

# Southern California Bridge News

Volume 48, #8

August 2012

Published By ALACBU

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Paul Smith

by Becky Clough, ALACBU President



A phenomenal event occurred at our recent Pasadena regional. Paul Smith who was born January 15, 1914, won the Friday two-session Open Pair game. He is 98 and still plays bridge better than most of us. I decided to interview him to ascertain some of his secrets to long life and winning bridge.

Paul told me he has been playing bridge for 92 years. His parents used to play auction bridge with friends and when it was time for refreshments, his mother would ask him to fill in. Paul was brought up in Chicago, and lived there until he joined the Navy, the week after Pearl Harbor. After waiting in the line at the recruitment office, one of the officers asked him a series of questions and sent him upstairs to see the commissions recruiter. Soon after, Paul received a large brown envelope in the mail with his orders. As Ensign Smith, he reported to the Naval Armory in Los Angeles where in took a four-week course in Naval Communications before going to sea aboard the Calvert. He served in the Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the Pacific and participated in eight amphibious landings and was awarded a Bronze Star. He retired from the Navy in 1946 as a commander.

During high school Paul played the saxophone in the high school concert band and won the city championship. In his senior year, Paul was captain of his high school's golf team which also won the city

PRESIDENT *continued on page 14*

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## 5-Year Strategic Plan: Comments Requested

by Rand Pinsky, District Director



The first day of the National Board meeting in Philadelphia was spent on the development of the 5-year strategic plan for the ACBL. The development of the plan is a continuous project set forth by Sharon Anderson, our 2012 ACBL president. I will present three parts to the plan and ask our District 23 members to offer their comments. Additionally, Sharon will be visiting our regional this October and will be holding listening groups for additional feedback. If anyone wishes to be part of this listening group, please let me know.

**Mission Statement:** The first part of the plan is the Mission Statement. It reads, "To promote and sustain the game of bridge and serve the bridge-related interests of our members."

What are your thoughts on this statement? Should it include the word "duplicate" in it, or is "bridge" the better term?

**Vision:** The second part of the plan is the vision. It reads, "We will be a growing, thriving organization that actively meets the diverse needs of our members and bridge players."

What are your thoughts of the vision? Is it the correct vision? Should it be amended to add some other points? Should it be completely rewritten? Let me know your thoughts.

**Strategic Focus Areas:** This is most important part of the plan. The board identified many areas for discussion. Towards the end of the day, each member of the board ranked the five most important areas. In order of importance, the board voted as follows:

1. Develop and implement focused programs for member recruitment.
2. Identify and replicate best practices and innovations.

DIRECTOR *continued on page 2*

DIRECTOR *continued from page 1*

3. Integrate technology to meet member needs.
4. Retain more members.
5. Provide top quality directing at tournaments.

The board will again discuss and review the progress of management on the development of these five focus areas. These areas can be amended or changed as more input is received from our membership.

I want your comments, feedback, and suggestions. Please let me hear from you at [Pinsky4Bridge@earthlink.net](mailto:Pinsky4Bridge@earthlink.net).

Next month I will discuss the motions that were passed by the board at our meetings.

District 23 Mini-McKenney Standings  
300 to 500 MPs

|                       |    |                      |    |
|-----------------------|----|----------------------|----|
| 1. Carmela Chiurazzi  | 93 | 20. Dorothy Lazar    | 42 |
| 2. Karen Schwartz     | 91 | 21. Elaine Roth      | 41 |
| 3. Fuad Khuri         | 84 | 22. Frederick Upton  | 41 |
| 4. Elaine Moore       | 79 | 23. Tracy Boys       | 41 |
| 5. Stephen Massman    | 73 | 24. Douglas Kuschner | 37 |
| 6. Alyssa Kennedy     | 58 | 25. Nancy Collinge   | 36 |
| 7. David Peim         | 57 | 26. Frani Ridder     | 35 |
| 8. James Gardner      | 55 | 27. Samy Antoun      | 33 |
| 9. Phyllis Greenstein | 49 | 28. Jay Young        | 32 |
| 10. Mary Thomas       | 49 | 29. Fay Beckerman    | 32 |
| 11. Andy Anderson     | 48 | 30. Joan Feldman     | 32 |
| 12. Mike Ullman       | 48 | 31. Richard Wiggins  | 31 |
| 13. R. M. Turner      | 47 | 32. William Inglis   | 31 |
| 14. John Stokdyk      | 47 | 33. Huguette Galante | 31 |
| 15. Rhoda Weisler     | 46 | 34. Robert Martin    | 30 |
| 16. Judy Sandberg     | 43 | 35. Hilde Harris     | 29 |
| 17. Robert Svensrud   | 43 | 36. Robert Preece    | 28 |
| 18. Joel Sandberg     | 43 | 37. Anne Andres      | 28 |
| 19. Fred Willbanks    | 42 | 38. Paul Fuson       | 28 |

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## Southern California Bridge News

Published monthly by ALACBU, Inc.

11033 Barman Avenue, Culver City, CA 90230 Phone: 310-836-1235

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Subscription Rates: \$12.00 per year, private; \$2.00 as portion of District 23 dues; \$3.00 Units outside District 23 if subscribed by entire unit. Copy deadlines: advertising and editorial material by 10th of month; unit columns by 15th of month. Classified ads are payable in advance and only for a 6-month period or more with no changes in content. Opinions expressed in the Southern California Bridge News are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of ALACBU, Inc., The Bridge News or the Editor. The Bridge News reserves the right to reject material it considers to be in poor taste or deems otherwise unsuitable for publication.

|                      |    |
|----------------------|----|
| 39. Jean Ingram      | 28 |
| 40. Robert Glasser   | 28 |
| 41. John Langer      | 27 |
| 42. Ronald Srenco    | 27 |
| 43. Karen McCarthy   | 26 |
| 44. Karen McKittrick | 26 |
| 45. Mike McKittrick  | 26 |
| 46. Joe Hasencamp    | 26 |
| 47. Judith Scott     | 26 |
| 48. James Scott      | 26 |
| 49. Kathy Rudolph    | 25 |
| 50. Sharon Wolf      | 25 |
| 51. James Fu         | 25 |
| 52. Elaine Bleiweis  | 25 |
| 53. Ellen Carrier    | 25 |
| 54. Bettyanne Houts  | 25 |
| 55. Henry Roediger   | 25 |
| 56. Elaine Keyes     | 24 |
| 57. Ken Paine        | 24 |
| 58. J. F. Packey     | 24 |
| 59. Mahin Khadivi    | 24 |
| 60. Sandra Rucker    | 24 |
| 61. Fran Cohen       | 23 |
| 62. Joan Crishal     | 23 |
| 63. Barbara Coe      | 23 |
| 64. Al Franken       | 23 |
| 65. Richard Gero     | 22 |

# Around the Units in District 23

## Antelope Valley by Brad Ward

Realizing that we are a rapidly dwindling community is tough sometimes. Another of our friends and a stout competitor in Lancaster passed away in mid-May. Guess we all should make an extra effort to enjoy the games we have and the folks we get to see at the clubs each week. This is another reason to try to be especially nice and respectful each time you play.

Kathy Swaine and Rita Vanatter are continuing to do a great job running their clubs and all those that labor tirelessly to help them deserve great thanks. Everyone that enjoys playing in Valencia and in Castaic should thank these folks for all their hard work and for offering us a great bridge experience each week. Despite the many challenges, the Lancaster Club continues to survive. Congratulations must go out to both Bill Brodek and Mira Rowe for passing their directors tests and now becoming acknowledged as ACBL certified directors!

The winners from contests in mid-April through mid-May (mid-month-to-month is our normal reporting cycle for publishing on day one of the following month) included familiar names, as well as some fresh ones clawing at the top and all of Unit 556 is grateful for the support given by our players.

The Valencia game saw the partnership of Lamonte Johnson and Markle Vandervort win twice! Arif Shah also tallied two wins, one playing with John Langer and another with Gary Grey. Peggy Fleming and Anna Schmidt chalked a solid win as did Basant Shah and Roshen Hadulla. Nell Schanz and Paula Olivares were also a winning pair as was Hugh Bartlett and Marguerite Pinkers.

The Castaic game saw Hugh Bartlett and Bill Brodek garner two solid wins. Mira Rowe and Fabian Fang joined Lamont Johnson and Basant Shah as well as Mary Anne Self and her husband Charles as winners.

There are more games played at the Lancaster

club than at Valencia or Castaic so more winners are acknowledged, Marlene Warren-Gasper leads the way this past month with four wins, two of those wins with Lola Messhia and one with Brad Ward and one with Doris Thompson. Russ Buker tallied three wins, two with Linda Young and one with Barbara Shuping. We are sorry to say farewell to Linda Young for a few months as she leaves the area to tend to her many business interests. A couple of nice wins were posted by the Oests as well as a pair of wins by Onarita Pallanti and Mary Stauff. Alfred Miller, Sonja Plahn, Bob Hart, George MacDonald and Rick Jackson joined the pool of winners this month in Lancaster.

Many Unit 556 players are planning to travel to the Las Vegas Regional in mid-June, so look for a lot of news next month.

## Glendale Verdugo By Norman Abbey

Glendale-Verdugo Sectional: August 10, 11, 12 2012  
Scottish Rite Temple  
150 North Madison Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101

The results of the July Unit Game are as follows:

|      |       | North – South |         |      |                    |                 |
|------|-------|---------------|---------|------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Pair | Pct   | Score         | Section | Rank |                    |                 |
|      |       | A B C         |         |      |                    |                 |
| 2    | 58.90 | 127.22        | A       | 1    | Carolyn Cohen      |                 |
|      |       |               |         |      | Tim Lolli          |                 |
| 5    | 57.43 | 124.04        | A       | 2    | Pat Abbey          |                 |
|      |       |               |         |      | Merry Besvold      |                 |
| 3    | 57.12 | 123.37        | B       | 3    | 1                  | Madelon Liebman |
|      |       |               |         |      |                    | Helen Malzer    |
| 6    | 54.01 | 116.67        | A       | 4    | Peter Szecsi       |                 |
|      |       |               |         |      | Bernardine Mateer  |                 |
| 1    | 52.78 | 114.01        | A       | 5    | John Villalobos    |                 |
|      |       |               |         |      | Dick Banta         |                 |
| 9    | 52.33 | 113.03        | B       | 2    | Patrick Cardullo → |                 |

|    |       |        |   |                |
|----|-------|--------|---|----------------|
| 4  | 51.20 | 110.60 | A | Mike Doll      |
|    |       |        |   | Art Chacanas   |
|    |       |        |   | Emily Moffatt  |
| 12 | 49.76 | 107.48 | A | Cathy Martin   |
|    |       |        |   | Rae Murbach    |
| 11 | 44.02 | 95.09  | B | Karen Alpert   |
|    |       |        |   | Rufus Rhoades  |
| 10 | 43.00 | 92.88  | B | Carol Lessin   |
|    |       |        |   | Gloria Balfour |
| 8  | 41.72 | 90.11  | C | Nan Shipp      |
|    |       |        |   | Scott Magged   |
| 7  | 39.54 | 85.40  | A | Phil Dessert   |
|    |       |        |   | Steve Shanker  |

| East – West |       |        |         |      |   |   |                  |
|-------------|-------|--------|---------|------|---|---|------------------|
| Pair        | Pct   | Score  | Section | Rank |   |   |                  |
|             |       |        |         | A    | B | C |                  |
| 2           | 66.16 | 142.90 | A       | 1    |   |   | Hugh Bartlett    |
|             |       |        |         |      |   |   | Nell Schanz      |
| 3           | 59.37 | 128.23 | C       | 2    | 1 | 1 | Sharon Wolf      |
|             |       |        |         |      |   |   | David Rozzell    |
| 11          | 53.69 | 115.97 | B       | 3    | 2 |   | Brad Beland      |
|             |       |        |         |      |   |   | Amr Elghamry     |
| 7           | 52.81 | 114.80 | C       | 4    | 3 | 2 | Tracy Boys       |
|             |       |        |         |      |   |   | Elaine Moore     |
| 9           | 50.22 | 108.47 | B       | 5    | 4 |   | Margaret Mataga  |
|             |       |        |         |      |   |   | Kathy Bernick    |
| 1           | 48.78 | 105.36 | B       |      |   |   | Adam Barron      |
|             |       |        |         |      |   |   | Leon Alexander   |
| 6           | 47.26 | 102.09 | B       |      |   |   | Esther Tapelband |
|             |       |        |         |      |   |   | Bob Hogan        |
| 4           | 45.07 | 97.35  | A       |      |   |   | Ann Banta        |
|             |       |        |         |      |   |   | Ron Moeckel      |
| 5           | 44.92 | 97.03  | C       |      |   |   | Nancy Lyon       |
|             |       |        |         |      |   |   | Betsy Josias     |
| 10          | 44.80 | 96.77  | C       |      |   |   | Eva Seri         |
|             |       |        |         |      |   |   | Lyle Wiedeman    |
| 8           | 36.93 | 79.77  | C       |      |   |   | Bill Martin      |
|             |       |        |         |      |   |   | Melonie Moran    |

Merry Besvold provided the hamburger patties, hot dogs, corn on the cob, macaroni salad, onions, tomatoes, buns and cheese. Eve Seri brought homemade pickles. Betsy Josias provided potato chips. Mek Doll brought a squash salad with squash fresh from his garden. Patrick Cardullo brought a squash casserole. Margaret Mataga provided pies and cookies for dessert. Thanks to Michael Abbey who manned the barbeque.

Many Glendale players went to Las Vegas for their

regional. Gloria Balfour, with a pick up player, had a first overall. Other players making the trip were Margaret Mataga, Tom Mayoaka, Steve Shanker, Eve Seri, Tracy Boys, and Patrick Cardullo.

The Pasadena Regionals had many Glendale players achieving great results. (Tuesday) Art Chacanas and Sharon Wolf had a second overall in the first Gold Rush pairs. Gloria Balfour and Lyle Wiedeman had a fifth place finish. Paul Nason had a second place finish. (Wednesday) Gloria Balfour and Lorraine Adams had a sixth place finish. (Thursday) Gerry Belcher and Bob Taryien were second in A and first in B. Carolyn Cohen and Tim Lolli had a fourth in A. (Friday) Gloria Balfour and Lyle Wiedeman had a third in C. Mike Doll and Patrick Cardullo had a sixth in A and a fifth in B. In the knockouts, Lyle Wiedeman and Gloria Balfour had a second in the Swiss Teams. (Saturday) Harold Knowles and Zack Vedro had a first in the Swiss Teams event giving Zack his needed Gold Points, making him a life master. (Sunday) Paul Nason and John Villalobos had a third place in A in the Pairs Game. In the Swiss Teams, Temo Arjani had a fourth place in B and Gloria Balfour had a fourth place in C.

There were 871 players who scored points in the regional. In 49th place was Zack Vedro, 50th Harold Knowles, 64th Paul Nason, 105th Patrick Cardullo, 112th Gloria Balfour, 132nd Dan Botoaca, 168th Lyle Wiedeman, 171st Temo Arjani, 174th Eva Seri, 183rd John Villalobos, 236th Sharon Wolf, 281st Mike Doll, 307th Art Chacanas, 376th Phil Dessert, 381st David Rozzell (this was his first tournament), 401st Lorraine Adams, 604th Tim Lolli, 607th Carolyn Cohen.

Glendale Sectional August 10, 11, 12th. Hope to see you there.

## Long Beach by Jon Yinger

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

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

**June 17 unit-rated Father's Day Game:** Overall results: 1st in A: Bob Mault/Phyllis Parker, 2nd Chiye and Bruce Horiguchi, 3rd Paul Pettler/Eileen Nelson, 4th Earl VanDerVord/Jon Yinger, 5th Karen Horton/Wayne Rapp. B flight overalls: Usha Bansal/Hashim Mahmood were 2nd and Don Harris/Herb Royal were 3rd. Congratulations to all! →

**June 24 Unit Game:** Overall results: 1st in A: John and Bea Bralliar, 2nd Sue Ann Simon/Steven Yaffe, 3rd Carol McCully, Ed Barad, 4th John and Jo Melis, 5th John Petrie/Sankar Reddy, 6th Jackie Hess/Betty McClellan. B flight overalls: 4th Kiyo Nagaishi/Usha Bansal, 5th Nancy Karl/Sandy Lex, 6th Fern Dunbar/Linda Stein. C flight overalls: 3rd Paul Pettler/Patricia Ann Jay, 4th Melanie and Jerome Smith. Congratulations to all!

**July 15 "Eight Is Enough" Unit Game:** The over-all winning team in the A flight, each member winning 5.10mp, consisted of Aaron Jones/Sean Lui/Cayce Blanchard/John Petrie. The #2 team, each member winning 3.83mp, was Baum Harris/Steve Skinner/Robert and Richard Bakovic. The #3 team, each member winning 2.87mp, was Barbara Shortwell/George Norman/Florence Niwa/Ralph Moskowitz. The #4 team was Gary Paugh/Mark Teaford/Joyce Henderson/Jane Reid. Tied for 5/6 were Betty Jackson/Gloria Sedore/Sylvia Kaprelyan/Cole Sachs tied with Renee Hoffman/AnneMunchow/Melanie and Jerome Smith. In the B flight the #5 team was Peggy Waite/Janet Logan/Lynn Danielson/Sue Ayers; the #6 team was Steve Ramos/Bill Dilks/Sharon Biederman/Lorraine Hohn. And in the C flight, tied for 5/6, were the teams of Janet Wagner-Kirner/Lavonne McQuilkin/Ernie and Ylia Ross tied with the team of Marcus Evans/Linda Eagan/Mei Yost/Diana Lam. Congratulations to all!!

**70+% Games** in the club June 16 through July 15: In the NLM game July 3 Ann Munchow/Jerome Smith had a 72.92% game, and in the open game July 10 Steve Rowe/Irwin Bender had a 70.51% game. Congratulations to both pairs!

**Big Masterpoint Awards:** Big point awards for 1st, 2nd or 3rd in open pairs games June 16 through July 15: In the Unit Game June 17 Phyllis Parker/Bob Mault were 1st overall winning 3.00mp. June 18 John Hand/Aaron Jones won 5.33mp for 1st, Gary King/Ted Gibbs 4.00mp for 2nd, Betty McClellan/Jon Yinger 3.00mp for 3rd. June 19 Betty McClellan/Steve Rowe won 5.50mp for 1st, Marcie Evans/Sean Lui 4.21mp for 2nd, and Al and Sharon Appel 3.09mp for 3rd. June 20 Betty McClellan/Toni Morford won 4.00mp for 1st, Phil Schuster/Jon Yinger 3.00mp for 2nd. July 21 John and Cory Hand won 4.17mp for 1st, Kay Tseng/John Melis 3.13mp for 2nd. June 22 Baum Harris/Larry Slutsky won 6.50mp for 1st, Stephen Licker/Dick Sands 4.88mp for 2nd, Larry Topper/Bob Goldstein 3.66mp for 3rd. In the evening game Lisa Kuo/Murat Veysoglu won

3.00mp for 1st. June 23 Jo and John Melis won 4.50mp for 1st, Pam Kirkner/Bill Wilson 3.38mp for 2nd. In the Unit Game June 24 Bea and John Bralliar won 3.68mp for 1st over-all. July 4 Kim Wang/Gabrielle Sill won 4.39 mp for 1st. And in the evening game July 13 John and Jo Melis won 4.00mp for 1st, Sankar Reddy/Aaron Jones won 2.00 for 2nd. Congratulations to all!

**Status Changes:** Junior Masters: John Kraft, Richard Schaeffer; Club Masters: William Dilks, Linda Nye; Sectional Masters: Susan Biby, Bernard Dow, Rosalie Storck; Regional Master: John Berg. Congratulations to you all!!

**Upcoming Events at the Club:** Wednesday August 1 Inter-Club Championship game: hand records and overall awards. August 5-11 North American Pairs qualifying week. Sunday, August 19 Unit Game: lunch at 12:30, game at 1pm. August 20-26 Great Western Holiday STaC week: Hand Records, overall awards. NAP and STaC games: hand records, extra points, \$11 fee. Other special games—extra points, regular prices.

#### Report from **Leisure World** by Joan Tschirki

Leisure World ACBL Bridge Club is really on the GROW!! Monday and Thursday games are up to 10 tables and more interest as new residents and the "world outside" players join us for friendly, well-run games. An of course the price is right: \$2.00 and \$3.00. Currently Larry Slutsky is offering free lessons reviewing what they already know with suggestions of how to improve their games. Games on Monday call Midge 562-594-9698 and Cookie 562-431-6453 for Thursday at Clubhouse III. Drawings weekly for free plays. On Fridays call Joyce at 562-439-6122 and Audrey at 562-598-8081 on Saturdays at Clubhouse I. Most recently Aaron Jones has offered up his services as Director on Saturdays. We are very pleased to have this rising star in the bridge world!

We have some good press with Connie Young achieving her goal as Life Master. Congrats!! This took place in the Las Vegas Regional in June, 2012. Jay Young, her partner in bridge and in life, helped her achieve this goal!

Bee Kinman also made news by achieving over 5000 master points. In ACBL this is referred to as a Diamond Life Master. Congrats! (not as the newspaper reported 55,000 points!!) Bee has been the Queen Bee in Leisure World for about twenty years. And thus the...



### Bee-attitudes

*When I came to bridge for the first time in Leisure World, I soon found out who the queen is.*

*Bee is the "honey" holding the beehive together.*

*We are her "worker bees" and her "wanna bees"*

*She wants us to bee-lieve in ourselves. She doesn't bee-little*

*She just shakes her head, and never bee-comes upset.*

*Bee decided to give lessons, sometimes they were "unreachable," "unpreachable," and "unteachable"*

*But she continues to pollinate..... whatever it takes.*

*We bee-lieve in you, Bee!! Congratulations!! The Leisure World Bee-hive!!*

### Mid-Way 2012 Leaders

The Wanna Bees  
(non Life Masters)

1. Howard Smith
2. Gloria Sedore
3. Betty Scharf

The Honey Bees  
(Life Masters to 2000 pts)

1. Verna Burns
2. Bill Linskey
3. Dorothy Favre

The Soaring Bees  
(LM over 2000 pts)

1. Bee Kinman
2. Larry Slutsky
3. Joan Tschirki

For more information on club events call Ruth Kaller, Club Manager, at 562/430-0316 or Ted Wieber, President, at 562/596-8661. Results of all Leisure World games are posted on [www.acblunit557.org](http://www.acblunit557.org)

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#### Monday, September 10

- 9:00 a.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs
- 1:15 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Bracketed Mon-Tue KO Teams Round 1 of 3
- 7:00 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Mon-Tue KO Teams Round 2 of 3

#### Tuesday, September 11

- 9:00 a.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Mon-Tue KO Teams Final Round
- 1:15 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Bracketed Tue-Wed KO Teams Round 1 of 3
- 7:00 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Tue-Wed KO Teams Round 2 of 3

#### Wednesday, September 12

- 9:00 a.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Tue-Wed KO Teams Final Round
- 1:15 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Bracketed Wed-Thu KO Teams Round 1 of 3
- 7:00 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Wed-Thu KO Teams Round 2 of 3

#### Thursday, September 13

- 9:00 a.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
Bracketed Wed-Thu KO Teams Final Round
- 1:15 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Compact KO Teams (Rounds 1 & 2)
- 7:00 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
Stratified 0-300 Pairs  
Compact KO Teams (Rounds 3 & Final)  
Stratified Board-A-Match Teams

#### Friday, September 14

- 10:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. Stratified Fast Pairs  
(finish by 4:15 p.m.) (This is a 2-session event,  
but single session entries may be sold at the  
Director's discretion.)
- 10:00 a.m. & TBD Stratified Swiss Teams (2-sessions)  
Swiss Teams will finish by 5:15 p.m.

**All stratified events are stratified by the  
average masterpoints of the team or pair.**

Strats: A: 2000+ B: 750-2000 C: 0-750  
I/N: 0-20/50/100/200/300

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## San Fernando Valley by Fran Kern

### Spotlight on Awards

This year the 750 Bridge Club celebrated the 3rd Annual Carol Lang Awards Week during the week of June 18-21. This award was established to honor Carol Lang who devoted countless hours to support and teach junior players. This award goes to the pair that achieved the highest percentage game for the week and is limited to players with fewer than 1,000 master points. Congratulations to winners Billy Blanchard and James Hoose whose names will be engraved on the Carol Lang Award Plaque at the 750 Club. Honorable mention goes to second place winners Lenny Popowitz and Shelly Popowitz..

Carol Lang is a hero to many of us as she continues to battle serious health issues. She is in the hearts and minds of many who continually send love and prayers her way.

### The Top Ten Masterpoint Winners for June 2012

**750 Bridge Club:** Bunnie Roth 8.73, Linda Silvey 7.79, Margie Bulmer 6.27, Helen Malzer 6.27, Jim Gardner 5.96, Jim Hawkins 5.60, Ron Malkin 5.28, Norm Bloomfield 5.18, Rich Ruby 4.98, Jim Fu 4.79.

**Bridge Academy Under 750 Masterpoints:** Ron Stewart 2.66, Carol Stein 2.64, Gregory Bozin 2.27, John Van Egmond 2.03, Mike Mintz 1.28, Sheila Singer 1.20, Bernard Davidorf 1.03, Douglas Timmer 1.03, Phillip Calloway 1.00, Barbara Kellerman .94.

**Bridge Academy Open Masterpoints:** Joan Rubin 7.96, Gilbert Stinebaugh 7.00, Sheila Bozin 6.96, Tom Wylie 6.51, Dovid Crum 6.47, Dick Lum 6.32, Leda Danzig 6.24, Barbara Pinchuk 5.97, Marel Bates 5.72, Arline Borovay 5.25

**70% Games for June:** Armand Szulc & Martin Blain 71.30, Jim Gardner & Norm Bloomfield 70.63

### In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of Sam Faye who passed away on July 11. A good man and a good bridge player has left us. Players at the 750 Club will especially remember Sam's elegant appearance when he wore a regal crown on Hat Day. We extend condolences to Sam's son, David

Faye, and to other family members. Sam's bridge/life partner Shelly Linick is particularly in our thoughts and prayers at this time.

*COLUMN NEWS: Make certain 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).*

## Pasadena San Gabriel Valley by Marie Nimmrich

Unit Game Sunday 19 August 1:00  
8 Is Enough Team Game

**Big News:** Zach Vedro became our newest life master when he and Harold Knowles won a compact knockout at the regional in Pasadena. Zach was recently married, so this has been a great year for him. And who was the presiding minister at Zach's wedding? Why Harold Knowles, of course. Congratulations to you both.

**August Unit Game:** As you can see, our next unit game will be held on Sunday 19 August at the San Marino Recreation Building at 1:00 p.m. It will be an 8 Is Enough team game. Here is how the number eight fits into the title. Each team has four members and each player on the team is assigned a number according to the total of master points the player has earned. Those with 0 to 750 will be assigned the number 1; those with 751 to 2000 will be assigned the number 2; and those with 2001 plus will be assigned the number 3. These numbers may not exceed eight for the team you form to play. However, the team total does not have to be eight. For example, you can have four players with one as the number assigned to each, making a team total of four. Etc. The cost is \$5.00 per person for unit members and \$8.00 for non unit members (who are strenuously invited to come). Pizza will be served. Reservations will be taken by Jan Wickersham 626-355-2666. She will also arrange partnerships and teams. So please give her a call when you have a team ready to play.

Speaking of unit games, we held a second one in June because the first Sunday in July was reserved for the regional in Pasadena. Sophia and Roland Pineda brought the food and we thank them for a delicious repast. And the winners were: Sharon Wolf and John Villalobos. Joanie Mesias and Charo Hold were →

second overall, followed by Amr Elghamry and Eric Tan. Fourth were Diana Borgatti and Cathy Martin and fifth were Gary Swinhart and Tim Parris.

**San Marino Bridge Club:** San Marino will hold the North American Pairs Qualifying Games in August on Wednesday evening 8 August at 7:15 P.M. and on Wed. evening 22 August at 7:15 P.M. Those who qualify at either of these games will go on to the semi-finals in October, then to the district finals in January and finally to the St. Louis Nationals in March of 2013. We have had several people from our unit being sent to the nationals through the auspices of the North American Pairs. All games will be stratified.

San Marino is rumored to be starting a Friday morning game some time in August. The director will be Cathy Martin. The game will start at 11:00 a.m. The starting date for this game is not as yet known but we will keep you informed.

**Arcadia Bridge Center:** North American Pairs Qualifying Games will also be held at the Bridge Center. Keep in mind the following dates: Tuesday 14 August at 7:15 p.m. and Friday 24 August at 7:30 p.m. These games will yield half red and half black to those who place.

Beat the House Night will take place on Friday 24 August at 7:30 p.m. Winner/Loser Sunday will be held on Sunday 26 August at 1:00 p.m. Those who won or were last at Bridge Center games in July can play for \$5.00. All other players pay regular card fees. This is a very popular event, so make your plans accordingly.

**Pasadena Regional:** Roger Lee just keeps winning and winning. He was part of the team that won the Marshall Miles Swiss. His team won the Tuesday Compact Knockout - Bracket 1. Jeff Goldsmith was also a member of this knockout team. Jeff was part of the winning team of the Thursday/Friday Knockout. And Nolan Chang was playing on the team that won the Sunday Swiss, along with John Jones.

**Bridge Performances:** Joe Viola won the most points at the San Fernando Sectional - 11.69. Old news but still... Roger Lee and Jill Meyers won the Blue Ribbon Pairs in Seattle.

**Ace of Clubs Leaders** as of 30 June are: 0 - 5 Mps George Henderson; 5 - 20 Mps Richard Halverstadt; 20 - 50 Mps Beverly and Robert Sobraske; 50 - 100 Mps Steve Shanker; 100 - 200 Mps Janet Bennett; 200 - 300 Mps Madhu Sudan; 300 - 500 Mps Jack Packey; 500 - 1000 Amr Elghamry; 1000 - 2500 Mps Jake Frenkel; 2500 - 5000 Mps Herman Helber; 5000 - 7500 Mps

Peter Szecsi; 7500 - 10,000 Mps John Jones. These are the leaders in most master points won at club games from Unit 559.

**Mini-McKenney Leaders** as of 30 June are: 0 - 5 Mps Yichi Zhang; 5 - 20 Mps Richard Halverstadt; 20 - 50 Mps Bridget O'Sullivan; 50 - 100 Mps Steve Shanker; 100 - 200 Mps Dave Solin; 200 - 300 Mps Jack Chang; 300 - 500 Mps Jack Packey; 500 - 1000 Mps Amr Elghamry; 1000 - 2500 Mike Marcucci; 2500 - 5000 Mps Samuel Wang; 5000 - 7500 Mps Peter Szecsi; 7500 - 10,000 Mps Jeff Goldsmith. These are the leaders in most masterpoints won at tournaments from Unit 559.

**Bridge Story by Chuck Cordaro:** A few years ago I played with Peter Schneider. Peter was wearing a pair of those red, high-top sneakers the kids call Chuck Taylors. "One of those leftover hippies," I thought to myself. Between games Peter told me he had recently come from the Palm Springs regional and played against the team of Bill Gates and Warren Buffet. Each had his own coach with him. Each of his opponents has a net worth that is comfortably over \$60 billion, so I asked Peter what it was like playing against them. "OK," he said with a shrug. I was surprised by his casual response to playing against two of the most powerful men in the world. When I mentioned his laconic reply to Jeanne Dea, she told me that Peter had no reason to feel intimidated. He was, in fact, a successful producer of plays for the legitimate stage, as well as a top executive at the Disney studios.

Where is Peter these days? Haven't seen him for a few years. He played at the Arcadia Bridge Center for a while. So many interesting people have passed through the portals of the Bridge Center and gone on to fame. Billy Miller was one. And Robert Shore—he writes a column for the ALACBU paper and he is really a great writer. I remember when Roger Lee was learning bridge at the age of 12 with his sister. And I remember Lulu Minter's two offspring - Fred and Toni - when they were caddies at our sectionals. You start reminiscing like this and you could fill a whole newspaper.

Here is a hand for you. I don't know how to bid it; maybe some people will have an answer. Partner opens 2NT and you hold the following:

♠8 ♥KJTxx ♦QTxxxxx ♣---

Next month there will be news from our sectional (held at the end of July). And until then,

Pax vobiscum



## Pomona Covina

### by Vic Sartor

Unit Game Saturday Aug. 18, 11:00 a.m.

In August of 1948, Mr. Waldo Hanchett patented the dental chair. In that same month in 1911, Proctor and Gamble unveiled a new shortening called Crisco. In the summer of 1935, the world's first parking meter was installed at the corner of First Street and Robinson Avenue in Oklahoma City. It had the august title "Park-O-Meter #1."

If you think the previous paragraph was just incredibly dull and superfluous information, you ain't seen nuthin' yet. Compared to our unit news for this month, it was Pulitzer material. Newspapers have been known to have a slow news days, but I think a slow news month is overdoing things a bit. Anyway, at the risk of inducing narcolepsy in any reader who has managed to get this far, I will try to give you what little relevant data I have been able to collect this month.

In an uncharacteristic burst of journalistic efficiency, I managed to get the results of the June unit game into last month's column. I therefore have no unit game results to report. I can tell you that the monthly individual game was won by Bob Kakade, with Dolores Kelley, Clint Lew, and Richard Patterson tying for second.

The top club game was a 67.6% posted by Milt Kalikman and Ken Lowenthal. Other club winners included Kurt Trieselmann, Lulu Minter, Bill Papa, Kathy Helber, Herman Helber, Charlotte Capelle, Hanan Mogharbel, Linda Tessier, Paul Chrisney, Susan Emminger, Lary Alba, John Barrow, Roy Wilson, Roger Boyar, Donald Naf, Richard Patterson, Susan Ruoff, Herb Stampfl, and Vic Sartor.

We did have a few wins at the Pasadena Regional. Penny Barbieri, Sandy Jones, Susan Emminger, and former unit member Jane Pace took first place in bracket 2 of a KO event. Georgiana Batuello, Michael Horn, Clint Lew, and Pat Radamaker were first in the B section of a Swiss Teams event. Denise Morgan, Karen McCarthy, Kathy Helber, and Eric Tan were first in B in a BAM. Sandy Jones was the top unit masterpoint winner for the event, followed by Penny Barbieri, Susan Emminger, Eric Tan, Denise Morgan, Clint Lew, Kathy Helber, Karen McCarthy, and Tom Lill.

If you haven't sunk into a coma yet, maybe our hand of the month will revive at least a few of your

somnolent gray cells in the form of a simple lesson many of us need to relearn at times—the bridge gods don't approve of overcalling at the two level with a KJxxx suit. One of our more aggressive bidders, who shall of course remain nameless, decided to ignore that axiom recently and got a painful comeuppance.

The opener had a good hand with shortness in the overcaller's suit, naturally, and reopened with a double. Just as naturally, the vengeful gods had supplied his LHO with a near-opener and AQT875 of trump. 1100 non-vulnerable points later (it could have been 1400) they had made their point: "Don't mess with us. We'll get you." Til next time...

## 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 Swiss Team Championship: Tues, August 7, 7:00

Club Championship: Monday, August 13, 11:30

NAOP Qualifier: Friday, August 17, 11:30

Western Conference STAC: August 20-26

Club Championship, Thursday, August 30, 7:00

Handicapped Swiss Teams Every Tuesday Evening

Friday night games on August 3 and 17

### Club Championships

The Club Championship on June 16 was won by Morris Lorber/Robert Chui. On June 29 the Club Championship resulted in a tie for Flight A honors between Fran Israel/Steve Ramos and Gerri Carlson/John J. McDermott with Morris Lorber/Ron Carlson ahead in Flight B plus Krystyna and Dennis Hollingworth topping Flight C. The North American Pair Qualifier on July 9 was headed by Richard Cheng/John Farr in Flight A with Dolores Nawa/Carole King taking Flight B and Bruce Weiner/Rafael Gishri on top in Flight C. The July 11 Club Championship saw Richard Cheng/Fran Israel taking top honors in Flight A with Mike Welsh/Robert Rothman heading Flight →

B and Joanna Wallis/Tom Barna winning Flight C.

### Team Winners

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

- June 19: Fran Israel, Steve Ramos, Jim Dutton, Bronek Felczer  
 June 26: Luis Gamio, Steve Ramos, Jim Dutton, Bronek Felczer  
 July 3: Gabriela Jackson, Sheryl Kohlhoff, Robert Rothman, Mark Raggio  
 July 10: Carol McCully, Ed Barad, Robert Rothman, Mark Raggio

### Milestones

In what has been a rough few months we lost two more of our unit members this past month. Vatia Albright, who was a regular in South Bay unit afternoon

games for many years passed away. According to her obit, Vatia held a doctorate in psychology and had an interesting career dating back to before WW2.

Jeff Allyn, another regular at South Bay Unit games, also passed away. Jeff was a retired Aerospace engineer.

Our condolences to both of their families.

### TSB Unit Bridge Week Winners

Our unit had a number of members who took top prizes during Bridge Week. Bruce Horiguchi was on a team that won the Wednesday evening Swiss. The quartet of LornaWallace, Sharon Biederman, Lutrell Long and Steve Ramos won Bracket 3 of the White KO Teams. Gary King, Bruce Horiguchi, Aaron Jones and John J. McDermott won the 2 session Board A Match by 3 boards. The Saturday evening Swiss teams were won in Flight A by a team with Alain Fleurot while Marty Cooper was on a team which won Flight B. The Saturday Compact KO Bracket 3 was won by the →



# WEST LOS ANGELES FALL SECTIONAL

KAYNE ERAS CENTER • 5350 Machado Road • Culver City, CA 90230

## AUG 31 - SEPT 3, 2012



**Friday Night Game at Barrington Bridge Club**  
 11514 Santa Monica Blvd.  
 (310) 966-4144

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**FRIDAY, AUG. 31st**  
 7:30 pm

**STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS**

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 1st**  
 10:00 am

**SATURDAY COMPACT KO TEAMS 1st & 2nd matches**

**STRATIFLIGHTED OPEN PAIRS**  
 Flight A/X (approx. 35% of field) 0 - unlimited MP  
 Strats B, C, D 750 - 2000, 0 - 750, 0 - 300MP

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3:00 pm

**STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS**  
**299er PAIRS**

**SATURDAY COMPACT KO TEAMS 3rd & 4th matches**

**MONDAY, SEPT. 3rd**  
 10:00 am and TBA

**STRATIFLIGHTED SWISS TEAMS**  
 Flight A/X 0 - unlimited MP  
 [approximately 35% of field]

**Strats B, C, D 750 - 2000, 300-750, 0-300MP**

**Masterpoint Limits for all Stratified Events:**

- Strat A: 2500+
- Strat B: 750-2500
- Strat C: 0-750

Stratification based on partnership average



Kayne Eras Center is just east of Culver City Post Office and across the street from the Shopping Center

**FREE PARKING**

**Free Coffee and Home Made Snacks (on Sat, Sun & Mon)**

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 2nd**  
 10:00 am

**SUNDAY COMPACT KO TEAMS 1st & 2nd matches**

**STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS**  
**299er PAIRS**

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3:00 pm

**STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS**  
**299er PAIRS**

**SUNDAY COMPACT KO TEAMS 3rd & 4th matches**

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE WEST L.A. UNIT WINTER PARTY**  
**Nov 18th**

**DIRECTIONS FROM 405**

- Exit at Jefferson and go east
- Turn left onto Sepulveda
- Turn Rt. onto Machado from Sepulveda (or left onto Machado from Jefferson)

**\*49er PAIRS When Attendance Warrants**

**WEST LOS ANGELES UNIT BOARD**

|                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Peter Benjamin  | Howard Einberg  | Barbara Nusbaum |
| Karen Byrd      | Charles Fonarow | David Raphael   |
| Jordan Chodorow | Colin Gordon    | Candy Scott     |
| Roger Clough    | Brana Hall      | Robert Shore    |
| Cecil Cook      | Fred Mautner    | Carolyn Taff    |

**CARD FEES \$12.00 PER PERSON PER SESSION**

Non-Members and Life Masters who have not paid service fees pay \$13.00.

**Students under the age of 19 play free!**

Tournament Manager - Peter Benjamin  
 (310) 558-0888 EMAIL ahoneydo@aol.com  
 (310) 720-6050 (cell Peter Benjamin)  
 Tournament Director - Peter Knee

team of Elaine Godin, Robert Fieselman, Ron Srenco and Neil Kleiner. No surprise here as Ed Davis was on a team which won the tough 2 day Marshall Miles Swiss.

### GUV Memorial Award

It's always an adventure playing with the youthful and imaginative Aaron Jones. During Bridge Week there were 3 prime examples to illustrate my point. As my partner holding ♠Qx ♥xxx ♦KJTxxxx ♣x Aaron chose to bid 1NT over my 1 ♠ opener and played it there. I don't think it was my declarer play that inspired this bid but he was down 2 before he ever got in while 4♦ was cold. Oh well, it was matchpoints and on a good day he might come out smelling like a rose. I did mention after the hand that when one has an easy chance to conveniently bid a 7-card suit holding minimal values that perhaps he should bid it.

The next day he did came out smelling like a rose on one memorable hand. Holding the following monster ♠AKQx ♥AKxx ♦AKQxx ♣-- he opened 2CC. His pard responded a second negative 2♥. Aaron then proceeded to blast 3NT!! Luckily he got a spade lead instead of a club as a dummy consisting of ♠Jx ♥T9xx ♦xx ♣xxxxx came down. He won in dummy and gave the opponents another chance by ducking a heart. Still no club and thru some bad discarding by the opponents he wound up making 6. I found this especially annoying as we were in the same section and pard and I got to 6♥ which is virtually cold if hearts are 3-2. Bad luck, they were 4-1 and pard went down a couple.

The next day Aaron and I were teammates in a KO match. At halftime we were up 40 something IMPs against a good team. Most sane players in this position would do their utmost in the second half to avoid actions which might create swings. Not Aaron's style though. He held ♠xx ♥AQxx ♦xx ♠AQxxx and opened a club. This was followed by a heart overcall, pass by pard and a spade bid on his right. Aaron decided then and there that the opponents were cold for 4 ♠ and decided to try and scare them out of it. He made a bid which can best be described as a psychic reverse. He bid 2♦. The good news is if his idea was to keep the opponents out of a very chancy 4 ♠, it worked. The bad news is that his partner didn't get the message and bid up to 4♦ which got doubled and went down 3 for a big IMP loss on the board. Fortunately there weren't enough boards in the second half that required this kind of imagination and

we held on to most of our lead to still win.

Na Zdrowie

## West LA by Robert Shore

### Cue Queen

My nominal deadline for this column (honored more in the breach than in the observance) is the 15th of each month. This month's deadline therefore falls in the middle of the Summer Nationals, which are still going on as I write. I therefore expected to save the Nationals for next month's column.

But some news just can't, or at least shouldn't, wait, particularly when it sneaks in under the wire. The District 23 entry in Flight A of the Grand National Teams emerged from the five-day event as the winners. The team, which included unit members Viktor Anikovich, Howard Einberg, Robert Kent, and Fred Zhang, survived an appeal to reach the semifinals, and narrowly won both of their last two matches to seize the title. Howard has two previous national victories, with wins in the 0-5000 mini-Spingold. This is the first national title for the other members of the team. Congratulations to the winners!

### Feeling Inspired?

You, too, can travel in the footsteps of our winners. Qualifying is going on right now for the ACBL's other grass roots event, the North American Open Pairs. Just play a qualifying game (and win some red points) at one of the local clubs sometime before the end of August, and you'll have taken the first step along the road to the 2013 Spring Nationals in St. Louis. District winners in all flights (including Flight C, which is limited to non-Life Masters with fewer than 500 points) get a healthy stipend to defray their expenses, and the second-place pair in each flight also gets financial support. And even if you don't want to go to St. Louis, the district final is, in essence, a regionally rated pair event (with a very generous award structure) held in the comfort of our very own Barrington Bridge Club. Don't deprive yourself of this opportunity. Find a qualifying game and get eligible. And who knows? You may find yourself mentioned in this column.

→

## Crystal Ball Time

Lots of events on the agenda for the next month. The usual team game at Beverly Hills at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 23, is receiving an upgrade in more ways than one. The game will be designated a Unit Championship, which means more points for the same performance. And the event will have some nice food as well, so we're expecting lots of teams. My own prediction is that the game will challenge the size of the inaugural Beverly Hills team game, which boasted 20 teams. Put together a team and see if I'm right. Call the club for a reservation or just show up. Sunday, August 19, will see Barrington's annual charity game, dedicated to a cause near and dear to many of us, the fight against multiple sclerosis. Call Barrington for a reservation for this game which traditionally sells out.

Finally, our own Labor Day Sectional is just around the corner. Once again held at the Kayne Eras Center (though the Friday night game will be at Barrington), the tournament will run from August 31 through September 3. In addition to the usual haul of masterpoints, compete for recognition via trophies awarded to the top 299er point winner and the top point winner among all players.

## The Usual Suspects

Some familiar names appear in the winner's circle over the last month. Roger and Becky Clough traveled to the Regional at Penticton, British Columbia, and brought back a win in the top flight of the Thursday-Friday Knockout Teams event. Mike Savage had a pair of wins at the Irvine Sectional, prevailing in the top flight of the Saturday Knockout Teams and the Sunday Flight A/X Swiss.

And then there was Bridge Week, making its farewell appearance at Pasadena. First, congratulations to the District Board and its Tournament Committee, whose controversial decision to change the traditional schedule paid off to the tune of a very substantial increase in the tournament's table count. Having said that, let's get to the news everyone wants to see — the winners. Mike Savage struck yet again, pairing with Nick Martino to win the Wednesday Fast Pairs event. Bill Schreiber took home a win in the Thursday Open Pairs event, while Guy Green and Sam Haveson won their bracket of the White Knockout Teams event. Aram Bedros and Paul Smith (discussed in Becky's column)

won the Friday Flight A Pairs. Gary King was a member of the winning team in the Marvin Grabel Board-A-Match Team Game. Bill Inglis and John Stokdyk took top honors in the Saturday Gold Rush Pairs, while Lei Jin was a member of the winning team in the Sunday Swiss, and Jill Meyers was one of the winners of the two-day Marshall Miles Swiss. Congratulations to all the winners.

## Decisions, Decisions

Playing an A/X Swiss against strong opponents on my last day at the Nationals, I held the following collection in third seat, all red:

♠AQT74 ♥AJ65 ♦J85 ♣3

Partner opened 1♣ and I had an easy 1♠ response. Partner rebid 2♣, and I had 2♦ available as New Minor Forcing. Partner responded 3♣. Since partner had no more than 5 cards in the majors, I thought there was a reasonable chance that he held either a useful diamond card or enough diamonds to prevent them from taking the first 5 tricks, so I gave 3NT a whirl. The opening lead was the diamond king, and I saw the following dummy:

♠62 ♥Q8 ♦963 ♣AKQ852

Lefty started life with AKx and the defense started by winning the first four diamond tricks. On the fourth diamond, I dropped a spade, LHO threw an encouraging heart deuce, and I threw a spade from dummy. The defense continued with a heart through me, and I had my first decision. I decided to believe the signal, so I flew with the heart ace, and then tested the clubs. They went 3-3 so I continued running them, keeping ♠AQ in my hand, leaving dummy with a spade and the heart queen.

When I led a spade from dummy (with the jack appearing on my right), it was decision time again. Assuming that the heart king was behind me, I simply had to decide who was dealt the spade king. If it was on my left, I had executed a squeeze and I could drop it by playing the ace. If it was on my right, the finesse was the winning play. All else being equal, a squeeze is simply more fun than a finesse, so I played the ace.

The result was a well earned push. Our counterparts

UNITS *continued on page 15*



# Coping with Lots of High Cards

by Ifti Baqai & Mitch Dunitz

opener clarifies his strength with his next bid:

That's right, we said coping. Some of the most depressing things in bridge are playing in a part-score when slam is cold, or getting passed in a cue bid. Can we build a simple mouse trap to avoid some of these pitfalls?

## Let's start with reverses

**What is a reverse?** A reverse is a bid that forces partner to a higher level in the bidding if he wants to play in your first bid suit.

**For example** 1♣-1♠-2♦ requires the partnership to reach the 3-level if they wish to play in opener's first bid suit. In contrast, 1♦-1♠-2♣ is not a reverse. Responder can show a preference for opener's first bid suit at the 2-level by bidding 2♦.

**What kind of hand should reverse?** A hand with significant extra values. Also, it is typically a hand with a concentration of high cards in the two suits bid.

## Examples

♠xx ♥xx ♦AKQx ♣AKQxx This hand should open 1♣ and rebid 2♦ after partner responds 1♥/1♠/1NT over 1♣.

♠xx ♥xx ♦AKx ♣AKQJxx This hand should open 1♣ and rebid 2♦ as well. The playing strength of this hand is tremendous. I am quite comfortable bidding 2♦ even though it is only a 3-card suit. If partner raises my 3-card suit and my next bid is NT or a rebid of my first suit, partner will have a clue that the length of my second suit may be suspect.

♠x ♥A10xx ♦AJx ♣AKJxx This hand should open 1♣ and rebid 2♥ over partner's 1♠ or 1NT bid.

♠x ♥AKQx ♦Kxx ♣AKJxx This hand should open 1♣ and rebid 2♥ over partner's 1♠ or 1NT bid. *Note: This hand is a lot better than the example just above it. How do we cope with this difference?*

We cope by creating a bidding structure where responder takes up as little bidding room as possible, and then

## Bidding structure after opener reverses

1♣ 1♠

2♥

2♠: five plus spades, possibly weak, forcing 1 round.

2NT: (cheapest bid other than 2 of responder's first bid major) denies five spades. Could be weak, but is forcing one round.

If opener rebids his 1st bid suit at the 3-level, it shows minimum values for the reverse and is non-forcing.

Example: ♠Q ♥A10xx ♦Kxx ♣AKJxx If opener rebids the 4th Suit (3♦ here) it is game forcing, probing for best game.

If opener raises responder's first suit (spades here) it is game forcing, probing for the best game.

## What does responder do with a good hand?

3♠: A jump in responder's suit shows a good 6-card suit and creates a game force.

3♣: A simple preference for opener's first bid suit creates a game force.

3 of any other suit: A raise of opener's second suit or a bid of the 4th Suit creates a game force. Example: ♠x ♥AKQx ♦Qx ♣AKQJxx.

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## District 23 Mini-McKenney Standings over 10,000 MPs

|                   |     |                  |     |
|-------------------|-----|------------------|-----|
| 1. Ellen Anten    | 670 | 8. Jill Meyers   | 132 |
| 2. Steve Gross    | 640 | 9. Ed Davis      | 120 |
| 3. Rebecca Clough | 572 | 10. Gerald Bare  | 58  |
| 4. Roger Clough   | 513 | 11. Pam Wittes   | 42  |
| 5. Steve Mager    | 348 | 12. John Swanson | 9   |
| 6. Mitch Dunitz   | 260 | 13. Eddie Kantar | 4   |
| 7. Jim Looby      | 133 | 14. Erik Paulsen | 1   |

PRESIDENT continued from page 1

championship. He was, at age 12, the school's youngest major letter winner. After graduating from high school at 16, Paul attended the University of Chicago where he received a degree in business. After attending one year of law school he got a summer job at B.G. Garment Company which offered him a 50% raise at the end of the summer to work for them full time. He agreed and dropped out of law school. He began as a shipping clerk but soon rose to become the manufacturing manager and chief purchasing agent.

While in college, Paul played both golf and bridge. In 1933, the World's Fair was in Chicago and one of its attractions was an international bridge event. To play in this event you needed to qualify. So Paul and his college bridge buddies went to sign up. The lady told them the qualifying event would be played duplicate style. The four of them had never heard of duplicate, much less played it. She asked in what way did they think they would be qualified to play in the qualifying event if they didn't even know what duplicate was, but allowed them to play anyway. Paul and his partner won north/south while the other pair won east/west. Unfortunately, they didn't play as well in the international event, but Paul continued to play in duplicate tournaments from then on.

During the war, Paul was on leave in Brooklyn. His ship had a dinner dance scheduled for the following Thursday night. The only girl he knew in town was his ex-fiancée, Leonore, who had been engaged to him twice and twice had broken the engagement off because of her interest in show business. But thinking, "nothing ventured, nothing gained," he called her to invite her to the dance. She accepted and they went to the dance and then on to a night club. At 2:00 a.m. Friday morning, Paul proposed and Leonore accepted. Paul's ship was set to sail Monday morning and New York required a physical and a three-day waiting period for a marriage license. Paul's captain advised him that a judge could grant an exemption and provided him with a list of judges to contact. The last judge on the list, Judge Deneen, lived in a high rise. When Leonore and Paul arrived at the building the doorman informed them that the judge had just stepped out, but that he usually went to the local bar for a quick drink and should return soon. So they sat down to wait. When the judge appeared, he took one look at them and said, "I guess you want me to sign your exemption?" Paul and Leonore nodded, so the



Paul Smith at the bridge table

judge continued, "And I guess you want me to marry you as well." They've been married for 69 years.

After the war, Paul returned to New York City where Leonore had continued in show business. She starred on Broadway and sang at Carnegie Hall and at the Metropolitan Opera House. Two of her shows were "Anything Goes" and "Bathsheba" with James Mason. Paul had trouble finding a job, but one morning by chance he ran into a fellow golf and bridge friend from Chicago who, after hearing his story, hired him on the spot. Paul worked for seven years as a sales rep for Owens Illinois Glass, the biggest glass company in the world. When Leonore was pregnant with their second daughter, they decided it was too hard for her to work and bring up two children, so they picked up and moved to California.

Upon arriving in LA, the Smith family lived for three years in a house on Sunset, before moving into the house in the Pacific Palisades where they have lived for 55 years. By chance, Paul was offered the opportunity to invest in a baby stroller company. After settling what he believed to be the company's debt, he was dismayed to find out there were hidden debts no one had told him about. Someone approached him and said, "You paid off Joe, what about me?" Paul got rid of his unscrupulous partners and the company flourished. The company went public and was acquired by a big New York conglomerate. Later Paul reacquired the company and ran it for five more years before finally retiring.

Today, Paul plays regularly at the Barrington →

*(continued)* PAUL SMITHUNITS *continued from page 12*

Bridge Club. He and Leonore still live in Pacific Palisades where she spends her time painting. Once a commissioned portrait painter, she painted Ronald Reagan and won the \$30,000 first place prize in the prodigious international contest sponsored by Artist's Magazine. Today Leonore paints portraits of deceased servicemen and donates them to the families. Paul enjoys his role as father, grandfather, and great grandfather. He tells me his secret to long life is no smoking or drinking and leading the simple life.

I asked Paul about his bridge life. He told me he never traveled the tournament trail, choosing instead to spend more time with his family and just play locally. He became a Life Master in 1974, a Silver Life Master in 1999 and a Gold Life Master in 2004. Over the years, Paul has played with many of LA's finest bridge players including Mitch Dunitz and Lenny Harmon from New York. His favorite long-time partner was Dick Ryder. As a partnership they were formidable and for years Dick and Paul monopolized the master points at the Beverly Hills Bridge Club. Today he continues to win frequently with many different partners at the Barrington Bridge Club. Paul tells me that his favorite convention is the Montreal transfer where you open one club on any hand that does not have a five-card suit and respond one diamond on any hand that does not have a five-card major. He also favors stolen bids over interference of his opening one no-trump. But by and large Paul plays simple bridge claiming he is too old to earn all those fancy conventions. Who needs them when you play as well as he does.

took 9 tricks, but they were playing 4♣, so like me, they went down 1. Why do I call the push "well earned?" Because my play wasn't just unlucky — it was a mistake. I played as though both major suit kings were behind me. But if that were the case, the defense can always beat me by shifting to a spade after cashing the diamonds, because then I don't have the entries for a squeeze. On the (justified) assumption that the opponents know what they're doing, I should have played my right-hand opponent for the spade king to bring 3NT home.

### Around the Clubs

Club champions at Barrington in June were Sheri Rivera-Aram Bedros, Larry Scissors-Steven Yaffe, and Marty Blain-Steven Yaffe. People were apparently saving their fire for Bridge Week and the Nationals, but Harvey Katz, Peter Knee, Sheri Rivera, and Aram Bedros did put together 70% games.

Rhoda and Lew Himmell won the Beverly Hills club championship, while Phyllis and Mario Mory, Sam Namer and Rahim Israel put together 70% games, as did David Segal playing with Joyce Lelah and with Farideh Sigari.

### Climbing the Ladder

This month's newest Junior Masters are Furrokh Dastur, Janet Sudar, and Shoreh Toufanian. (Keep an eye on this space in the future, by the way, because my wife and my son, Caddy Extraordinaire Sparky, have now joined the ACBL.) Leslie Brucker, Joseph Lieberman (not the senator), and Mary McKenna are Club Masters, Gabe Rosenberg is now a Sectional Master. Iris Craddock, Rosalene Glickman, and Fern Seizer are now Regional Masters.

Jo Anne Kelley and Zalman Perelman are now Silver Life Masters. For those who may not remember, Zalman made Life Master only a year ago when he competed for our district in Toronto at the Flight B Grand National Teams. Congratulations to all on your accomplishments.

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

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### District 23 Mini-McKenney Standings

#### 0 to 5 MPs

|                      |    |                       |    |
|----------------------|----|-----------------------|----|
| 1. Yichi Zhang       | 47 | 10. Joann Jubas       | 12 |
| 2. William Dilks     | 25 | 11. George Henderson  | 10 |
| 3. Richard Schaeffer | 24 | 12. Shari Elias       | 9  |
| 4. Walter Briggs     | 18 | 13. Furrokh Dastur    | 8  |
| 5. Martin Klein      | 17 | 14. John Krafft       | 7  |
| 6. Larry Kong        | 15 | 15. Rosemary Frankian | 7  |
| 7. Renee Lambert     | 15 | 16. Raimonda Scime    | 6  |
| 8. Chris Larson      | 15 | 17. William Heck      | 6  |
| 9. Dave Larson       | 15 | 18. James Rozzell     | 6  |

# Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: John Jones

This month's panelists: Ifti Bakai, Gerry Bare, Mark Bartusek, Jeff Goldsmith, Paul Ivaksa, Roger Lee, David Sacks, and Bill Wickham

# 1

MPs  
NS vul

| North   | East | South | West |
|---------|------|-------|------|
| 1♦<br>? | pass | 1♥    | pass |

You, North, hold: ♠6 ♥753 ♦AKQ864 ♣AKJ  
What call do you make?

*The 17 HCP and excellent six-card diamond suit only attracted one voter.*

**Bare: 3♦.** What else?

*The rest of the esteemed panel was seduced by the quality of the three card club holding, but didn't agree on whether to make the conservative 2♣ call or the aggressive 3♣ call.*

**Wickham: 3♣.** Game is 70% opposite ♠Axxx ♥Jxxxx ♦xx ♣xx so 3♦ is not enough.

**Ivaska: 3♣.** A slight overbid, and it's always dangerous to bid a 3-card suit, but I feel that I'm too strong for 3♦. Over 4♣ I plan to bid 4♦ and pass 5♣. (Please see the remarks about 4♣ over 3♣ in the answer to Problem 4.) I'm prepared to be told that this bid wouldn't, or didn't, produce a good result.)

**Bakai: 3♣,** a tad overbid perhaps but plan on showing

my heart support on the next round of bidding. If partner bids 3NT, I'll pass.

**Lee: 3♣.** My hand is too good to do anything else.

**Sacks: 2♣.** This is a good hand for "Cole" 2♣. But for me it is an Al Rothian: "if I get by this round".

**Goldsmith: 2♣.** It's reasonable to bid 3♦, but I'm hoping to hear 2♦ so that I can bid 2♥, which shows these values. It wouldn't annoy me if partner bid more strongly.

**Bartusek: 2♣.** Very flexible hands require slow investigation. Partner will often take a false preference to diamonds with some values, but if he passes 2♣ it won't necessarily be bad. If I get past this round I should have a very easy bid next time (probably 3♥).

*One hand proves little, but the winner on the actual hand was 2♣.*

## District 23 Mini-McKenney Standings - 500 to 1,000 MPs

|                     |     |                     |    |                         |    |
|---------------------|-----|---------------------|----|-------------------------|----|
| 1. Aaron Jones      | 141 | 8. Michael Klemens  | 91 | 15. Ronald Malkin       | 68 |
| 2. Neal Kleiner     | 138 | 9. Martin Cooper    | 85 | 16. Henry Crowder       | 67 |
| 3. William Rogers   | 138 | 10. Sally Karbelnig | 85 | 17. Sandra Franciscus   | 65 |
| 4. Allan Palansky   | 133 | 11. Donna Massman   | 78 | 18. Sue Ann Simon       | 64 |
| 5. Amr Elghamry     | 111 | 12. Kevin Lane      | 73 | 19. Paula Olivares      | 64 |
| 6. Richard Gliksman | 98  | 13. Thomas Shudic   | 72 | 20. E. J. (Jim) Lechner | 63 |
| 7. Joel Schiff      | 96  | 14. Janet Logan     | 71 | 21. Sanford Jones       | 61 |



2

IMPs  
no vul

| North   | East | South | West |
|---------|------|-------|------|
| 1♦<br>? | 3♣   | dbl   | pass |

You, South, hold: ♠K76 ♥Q98 ♦AKT3 ♣J42  
What call do you make?

*We have an ugly situation, with no clear call. Let's start with those that rebid their four-card diamond suit.*

**Wickham:** 3♦ in tempo while hoping that partner bids again.

**Bartusek:** 3♦. Whatever works on this hand is right! I wonder why panel moderators keep giving us auctions like this? Probably we keep getting problems like this because there is no best answer. But, I don't like Pass (would you like it if partner has a stiff club?).

*Other panelists opt for the three-card heart suit, hoping partner has at least four or that he can bid spades.*

**Bakai:** 3♥. I don't like the idea of passing with Jxx, so the lesser of evils is to bid 3♥ and hope partner has length there or partner will correct to 3♠.

**Goldsmith:** 3♥. No one knows. At MPs, I'd pass smoothly; if they make, it's only one board. At IMPs, I'll try 3♥ and hope nothing really awful happens. Why aren't we vulnerable? That'd make it even worse.

**Bare:** 3♥ seems least of evils.

**Ivaska:** 3♥. This is obviously a bit of a sticky wicket, as the English say. Anyway, I think 3♥ gives me a fair chance to find our best fit, if indeed we have a decent fit. We can find our way to a 3-5 major fit, 3NT, or some number of diamonds. 3♥ preserves the possibility of finding a 3-5 spade fit, while 3♠ would probably bury a similar heart fit. If we do land in a 3-4 fit, it's random with respect to which suit will

play better, since there isn't much difference between my holdings. I don't like the Russian roulette pass, especially since LHO is likely to have his bid at IMPs opposite an unpassed hand, although I concede it could work out well. Remember, partner could have a 4-card major plus a big diamond fit and may not be prepared for me to pass without trump tricks. At matchpoints, I probably would pass, considering the disadvantages of 3♥.

*Then there are those that choose to defend.*

**Sacks:** Pass. Without a raise by West it is unlikely that they make. On the other hand, it is totally random what we should bid if we do bid.

**Lee:** Pass. and it's not close, I won't try to make 3NT without a stopper or trick source. I think it is a common mistake to think that you have to bid in these situations.

*John Mohan gave me this problem. John is of the opinion that pass is definitely best, especially considering that RHO didn't raise and that preempts these days are weaker than ever.*

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District 23 Mini-McKenney Standings  
7500 to 10,000

|    |                      |     |
|----|----------------------|-----|
| 1. | Leo Bell             | 383 |
| 2. | Jeffrey Goldsmith    | 221 |
| 3. | Mike Savage          | 157 |
| 4. | John Jones           | 152 |
| 5. | Peter Benjamin       | 119 |
| 6. | William Wickham      | 67  |
| 7. | Bill Sides           | 7   |
| 8. | David Chechelashvili | 1   |

what do you think? send letters to the editor to: [bridgenews@district23.org](mailto:bridgenews@district23.org)



| East | South | West | North |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| pass | pass  | pass | 1♥    |
| pass | 2♦    | pass | ?     |

You, North, hold: ♠A83 ♥AKQJ9 ♦Q6 ♣973  
What call do you make?

*There are plenty of objections to the conditions from panelists who like a 1NT opening bid.*

**Wickham: 2♥.** Let partner finish his description since you have already missed the boat. Why not open 1NT? Your hand does not improve when partner raises hearts.

**Sacks: 2♥.** Waiting for what who knows what (with partner being a passed hand you might well see a green card from partner, but maybe that will work out just fine) but opposite a club control and ♦AKJxx or ♦AKxxxx we probably have a slam. At table, I open 1NT, otherwise, how do we get to 3NT opposite 9 HCP.

**Bakai: 3♥.** As with partner holding ♦AKJxx, gives us a good shot at a heart game.

**Lee: 3♥,** it's very likely that this is the best strain opposite a doubleton heart, so I am just going to see if it's there.

**Ivaska: 2♠.** I would have opened 1NT, even though this hand is quite a bit stronger than the average 1NT opener. This holding is now worth game, particularly since I have the invaluable diamond queen. Partner probably has a minor two-suiter, since she/he didn't

respond 1NT. If North retreats to 3♦, I'll try 3NT and hope that the opponents can't cash too many clubs, which doesn't seem likely since partner is presumably short in the majors. I'll raise 2NT to three and bid 3NT over 3♣.

**Bare: 2♠.** I would open 1NT. But now 2♠ seems least of evils, partner probably does not have four spades and I have a good chance at knowing what to do on next bid.

**Goldsmith: 2♠.** Maybe partner will rebid 2NT. Wouldn't that be nice? He's unlikely to raise; with enough values to bid 2♦ and with four spades and long diamonds, he might have opened the bidding.

**Bartusek: 2♠.** Clearly forcing. I've heard that NoTrump plays better from the Kx side. If partner raises to 3♠ then he is likely to be at least 4-6 in the pointed suits.

*This hand came from the LM Pairs in Philadelphia. I tired 2♠ and heard the one bid I really didn't want to hear, 4♠. The contract was very poor and the layout was awful, with the opponents negotiating a diamond ruff before I could even get in. I went down 3 for a very poor matchpoint result.*

#### District 23 Mini-McKenney Standings - 5000 to 7500 MPs

|                       |     |                       |    |                          |    |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------------|----|--------------------------|----|
| 1. B. Horiguchi       | 345 | 11. Gaye Herrington   | 83 | 21. Rodger Harbin        | 47 |
| 2. Aram Bedros        | 240 | 12. Peter Szecsi      | 79 | 22. Joanne Minken-Levy   | 46 |
| 3. Andrew Vinock      | 240 | 13. Adrienne Green    | 78 | 23. Ron Feldman          | 28 |
| 4. Gilbert Stinebaugh | 227 | 14. Leda Danzig       | 77 | 24. Sharon David         | 25 |
| 5. Jill Richmond      | 144 | 15. Rhoda Himmell     | 76 | 25. Thomas Lolli Jr.     | 22 |
| 6. Reese Milner       | 108 | 16. Lewis Himmell     | 76 | 26. Doris James          | 17 |
| 7. Phyllis Parker     | 107 | 17. Sidney Brownstein | 74 | 27. Claudia Van Der Salm | 15 |
| 8. Ellen Kent         | 103 | 18. Fred Mautner      | 72 | 28. Steven Onderwyzer,   | 15 |
| 9. Iftikhar Baqai     | 97  | 19. Don Krauss        | 51 | 29. George Wang          | 12 |
| 10. William Schreiber | 86  | 20. Lois Abramson     | 48 | 30. Janet Ju             | 9  |

4

IMPs  
no vul

| North   | East | South | West |
|---------|------|-------|------|
| 1♦<br>? | pass | 1♥    | pass |

You, North, hold: ♠5 ♥A ♦AKJ8742 ♣K974  
What call do you make?

*We have another hand where 2♣, 3♣, and 3♦ are all possible.*

**Goldsmith: 3♦.** This seems like a mild underbid, but no one overcalled 1♠, so I suspect partner has either values or the majors. In either case, 3♦ should work out OK.

**Bakai: 3♦** describes this hand fairly well, leaving open the door for best game/slam exploration. 2♣ is a bit ambiguous and runs the risk of getting passed while 3♣ is a bit of overbid.

**Bare: 3♦.** The biggest danger with this bid is that partner has a weak hand with clubs. But 2♣ is too weak and 3♣ is too strong.

**Bartusek: 3♦.** I don't like playing 4-3 club fits when I have a 7-1 or 7-2 diamond fit. This seems like an easy bid. Sure we might miss a game, but it's okay to have extras occasionally. The opponents haven't bid Spades which makes it likely that partner has them. This 3♦ bid also allows partner an easy 3♠ call.

**Wickham: 3♦.** the best distortion. 2♣ is a great bid when partner acts again, and disaster opposite his frequent passes. 3♣ is kamikaze unless you buy a good fit, and 2♦ is a gross underbid.

**Sacks: 2♣.** We tend to be passed in 2♣ mostly on hands with a stiff ♦D. Once again: "if we get by this round."

**Lee: 2♣,** it's likely we are going to go slamming, in which case I'd like to bid clubs to let partner in on what my hand looks like.

**Ivaska: 3♣.** I'm much too strong for 3♦, as this hand contains at least nine winners. In general, it pays to overbid a little in order to ensure that we find our best fit, but this isn't an overbid, of course. As in Problem 1, I'll bid 4♦ over 4♣. After all, we have a decent play for slam opposite as little as ♠xxx, ♥Jxxx, ♦xx, ♣AQ10x, and partner quite likely has more, since 4♣ doesn't just show four clubs. It also denies a minimum or shows good trumps, or both, because it excludes 3NT. (For example, partner would bid 3NT over 3♣ with ♠KQ9, ♥K10xx, ♦xx, ♣10xxx and a false preference of 3♦ with ♠xxx, ♥Kxxx, ♦Qx, ♣J10xx.) By the way, it strikes me that in my first four answers I've made four suit bids, and the total length of said suits has been 13, for a microscopic average of 3.25. In general, this approach is not recommended, so please deploy it with great care.

*Again, one hand means little, but the winner on the actual hand was 3♣.*

#### District 23 Mini-McKenney Standings - 2500 to 5000 MPs

|                     |     |                       |     |                      |     |
|---------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Gary King        | 314 | 10. Sara Wilson       | 133 | 19. Irwin Bender     | 109 |
| 2. Mark Tang        | 232 | 11. Rahim Israel      | 128 | 20. Stephen Skinner  | 108 |
| 3. Robert Kent      | 183 | 12. Mark Leonard      | 123 | 21. Mark Teaford     | 108 |
| 4. Viktor Anikovich | 181 | 13. Donald Crum       | 123 | 22. Joseph Viola III | 107 |
| 5. Danny Kleinman   | 178 | 14. Earl Van Der Vord | 121 | 23. Joan Rubin       | 106 |
| 6. Alfred Lee       | 158 | 15. Samuel Wang       | 121 | 24. Roger Lee        | 105 |
| 7. Betty McClellan  | 147 | 16. Robert Mault      | 120 | 25. Lucy Gellner     | 102 |
| 8. Jon Yinger       | 138 | 17. Sam Namer         | 114 | 26. Samuel Haveson   | 101 |
| 9. Martin Blain     | 136 | 18. Chiye Horiguchi   | 112 | 27. Charles Fonarow  | 101 |



| North | East | South | West |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| pass  | pass | 1♦    | pass |
| 1♠    | pass | 3♦    | pass |
| ?     |      |       |      |

You, North, hold: ♠K983 ♥A92 ♦-- ♣KT8642  
What call do you make?

*This hand basically comes down to either making a conservative pass or trying 3NT.*

**Wickham: Pass.** Plus scores have greater value at MPs, although I am worried about missing game. At IMP's, but I still would not be able to identify the strain (of course, he might have ♠x ♥K ♦AKJxxxx ♣Axxx and then 6♣ would be cold). Maybe we should bid 2♣ over 1♦ and discard the 2/1 GF on that auction?

**Bakai: 3NT.** The reasonable choices are: pass or 3NT and it will come down to partner's ♦ suit texture. If partner holds a solid six card diamond suit and an outside ace, we are odds on favorites to make 3NT. There is also an added possibility of partner holding club support to provide another source of tricks. I'll go for 3NT though recognizing that on some hands, it'll generate a minus score.

**Ivaska: 3NT.** Finally I don't feel obliged to bid a short suit. In this case, I simply have too much to pass, so I have to attempt game despite the diamond void, and 3NT is obviously the most likely game.

**Sacks: 3NT.** This might even make on hands that go down in 3♦ (club fit) and there is no way to find a club slam if it was in the cards anyways..

**Lee: 3NT.** I make the blindingly obvious 3NT bid.

**Goldsmith: 3NT.** We'll probably make it on power, but it wouldn't surprise me that 6♣ was a better contract (♠QJx ♥x ♦AQJxxx ♣AQx). I don't like either of my previous actions; this is an opening bid (6-4-3-0 shape is very powerful...K&R = 13.70), and bidding spades before clubs was an error.

**Bartusek: 3NT.** What else? I might have bid a more

natural 2♣ on the first round.

**Bare: 3NT.** I haven't a clue as to what will work best. However 3NT seems least of evils. Due to a couple of duplicated cards, at least this is not a companion hand to # 4, but 6♣ could be cold.

*This hand also came from the Philadelphia nationals. It was given to me by a reader. I did get the hand slightly wrong by adding the ♥9. My reader tried 3NT, and went down when the ♦AKJTxxx didn't run. She gave the hand to several players at the nationals and the consensus among the players, including some world class foreigners, was overwhelmingly in favor of passing 3♦.*

#### District 23 Mini-McKenney Standings 1000 to 2500 MPs

|                      |     |                      |    |
|----------------------|-----|----------------------|----|
| 1. John Petrie       | 231 | 21. Steven Rowe      | 81 |
| 2. Marcus Evans      | 207 | 22. Judith Jones     | 78 |
| 3. J. R. Melis       | 174 | 23. Edwin Feldmann   | 78 |
| 4. Kim Wang          | 167 | 24. Kay Tseng        | 78 |
| 5. B Sheumaker       | 162 | 25. Frank Shih       | 77 |
| 6. Robert Shore      | 139 | 26. Hank Sheehan     | 77 |
| 7. Marta Monheim     | 132 | 27. Richard Plumer   | 76 |
| 8. Gerri S Carlson   | 122 | 28. Maria Pendergast | 76 |
| 9. Sheri Rivera      | 116 | 29. Bradley Ward     | 75 |
| 10. Leila Greenfield | 106 | 30. William Wilson   | 75 |
| 11. Michael Marcucci | 101 | 31. Marel Bates      | 72 |
| 12. Farideh Sigari   | 91  | 32. Sandra Carroll   | 71 |
| 13. Robert Bass      | 88  | 33. John Hand        | 71 |
| 14. Robert Levy      | 88  | 34. Eric Tan         | 69 |
| 15. Bruce Altshuler  | 87  | 35. Robert Carroll   | 69 |
| 16. Nelly Gordon     | 84  | 36. Tammy Purkin     | 68 |
| 17. Claude Le Feuvre | 83  | 37. Al Appel         | 67 |
| 18. Charles Kelley   | 82  | 38. Ralph Beazley    | 65 |
| 19. Joyce Lelah      | 82  | 39. Joan Mesias      | 65 |
| 20. Gregory Tapia    | 82  | 40. Sheila Bozin     | 64 |