.25 MPS)

Good luck to all the winners who will continue to try for a National Championship at the upcoming NABC.

Las Vegas Regional

JUNE 6-12, 2016

Bally's Las Vegas Hotel & Casino

3645 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Las Vegas NV 89109
Phone: (877) 603-4390

GOLD POINT games starting on **Monday** June 6 @ 1:15 pm

- ♦ Bracketed Knockouts ♠ Gold Rush 0-750 Pairs
- ♠ Stratified Pairs (0-1500/1500-3000/3000+)

LOTS of Daylight Games @ 10 am & 3 pm

- ♠ Daylight 0-100 & 0-300 single-session Pairs
- ♦ Daylight Stratified Pairs 0-750/750-3000/3000+ (Tue-Thu); 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+ (Fri-Sat)
- ♠ Gold Rush 0-750 Swiss Teams on Friday @ 10 am & 3 pm
- ♥ Gold Rush 0-750 Pairs on Saturday @ 10 am & 3 pm

Six Days of GOLD RUSH!

- ♠ Gold Rush 0-750 Pairs Mon-Thu @ 1:15 & 7 pm & Sat @ 10 am & 3 pm
- ♦ Gold Rush 0-750 Swiss Teams Wed-Thu @ 9 am
- ♠ Gold Rush 0-750 Swiss Teams Friday @ 10 am & 3 pm

Card Fees: \$12 per session for paid members; \$16 for others

Tournament Chair: Elizabeth Hamilton, Liz@LVRegional.com
Ph: 415-994-3527

Partnership Chair: Rolf Houtkooper, BridgePartners@LVRegional.com

Director: Gary Zeiger • Sanction R1606011

Caddiemaster: Leslie Heid, lbridgeb@gmail.com

Need a Partner? Need Teammates?

Visit our online Partnership Desk at
LVRegional.com

Please refrain from wearing fragrance.

BALLY'S

Looking For Gold Points?

The entire tournament schedule is packed with Gold Point events. In the Gold Rush games you can win Gold Points and nobody you play against will have more than 750 masterpoints. In Sunday's Bracketed Swiss, you play teams having approximately the same total masterpoints as your team, and the top three teams in each bracket win gold points!

Bally's Las Vegas Hotel & Casino

\$89 Sun-Thu, **\$129** Fri-Sat (NO mandatory resort fee)

For room reservations call 800-358-8777, (group code SBACB6), or reserve online at LVRegional.com. Reserve by May 16, 2016.
Rate includes free parking and one free Wi-Fi connection

Las Vegas has **world class dining, shopping, entertainment**, and **BRIDGE**, and Bally's is the place to stay to enjoy all that Las Vegas has to offer. With its **Heart-of-the-Strip** location, your spacious **450 sq. ft. guest room** at Bally's will be in the center of all the Las Vegas attractions, including the Bellagio Fountains, Art Gallery, and Botanical Garden, and the Forum Shops at Caesars Palace.

Zero Tolerance Policy will be in Place

Tournament Website: LVRegional.com

Around the Units in District 23



Glendale Verduogo by Sharon Wolf

Unit Game, May 14, 2016
Lunch at 11:15, game at noon



Long Beach by Jon Yinger

www.acblunit557.org
www.LongBeachBridge.com

The April Unit game was held in honor of both Pat Abbey's birthday and winners of the 2015 Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney races. Results were as follows:

N/S

A1	Ann Banta & Lynn Ryan
A2 B1	David Rozzell & Art Chacanas
A3 B2	Mike Marcucci & Gitta Earl
A4	Joe Viola & Carol Frank
B3C1	Rufus Rhoades & Lyle Wiedeman

E/W

A1	Gerry Belcher & Amr Elghamry
A2 B1	Patrick Cardullo & Steve Licker
A3 B2	Bud Kalafian & Ramesh Sawney
A4 B3	Sandra Rucker & Ann Raymond
C1	Barry Heller & Steve Page

Please join us on May 14 for our next Unit game.

Looking for a Club?

Did you know how easy it is to find a bridge game in LA? This url brings you to a great ACBL page: <https://web3.acbl.org/findalist/club>

All clubs in Los Angeles are listed and you can look up all the game times, locations, and contact info.

- by Mike Marcucci

March 20 Unit Game: Overall results: 1st in A: Marcus Evans/George Welsh, 2nd Kay Amdon/Cathy Bauer, 3rd Jane Reid/Joyce Henderson, 4th Jo and John Melis, 5th Fran Every/Linda Renkus, 6th Robin Hill/Joan Johnson. In the B flight overalls: 4th Rosemary Ford/Mary Thomas, 5th Kiyo Nagaishi/Mary Thomas, 6th Usha Bansal/Rob Preece. Congratulations to all!

70+% Games: March 16 through April 15: In the open game March 31 Phyllis Parker/Loren Hilf had 70.04%. In evening games: March 22 George Welsh/Earl VanDerVord had 73%, April 12 Cheng Hung Yeh/Hertsein Liu had 70.14%, and April 15 Jo and John Melis had 70%. Congratulations to all four pairs!

Big Masterpoint Awards: March 16 through April 15: In the Unit Game March 20 Marcus Evans/George Welsh won 3.65mp for 1st. April 4 Jackie Hess/Verna Baccus won 3.79mp for 1st. April 5 Earl VanDerVord/George Welsh won 4.96mp for 1st, Larry Topper/Sheri Held 3.73mp for 2nd. April 6 Baum Harris /Steve Skinner won 3.50 for 1st. April 7 Rich Wasser/Baum Harris won 3.21mp for 1st. April 8 Steve Ramos/John Bral-liar won 4.52mp for 1st, Jo Daige/Marcie Evans 3.39 for 2nd. And April 14 Steve Sturm/Wei Pei won 4.13mp for 1st, Marcie Evans/Steve Skinner 3.10 for 2nd. Congratulations to all!

Get Well Wishes to Lois Perovich

New Members: Ton Everson. Welcome to the club!

Status Changes: New Junior Master: Paul Chen. New Life Master: Martin Lipman. Congratulations to you both! →

Upcoming Events at the Club

May 2-8 STaC week. Extra points—all games. Card fees \$12.

May 8 Monthly team game at 1 p.m.

May 10 4:15 Interclub Championship game. Extra points, regular card fees.

May 15-21 Grassroots Fund Week. Extra points. Card fees \$12.

May 26 12:30 Interclub Championship game. Extra points, regular card fees.

May 22 Unit Game. Dessert served during the game. Card fees \$8.

News from Leisure World Bridge Clubs

by Judy Carter-Johnson

Club Championship Game March 17 Clubhouse #3: Joyce Henderson/Howard Smith 1 in A, 1 in B. Fern Dunbar/Lavonne McQuilkin 2 in A. Eileen Nelson/Bill Linskey 3 in A. Jack Dampman/George Koehm 4 in A, 2 in B, 1 in C. Jeanette Estill/Fred Benedetti 5 in A, 3 in B. Marilyn McClintock/Sibyl Slutsky 6 in A. Claudette Barrack/Alan Olschwang 4 in B, 2 in C. Mark Singer/Ron Yaffee 5 in B, 3 in C. Lorna Wallace/Larry Topper 6 in B. Lynn Danielson/Shirley Knopf 4 in C.

Congratulations: 70% games: Joyce Henderson/Rob Preece had a 70.83% game March 24. Verna Burns/Joan Tschirki had a 73.16 game March 26.

Congratulations: New Club Masters: Louise Seifert and Stan Johnson

Upcoming Games: Special game: Clubhouse #3: May 16. Club Championship Games: Clubhouse #3: July 14. Clubhouse #1: July 15 and 23. Unit-rated game: Clubhouse #3: June 13.

Get Well: Marilyn Mc Clintock

Welcome to our new Monday Director at Clubhouse #3, Alan Flower.



Pomona Covina by Tom Lill

Unit Game – Saturday, May 7, 11:00 a.m.

Individual – Saturday, May 21, 9:30 a.m., Claremont

First off, we wish to welcome new Unit members Leighann Van Den Berg and David Ochroch to Unit 551. Leighann is new to the ACBL, and Dave has transferred in from the Bay area.

Thanks to the vagaries of the calendar, we are able to bring you two months' worth of Unit Game results. The March game was won by Vic Sartor - Bill Papa's 72.9% game. Dan Botoaca - Amr Elghamry were second, Anand Kumar - Kiran Kumar placed third, Penny Barbieri - Tom Lill fourth, and Kerry Sartor - Margaret Merritt rounded out the top 5. In April, Penny Barbieri - Rosalie Roberts just edged out Clint Lew - Pat Radamaker for the top spot. Genise Hasan - Linda Ananea were third, followed by Margie Hall - Sandra Rucker and Wendy Wanderman - Bridget O'Sullivan.

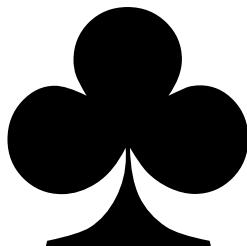
We handed out the annual Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney awards at the April game, but turnout was somewhat disappointing. Partly this was due to the Grand National Teams qualifier being held on the same day. If you won an award but couldn't make the game, look for it in the US Mail soon, or pick it up at La Fetra or Bridge41 sometime soon.

In the April Individual Donald Logsdon took the top spot. We had a three-way tie for second: Lois Snowden, Steve Mancini, and Carolyn Siracuse. Margie Hall placed fifth.

This month's Individual will be a STaC, awarding silver points. The deals are prepared by Penny Barbieri's grandson. (You can tell from his scores that the Director / Club Manager isn't peeking beforehand...)

The top game this month was 76.2%, turned in by Bill Papa – Vic Sartor. (Ho Hum, what else is new?) Other winners: Lulu Minter, Linda Tessier, Clint Lew, Claudia Cochran, Gayle Ginsberg, Fredy Minter, Hanan Mogharbel, Joe Unis, Herb Stampfl, Linda Stuart, Roger Boyar, Amr Elghamry, Genise Hasan, Richard Patterson, Paul Chrisney, Bob Kakade, and Yours Truly.

→



Three promotions this month. Darlene Sessions is now a Junior Master. Kitty Moon is an NABC Master, and Mary Ann Wotring has achieved the exalted rank of Ruby Life Master. Congratulations to all!

Don't forget, the Longest Day is coming up next month. Your Unit will be hosting games at the Knights of Columbus on Monday, June 20, at 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. (Heck, if enough players want to hang around, we can play an evening session, too.) Remember, this is a 100% charitable event. All proceeds go to the Alzheimer's Association. The Unit receives nothing except the satisfaction of supporting a worthy cause, and the Director works for nothing. (Well, he's worth it, I guess.) Our host site, the Knights of Columbus, is generously donating the money we usually pay for rent, provided the Unit matches it. You can donate in person at the game(s), or visit <http://act.alz.org/goto/unit551>.

This month's interesting (!) hand is a demonstration of why this game we love so much can be so frustrating ... and is a test of partnership trust. With only the opponents vulnerable, you pick up your usual stellar collection: ♠Q652 ♥J62 ♦983 ♣T93

Playing Standard, partner opens 2♣. You respond with a conventional 2♥, promising no Ace or King but saying nothing about hearts. Partner shows her suit with 3♣, and it's over to you. Now what?

Oh, joy and rapture unlimited. Partner has promised 9 tricks (or more), but your tram tickets will contribute little if anything. Not even a wretched doubleton in that mess. So what's your call?

Partner's bid is 100% forcing, of course. Frustration! Here's where the trust part comes in. The winning call is ... Pass! Yes, you are Masterminding the deal. Does partner trust you enough to not commit that sin too often if you do it this once? Do you trust partner not to cram the cards down your throat (figuratively speaking, of course) if you pass? Partner's hand is ♠T♥AQ9 ♦AKJ7 ♣AQJT84 and only 9 tricks are available in clubs. If you call 3 NT just to keep the auction alive, you go down two. Obviously, nothing else is better, either. Such is bridge.

Quote for the Month: "You can't help getting older, but you don't have to get old." (George Burns)

Until next month ...



Santa Clarita-Antelope Valley by Beth Morrin

We are continuing to profile some of our Inspirational Players in Unit 556. This month we are featuring Fran Carbonel of Palmdale.

Fran has been playing social bridge for over 60 years and recently started playing duplicate bridge as well. She was born and raised in Chicago. During World War II she joined the Navy and worked in Washington D.C. for two years, then went back to Illinois to finish her degree at the University of Southern Illinois. After the war, she and her husband moved to Los Angeles.

After working and raising a family, she resumed playing bridge. She's survived many health issues and the loss of her husband, but never lets anything get her down. She still lives alone in her own home (with the help of a few caregivers) and manages to be independent. At age 92, she started playing duplicate bridge and loves the challenge of the game. Her belief is that you are never too old to learn something new and that is why she is an inspiration to all of us.

Congratulations to the team of Roy Ladd, Bert Stock, Paula Olivares, and Bill Brodek for the 2nd place finish in the Swiss teams event at the San Fernando Valley Sectional on Saturday, April 2nd.

Upcoming Events

StaC Game

Saturday, May 7 at 12:30 p.m.

Joshua Tree Bridge Club in Palmdale

Longest Day

Monday, June 20 at 1:00 p.m.

Senior Center in Santa Clarita

Magic Mountain Sectional

Saturday, September 17-18

Friendly Valley Auditorium in Santa Clarita



San Fernando Valley by Linda Silvey

The San Fernando Valley Unit 561 hosted a highly successful Woodland Hills Sectional Tournament, April 1-2, 2016. There were 123 total tables and over 200 participants. The top ten masterpoint winners were: Martin Blain 23.30, Joan Rubin 20.17, Peter Knee 12.95, Sherman Gao 11.54, Frances Every 11.54, Marel Bates 9.91, John Gunther 9.51, Diane Gunther 9.51, Ronald Adler 8.97, and Mark Gould 8.97.

Friday morning game winners. Open Pairs: Martin Blain & Joan Rubin (A1) and John Tickner & William Raff (B1, C1); 299er Pairs: Peter Wiere & Louis Zgone (D1, E1) and Ivan Faggen & Michael Schiff (F1).

Friday afternoon game winners. Open Pairs: Sherman Gao & Frances Every (A1, B1) and Debra Stern & David Stern (C1); 299er Pairs: Beverly McLeod & Anne Hurwitz (D1) and Barbara Ann Haas & Fran Lapides (E1, F1).

Saturday morning game winners. Swiss Teams: Martin Blain, Steve Gross, Peter Knee, and Robert Bass (A1), Roy Ladd, Albert Stock, Paula Olivares, and William Brodek Jr (B1), and Ellen Carrier, Eva Seri, Tracy Boys, and Rochelle Lotto (C1); Open Pairs: Diane Gunther & John Gunther (A1) and Ronald Adler & Mark Gould (B1, C1).

Saturday afternoon game winners. Open Pairs: Om Chokriwala & James Perkins (A1, B1) and Ronald Adler & Mark Gould (C1).

Special Congratulations

Recognition of Unit 561 players as 2015 National Awardees in the ACBL Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs contests are as follows: Raymond Primus - Mini-McKenney (#21) and Ace of Clubs (#9) in the 20-50 categories; and, Om Chokriwala - Mini-McKenney (#6) in the 1,000-2,500 category.

New Life Master Achievements by Unit 561 players are: Barbara Astrin, Robert Moest, and Phyllis Selig-Kerns (Life Master), Robert Moest (Bronze - 500), Vera Mandell (Ruby - 1,500), and Leila Greenfield (Gold - 2,500).

March Top Ten Masterpoints at the 750 Club were Ray Primus 13.03, Mark LaVine 11.96, Phil Berk 11.24, Susan Raphael 10.62, Jim Lechner 10.29, Helen Malzer 9.84, Vera Mandell 9.76, Marty Hurwitz 9.35, Jody Lombardo 8.54, and Gary Baxley 8.09. Susan Raphael and Phil Jones achieved a 71.25% game.

May 17: Braemar Dinner/Bridge Night

The next Braemar Dinner/Bridge Night will be held Tuesday, May 17. Dinner is \$18 per person and starts at 6 p.m. and the bridge is \$5 per person and begins at 7 p.m. This is an ACBL sanctioned game and the first place NS and EW winners will receive coupons for Braemar's Wednesday night "Pastabilities" dinner. For reservations and/or partnerships contact Nancy Klemens at nrklemens@aol.com or (818) 609-1071.

750 Club Future Events

The 750 Club will be participating in the Great Western STaC games during the week of May 2-6. However, the Club will observe the following Opening/Closing schedule: Monday, May 2 and Thursday, May 5 - Closed for day games, Open for night games only; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, May 3, 4, and 6 - Open for the usual day games. May Madness Week will be celebrated during May 23-27 with the following special events: Monday, May 23 - "Munchies Monday"; Tuesday, May 24 - "Two Free-Play Tuesday" with drawings for free plays for players who wear their name tags; Wednesday, May 25 - "Wake-up Wednesday" - continental breakfast will be available; Thursday, May 26 - "Thirsty Thursday" - root beer floats served at lunch and before the night game; and Friday, May 27 - "Fresh Friday" with healthy snacks available. Monday, May 30, Memorial Day - Day game as usual, closed for night game.

On Friday, June 3, the Annual "Carol Lang" Game will be held in honor of the late Carol Lang and her husband, Mike, who started the 750 Club in 2006. Names of the winners will be engraved on the memorial plaque. Game time is 11 a.m. and the lunch break is at noon. Reservations are required for this event. "Longest Day" games will be held on Monday, June 20, at 11 a.m. (regular game), 3 p.m. (open game), and 7 p.m. (open game). Card fees will be \$10/player/game and all proceeds will be donated to Alzheimer's research. Additional contributions accepted in the form of cash →

or checks payable to the "Alzheimer's Association."

Calendar

Monday – Friday, May 2-6, Great Western STaC games at the 750 Club.

Monday and Thursday, May 2 and 5, the 750 Club will be closed for day games, open for night games only.

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, May 3, 4, and 6, usual day games at the 750 Club.

Tuesday, May 17, Braemar Dinner/Bridge Night starting at 6 p.m. See details above.

Monday – Friday, May 23-27, May Madness Week at the 750 Club. See details above.

Monday, May 30, the 750 Club will be open for the day game only.

Friday, June 3, Annual Carol Lang Memorial Game at the 750 Club. See details above.

Monday, June 20, Longest Day Games at the 750 Club. See details above.



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

Great WesternSTAC: May 2 thru May 7

Club Swiss Team Championship: Tues, May 10, 7:00

NLM Club Championship: Thursday, May 12, 10:30

Club Championship: Wednesday, , May 18, 6:30

Club Championship: Friday, May 20, 11:30

Friday Night Games on May 6 and 20

Torrance South Bay Sectional May 28-30

After a two-year absence, the Torrance South Bay Unit is once again scheduling a Sectional tournament for Memorial Day weekend May 28-30. The tournament will take place at the Tom Rico Center in Lomita Park, 24424 Eshelman Ave in Lomita. This is near the SBBC just north of Lomita Blvd.

On Saturday May 28 there will be a single session pair game and a single session Non Life Master pair

game at 1:30 PM. On Sunday there will be pair games and NLM pair games at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. On Monday Memorial Day, May 30 There will be Swiss Teams also with a NLM Swiss Team event. Food will be available to order at the Monday game.

Peter Knee is tournament director and Stan Greengard is tournament manager. Partnership Chairperson is Gabriela Jackson. She can be reached at 424-263-4639 if you need a partner. Hope to see you all there.

Club Championships

The March 21 Club Championship at South Bay Bridge Club saw Robert Van Lone/Bruce Merchant winning Flights A, B and C. On April 2 the Club Championship at SBBC was led by Lucy Gellner/Sharon Biederman in Flight A and Laura Gastelum/Terry Hane in Flight B. On April 11 the SBBC Club Championship was won by Gabriela Jackson/Mike Savage in Flight A with Stan Greengard/Mark Raggio leading Flight B and Terri Hane/Trevor Coolidge ahead in Flight C.

The Club Championship at the Beach Cities Bridge Club on April 1 was led by Marge Enders/Bill Baxter in Flight A with Anne-Lise Scott/Hasse Norberg taking Flights B and C honors. The April 1 evening Club Championship at Inglewood Beach BC saw Peter Menotti/Corneliu Dabija winning Flight A and Paul Sachs/Paul Marjoram ahead in both Flights B and C. On April 4 the Monday Night Club Championship at Veterans Park was led by Jim and Judy Scott in Flight A with Elaine Godin/Ed Srenco ahead in Flight B and Frankee Victor/Marilyn Daeschner taking Flight C. The April 6 Club Championship at Veterans Park was won by Alyssa Kennedy/Rick Turner in Flight A with Elaine Godin/Bob Fieselman on top in Flight B and Steve Walker/Bruce Walker ahead in Flight C.

Team Winners

March 8: CVal Gamio, John Jones, Pablo Lambardi, Carlos Pelligrini

March 22: Gabriela Jackson, Beverly Narahara, Ernie Frank, Mike Savage

March 29: Kim Wang, John Brailliar, Steve Ramos, Ed Piken

April 5: Gerri Carlson, Mary Ann Coyle, Bo Bogema, John J. McDermott

April 12: Fran Israel, Luis Gamio, Jim Dutton, Bronek Felczer

GUV Award

At the recent San Diego Regional, I had a most unlikely and unexpected 6 IMP pickup in a KO match. I promised my partner not to mention his name in this column because we wouldn't want his wife Chiye to find out the error in his ways. However, I might suggest to her that he needs new eyeglasses.

I held AKx of clubs and not much else when my LHO opened 2♣ and rebid 2NT after a 2♦ bid by responder. The opponents started bidding away and at one point my RHO bid 6♣. I couldn't resist doubling for the lead and LHO bid 6NT. I didn't double this because I didn't want pard to think I wanted a lead other than a club.

Well I got one anyway, a diamond. Declarer had 12 tricks without needing a club so he wrapped up 6NT. We were playing behind screens and using bidding trays. Perhaps pard missed out on my double because of this, perhaps his glasses needed replacement or perhaps he was sleeping through the auction. In any case this felt like a big IMP loss in a close match.

Well, guess what, our teammates also got to 6NT and the hand with ♣AKx decided to double alerting pard that there was a lead which beat 6NT. Unfortunately for him his pard didn't find it so our teammates made 6NT Doubled and we had a 6 IMP pickup.

Na Zdrowie



West LA
by Robert Shore

Spring Sectional
May 21-22, 10:30 a.m. and 3:15 p.m.
Barrington Bridge Club

The Joy of Sectional

Please make plans to get vulnerable, maybe even win a rubber or two, at Barrington at 10:30 a.m. and 3:15 p.m. on May 21 and 22 for our Spring Sectional. Saturday will feature a Compact Knockout and a couple of pairs games, one of which will be named in honor of last year's West Los Angeles Player of the Year. Show

up Saturday morning to find out whom the Board decided to honor with that title. And then on Sunday, we'll hold the traditional Swiss. Size permitting, the event will be stratiflighted. West Los Angeles Unit players are competing for the Jill Meyers Trophy and the Mary Jane Farrell Trophy. Starting with the Saturday afternoon session, feel free to use the bank's parking lot, across the street from the Club.

For the New Kids in Town

Beverly Hills is expanding its offerings for less experienced players. In addition to its ongoing series of lessons, the Club has launched a second 299er game on Thursday afternoons. It's a perfect place to dip your toes into the water if you don't yet feel ready to play with the more experienced players.

The Winner's Circle

As usual, we have a number of Unit members chalking up wins on the tournament trail. Diane Licht and Jodie Rachmil won their bracket of the Tuesday-Wednesday Knockout Teams event at the San Diego Regional. Mike Savage chalked up a trifecta, winning the Saturday afternoon Stratified Open Pairs and the Sunday Stratified Swiss at the Thousand Oaks Sectional, and then backing that up with a win in the Sunday A/X Stratified Swiss at the Garden Grove Sectional. Your Humble Scribe also picked up a win at Garden Grove, prevailing in the Saturday Compact Knockout Teams event. The Woodland Hills Sectional saw Pete Knee win the Saturday Stratified Swiss while Jim Perkins won the Saturday afternoon Stratified Open Pairs. In Reno, Saul Prierer won the 299er Pairs game on the first Friday, while Phoebe Chang won her bracket of the Monday Compact Knockout Teams event and Marion Tumen won the Saturday-Sunday Knockout Teams event.

Welcome Mat

Please welcome to our Unit new ACBL members Steve Auer, Donald and Linda Kaplan, Nabil Nahman, and Susan Spivak. Joining us from other Units are Daniel and Frani Ridder and Robert Stanley. That's two full tables of new members who are helping to grow our game locally. Please give them a warm welcome when you see them at the table. →

Around the Clubs

A whole fistful of Unit Champions to report on. Winning the April 4 Unit-Wide Game were Martin Gelfand and David Segal. On April 5, David Segal paired up with Lou Papp to win again, while David Raphael and Anne Bazil captured the evening Unit Championship at the Marina Club. Joyce Lelah and Maria Pendergast won the April 6 Unit-Wide Championship. Team champions on April 7 were Ronda Platt, Bill Weingarten, Greg Tapia, and Tony Scott. Nelly and Colin Gordon won the April 8 Unit-Wide game. James Nathan and Stephen Massman were Unit Champions on April 9, and Jim Perkins paired with Yehudit Hasin-Brumshten to win the April 10 Unit Championship.

Barrington reports that Bob Levy and Chuck Maltz checked in with a 70% game. Our condolences to Ellen Seidman on the passing of her husband.

At Beverly Hills, Arthur Cohen and Sam Namer chalked up a 70% game, as did Joan Rubin and Om Chokriwala as well as Lou Papp and David Segal, Joyce Lelah and Maria Pendergast, and Karen Byrd and Jordan Chodorow. Club champions were Rhoda and Lew Himmell, Karen Schwartz and Dick Daskais, and Joyce Lelah and Bill McClean.

As always, the Marina City Club holds its games Tuesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. at 4333 Admiralty Way. Call Robin Thayer at (310) 713-8647 for information or for a partner.

Climbing the Ladder

Carla Barnes, Susann Bauman, Stephen Feak, and Vennie Liddell have taken their first steps on the ladder of bridge accomplishment by becoming Junior Masters. Mary Anne Finnance, Lynne Rabineau, Murray Salkin, and Carol Simonoff have become Club Masters. Our

newest Sectional Masters are Doreen Lewin, Jacob Libman, Sue Tewksbury, and Bob Weingarten. Lisa Karako is now a Regional Master, while Patricia Bessone, Misook Jung, Karraine Murray, Sue Schultz, and Lou Zucker have become NABC Masters. Yehudit (Call me Judy) Hasin-Brumshten is our Unit's newest Advanced NABC Master.

Lee Axelrod and Phyllis Selig-Kerns have become Life Masters. Vera Mandell is now a Ruby Life Master and Ted Glaessner has reached Gold Life Master. Congratulations to all on your accomplishments.

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

Balboa Unit 515 Sectional

United Methodist Church
12741 Main Street, Garden Grove, CA 92840

Friday and Saturday
June 3&4, 2016

10:00 a.m.

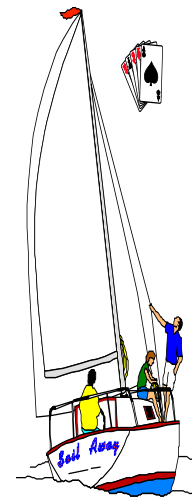
- . Compact KOs (Rounds 1 & 2)
Top bracket may be handicapped.
- . Stratified Open Pairs
NLM Pairs

2:30 p.m.

- . Compact KOs (Rounds 3 & 4)
- . Stratified Open Pairs
NLM Pairs
- . Single Session Open Swiss

Stratification Levels

Open Pairs	
Strat A	2500+
Strat B	750-2500
Strat C	0-750
NLM Pairs	
Strat D	250-500
Strat E	50-250
Strat F	0-50



Sunday
June 5, 2016

10:00 a.m.

StratiFlighted Swiss Teams
2-Session Play Through
\$108 per 4-player team
with lunch

Flight A/X	3500+/2500
Flight B	1000-2500
Flight C	500-1000
Flight D	0-500

FREE

Parking . Coffee . Snacks

Directions:
Off 22 Freeway at Euclid
Downtown Garden Grove
(Garden Grove Blvd and Main)

Director in Charge: Brandon Sheumaker
Tournament Manager: Ginnie Blitzman (949)395-2402 ginnieb21@hotmail.com
Partnership Desk: Shirli Thomas (714)968-5726 shirlth@verizon.com
Card Fees: \$11.00 pp, per session; \$14.00 for non or unpaid ACBL members
ACBL Sanction #:1606107

Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: John Jones

Panelists: Gerry Bare, David Chechelashvili, Ed Davis, Tim Lolli, Mike Shuster, John Swanson, Bill Wickham, and Jon Wittes

1

IMPs
no vul

South

West

North

East

?

1♠

2♣

You, South, hold: ♠AJ32 ♥K76543 ♦765 ♣--
What call do you make?

We have a good fit, a long suit, a void in the opponents' suit and a mediocre HCP hand. What's best?

Chechelashvili: 4♠.

Swanson: 4♣. A slight overbid to eliminate the possibility of being shut out of showing the two big features of my hand – four-card spade support and short clubs.

Wittes: 4♣. Perhaps a slight overbid, but if partner has nothing wasted in clubs, the ♠KQ, the ♥A, and either the ♦A or ♦K, we are in the slam range.

Bare: 4♣. Light for a splinter but there is going to be a lot of bidding.

Lolli: 4♣. We could go from a possible set in 4♠ (♠KQxxx ♥QJ ♦QJx ♣xx) to a possible grand (♠KTxxxx ♥AQ ♦Ax ♣xx). It's also possible the opponents could bid some grotesque number of clubs. By bidding 4♣, at least partner knows I have at least four spades with club shortness.

Davis: 2♥. I want partner to evaluate AQx in hearts and a stiff diamond much more highly than if his red suits were reversed. I will cue bid 4♣ if I get the chance, will cue bid 5♣ if partner shows extra interest in either major, and will take the push to 5♠ if he/she bid to 5♣, unless partner doubles 5♣ in front of me. A game-forcing fit-showing jump to 3♥ would be the ideal bid over 2♣ with my hand. A direct 4♣ over 2♣ is okay, but I like highlighting the red-suit disparity

and then showing the club control, unless partner discourages me. This is risky because showing the club control is more important than showing hearts. However, if the opponents jump to 5♣ and partner has two or three clubs, he will infer that I am short in clubs.

Wickham: 2♥. Since a grand slam in spades is an excellent proposition when partner holds as little as ♠Kxxxxx ♥Ax ♦Ax ♣xxx, and anything past the four level could be a disaster opposite some trash like ♠KQTxx ♥Jxx ♦Kx ♣KQx, creating a plan that will work in either case is not easy. I expect my LHO will raise clubs, and I will try my best to read the level of satisfaction attached to the club raise. My plan is to start with 2♥ to give the opponent enough room to raise clubs with most any hand type. If partner passes or bids diamonds over the anticipated club raise, I will cuebid 4♣ if available, or the minimum number of spades available through the six level. If partner rebids spades or raises hearts, I plan to cuebid clubs as cheaply as possible. Maybe we're saving against a cold club slam, or maybe I'll need a new partner after this adventure.

Shuster: 3♥ if fit showing, otherwise 4♣. While useful to tell partner I have a good hand with club shortness, it is more useful to let partner know that ♦AQx ♣x in the minors is offense and ♦x ♣AQx is defense.

I like the 3♥ bid, which gets in the spade support and the heart support at once.

2

IMPs
NS vul

South

?

West

3♠

North

4♣

East

Pass

You, South, hold:

♠KJT98 ♥AKQ3 ♦KQ5 ♣K

What call do you make?

Bare: 4♣. All bids have flaws but ♣K should solidify clubs and let partner know that it is our hand.

Wittes: 4♠. If partner bids 5♣, I will bid 6♣. Over 5♠, I will bid 7♣. For a vulnerable four level overcall, partner rates to have ♣AQJxxxx of clubs and the ace of diamonds, and possibly a spade void.

Shuster: 4NT. Keycard. I'm driving to at least 6♣, but if partner doesn't answer a spade void, we'll play 6NT.

Swanson: 4NT. Ace asking, I assume. The plan is to bid 6NT unless partner does something to indicate a spade void.

Wickham: 4NT. The only question I have is whether or not partner has first round control of spades. ♠void ♥xxx ♦AJx ♣AQJxxxx would be a lousy 4♣ overcall, and 7♣ would fail only if clubs were 10xxxx offside. ♠A ♥xx ♦AJxx ♣AQT9xx would be a better 4♣ overcall, but 7♣ would often go down with ♣Jxxx offside. My plan is to bid 4♦ Kickback or 4NT RKC.

Chechelashvili: 5NT. Grand Slam Force, a convention that I don't typically like to use, but I believe best

here. With the quality of a spade suit, I tend to trust LHO for having seven, so either partner or RHO have a void, and both are good. I don't think partner would bid 4♣ with anything less than ♠void ♥xxx ♦Axxx ♣AQJTxx (or ♠oid ♥xxxx ♦Axx ♣AQJTxx, or ♠x ♥xx ♦Axx ♣AQJTxxx). I am bidding 5NT in case partner has ♠void ♥xx ♦Ax ♣AJTxxxxxx or similar.

Lolli: 6NT. They called the director on me because I took so long, so I shrugged my shoulders and bid. If there is a vote to kick me off the panel, let me know the result. :)

Davis: 7♣. It will be embarrassing if the opening lead is a spade and partner has to follow, but that it unlikely. If partner has seven clubs and no club losers, we should have 13 tricks. With six clubs and no red jack, a red-suit squeeze or setting up a spade trick (assuming he is void in spades) will have to suffice. Of course, it would be nice if partner has the diamond ace and no club losers. 4NT as Blackwood would be best in case we have 13 top tricks without bringing in the club suit (e.g., A xx AJxx AQJxxx), but I won't risk partner thinking 4NT is natural.

3

IMPs
all vul

S	W	N	E
?		1♠	2♥

You, South, hold:
 ♠Q7653 ♥5 ♦A9 ♣QT985
 What call do you make?

Swanson: 4♠. A little heavy, but gets the flavor of the hand across.

Bare: 4♠. Let opponents guess at the five level.

Chechelashvili: 3♥.

Wittes: 3♥. Over 3♠, I will carry on to game. I have too much distribution not to bid on. If partner cue bids, it's a tough decision whether to cooperate, but below game level, I would probably bid 4♦ over 4♣.

Davis 3♥. Invitational or better in spades. I will, of course, continue on to 4♠ but I'd rather not bid 4♥ directly since I could be stronger. I don't want partner to be guessing how good I am if he/she crowds the auction with a 5♥ bid, so I'd rather set the floor at an invitational hand in spades. I will bid 4♥ if given the opportunity and partner shows interest in slam.

Lolli: 4♥. If partner gets enthusiastic, but I'm not going to be the steering oar.

Shuster: 4♥. Unlike problem 1, I have honors in both side suits. I'll let partner know I expect to make 4♠ and leave any 5-level decisions up to him.

Wickham: 4♣ (Fitted). I would make a 4♥ (2nd choice) splinter bid unless I had a fit showing jump to 4♣ (1st choice) available. On a good day I might make 4♠ opposite a piece of trash like ♠Axxxx ♥Kx ♦Qxx ♣Kxx. More importantly, I want my partner to know I have some defensive values, although I had to overstate my offensive capabilities a bit. Sometimes partner will have to make a decision over 5♥.

Once more, I prefer the fitted jump. It gets across why I am forcing to game.

4

IMPs
no vul

S	W	N	E
?	1♠	2NT	Dbl

You, South, hold:
 ♠JT3 ♥A7543 ♦T8754 ♣---
 What call do you make?

The opponents may wish they had made a penalty pass on some of these auctions!

Bare: 3♣ for lead then probably 5♦.

Wickham: 3♣. I am certain that I will eventually bid 5♦, and I will expect to make that contract half of the time. On the way, I need to set up our defense against a spade contract, so I will bid 3♣ at this time. If 5♦ is frigid, and the opponents cannot make a game, AND can manage to pass out a 3♣ contract, kudos to them. I plan to bid the minimum number of diamonds at each subsequent opportunity, unless the opponents bid to 5♠, which I will double and defend.

Davis: 4♣. I hope that the nasty opponents don't let me play here undoubled and that this gets a club lead against 5♠ (I will bid 5♦ and then make a greedy double of 5♠).

Chechelashvili: 5♣, hoping to get a ♣ lead against possible 5♠.

Lolli: 5♦. Protected by the law. Let them guess. That's what they do to me anyway.

Shuster: 5♦. I expect LHO has extra spade length and I don't want him to be able to show it at a convenient level. I **could** bid 3♣ or 4♣ angling for the lead, but that leaves LHO room to bid spades. I **could** bid 5♣, but that risks playing there when 5♦ is a down-zero save. Sometimes it pays just to bid what is in front of your nose.

Swanson: 5♦. Seems routine. I suppose that 3♣ to be followed by 5♦, trying for a club lead, is possible. I'll take the straight-forward action and try a

PSP#4 continued on next page

PSP#4 *continued from previous page*

Next Month's Problems

double of 5♠ for a club lead (if they bid it). If partner leads a singleton heart, that won't be bad either.

Wittes: 5♦. Seems about right for this hand.

There are only four hands this month. From last month's list of May problems, #3 was omitted and the final two were re-numbered accordingly for publication.

D23 Rank Changes March 2016

Junior Master

Michael Bonesteel, Anna Carpenter, Leo Dittmore
Nancy Hamada, Shirley Hutcheson, Annie Ives
John Janus, John Maverick, Susan Spivak, Diane Taub

Club Master

Carolyn Brice, Linda Gassett, Susan Gornel
Harry Levitt, Clara Satterfield
Richard Treiman, Alexander Wiles

Sectional Master

Robert Chapman, Alan Cohen, Mara Cohen
Barbara Glick, Fran Lapides
Rose Marie Tashima, Bruce Walker

NABC Master

Adam Barron, Bruce Karlan, Eddi Samandar

Adv NABC Master

Zu Ming Cheng

Life Master

Elizabeth Burrell, Dalia Hernandez, Martin Lipman

Silver Life Master

Kiyo Nagaishi

Ruby Life Master

Robert Chen, Herbert Singer

Gold Life Master

Jeanette Deverian

Diamond Life Master

Robert Kent, Stephen Skinner

1. IMPs, no vul

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
?			

You hold: ♠K ♥AKT72 ♦KQ853 ♣A5

a) South: Do you agree with 2♦?

b) South: What now?

2. MPs, no vul

South	West	North	East
1♦	1♠	Pass	Pass
?			

You hold: ♠6 ♥J6 ♦AKT864 ♣KJ62

South: What call do you make?

3. IMPs, no vul

South	West	North	East
			1♦

You hold: ♠AQ8763 ♥-- ♦6 ♣J87654

South: What call do you make?

4. MPs, no vul

South	West	North	East
		1NT	2H*
?			

* Hearts and a minor

You hold: ♠876 ♥T86 ♦Q62 ♣J876

South: What call do you make?

5. MPs, EW vul

South	West	North	East
		Pass	3♣
?			

You hold: ♠QT6 ♥QT6 ♦AQT96 ♣AT

South: What call do you make?