

# Southern California Bridge News

Volume 47, #2

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### ALACBU in 2011

by Bill Schreiber, ALACBU President



I hope you had a healthy and safe new year. January was pretty much a dead month for our district events except for the NAOP, which was held on January 23, the results of which will be in the SCBN next month.

Our next regional tournaments are the REGIONAL-AT-SEA, running from April 30 through May 6. Thereafter follows Bridge Week, at the Pasadena Hilton, which runs from Tuesday June 28 through Thursday, July 7, a full ten days with only one weekend. Join the crowd as average daily attendance increased by more than 15% in 2010 as compared to 2009.

Don't forget the Grand National Team events (flights Open through C) which take place over the next two months.

Elections for new ALACBU officers will take place at Bridge Week. Anyone interested in serving as President, Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer should contact our District Representative, Rand Pinsky. The only qualification needed is that you have served as an officer, representative of your unit, or on an ALACBU committee previously. We need to get new "blood" in bridge politics in our district.

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## Board Meeting Report

by Rand Pinsky, District Director



Following are the highlights of our board meeting from Orlando.

- Our membership has remained flat through October 2010. New members for 2010 should end at +11,000 which has been our average for many years.
- Club game table count remains steady. Online games are growing. As of September 2010, online table count was 529,327.
- Regional table count is averaging 1,490 tables per tournament. Sectional will remain steady as there were be 16 less sectionals in 2010. STaCs are averaging 1,677 tables per tournament.
- Financially, Craig Robinson, our 2010 treasurer and 2011 president, reports that we expect a \$140,000 profit for 2011 mostly due to membership fees increase.

Subject matters of motions that were passed include:

- Amending a portion of the Disciplinary Regulations to clarify to a disciplined party their right to request a stay of discipline pending the outcome of an appeal.
- A very comprehensive Slow Play Regulation Policy providing for procedural penalties and allowing the director to award an artificial adjusted score when slow play prevents a board from being played. I strongly suggest that if you believe that you are a "deliberate partnership" that you read and understand this new policy. If it is not discussed in the March Bridge Bulletin, contact me and I will provide to you with a copy of the policy.
- Regionals at Sea shall only be sponsored by the ACBL (management) and not by districts. RAS will be limited to 3 per year commencing 2012.

DIRECTOR *continued on page 11*

## Good news for Bridge fans: The Daily Los Angeles Times Bridge Column is Back

*Reprinted from the Los Angeles Times - originally ran January 7, 2011.*

Starting Monday [January 10, 2011], it will be back in its old home, on the first Comics page.

The Times has been bombarded with e-mails, letters and calls from disappointed readers since the column was discontinued Nov. 29.

Many of those were longtime subscribers like Doreen Schlesinger of Santa Ana, who wrote, "For 55 years I have started each morning with the Bridge column and found it a perfect mechanism to activate my brain and prepare it to face the day. Without warning, the column was removed from the paper, and I have

been miserable ever since."

Editors made the decision to remove the column after subscriber surveys showed that only 3% of respondents read it. However, that 3% is a devoted and loyal group.

As of Tuesday, The Times had received nearly 600 e-mails and 400 phone calls regarding Bridge.

"The outcry from our readers compelled us to reconsider our decision," said Sallie Hofmeister, assistant managing editor for arts and entertainment. "While readership surveys showed that Bridge was the least popular of our offerings of puzzles and games, we discovered from this outpouring of response that its fans are engaged readers and some

of our most loyal subscribers."

The demise of the column resulted in relatively few subscription cancellations. However, that impressed editors as well: Despite the large outcry, Bridge fans kept the paper even after losing one of their favorite features.

The column is a cornerstone of many readers' days.

George Doane of Rancho Palos Verdes wrote, "I am dismayed at your decision to discontinue the Bridge column. I went the week without it, and I clearly am showing withdrawal symptoms. I always, ALWAYS do mine at lunchtime and look forward to reading the column all morning. I plead for you to bring it back."

Several readers noted that the column was often discussed at their regular bridge games.

Charlene Carnachan of Glendale wrote that the Bridge column "has been a standby for me and my friends and the basis for discussion for many years. 'Have you seen the latest Bridge column in the L.A. Times?' would be a frequent conversation topic."

Many readers said Bridge was one of the things they liked most about the print edition.

Barbara Glabman of Newport Beach wrote from her iPad, "We have subscribed to the Los Angeles Times for over 40 years. In an era when we can get our news streaming live on computer, it is the extras like the Bridge column that keep us subscribing."

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/readers/2011/01/times-is-bringing-back-bridge-column.html>

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email [bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org](mailto:bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org)

Editor/Designer..... Jennifer Einberg  
Managing Editor..... William Schreiber  
Contributing Editor..... John Jones

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# Around the Units in District 23

## Antelope Valley by Brad Ward

Ms. Lila Messiha almost won another Regional Championship in December but came up just short in the Bracket Three KO final in Palm Springs. However, the 17+ gold points she won vaulted her over the next masterpoint plateau...Congratulations to Lila as she is now a Silver Life Master. She has started her quest for gold...you go girl!

We remember the members and close family we lost last year as many of our friends passed away in 2010. These passing's remind us that we are first, a close community, or should strive to be, and then, scrappy competitors grasping for every trick. Perhaps this year we all should try a little harder to improve the bridge playing experience for everyone at the club. Seems like an excellent goal for all of us that love this game.

In a week or so unit members will be receiving in the mail a survey form from the Unit Board. Please, please, answer the questions on the survey form and bring it to the club, or mail it back to us. Your response will help to facilitate the growth of the unit as well as improved satisfaction with the way the unit is run.

## Glendale Verdugo by Dorothy LaMaie

Unit Game 1:00 Saturday, February 12  
12:15 Buffet Lunch

Having entered this new year, you will be (or should be!) happy to know that Merry Besvold has agreed to continue serving as president of our unit. Pause... heartfelt huzzahs! And more for our other board members who volunteer time and effort to unit activities: Karen Alpert, Sharon Wolf, Nancy Lyon, Betsy Josias, Margaret Mataga, Eva Seri, Leon Alexander, Hal Gordon, Barbara McKissick, Steve Guerrero, et moi. If you have any questions or suggestions, please let

us know. It's YOUR Unit, and we aim to please and minimize displeasure.

Expressing their pleasure, the Glendale YWCA sent us a note of thanks for the charitable contribution made to their Domestic Abuse Program for Women. Betsy Josias serves as Chairman of this committee and advises that they are doing good work in this area.

Many of you may have a question re: the omission in last month's column of the name of the person referred to in the "tough" phone call to Pat Abbey. It is Sherry Strube, who suffered a serious stroke early in December. The bad news has not turned upward and she has been further handicapped by a second attack. At least she is with her daughter and family in Scottsdale while coping with this bummer.

"Remission" is a welcome word when applied to serious medical problems. Whereas we can't apply it to Sherry at this point, we can to Timothy Stocks and his battle with Big C. He found his remission so agreeable that he went out and bought a new car! We're enjoying his also by having him back at our tables, as well as directing the Thursday afternoon game at the Regency. Sixten Ohman is not quite so advanced with his - the medicine men won't let him drive yet - but he does manage a game now and then, happy to be there, as we are to have him.

Apparently, now that Tom Wan and Kathy have built their dream house, he can't devote as much avid attention to the reading of books. However, he's "making do," and I caught him reading away during some between-rounds waiting time at our January Unit game with a thin, hand-held, book-page size instrument - another tech industry marvel... And here I am, still writing this column the old-fashioned way - longhand!

Whatever the method, it's the content that matters, n'est-ce-pas? And last month's unit game contained the usual news worthy of exposure. First off, the chili and beans lunch menu deserves our thanks to Merry, Betsy, Eva, and Margaret, as well as Pat Abbey for all their efforts. Secondly, (not off, but on!) were these

District 23 presents...



**April 30-May 7, 2011**  
**MEXICAN RIVIERA**  
**Roundtrip Los Angeles**  
**on Princess Cruises' Sapphire Princess**

**EARN GOLD POINTS • DAILY BRIDGE LECTURES WITH LARRY COHEN**

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Larry Cohen has won 26 National Championships and lectures worldwide. He's also the author of many books including the best-sellers *To Bid or Not to Bid* and *Following the LAW*. Two of his four interactive CDs were honored as "best CD of the year".



Larry's Regional at Sea lectures—cover fascinating topics for players of all levels—feature a VuGraph screen, enabling participants to see the hands being played.

District 23 presents...

ACBL Sanctioned Regional

**From Just \$1293 pp**  
**Everything Included!**  
**Daily Lectures with Larry**  
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Special cocktail party with Larry, and final awards ceremony too.

Accommodations are subject to availability. Alice Travel will be happy to arrange air travel as well as pre- and post-cruise hotel stays.

Tournament Chairman: Ellen Kent - 310-822-2021

*Our Regionals-At-Sea are so Popular... We're doing it again.*

Next spring we're setting sail for exotic ports along the Mexican Riviera, roundtrip from Los Angeles, aboard Princess Cruises' *Sapphire Princess*, Larry Cohen will be giving morning lectures and there are private events, lots of tournament play, and side games.

**Event Schedule** (subject to slight changes)

**One-Session Pair Games every session.**  
**299er Games, based on attendance.**

	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	2:00 PM	8:00 PM
<b>Sat., April 30</b>	<b>9:00-10:00 AM-Daily Free Beginner Lesson with Ellen Kent</b>			Registration Bracketed KO1 Round 1
	<b>Lesson/Analysis with Larry after all Two-Session Open Pair games at 4:30 P.M.</b>			
<b>Sun., May 1</b>	Larry Cohen Lecture	Open Pairs 1st Session	Open Pairs 2nd Session	Side Game Series Bracketed KO1 Round 2
<b>Mon., May 2</b>	Larry Cohen Lecture	Swiss Teams 1st Session	Swiss Teams 2nd Session	Side Game Series Bracketed KO1 Round 3
<b>Tues., May 3</b>	Larry Cohen Lecture	Swiss Teams 1st Session	Open Pairs 1st Session	Side Game Series Bracketed KO2 Round 1
<b>Wed., May 4</b>	Larry Cohen Lecture	Swiss Teams 2nd Session	Open Pairs 2nd Session	Side Game Series Bracketed KO2 Round 2
<b>Thur., May 5</b>	Larry Cohen Lecture	Open Pairs 1st Session	Open Pairs 2nd Session	Side Game Series Bracketed KO2 Round 3
<b>Fri., May 6</b>	Larry Cohen Lecture	Swiss Teams 1st Session	Swiss Teams 2nd Session	<b>5:00 PM:</b> Awards Program & Party

Flights: C-up to 500; B-500 to 1500; A-1500+

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ATU *continued from page 3*

players' efforts:

NS

- A1 Steve Licker & Bob Gish  
 A2 Herman Helber & Jacob Frenkel  
 A3 B1 Mike Doll & Patrick Cardullo  
 A4 B2 Karen Alpert & Rufus Rhoades  
 A5 Madelon Liebman & Carol Lessin

EW

- A1 Helen Wang & Sam Wang  
 A2 B1 Art Chacianas & Dorothy LaMaie  
 A3 Louise Reich & Amr El Ghamry  
 A4 B2 Esther Tapelband & Bob Hogan  
 A5/6 Margaret Mataga & Tom Miyaoka  
 A5/6 Dan Botoaca & Ron Lifshutz

Huzzahs to all of the above, and lovely valentines to all of you! Take care, everybody.

## Long Beach by Jon Yinger

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

**JANUARY 9 Unit Game:** Overall results: 1st in A: Lee Johnson/Carol Klahr, 2nd Cayce Blanchard/John Killian, 3rd Bee and John Bralliar, 4th Diane Sachs/Barbara Balowitz, 5th Verna Burns/Bee Kinman, 6th Bob Mault/Phyllis Parker. B flight overalls: 3rd Sharon and Al Appel, 4th Joan Kaye/Michelle Drayer, 5th Sherry Troeger/Fay Beckerman. C flight over-alls: 2nd John and April Berg. Overall winners in the Non-Life Master game: 1st Joyce Henderson/Jane Reid, 2nd Colleen Gardner/ Lynne Finley. Congratulations to you all!

**70% GAMES Dec 16 through Jan 15:** In the 299er game Dec 29 Phyllis Greenstein/Doreen Maes had 70.63%. Jan 5 in the afternoon game Gary Paugh/Cecil Cooke had 70.99% and in the evening game Bea and John Bralliar had 70.38%; Jan 7 in the open game Ron Lien/Steven Stredler had 73.38%, Irwin Bender/Lois Abramson had 70.14%, and in the NLM game Joyce Henderson/Jane Reid had 70.90%. Jan 8 at Leisure World Jaye Woodington/Verna Burns had 71.88%. Jan 11 John Bralliar/John Mohan had 70.03%. Jan 13 Ralph Beazley/Irwin Bender had 71.15%. And in the

NLM game Jan 14 Tom Cotton/George Alemshah had 70.91%. Congratulations to you all!

**BIG MASTER POINT AWARDS:** Big master point awards for 1st over-all in club games Dec 16 through Jan 15: On Jan 9 Carol Klahr/Lee Johnson won 3.97mp; Jan 10 Baum Harris/Loren Hilf won 3.58mp; Jan 11 John Bralliar/John Mohan won 4.33mp; Jan 12 Sibyl Slutsky/Diane Schmitz won 2.97mp; and on Jan 14 Gary King/Brandon Sheumaker won 4.66mp. Big master point awards for 2nd over-all: Jan 11 Bob Mault/Jackie Hess won 3.25mp, and on Jan 14 Stephen Licker/Dick Sands won 3.50mp. Congratulations to all!

**NEW MEMBERS:** Karen Pulley and Linda Nye. Welcome to both of you!

**STATUS CHANGES:** New Junior Masters: Karen Dow and Gayle Knapp; Sectional Masters: Kiyoo Nagaishi and Theodore Wieber; Regional Master: Julie Cunningham; NABC Master: Pamela Cole. Congratulations to all!

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CLUB:** Sunday Feb 13 Unit Game. Lunch served at 12:00, game at 1 pm.

**GET WELL WISHES** to Al Mastron and Merlin Hansen.

**LEISURE WORLD:** There are 4 duplicate games each week, Monday & Thursday in Clubhouse #3 and Friday & Saturday in Clubhouse #1. The games start promptly at 12:30 p.m. If you plan to play in any of the games you need to make a reservation with Ruth Kaller (430-0316) so that your name will be turned in to security at the front gate.

Results of all Leisure World games are posted on [www.acblunit557.org](http://www.acblunit557.org) then click on "Leisure World Results" on left hand side.

**NEW Unit 557 Board OFFICERS**, chosen at the meeting January 3 were: John Killian, president, and Mike Ullman, VP. New board members are Carmella Chiurazzi, Linda Renkus, George Alemshah, and Ernie Ross. Fern Dunbar, Steve Sulzby, Diane Sachs, Mary Thomas, and Betty Jackson will remain on the board for another year.

**GET THE UNIT 557 NEWSLETTER Via EMAIL:** If you miss getting the newsletter by snail mail (it's been more than two years since the district quit mailing them out), you get the newsletter by e-mail. Send me your e-mail address and I'll put you on the list. My email is [jjyinger1@gmail.com](mailto:jjyinger1@gmail.com).

## Pasadena San Gabriel Valley

by Jan Wickersham and Roy Wilson

Unit Game: February 6  
San Marino Recreation Center

The new year started off with a bang! A great turn out for the January unit game. Robert Wang provided us with first class pizza, and Bernie Mateer made a wonderful salad to complement. We had a special presentation to give to Debbie Unruh, the founder of The Elizabeth House. Due to the hard work and creative efforts of Karen Arase, both in and out of the kitchen, we were able to raise \$3,000 for our charity. This far exceeds anything we have ever done before!!!

Congratulations to all of you who participated by buying raffle tickets or bidding on the live or silent auction. That was quite an impressive amount to raise! You were also generous in the 50/50 raffle, and \$50 went to Miriam Harrington. The winners of the game were Patrick Cordillo and Mike Doll, who were first in A and B. Graetchen Torres and June Harwell took home the honors with first in C.

We have two new candidates for the board: Bernie Mateer and TJ Wang. We will be welcoming them at our Election Party on March 6th. Board members work hard to serve the unit, and it is pleasing to know that so many are returning, willing to serve another two years. There will be nominations from the floor as well, so if you have an interest in serving on the board, please let us know.

There were two memorial services in January; Dick Loggins and Mike Shuman. In my opinion, both men died too young. For those who attended, it was a wonderful remembrance of both friends.

### SOS!

One of the areas of bidding that is not discussed much is the redouble. In Charlie Goren's day and earlier, a redouble had only one meaning, "We are going to make this contract, and the opponents have made a bid mistake!" Not so much these days. Now, most players use it as an SOS bid to escape a penalty double, hence the name, SOS Redoubles. On the convention card there is a check-box where you and your partner can agree that a low-level redouble promises NO FIT, but be aware that not all players like to use that meaning. Essentially a redouble says, "Partner, we are probably

better off in almost any suit but the doubled suit. Please bid your second-best suit."

The redoubler should have no support for the doubled suit, and ideally would be 4-4-5 although we almost never have the perfect hand. Also, SOS redoubles are not played at a high-level, and either partner is allowed to use the bid. SOS Redoubles can be confusing because there are very few "never" or "always" rules for using them. Still, there are some general guidelines for the bid.

If you need an "always" rule, than a redouble is an SOS call only if:

- The double was for penalty or was a takeout double converted to penalty
- The doubled suit has not been raised
- You're at the 2-level or lower

Do not use an SOS redouble if one of these conditions exist:

- The partner who has been doubled has shown a predominantly one-suited hand (such as a preempt or having bid a suit twice)
- The partner who can redouble has already shown weakness, no fit, or a single-suited hand

Here is an exception unless you have other agreements: It occurs when you open 1NT and your LHO doubles for penalty. Without a specific understanding about run-out bids, your partner's redouble has the old Goren meaning. Lucky you, for getting doubled!

Another exception is when partner opens 1NT or 2NT and you make a Stayman or transfer response. If your LHO doubles your artificial bid, which is usually for a lead, opener's redouble shows a strong 4-card or longer holding in the doubled suit and suggests that you pass with at least 3-card support.

I have a suggestion that's mostly applicable at team games, but suppose you have opened with a 7-card suit or longer, but it's not a particularly good suit. You really don't have a second suit, and if an opponent doubles for penalty, you have no place to go when your partner redoubles. May I suggest you bid your suit again at the next level? Your opponent will surely double once more, but if you are going down two doubled and redoubled, you are definitely better off going down one more, but only doubled.

Redoubles with the original meaning are rare, but they still exist. One partner has opened a suit

and responder has raised the suit. That's an explicit agreement on a trump suit, and a redouble has the old-fashioned meaning. Or perhaps, one partner has made a negative double, promising the other major, and when partner bids it the opponents double for penalty. That's an implicit agreement on a trump suit, and again a redouble is for business. Redoubles of both implicit and explicit agreements say the opponents have made a mistake. Maybe you open a high-level preemptive bid and get doubled. SOS redoubles are not used at high levels, so again, a redouble in this position says the opponents are in trouble. I'm sure you can think of some other examples!

See you at the table!

## Pomona-Covina by Vic Sartor

Unit game: Saturday, February 19  
11:00 A.M. - Lunch Served

For the benefit of those who couldn't be present at the January unit game for the swearing-in ceremony, let me describe the inauguration of our new unit president, The Honorable Clinton Lew. Resplendent in his chartreuse tutu, ermine robe, silver tiara, and patent leather wedgies, Lew took the oath of office with his hand on a copy of the ACBL Bulletin and the strains of "Hail To The Chief" playing in the background. It was truly a touching moment. Like every politician, Lew made several promises nobody expects him to keep—especially his pledge of no more than three crummy jokes per board meeting.

In unit results, this month's press deadline actually allows us to report on the January unit game in a timely fashion. Overall winners were Bill Papa-Vic Sartor, followed by Pat Radamaker-Clint Lew(1st E/W), Eileen Finlay-Tim Finlay(1st in B), Roger Boyar-Richard Patterson, and Cordell Goode-Lary Alba. Hanan Mogharbel and Ray Malki took Class C honors. The December unit game was won by Lulu Minter-Bill Papa, followed by Dave and Susan Ruoff, Hans Hehnke-Vic Sartor(1st N/S), Pat Radamaker-Clint Lew, and Kathy Helber-Marcella Scott.

Top club game of the month was posted by Susan and Dave Ruoff (67%), edging out Pat Radamaker and Clint Lew(66%). Other winners were Herman Helber, Kathy Helber, Walt Otto, Penny Barbieri, Sandy Jones,

Karen McCarthy, Kurt Trieselmann, Vic Sartor, Cordell Goode, Bill Papa, Roger Boyar, Richard Patterson, Susan Emminger, and Ron Purkis.

Several globetrotting unit members are back from their travels. Returning from various holiday jaunts are Norma Appley and Albert Lax (Thailand), Hans and Jane Hehnke (Israel), and Helen Wang (San Francisco). I believe I already mentioned my own expedition to Cucamonga in a previous issue.

Our hand of the month looks improbable, but was actually dealt at the recent unit game. In 4th seat you hold (NV vs. Vul.) :

♠AKQJ7 ♥AT7 ♦K64 ♣Q5

The auction proceeds... LHO: 1♠! Partner: Pass  
RHO: 2♠! You: ?

After you pick yourself off the floor, what action do you take?

Double would be takeout, so that's likely to lead to a terrible contract. Partner must be completely broke. 2NT would be unusual for the minors, so that's out. You may only get 5 tricks at 3NT. If you think about it, the only sensible action is to pass! The opponents are vulnerable, and the odds are very good that you can set them two for +200. If you showed your great restraint by passing, nice bid. You got a tie for top. Several players couldn't restrain themselves and wound up in the minus column in various dubious contracts your way. 'Til next time...

## San Fernando Valley by Fran Kern

The December 19 Holiday Party was once again a festive and enjoyable event at the Marriott Hotel in Woodland Hills. Special thanks to Gloria Malkin for her efforts toward the success of this celebration. Appreciation also to Larry Gordon for managing the room setup and to Bill Morton and Terry Morton for providing tables and cards.

At the December Regional in Palm Springs there were many representatives of our unit.

Carole and Marty Hamburger reached new heights in their bridge partnership by ranking 1st in their division on Saturday of the event. According to Marty, this was a first for him and he is thoroughly enjoying "the moment" and the 2 bronze cups that he and Carole were awarded.

**Upcoming Events:** On Sunday, February 20, the Bridge Academy will host a Farewell Party for Mary Dougherty who is moving away Los Angeles. Lunch is at 12 noon and a bridge game will follow at 1:00 PM. Let's all come and say goodbye to Mary and wish her a safe move and many years of enjoyment in her new home. For reservations or additional information contact the Bridge Academy at 818-999-9131.

Anyone wanting to participate in a series of bridge lessons is encouraged to contact the Bridge Academy or the 750 Club for their schedules and other pertinent information.

**750 Bridge Club News:** Starting off special events for the New Year, 750 Club players were encouraged to don a chapeau and celebrate National Hat Day on January 13.

The Top Ten Masterpoint Winners for December

**750 Bridge Club:** Joyce Hart 11.02; Bob Williams 9.14; Samy Antoun 8.87; Ron Malkin 8.36; Herb Zweig 6.81; Myrna Kalman 6.25; Larry Kussin 5.45; Jim Gardner 5.30; Mo Mansour 5.25; Jim Lechner 4.89.

**Bridge Academy Under 750 Game:** John Van Egmond 5.37; Larry Gordon 5.09; Wayne (Doug) Beagle 4.92; Eva Seri 4.67; Moe Mansour 4.20; Sam

Antoun 4.20; Ron Stewart 3.81; Allan Palansky 3.70; Bill Raines 3.19; Alene Friedman 3.07.

**Bridge Academy Open Game:** Leda Danzig 16.63; Gilbert Stinebaugh 16.27; Andy Vinock 14.97; Armand Szulc 13.59; Sharon David 13.01; Noel Purkin 12.31; Tom Wylie 11.51; Joan Rubin 11.46; Marta Peltz 11.30; Mark Peters 10.10.

**70% Games for December:** Congratulations to 3 pairs scoring the highest percentage games in December. Herb Zweig & Joyce Hart 70.81, Andy Vinock & Tom Wylie 70.54, Lois Colgin & Barbara Baxter 70.00

**IN MEMORIAM:** On Sunday afternoon, January 9, friends and family gathered to share memories of Eric Heilman at the home of his brother in Pasadena. This date was selected by Eric's daughter Teri as it also marked the date of Eric's birth. Fellow bridge players, who may have only known Eric for a decade, were able to mingle with Eric's lifelong friends including classmates, business associates, and neighbors. It was apparent that Eric will be remembered and missed by many people.

Unit members note with sadness the passing of Maureen Nassif in December. Maureen's congenial personality, her Southern twang, and her valued

## 2011 District 23 Grand National Teams Qualifying

Flight	Dates	Player Masterpoint Limits
Open Flight	February 12-13	0-unlimited
Flight A	March 5-6	0-5000
Flight B	February 12-13	0-2000
Flight C	March 5-6	Non Life Master under 500

Location of all events: Barrington Bridge Club  
11514 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025 310-966-4144

For all the above events:

- Masterpoint limits based on recorded points as of 9/1/2010
- Game Times: 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM
- Swiss qualifying on Saturday for Sunday Knockout
- Teams must have 4, 5, or 6 players
- Players can enter more than one event (each on separate weekends)
- Winning team can represent District 23 in Toronto this summer
- Winning teams to receive partial refund of expenses for trip to the finals.
- For Complete Conditions of Contest see the ALACBU website at [www.acbldistrict23.org](http://www.acbldistrict23.org)
- Questions? Call Howard Einberg 310-475-9784 or Bill Wickham 310-234-3238



friendship will be sorely missed. On January 12, a number of close bridge friends joined for dinner at Tony Roma's restaurant to honor the memory of their friend.

**COLUMN NEWS:** Make sure that your bridge news will appear in the next edition of Bridge News by sending it to Fran Kern at [fkern818@aol.com](mailto:fkern818@aol.com)

## Torrance-South Bay

by Steve Mager

unit website:

<http://www.freewebs.com/bridgeatunit568>

SBBC website:

<http://www.bridgeclubs.org/index.php?id=sbbc>

Upcoming Events at the South Bay Bridge Club

Club Championship: Friday, Feb 4, 7:00 p.m.

NLM Club Championship: Thurs, Feb 10, 10:30 a.m.

NLM Club Championship: Wed, Feb 16, 6:30 p.m.

### Club Championships

The SBBC Club Championship on January 5 was captured by Lucy Tredennick/Dean Kaloudis in Flight A with Norm Imberman/Booth Tarkington winning Flight B.

At Veterans Park the December 13 Club Championship was won by Jeff Strutzel/Larry Harris in flight A with Joan Chrishal/Clara Trummer leading Flight B and Robert Svensrud/Fred Swinth taking Flight C. The December 15 Club Championship at Veterans Park saw Larry Harris/Gary King winning Flight A and Elena Buker/Luda Kuprenas leading both Flights B and C.

The Club Championship at Anderson Park on December 17 was captured by Gary King and Ted Gibbs.

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

- December 14: Jackie Hess, Mary Ann Coyle, John Farr, Bo Bogema
- December 21: Fran Israel, Luis Gamio, Bronek Felczer, Jim Dutton
- December 28: Krystyna and Dennis Hollingworth, Dolly and Bruce Weiner

- January 4 : Mary Ann Coyle, John Farr, Bo Bogema, John J. McDermott
- January 11: Mary Ann Coyle, John Farr, Bo Bogema, John J. McDermott

### Milestones

Sadly we report that Barbara Davis passed away recently.

### GUV Memorial Award

I guess everybody has been too good this month so I am forced to go back a few decades for the following story. I have made plenty of bidding misjudgments but probably none worse than the following. I was partnered with the late Norm "Guvvy" Hogarth whom this award was named after. Norm was rather famous for his crazy bidding style. We were playing against Barbara White and Wayne Otsuki. Unlike Guvvy, Barbara and Wayne are still known for their "if they bid 'em they got 'em" bidding style. I held a good hand and in a competitive auction bid 3NT which Barbara doubled. When Barbara doubled one thing was guaranteed. You were going down lots baby.

On this occasion Guvvy probably feeling guilty for earlier overbids pulled to 4 of some suit. Then I had a mental aberration and forgot who my partner was and who the opponents were. I bid 4NT was once again doubled and was so impressed by my holding and Guvvy's earlier mis-bids that I redoubled. This was in the days when down 4 redoubled non vul was a minus 1400 which was my score on the board.

Perhaps the most amazing part of the story was that I received a half matchpoint on the board. Don't ask me how.

Na Zdrowie

## West L.A.

by candy

Barbara Nusbaum hosted the Unit annual running for/from the offices party. Attendance is not required, but if you're not there, you're fair game to be chairman of committees the ACBL has insisted we have a chairman for and no one knows why. Cecil Cook knew what one of the committees was and it was useless, so we appointed him. He knew too much information.

Howard Einberg looks so good in his purple robes,

# Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: John Jones

Panelists are: Mark Bartusek, Jeff Goldsmith, Mr. Mealy-mouth, Marshall Miles, Rick Roeder, David Sacks, and Bill Wickham

Problems 1, 3, 4, and 5 this month were submitted by Mike Shuman's frequent partner, Jeff Goldsmith. Mike, who passed away in December, was a long-time panelist. He was a great expert who was familiar with both old fashioned bidding and modern theory. A classy teammate and opponent, he will be seriously missed.

# 1

IMPs  
NS vul

South	West	North	East
2♣	2♦	2♠	5♦
?			

You, South, hold: ♠A53 ♥AKQT752 ♦-- ♣AKJ

What call do you make?

*We'll start with a panelist who turned this problem into a game I'll call "Who Wants to Be a Confused Expert?"*

**Wickham: 7♥.** The options were:

- Option A: 7♣. Partner has ♠QJxxx ♥--- ♦xxx ♣QT9xx. Looks like the only makeable grand. Do you see another way to get there? Why do my trumps always break 5-0 when the other guy's break 3-3?
- Option B: 7♥. Partner has ♠QJxxx ♥--- ♦xxx ♣Q109xx. LHO has ♠K109x ♥xxx ♦KQxxxx ♣--- and so 7♥ rolls home with no trouble.
- Option C: 7♥. Partner has ♠Kxxxx ♥xx ♦xx ♣Qxxx. LHO has ♠QJT ♥--- ♦QJxxxx ♣xxx and so 7♥ rolls home with no (serious) trouble.
- Option D: 5NT. Grand Slam Force (GSF). Does either member of our partnership know what any of the subsequent bids mean? Maybe that is one reason not to use it! Partner has ♠Kxxxx ♥xx ♦xx ♣Q10xx, shows the A or K with no extra length, and slides one into the glue in 6♠, as LHO has ♠QJ10x ♥--- ♦AQxxxx ♣xxx. 7♥ rolls home with no trouble at all, so only 20 IMPs are lost.
- Option E: 5NT. GSF. Do you show the Q with lots of extra length? Partner has ♠K98xxxx ♥--- ♦xxx

♣Q10x, shows 2 top honors with 7♣, and makes 7♠ easily as trump break 2-1. LHO has ♠Q ♥Jxxx ♦KQxxxx ♣xxxx so 7♥ would make only if a trump were led from Jxxx.

*Final answer?*

Final Answer: 7♥. *That's my final answer, Regis.* If partner has one trump, this rates to be OK. If partner has two trumps this will probably be comfortable. It seems that more of the hands which make 7♠ will also make 7♥, as opposed to the other way around. Ending lower than the seven-level is pure and simple cowardice.

*The panelists are not in agreement on the meaning of 5NT in this auction. The normal guideline is that if only one suit has been bid naturally, 5NT is the Grand Slam Force, requesting partner bid a grand slam (7♣ in case partner has a lower-ranking solid suit in mind) if he has two of the top three trump honors. If two suits have been bid naturally, 5NT is more commonly treated as pick a slam. This auction has been heavily preempted, but I believe that 5NT is still the GSF.*

PSP #1 *continued from page 10*

**Bartusek: Pass**, followed by 6♦ to invite 7♠. If 2♠ guarantees two of the top three honors, then I would just up and bid 7♠. With the more likely partnership agreement where it just shows a suit worth mentioning at a cheap level in competition, then I would make a forcing pass initially. 5NT would not be the GSF but offering slam in one of two strains.

**Sacks: 6♦**. I do not believe that 5NT is the grand slam force in this auction, so I will probe (probably uselessly) for a reason to bid something other than 7♠. In most partnerships I have had, 2♠ would have guaranteed two of the top three honors, but not all partnerships have that agreement. Perhaps bidding 6♦ followed by 7♥ should offer partner the option of converting to 7♠.

**Mealy-mouth: 7♦**. This is a void splinter, forcing South to pick a grand slam. I never did like either singleton splinters or splinters that showed, ambiguously, either singletons or voids.

**Miles: 5NT**. Usually I play 5NT as asking partner to choose a slam, but when the only suit shown is spades, 5NT should be the grand slam force.

**Roeder: 5NT**. This is the grand slam force, not pick-a-slam, since the partnership has only suggested one strain. Partner's correct response with KQ of spades is 7♣, not 7♠. I still have not decided whether to bid 7♥ or 7♠ over 7♣. It would be a travesty to go down in 7♠ when partner has ♠KQxxx ♥xx ♦xx ♣Qxxx. A 3-2 spade break on this auction is less likely than the *a priori* 68% due to the opponents' bravery with few high cards. I must decide what to do before partner bids 7♣. If I huddle and then bid 7♥, partner may be barred from bidding 7♠ with ♠KQxxxx ♥x ♦xx ♣xxxx.

**Goldsmith: 5NT**. I have no idea. One option is to try 5NT, hopefully the grand slam force, as long as we have the understanding that partner will bid 7♣ with two of the top three spades. Then I can try 7♥ and hope that he corrects with ♠KQJxxx ♥--- ♦xxx ♣xxxx. He probably won't. If we don't have that agreement, it's risky to bid 5NT; partner may have ♠KQxxx ♥Jxx ♦xx ♣Qxx, or even worse, bid 6♠ with ♠KJxxxx ♥Jx ♠♣CQTxx. Then spades go 0-4 and we manage a rather ignominious minus score.

At the table, we were substantially down at the half, so I just shot out 7♥. Partner held ♠KJ109x ♥Jxx ♦Q ♣xxxx. You play it for the match. LHO leads the ♦K, and everyone follows to the first trump.

DIRECTOR *continued from page 1*

- CEO Succession Plan Framework. A procedure was established to appoint a CEO if the current CEO position becomes vacant. This is important as our current CEO Jay Baum has notified the board that he plans to retire in 2012. This policy has also established a CEO Search Committee to begin a process to select a new CEO for the ACBL.

#### IT IS A DIFFERENT VIEW FROM DUMMY

This year, I have been appointed to, what I think, are some very interesting and important

committees. First, I have been appointed Chairman of the Audit Committee. This committee is to assist the board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities through overseeing management's conduct of financial reporting process, monitoring the independence and performance of the ACBL's outside auditors, and providing an avenue of communications among the outside auditors, management and the board.

I have also been appointed to the CEO Search Committee. As discussed above, this committee is responsible for establishing a process to select a new CEO, to participate in the interviewing of potential candidates, and then presenting to the full board our recommendations

for CEO. If anyone has an interest in this position or wishes to recommend someone, please refer to our acbl website for additional details or feel free to contact me for information.

Besides Audit and CEO Search Committee, I have been appointed to the Finance Committee, the Appeals & Charges Committee, Bridge Committee, and the Credentials Committee. I expect to have a very busy year.

Next month will be a preview of our March board meeting in Louisville.





North	East	South	West
1NT	pass	2♣	dbl
2♥	pass	?	

You, South, hold: ♠T753 ♥A93 ♦QJ52 ♣KT

What call do you make?

1NT was 15 – 17. You have no special agreements about 2♥.

**Bartusek: 2♠.** Systemically, this shows four spades and an invitational hand. This hand isn't strong enough to rebid 3NT with the opening lead coming through my ♣K. I will need to re-think my position if partner retreats to 2NT.

**Wickham: 2♠.** I hope what you mean is that 2♥ is natural and we have no reasonable agreements about the 2♥ bid. If the double is simply being ignored, then 2♠ should show an invitational hand with four spades in normal methods. Since we have chosen (for some strange reason) to remain totally ignorant about the presence of club stoppers in opener's hand, 2♠ adds to our chances to find out about a fifth heart, a fourth spade, or a club stopper. On a good day, partner will bid 3♦ with ♠AQx ♥KJxx ♦ATxx ♣Jx. *That looks like an easy pass.*

**Goldsmith: 2♠.** Depends on whether I thought the double was going to be made at other tables. If so, I'd try 2♠, which has two ways to win: we can play spades from my side protecting the ♣K, or we can stop below game when game is going down. If I thought the double wasn't happening elsewhere, I'd have to assume partner has either the ♣A or ♣Q, or we've already lost the board. If partner has a club card, I want to force game with 3♣. Table feel and West's proclivities will help that decision. If I wasn't at the table, I'd guess 2♠. At least 2♠ is invitational, so we might reach game. I can imagine a very tortured auction ensuing: ...2♠-3♣-3♦-3♠-blech.

**Mealy-mouth: 2NT.** Too bad we have no agreement about 2♥. A sensible agreement, Stayman Jujitsu uses 2♦ to show hearts, and 2♥ to show spades, over a doubled Stayman 2♣. However, in the absence of any agreement, I must assume that 2♥ is natural. Downgrading this hand in view of the club lead that

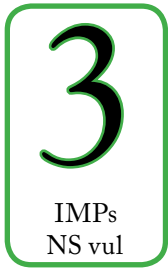
will come through it, I bid 2NT, merely inviting game. Might it have been better to ignore this puny four-card spade suit and eschew Stayman?

**Miles: 3♣.** I could just bid 3NT, which would show four spades, but if North happens to have a five-card heart suit or even a good four-card suit, the hand may play better in hearts than in notrump. I think 3♣ should cater to spades and hearts (as well as notrump).

**Roeder: 3NT.** A modern treatment is for the NT opener to show or deny a club stopper. Pass can show a stopper and force partner to redouble whereupon the NT opener completes his description. Bidding two hearts right away then denies a club stop. Since we have no agreements, I just bid what my grandmother would have. Partner is not barred from holding ♣Jxx, ♣Qx or even stiff ♣Q and a 3-4-5-1 hand. Also, my 3NT promises four spades, so we might reach spades if we have a 4-4 fit.

**Sacks: Pass.** I tried to construct hands that produce a game when partner has three small clubs. At first, I thought that perhaps bidding an invitational 3♥ might be best. But no Moysian fit construction seemed to work, either. If West has doubled on QJ98x or some such, we are still not a lock to have a game. Since it is matchpoints, I will play for the plus score. It has always been useful to apply Josephine Culbertson's rule for slam bidding: If partner can have a minimum holding that will produce a cold slam, you are entitled to make a slam try. Extending that rule, I cannot see a minimum holding that, in light of the double of 2♣, will produce good play for game.

*One hand proves little, but on the actual hand partner held four spades also. The 2♠ bidders have hit the jackpot, as 4♠ makes only from their side.*



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

You, South, hold: ♠-- ♥Axx ♦Axxx ♣AKJxxx  
What now?

**Bartusek: 6♣.** Put the pressure on the non-vul opponents. I think East probably has diamond support, which marks partner with diamond shortage!

**Mealy-mouth: 6♣.** I don't think we have a grand slam, so I'll double 6♣. Oops, they haven't bid 6♣? They will after I bid 6♣.

**Miles: 4♦.** This should help partner evaluate his hand. Since it forces to 5♣ (at least), it should guarantee controls in both majors. *What would you bid with a slam try without a heart control?*

**Roeder: A tricky 5♣.** I am lukewarm to the "value" bids: 4♦, 4♠, and 6♣. My devious bid puts trust in the opponents to take a relatively cheap save with their likely two-suited fit. North did not preempt, yet freely bid 3♠, so they may have a secondary diamond fit in addition to having nine or even ten spades between them. After all, partner didn't make a negative double. I want to get "pushed" to 6♣. My hat goes off to the master bid of 4♠! Undoubtedly, it is a brilliant bid, but you can lose a humorless partner if it backfires.

**Sacks: 4♣.** Yes, the hand is worth more, but I plan on walking this hand, and it is hard to imagine its getting passed out in 4♣ with their having at least 10 spades. I would like to buy the hand for 5♣, as I think that partner's probable 3-3-2-5 distribution is unlikely to produce slam. After all, 3♣ only promises a sound raise to 2♣.

**Wickham: 4♠.** Seems like 4♦ will cause LHO to bid 4♠, thereby precluding the hoped for 4♥ cuebid by partner, so I will bid 4♠ now and 5♦ later in an attempt to have some dialogue regarding a grand slam. If I get lucky and partner is allowed to bid and chooses 5♥, I will make one more try with 5♠.

**Goldsmith: 5♣.** Partner probably doesn't have a four-

card major (no negative double), so where are the hearts? Looks like RHO is 7-4 or so in the majors, which is why he didn't preempt the first time. That means, unless partner has major suit tricks, we are not getting rich off any number of spades. Even though we might make a slam, we simply want to buy the contract. How do we accomplish that? If I walk the dog with 4♣, South will raise spades. Then there's no chance I'll ever get to play the hand below the seven-level. I think the best chance to play it is to bid 5♣. South might have 3-3-6-1 and choose not to bid five-over-five, and North might be 7-4-1-1 and sell. If the opponents were to promise never to bid again, I think 4♠ is about right, but since that'll almost surely elicit a double, I don't like it tactically.

*What's the lowest contract you're willing to play?*

**Bartusek: 6♣.** (See above.)

**Mealy-mouth: 6♣,** but I don't think I'll get to play it.

**Miles: 5♣.** The opponents may save in diamonds if we reach slam.

**Roeder: 6♣.**

**Sacks: 6♣.** IMP odds being what they are, I will let myself be "pushed" to 6♣. Kudos to a 4♦ bidder who directed the defense when partner has a singleton diamond, and we are ice cold for a slam.

**Wickham: 6♣.**

**Goldsmith: 6♣.** I think we rate to make 6♣, but I want to be pushed there. As it turned out, North was 7-5-0-1, so the lowest level you get to play is 7♣, which doesn't make vs. ♠Jxx ♥Kx ♦Kxx ♣QTxxx, even if they don't get the ruff at Trick 1.



South	West	North	East
1♠	pass	2♥	pass
3♥	pass	3♠	pass
4♦	pass	4♥	pass
?			

You, South, hold: ♠JT98x ♥AQx ♦AKxx ♣x  
What call do you make?

**Bartusek: 4NT.** RKC for spades (preferably 6 keys). Partner cooperated with his 4♥ cuebid, so he assuredly has sufficient controls to make the five-level safe. Partner's 3♠ guarantees at least three-card support and sets the trump suit unless overruled later in the auction. Partner's 4♥ should also guarantee a club control (hopefully not the KQ).

**Mealy-mouth: Pass.** I made my slam try when I bid 4♦, and partner rejected. Topless spades deter me from a further try. Perhaps I should have reversed into 3♦ over partner's 2♥, and then supported hearts to suggest three-card support and a singleton club.

**Miles: Pass.** I would have liked my hand better if partner had not shown spade support. If partner has something like ♠AK ♥KJxxxx ♦Qx ♣Qxx, I expect him to have bid 5♥. I suppose, if you play six-card RKCB for both spades and hearts, this might be the hand to use it, although I don't know how to show the queens in either (or both) majors.

**Roeder: Pass.** I showed slam interest and partner demurred. Makes me think we are off at least one spade trick and the ♣A.

**Sacks: Pass.** Partner needs to have the ♣A or first and second round control of spades. With the latter he surely would have bid more than 4♥, and with the former he would bid past 4♥ most of the time. If my ♦K were the ♠K, I would probably not let the hand out below slam. BTW, 3♥ should not be bid on a dead

minimum hand with three hearts.

**Wickham: 5♣.** In virtually any partnership, even with Mr. Hamman, I would have bid 3NT (slam seeking) instead of 4♦, as it is not logical to elect to play 3NT with two eight-card or longer major suit fits. Having arrived at the table after the bookseller bid 4♦, correctly fearing that his partner, Mr. Miles, might pass 3NT, I would now make a last try for slam with 5♣.

**Goldsmith: 4♠.** I have bad trumps and only enough extras to cue below game, and my spade texture suggests that they should be trump. Frivolous/Serious 3NT was not available on the previous round, so I need to limit my hand. Partner held ♠AQ ♥KJxxx ♦Qxx ♣Kxx. He thought 3♠ was a cue bid in support of hearts; I thought it showed spade support *a la* two-over-one. It's handy to have both, so I think 3NT ought to take the place of the spade cue for hearts. If you play Frivolous or Serious 3NT there, Frivolous has an edge, since responder might have only a spade cue if he's minimum, but if he's strong, he'll probably be able to cue a minor suit. Even better is to play Frivolous/Serious 3♠ and 3NT is spade support. Here the edge probably goes to Serious, because opener can use 3NT as a spade cue, and we might be able to determine at the 4-level that all suits are controlled.

At the table, neither pair reached 6♥. If we had, we would have won the match and the event, because while the spade finesse was off, the ♣A was on and diamonds were 3-3.



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

You hold: ♠J973 ♥8642 ♦Q852 ♣6 What's your opening lead?

**Bartusek: ♠3.** A minor suit looks dangerous with declarer's having at least seven cards in the minors. I hope to guess declarer's short major. Spades seems safer because of the texture of the suit and has more upside potential than hearts.

**Mealy-mouth: ♠3/♦2.** Your guess is as good as mine. I flip a mental coin. If it comes down heads I lead the ♠3. If it comes down tails I lead the ♦2. If it stands on end I lead the ♥6. If it never comes down at all (my high school chemistry teacher assured me that this is possible though unlikely) I lead the ♣6. How's that for an answer? Mealy-mouthed enough for you?

**Miles: ♠3 (with no conviction).**

**Roeder: ♠3.** I will apologize if dummy's spades are AQxx and declarer holds K10x. Combines safety with a degree of aggression.

**Sacks: ♦2.** Whereas either major could blow a trick and/or a tempo and is probably only right if I find partner with four of them, I will fall back on the boring fourth from my longest and strongest. I am curious to see the rationale behind other leads as I am not sold on my diamond lead.

**Wickham: ♦2.** I won't consider a club. Either major will work when partner has four (or more) of the suit I lead. This is not likely to be the case. Why do I get a napkin problem when the answer is to lead fourth from my longest and strongest suit? I lead the... ♦2.

**Goldsmith: ♠3.** Given that I'm this weak and that partner didn't bid, I need to hit partner's five-card suit. If it's clubs, they are making anyway, so that's out. There's no reason to pick hearts over spades, so the decision is between a spade and a diamond. If partner had five good diamonds, he'd likely bid them over 2♣, but he'd be much more circumspect with, say, ♠KQ10xx, since he's more prone to getting doubled, because even when bidding 2♦ is wrong, sometimes East just bids his major. So it's more likely that partner has five spades than five diamonds. On the other hand, I need less in diamonds than spades to beat 3NT. I think it's a toss-up, and a spade lead is less likely to blow an overtrick or two when they are cold (I like my ♠9), so I'll choose a spade.

At the table, partner held ♦AKxxx, so a diamond was the winner. Had he held the missing ♦J, he would have bid 2♦, even with 5332 shape, so perhaps there is something to my reasoning, even though it produced the wrong answer this time.

ATU *continued from page 9*

crown, scepter and orb that we let him keep them another year. We're checking the budget to see if we can afford to have the robes sent to the cleaners after all these years. Bob Shore is the new heir to the throne. Fred Mautner is the only one who knows where the Swiss and Bahamas bank accounts are, so with the Treasurers post filled, its

on to Secretary. Jordan Chodorow has been Secretary for so long I think he's planning to write a tell-all book. So why get in his way to make money off our craziness. The rest of those serving on the board this year are.... Pete Benjamin, Karen Byrd, Roger Clough, Chuck Fonorow, Toby Green, Brana Hall, Mario Mory, Carolyn Taff and myself.

Having the other committee posts filled with the names from last

year and for the new ones Howard pulled out the "Fickle Finger of Fate" and it was now on to the annual Unit Board home team game.

We have three new Junior Masters - Helen Cooksey, Irene Ghassemieh, Joe Lieberman one Club Master - Marilyn Pecsok and one Regional Master - Eileen Meich.

Friends and partners of Lee

*ATU continued on next page*

Reinman were saddened to hear of his passing last month.

70%ers were Lew & Rhoda Himmell, Dan Hugh-Jones & Wayne Karson, Dan Hugh-Jones and Paul Smith, Pete Benjamin & Gary King.

Club Champs at Barrington were "A" Aram Bedros & Art Zail, Charles Jurgens & Lundsford Laverty "B" Gloria Sherwood & John Campbell "C" Robert Martin & John Stokdyk, Suzanne Bornstein & Melinda Curry. BHBC the Champs were Bruce Altshuler & Bob Shore, Lew & Rhoda Himmell, Elianna & Adam Meyerson, Fumie Glenney & David Raphael. Besides the Team game at Beverly Hills on Thursday evenings, on

Wednesday nights before the game there is a lecture series at 6:30. I'll be lecturing March 9 and I will be taking attendance, so those not showing up will be getting demerits.

This unit column is due on the 15th of the month before it comes out. It's MLK's birthday and it feels like it's been four score and seven years that I have been writing this column (and that's just this month). I need a vacation for awhile, so I'm having my "Free at last" moment and from the death, taxes and the monthly column list, I've shipped the last one off to Bob Shore. Thanks to all those loyal readers and good luck, Bob, I hope your typing skills are better than mine.

## District 23 Rank Changes 12/1/10 - 12/31/10

### Junior Master (5 MPs)

James Ach  
Rosemarie Bock  
John Burriss  
Douglas Campbell  
Dogan Erden  
Jennifer Friedman  
John Galligher  
Toni Gold  
Yehudit Hasin-Brumshten  
James Hawkins  
Fred Kleinzweig  
Pamela Kushida  
Bernice Leve  
Carol Levin  
Doreen Lewin  
Ann Rittenhouse  
Ralph Rittenhouse  
Barbara Sell  
Carolyn Woo

### Club Master (20 MPs)

Barbara Astrin  
Elizabeth Beagle  
Donna Eastman  
Bobbi Endler  
Gerry Gastelum  
Ashok Hargunani

Janet Henke  
Leon Lewin  
Keith Loseke  
Helena Marsh  
Val Romoff  
Anne-Lise Scott  
Jane Winston

### Sectional master (50 MPs)

Bobbie Geller  
Nathan Gittleman  
Diane Keller  
Billee Kelly  
Roy Ladd  
Charles Sarture  
John Soldano

### Regional Master (100 MPs)

Wallis Annenberg  
Ruth Baker  
Carmela Chiurazzi  
Colleen Gardner  
Linda Garfinkel  
David Lyons  
Joerg Rottenbacher  
Sheila Singer

### NABC Master (200 MPs)

Xingping Kang

Mike McKittrick  
Karen Schwartz  
Nancy Spelke

### Life Master (300 MPs)

Sharon Beran  
James Gardner  
Martin Gilbert  
Peter Jager  
Marcia Lauffer-Rosner  
Joan Little  
Steven Little  
Kathy Rudolph

### Bronze Life Master (500 MPs)

Adi Arieli  
John Campbell  
Lola Messiha  
Betty Williams

### Silver Life Master (1000 MPs)

Adi Arieli  
John Campbell  
Lola Messiha  
Betty Williams