

Southern California Bridge News

Volume 49, #8

August 2013

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The World's Best Game

by Becky Clough, ALACBU President



What is the world's best card game? All of us would say, "Bridge, of course." If you are like me you have played cards all of your life. Beginning with War, and Go Fish through Gin, Oh Hell, Canasta, Hearts, and Fan Tan, they are all entertaining, but none rank with

bridge with its infinite complexity. I learn something new about the game almost every time I play.

Bridge historians tell us that card playing began in China where paper was invented in about 1120. The first cards were used for gambling and fortune telling. By the late 1400s, suits began appearing on cards and became standardized over the next 200 years into the clubs, diamonds, hearts and spades we know today. Cards were originally quite expensive due to the intricate hand-painted designs on the face cards.. A mass production technique using wood cuts brought cards to the masses.

Our modern game of bridge evolved from the 17th century card game whist which was popular among the British nobility. The game also has roots in other part of Western Europe, Russia, Turkey and the Middle East. The game was most likely spread by wealthy Greeks

PRESIDENT *continued on page 12*

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District 23 Election

by Rand Pinsky, District Director



The first order of business is reporting on the **ALACBU election**. At the ALACBU board meeting held last month, the following people were elected to head our district for the next two years; Becky Clough – President, Penny Barbieri – Vice President,

Roger Clough – Treasurer and Joan Rubin – Secretary.

The Longest Day

It is reported by Horn Lake that the ACBL raised over \$500,000.00 for the National Alzheimer's Association. The Pomona – Covina Unit was the leading unit of District 23 in raising money for this worthy cause.

Expectations for the Atlanta NABC Board Meetings

There are some interesting motions and discussions that will take place in Atlanta when our board meetings begin on July 28.

The first motion is submitted by Management which seeks to define factors that establish a Unit Sponsored Club and then make the Club subject to the Code of Disciplinary Regulations that pertain to Unit Sanctioned and /or sponsored events. Management argues that this would allow players who are disciplined at a unit sponsored club to receive the fair hearing rights which our CDR requires as well as being able to appeal the unit action to the district. The **cons** that management discusses in their motion is that this might be a burden on the units and the District appellate committees.

Another motion submitted by Management is to amend the CDR by adding a new section that provides "Purposefully, regularly and repeatedly making unusual bids in an effort to prevent a partner from declaring

DIRECTOR *continued on page 12*

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Gary King, one of our district's strong players with over 3000 MPs, passed away at home at the end of July.

Gary learned bridge in high school. However, he gave up the game for many years so he could be a father to his two sons and a tax partner at the Deloitte accounting firm.

After retiring over 10 years ago from Deloitte, he came back to bridge. He used the same drive for perfection at bridge that he used as a tax accountant. He wanted to be the best and he often asked the top players in the district for advice on hands and systems. He took their advice and compiled his own 2/1 System which consisted of over 60 pages of notes. He sent his partners frequent emails with hands and new treatments which the experts suggested that he add to his notes. I looked forward to my daily emails from Gary with something new to add to his system.

Gary played with many partners and often played every weekday. I was his regular Monday partner. He required me to have the same drive and focus that he required of himself. He made me, and all who played with him, better players as a result.

Gary suffered from prostate cancer. He fought cancer with the same intensity that he demanded of himself and his bridge partners. As a testament to his "never give up attitude," on the date he died, he was the longest surviving Stage 4 prostate cancer survivor in the US, over 15 years since the date of his original diagnosis.

All of us who knew him, played with/against him and/or was a friend of his, will miss him. We are all better for having him in our lives, even for a brief time.

Thomas E Gibbs, Jr

Southern California Bridge News

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District 23 Rank Changes June, 2013

Junior Master

Bonnie Blahut
Janice Boehnlein
B Gayle Burrow
Hollace Cain
Elaine Caplow
Teri Cummings
Gayle Dennis, Donna Hardy
Steve Mancini, Erika Moore
Jagdish Parasrampur
Edward Pearson, William Phifer III
Robin Rosser, Barbara Silcott
Jessie Sullivan, Kersten Truelson
Mary Williams

Club Master

Dru Emm
William Evans
Douglas Hess
John Krafft
Kiran Kumar
Donald Logsdon
H Frank Neiman

Sectional Master

Gary Baxley, M Kakade
Gerald Ketz, Muncie Marder

Regional Master

John Galligher

NABC Master

Keith Miller
James Perkins

Life Master

Om Chokriwala

Bronze Life Master

Denis Higginson Sr

Silver Life Master

Michael Klemens

Around the Units in District 23

Antelope Valley by Brad Ward

This brief report will begin with a huge congratulations to Mr. Paul Gill, the newest **Life Master** in Unit 556. Paul just soared over the top and completed all the requirements for the coveted Life Master honor and will get a special intro and congrats at each of the games he plays in for at least the next week. Way to go, Paul!

The Las Vegas Regional saw Marlene-Warren Gasper, Dave Gasper and Brad Ward win the compact KO on Saturday and total the most points won by our Unit players in the Vegas regional...a bit over 20 each. The Long Beach Regional followed closely on the heels of the Vegas tournament and Mr. Roy Ladd, partnered with Albert Stock to win the Wednesday Gold Rush Pairs. Roy Ladd topped all our Unit players in Long Beach by amassing a bit over 15 points for the Regional. Congrats to all for outstanding performances in the Regionals.

Our report ends with some news that will distress a handful of folks, but has been hailed as super news by most in the Unit. That news is that the Lancaster Bridge Club has negotiated a deal that will allow it to remain active and open at the same location.

Good luck to all in the upcoming STAC games.

Glendale Verdugo by Sharon Wolf

A final reminder about our quickly-approaching sectional, which will be held at the Scottish Rite Temple in Pasadena on August 9, 10, and 11. This year, we have added a stratified pairs game on Sunday to coincide with the traditional Swiss event.

Due to the sectional, there will be no Unit game in August.

The July Unit game was accompanied by a variety of salads, breads, and desserts. Here are the results:

N/S

A1		Tim Lolli & Carolyn Cohen
A2		Karen Arase & John Barrow
A3		Jack Futrell & Rae Mubach
A4		Margery Gould & Janette Devarian
A5		Phil Dessert & Steve Shanker
B1	C1	Bob Hogan & John Dolbakian
B2		Merry Besvold & Art Chacanas
E/W		
A1	B1	Brad Beland & Amr Elghamry
A2		Martin Blain & Rick Weiss
A3		Paula Olivares & William Brodeck
A4	B2	Temo Arjani & Robert Novell
A5	B3	Sharon Wolf & Sue Zeinoun
B4	C1	Betsy Josias & Nancy Lyon
	C2	Barry Heller & Julia Irzyk

Our next Unit game is on September 14. There will also be a Board meeting that day.

Long Beach by Jon Yinger

unit website: www.acblunit557.org

club website: www.LongBeachBridge.com

JUNE 21 Unit Game: Overall results: 1st in A: Steve Rowe/Jackie Hess, 2nd John Petrie/Sankar Reddy, 3rd Rita and David Wakeman, 4th Baum Harris/Steve Skinner, 5th Verna Baccus/Marilyn Christy, 6th John and Jo Melis. In the B flight overall 1st: Susan and Kieth Hafen, 2nd Trudy Sokol/Roda Weisler, 3rd Hashim Mahmood/Usha Bansal, 4th Larry and Sibyl Slutsky, 5th Jean Matz/Lois Perovich. In the C flight overall Jean Kato/Cindy Firnett were 3rd and Bonny Walsh/Phyllis Greenstein were 4th. Congratulations to all!

70+% Games in the club June 16 through July 15: None!

Big Masterpoint Awards June 16 through July 15: June 16 Aaron Jones/Sankar Reddy were 1st winning →

Erten were 1st winning 5.67mp, Steve Skinner/Bob Lavery 2nd winning 4.25mp, John Petrie/Randy Hamlin 3rd winning 3.19mp. In the evening game Eileen Nelson/Julie Cunningham were 1st winning 3.50mp. In the Unit Game June 23 Jackie Hess/Steve Rowe were 1st winning 4.39mp, John Petrie/Sankar Reddy 2nd winning 3.29mp. July 8 John and Cory Hand were 1st winning 4.83mp, Jo Daigle/Bev Shafer 2nd winning 3.62mp. July 9 Kay Tseng/Fern Durbar were 1st

Status Changes: New Junior Masters: George Koehm, Bruce Thompson, Kaitlin Thompson; New Club Master: Dalia Hernandez; New Regional Masters: Richard Schaeffer, Dustin Stout; New Life Masters: Kiyo Nagaishi and Reva Alban. Congratulations to you all!

Get Well Wishes to Gary King,
Gloria Sedore and Skip Genebech

→



Win a trip to the BIG "D"

JOIN IN ON THE FUN

AT THE SPRING NATIONALS IN DALLAS

August Qualifying Games

Arcadia Bridge Center Tues. Aug. 13, 7:15pm.
Fri. Aug. 16, 7:15pm.

Barrington Bridge Club Sat. Aug. 10 & 17, 1:00pm.

Beach Cities Bridge Club Fri. Aug. 16, 12:30pm.

Beverly Hills Bridge Club Mon. Aug. 12, 7:15pm.
Mon. Aug. 26, 7:15pm.

Downey Woman's Club Wed. Aug. 21 & 28, 10:00am.

Inglewood Beach Bridge Club Fri. Aug. 23, 6:30pm.

La Fetra Bridge Club Tues. Aug. 13, 8:45am.
Thurs. Aug. 15, 6:00pm. Fri. Aug. 16, 8:45am.

Long Beach Bridge Center Mon. Aug. 4, 12:30pm.
Tues. Aug. 5, 12:30pm. & 4:15pm, Wed. Aug. 6,
12:30pm. & 7:00pm. Thurs. Aug. 7, 12:30pm.
Fri. Aug. 8, 12:30pm. & 4:15pm. Sat. Aug. 9, 12:30pm
Sun. Aug. 10, 12:30pm.

Northrup-Grumman Wed. Aug. 28, 6:30pm.

San Marino Bridge Center Wed. Aug. 28, 7:15pm.

SF Valley Bridge Academy Wed. Aug. 7, 7:15pm.

South Bay Bridge Club Thurs. Aug. 15, 10:30am. NLN
Mon. Aug. 26, 11:30am. Tues. Aug. 27, 11:30am.

SF Valley Bridge Academy, Canoga Park
Wed. Aug. 7, 7:15pm.

Valencia Bridge Studio Tues. Aug. 27, 6:45pm.

Veterans Park Bridge Club Wed. Aug. 7, 12:30pm.
Mon. Aug. 12, 6:00pm.

Call Mike Marcucci for more info (818)903-2471

I am happy to report that Bill Linsky's health has turned around for the best. A brilliant mind and highly respected in the group. Nice to see your smiling face Bill.

And another friend of bridge who has been seriously ill for the past 5 months had a stroke three weeks ago. Gloria Sedore, my wonderful friend and partner, is in rehab. Our prayers are with her!

If you think Howard Smith and Bud Parish (alias William and Camden) are walking a little taller, with chests up and out, it could be the **gold** they accumulated at the Long Beach Regional! And don't forget that Verna Burns and Joan Tschirki collected their fair share of points. Congratulations to all!

June 6 Clubhouse 1 Unit Game: Joan and Ted Weiber were 1st NS and Howard Smith/Verna Burns were 1st EW.

At the June 27 Pro-am barbeque Bill Linsky/Joyce Newton were 1st NS, Christine Fruman/Stam Blitz were 1st EW. In the unit-rated game at Clubhouse 3 July 8 Bee Kinman/Bill Linsky were 1st NS, Jeanette Estill/John C H Chang were 1st EW.

Coming events: August 3 Pizza and Bridge at Clubhouse 3.

We appreciate your attendance and our volunteers. Keep shuffling along! **Bid** those slams!!

Get the Unit 557 Newsletter via email: Send me your e-mail address and I'll put you on the list. My email is jyinger1@gmail.com.

Pasadena San Gabriel Valley by Tom Lill

On Wednesday evenings I play with Helen Salandra. We were playing against Markey Post (the pretty prosecutor on the series Night Court) and her partner Patty and I bragged that Helen was still living independently at 91. Markey replied that her father, a physicist, goes to his lab every day at the age of 94. Kim Horn's dad is 98, and yet he works out twice a day →



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The Los Angeles Regional at Torrance includes the **Gold Rush Pairs**, in which you can win **Gold Points** and *nobody you play will have more than 750 masterpoints*. On Thursday & Sunday try the **Bracketed B Swiss** with teams in each bracket having similar average masterpoints. Three teams in each bracket win **GOLD points!**

- **Tournament Manager**, Peter Benjamin, 310-720-6050, ahoneydo@aol.com
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Gary Zeiger
Director-in-Charge
Sanction 1310019

on a rowing machine. "Well, I hope you inherited your dad's genes," I told him. "So do I," he said. Bob Ellison is a regular our rookie games, and I am told he is well into his 90s.

I used to work with a man named Joe Foraker, who started out as a farm boy from Iowa and wound up as an executive at Time magazine. He told me that Time never had any typos (that we know of) even before we had computer spell-checks. This was because they paid their proof readers over \$60,000 a year back in the 60s to check each word and put a little dot above it using an editor's dropout blue pencil. Joe told me that back in Iowa, it was not unusual for a couple to have their golden wedding anniversary party attended by both sets of parents.

Long Beach Regional

I was looking down the list of more than 1,062 players who received points and was not surprised to see some of our best players in the top 10 percent: Nolan Chang, Amr Elghamry, Sean Lui, Xing Ping Kang, Joe Viola, and Jan Wickersham. Close behind were Peter Szecsi, Jeanette Deverian, Jack Chang, and Bob Novell.

Nolan was the top scorer in our contingent, placing 47th among those scoring points. Congratulations also go to Bridgit O'Sullivan and Jeanette Jensen for winning the 299er competition.

Dates to Remember

- August 13: North American Pairs at 7:15 p.m.
- August 16: North American Pairs at 7:15 p.m.
- August 23: Beat the House Night at 7:15 p.m.
- August 25: Winners and Losers tournament at 1:00

Pomona Covina by Tom Lill

Unit Game – Saturday, August 18, 11:00 a.m.
Individual – Saturday, August 4, Claremont site

We are **The Little Unit that Could!** Our Unit, one of the smallest in southern California, was the only unit in the district to participate in the Longest Day back in June. We raised over \$3,000 in support of the →



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Monday, September 23

9:00 AM Stratified Pairs
Stratified 0-300 Pairs

1:15 PM Stratified Pairs
Stratified 0-300 Pairs
Bracketed Mon-Tues KO Teams Rd 1 of 3

7:00 PM Stratified Pairs
Stratified 0-300 Pairs
Stratified Swiss Teams
Bracketed Mon-Tues KO Teams Rd 2 of 3

Tuesday, September 24

9:00 AM Stratified Pairs
Stratified 0-300 Pairs
Stratified Swiss Teams
Bracketed Mon-Tues KO Teams Rd 3 of 3

1:15 PM Stratified Pairs
Stratified 0-300 Pairs
Bracketed Tues-Wed KO Teams Rd 1 of 3

7:00 PM Stratified Pairs
Stratified 0-300 Pairs
Stratified Swiss Teams
Bracketed Tues-Wed KO Teams Rd 2 of 3

Wednesday, September 25

9:00 AM Stratified Pairs
Stratified 0-300 Pairs
Stratified Swiss Teams
Bracketed Tues-Wed KO Teams Rd 3 of 3

1:15 PM Stratified Pairs
Stratified 0-300 Pairs
Bracketed Wed-Thur KO Teams Rd 1 of 3

7:00 PM Stratified Pairs
Stratified 0-300 Pairs
Stratified Swiss Teams
Bracketed Wed-Thur KO Teams Rd 2 of 3

Thursday, September 26

9:00 AM Stratified Pairs
Stratified 0-300 Pairs
Stratified Swiss Teams
Bracketed Wed-Thur KO Teams Rd 3 of 3

1:15 PM Stratified Pairs
Stratified 0-300 Pairs
Stratified Swiss Teams

7:00 PM Stratified Pairs
Stratified 0-300 Pairs
Stratified Swiss Teams

Friday, September 27

9:30 AM & 1:00 PM Stratified Fast Pairs (finish by 3:45 PM)
(This is a 2 session event, but single session
entries may be sold at the director's
discretion.)

9:30 AM & TBD Stratified Swiss Teams (2 session) (finish by
4:45 PM)

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

*KO events may be handicapped

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Alzheimer's Association. Congratulations and thanks to all to participated in any way!

Unit 551 was well represented in the recent Bridge Week regional. We sent 5 pros (Vic Sartor, Penny Barbieri, Genise Hasan, Bill Papa, and one not-quite-so-pro-who-got-drafted), and 5 amateurs played. 26 of our members won a total of 93.98 master points during the tournament. Top point earner was Jack Chao, with 11.93. Penny Barbieri was right behind, with 11.19. Next in line were Tom Lill (7.90), Denise Morgan (6.87), Sue Emminger (6.67), and Clint Lew (6.66). Penny took the overall first place in the evening side game series, helped out by a 70% game, partnered with Jack Chao.

Tom Lill, Clint Lew, Denise Morgan, and Walt Otto took second in bracket 2 of a compact KO. Linda Tessier tied for first in flight C of a 299'er game, her first ever first place in a tournament. Claudia Cochran and Kiran Kumar tied for 2nd in flight C of a side game. Susie Emminger, Pat Radamaker, and Denise Morgan placed 3rd in flight B of the Mike Emminger Swiss Teams.

Due to publishing deadlines, the July Unit game results aren't in as this goes to press. And of course, we did not hold the Individual in July.

Speaking of the Individual, we are still looking for game sites. If you are willing and able to host a 4-5 table game once in a while, please contact your Board of Directors immediately, if not sooner. The site for the August game will be at Clint Lew's place in Claremont. The top game this month was 74%, by Fredy and Lu Minter. Others taking a top spot were Paul Chrisney, Gino Barbieri, Larry Clark, Georgiana Battuello, Kim Horn, Don Naf, Kurt Trieselmann, Vic Sartor, Bill Papa, Amr Elghamry, Madhu Sudan, Clint Lew, Walt Otto, Margie Hall, Sandra Rucker, Charlotte Capelle, Al Lax, and Penny Barbieri.

Promotions this month:

Wendy Wanderman to Club Master
Claudia Cochran to Regional Master

For our hand of the month, we return to the "Why Me" motif. However, this time **both** sides can cry "Why Me?"

Playing in the finals of a KO, you've been picking up a series of drab, lifeless hands. At last, as dealer, you find yourself looking at this promising collection:

♠-- ♥AKQxx ♦KT8xx ♣A9x

No problem there, you open 1♥. However, matters quickly take a turn for the worse as LHO calls 2NT, showing the minors. Partner passes. RHO goes into the tank, and finally emerges with ... a pass!

Now your hand has gone completely into the toilet. Consider. RHO would not even take a preference to one of the minors. So he must be loaded in the majors, but without many high cards. Partner did not take any action, so there aren't too many high cards there, either. And where are all the spades, anyway? LHO should not have more than three, leaving ten to be shared by partner and RHO. Partner did not raise hearts or bid spades. So what's your call?

Pass is the winner. No one can make much of anything – but again, where are all the spades? (Guess!). Partner duly leads a heart, and when dummy comes down, you see this disaster:

♠ATxxxx ♥Jxxxx ♦J ♣J

No wonder RHO couldn't take a preference! It turns out that LHO was 3=0=5=5, and partner was 4=3=2=4. Pard held ♦Qx and ♥T98, so 2NT went down 4, +200 to you. At the other table, your teammate took a minor-suit preference and went -100, so you picked up 3 IMPs with your pass.

Why not double 2NT and pick up a big score? This is the finals, remember. The opponents are not chopped liver. They will soon come to the same conclusions you did, and find their 9 card spade fit.

Quote for the month: "Check your assumptions. In fact, check your assumptions at the door." (Lois McMaster Bujold)

Until next month ...

San Fernando Valley by Deborah Levinson

Greetings and Salutations!

Achievements

The Top Ten Masterpoint Winners for June 2013

750 Bridge Club

1. Ron Malkin - 11.67
2. Gloria Malkin - 10.24

3. Mike Klemens - 9.69
4. Don Rosen - 9.41
5. Jim Lechner - 9.20
6. Mel Lerner - 8.08
7. Gloria Feerst - 7.71
8. Linda Silvey - 7.55
9. Om Chokriwals - 7.42
10. Gary Baxley - 7.19

THE BRIDGE ACADEMY (OPEN)

1. 7.94 Dick Lum - 7.94
2. 7.92 Deborah Levinson - 7.92
3. 7.83 Seymour Zemlyn - 7.83
4. 7.72 Arline Borovay - 7.72
5. 7.57 Tom Wylie - 7.57
6. 7.36 Marel Bates - 7.36
7. 6.89 Jerry Goodman - 6.89
8. 6.63 Tammy Purkin - 6.63
9. 6.63 N Purkin - 6.63
10. 6.35 Leda Danzig - 6.35

THE BRIDGE ACADEMY (<750)

1. 7.92 Deborah Levinson - 7.92
2. 6.89 Jerry Goodman - 6.89
3. 4.21 Ron Stewart - 4.21
4. 3.77 John Van Egmond - 3.77
5. 2.99 R Gasway - 2.99
6. 2.12 Phyllis Hall - 2.12
7. 2.12 Shirley Horowitz - 2.12
8. 1.97 Samy Antoun - 1.97
9. 1.62 Martin Hurwitz - 1.62
10. 1.55 Gregory Bozin - 1.55

70 Percent Games

Mike Klemens and Om Chokriwala 77.96%, 70.55%
 Jim Lechner and Eva Seri 72.47%
 Ron Malkin and Gloria Malkin 71.33%
 Carol Rand and Gloria Feerst 70.23%

Remember - if you are reading this, and you want your name to be here, and you do not see it, it is because you did not send your "news" to Deborah Levinson at dlevinson@acesupms.com or leave a note in the "Bridge News" envelope at either of our clubs! New ranks? Life events? Let me know!

Events

Carol Lang Memorial Game: On Saturday, June 29th the fourth annual Carol Lang Memorial Game was held at the 750 Bridge Club in Woodland Hills. Ninety-two bridge players gathered to honor the memory of Carol Lang who started the 750 Bridge Club for players with less than 1000 points. More than half of the players had initially learned how to play bridge from Carol. The top two pairs will have their names inscribed on the Carol Lang Plaque at the 750 Club. Mike Klemens and Om Chokriwala came in first with a 77.96% game. They were followed by Gloria Malkin and Ron Malkin with a 71.33% game.

Upcoming Events

Sectional Aug 2-4: Don't miss our Unit Sectional! Planning to attend? Super, see you there. If not, why not? Email nanalotto@yahoo.com if you need a partner or teammates, or just show up about an hour before game time. Aug 2 and 3 will be pairs events held at The 750 Club, Aug 4 will be a team event, to be held at The Bridge Academy. Our partnership desk will take care of finding you Partners or Teammates as needed so come on out and have a great time!

All events (including the Swiss Teams!) are stratified so you can't help but have a good time and there are silver points to be had for winners!

Unit Game Oct 5: There will be a Unit Game held at The Bridge Academy on October 5th. Make sure you make your reservations early. This event will sell out, don't be left on the outside looking in. Great food, great time, great Bridge, all at one low price.

Did You know?

That you can play bridge close to home almost twice a day, seven days a week if you want? Check out the schedules for the clubs and find the game that works for you!

Conventional Wisdom

Offered up by a player who will remain nameless, here's an example of a set of "Kansas City" lead directing conventions to NOT use:

"It's your lead, darling" - Calls for a heart

"Make a sparkling lead" - Calls for a diamond →

“Dig up a lead” - Calls for a spade

“Don’t make me hit you over the head, it’s your lead” - Calls for a club

Other News

Please think good thoughts for Glenna Szulc and Noel Purkin, both of whom are battling illness.

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

Torrance-South Bay by Steve Mager

Unit: www.freewebs.com/bridgeatunit568

SBBC: www.bridgeclubs.org/index.php?id=sbbc

Upcoming Events at the South Bay Bridge Club

Club Championship: Friday, August 2, 7:30

Swiss Team Club Championship: Tues, Aug 13, 7:00

Western Conference STAC: August 19-24

North American Pairs Qualifier: Mon, Aug 26, 11:30

North American Pairs Qualifier: Tues, Aug 27, 11:30

NLM Club Championship: Thursday, August 29, 10:30

Handicapped Swiss Teams Every Tuesday Evening

Friday Night games on August 2 and 16

Club Championships

The Club Championship on June 21 was captured by Ernie Frank/Dick Jones. The North American Pairs Qualifier on June 24 was won by Gaye Herrington/Jeff Strutzel in Flight A with Bee-De Lim/Christine Uriu taking Flight B. On July 10 the Club Championship was won by Mary Ann Coyle/Lucy Gellner in Flight A with Cal Waller/Stam Greengard ahead in Flight B and Setsuko Miyasaka/George Stinson on top in Flight C. The NLM North American Pairs Qualifier on July 11 was led by Setsuko Miyasaka/George Stinson in Flight C and Chris and Dave Larson in Flight D.

The Club Championship at Veterans Park on June 24 resulted in a tie for Flight A honors between Katherine West/Violet Young and Robert Stensrud/Robert Fieselman in Flight A with Barbara and Peter

Shen taking Flight B. The Club Championship at Veterans Park on June 26 was captured by Lutrell Long/Claire Hulett in Flight A with Mary Overby/Be-Dee Lim taking flight B and Marsha Winer/Marianne David on top in Flight C.

The June 28 afternoon Championship at Anderson Park was captured by Bill Malcolm/Florence Niwa in Flight A and Margaret Enders/William Baxter in Flight B. The July 28 evening Championship at Anderson Park was led by Jeanne Tamaki/David Cheshire in Flight A and Chris Ball/Jeff Grutenhuis in Flight B.

Team Winners

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

June 25: Bea and John Brailliar, Ed Piken, Steve Ramos

July 9: Carol McCully, Lucy Gellner, Ed Barad, Wayne Otsuki

Unit Bridge Week Winners

Following are Torrance South Bay unit members first overall winners in events at the recent Bridge Week Regional in Long Beach.

Monday Pro-Am Pairs: Mary Ann Coyle/Jeff Grutenhuis

Tuesday Morning Swiss Teams: Tajie Major, Diane Maye, Carol Hansen, Loretto Russell

Tuesday Evening Swiss Teams: Steve Ramos, Bea and John Brailliar, Ed Piken

Tuesday A/B Pairs Flt B: Gloria Brown-Cook/Lutrell Long

Wednesday Morning Swiss Flts B and C: Marianne David, Marsha Winer, Nanci Schultz, Beebe Morehead

Wednesday Afternoon 299er PairS: Nancy Raiche/Gerry Gastelum

Wednesday Evening Side Game: Bea and John Brailliar

Thursday Fast Pairs Flt B: Steve Ramos/Neal Kleiner

Thursday Afternoon 299er Pairs Flt F: Chris and Dave Larsen

Thursday Swiss Teams: Gaye Herrington

Thursday Evening Side Game Flt B and C: Linda Dillon

Friday Morning Side Game: Judith Tomic, →

Nancy Guenther

Friday Side Game: Bruce Horiguchi

Friday Evening Swiss Teams: Kim Wang, Chiye and Bruce Horiguchi

Saturday A/B Pairs: Ed Davis

Saturday A/B Pairs Flight B: Kim Wang, Ben Franklin KO Bracket 2: Gloria Brown-Cook, Lutrell Long, Lorna Wallace, Mike Welsh

GUV Memorial Award

The Southern California Bridge News quizmaster, John Jones, sent me a note telling the following story on himself. At the recent Las Vegas Regional he was playing with CVal Gamio. CVal opened a gambling 3NT holding ♦AKQT9xxxx and out. After a 4♥ overcall John jumped to 6♦ holding a good hand including the other 3 aces, plus a stiff diamond and was doubled by LHO. After winning the opening heart lead John started wondering what LHO had doubled on and decided it was ♦Jxxx. So he finessed for the ♦J and, Bridge gods

be praised, won. Apparently John had counted out the diamonds to be a 14-card suit and took the ultimate in practice finesse. There probably are some shady places in Vegas where they play card games with 14-card suits, but this regional wasn't one of them. I'm pretty sure John is a lot younger than me, but I guess he has gotten old enough to have senior moments now.

Na Zdrowie

West LA by Robert Shore

The Madding Crowds

Based on table count, it looks like everyone who is anyone found their way down to Long Beach for Bridge Week. The tournament clocked in at 1,418 tables, an improvement of more than 200 tables over the year-ago Pasadena tournament. The comments I heard →



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 Thursday Compact KO (2 sessions).....10:30 a.m. & 3:15 p.m.
 Friday-Saturday KO (4 sessions).....10:30 a.m. & 3:15 p.m.
 Saturday Compact KO (2 sessions).....10:30 a.m. & 3:15 p.m.

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 Tuesday & Thursday Swiss (single sessions).....3:15 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
 Wednesday Swiss (two sessions).....10:30 a.m. & 3:15 p.m.
 Friday & Saturday Swiss (single sessions).....3:15 p.m.
 Friday/Saturday Evening Swiss (two sessions).....7:30 p.m.
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 Sunday Bracketed Swiss (0-2000) (two session playthrough).....10:30 a.m.

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 Stratified Pairs (2 sessions) Saturday.....10:30 a.m. & 3:15 p.m.
 Flighted North American Pairs D22 Finals
 (prequalification required) Saturday.....10:30 a.m. & 3:15 p.m.
 Fast Pairs (2-sessions) Sunday.....10:30 a.m. & TBD

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were uniformly positive, and I hope that you all enjoyed yourselves.

As usual, our Unit came away from the tournament with our share of victories. Jill Meyers was a winner in Saturday's A/B Pairs event, and Joanne Minken-Levy's team won the Benjamin Franklin Knockout Teams. Ellen and Bob Kent picked up a win in the two-day Marshall Miles Swiss Teams event, and the team of Rick Turner, Bill Rogers, Joel Schiff, and Alyssa Kennedy won its bracket of the Sunday Bracketed Flight B Swiss.

Reciprocity

On June 2, the local unit of the American Bridge Association put on a magnificent display of hospitality by hosting a joint ABA/ACBL game. On August 17, it's our turn. Please make plans to arrive for lunch at Barrington at noon, with bridge to follow at 1:00 p.m. For those who wish to use the occasion to qualify for North American Open Pairs, the game costs \$2 per pair. If you've already taken care of that little chore, it's free. Free bridge, food, and great company. It's a deal you can't possibly beat.

Temptations

Speaking of North American Open Pairs, August is the last month of qualifying for this year's event. The event is flighted, with Flight C reserved for non-Life Masters with fewer than 500 points, and the winning pairs get substantial subsidies (as much as \$700 per person for first place) to attend the Nationals. Take in a qualifying game and give yourself the opportunity to compete for this prize.

Early September has the Unit holding its annual Labor Day Sectional, again at the Kayne-Eras Center. Those of you who have attended in the past know that there is a wealth of parking at the site, as well as a number of food options quite convenient to the venue, not to mention our own world-famous cheese puffs. We will be working closely with building management to address climate control issues that have arisen in the past. I look forward to seeing you there.

Back to the Table

Of course, Bridge Week wasn't the only tournament held in the past month. The Penticton, British Columbia, regional leads off our recap. Roger and Becky Clough

have made a habit of attending that regional, and this year they practically owned the joint. Roger and Becky won the Monday-Tuesday Merlot Knockout Teams event and tied for first in the Sunday A/X Swiss Teams. Becky took a little time off, but Roger added another victory in the Pinot Morning Knockout Teams, ending up as the tournament's top master point winner.

Keith Miller traveled to Las Vegas for their regional. I don't know how he did at the blackjack tables (or even whether he made time to stop at one), but he did play enough bridge to win the Wednesday a.m. 0-300 pairs event. Finally, Mike Savage's team enjoyed victory in the Sunday A/X Swiss at the Anaheim Sectional.

Well Wishes

A number of our well-known members, past or present, have had to take breaks from the table to address medical issues. We hear that Eddie Feldman is expected back at the table soon, and that Jill Richmond is planning her comeback as well following her recent surgery. Our thoughts and best wishes are also with Gary King and his family and friends.

The Meaning of Attitude

All red at matchpoints, in third seat you hold:

♠T9 ♥A6 ♦KQ3 ♣QJ8762.

Partner passes and RHO opens 1♥. You insert a 2♣ overcall, but LHO quashes your enthusiasm by bidding a natural 2NT. RHO persists with 3♥, and LHO raises to game. Particularly in view of your lousy club spots, there doesn't seem much future in that suit. Fortunately, your diamond holding presents an attractive alternative so you put the diamond king on the table. You see the following dummy:

♠KQJ ♥T2 ♦JT84 ♣AT93.

Playing upside down signals, partner plays the 5 and your king holds the trick, declarer playing the 9. Now what? What should partner's card mean? Most players (not named Clough) agree that the primary defensive signal is attitude. But there is not universal agreement on what an attitude signal means. Are you telling partner what you want him to do? Or are you

PRESIDENT *continued from page 1*

who traveled to Europe, Russia and Turkey.

Whist, as it was played in England, was a trick-taking game where four players comprised of two partnerships were dealt 13 cards from a 13-card deck. There was no auction to determine a trump suit. As its popularity spread to other parts of the world, the calls of double and redouble were added to enhance the gambling stakes. During this time a declarer playing opposite a dummy emerged. By the 1890's variants of whist became popular in the United States and the United Kingdom.

By the end of the 19th century, the game had evolved into Plafond in France and Auction Whist elsewhere in the world. Plafond required each partnership to state the number of tricks they were going to take. Auction Whist introduced the element of bidding to determine a trump suit.

In 1925, Harold Vanderbilt, invented the game we know today while on a steamship cruise. He created a number of new features including requiring the partnership to commit to a contract for a certain number of tricks, a sophisticated new scoring table, the idea of vulnerability, and a scoring penalty when failing to make a contract.

The enhanced new game spread rapidly throughout the United States and England. In 1930 expert matches were conducted including the 1930 Anglo-American match and the 1931 Culbertson/Lenz match. Ely Culbertson's victories in both matches increased his status as an authority on the game and helped to promote his best-selling book, *The Contract Bridge Blue Book*. During this time, bridge vied with baseball as the great American past time.

Though Bridge fever has waned over the years, interest in the game has remained. Bidding systems and conventions have continued to proliferate. The point count system, popularized by Charles Goren, made bridge even more accessible and remains today the most common system for hand evaluation. Duplicate Bridge which allows competing partnerships to play the same deals began in the 1930's and continues to be popular world wide. Online Bridge began in the 1990's and allows people from all over the world to form partnerships and play regularly.

World Championships began in 1950. The United States dominated from 1950-1957. In 1957, Italy began an incredible 10-year streak of Bermuda Bowl victories. The Italian Blue Team included some of the best Bridge players ever. In 1964, an American team was formed by millionaire Ira Corn to beat the Blue Team. He hired six well-known players who committed to study and practice full time at his Texas mansion. In 1970, and again in 1971, the Ira Corn Aces realized their ultimate goal by winning the Bermuda Bowl.

Because of the combination of mental stimulation, luck, and sociability, Bridge continues to be popular worldwide. Millions of people play the game at clubs, in tournaments, on-line and around their kitchen tables. You can find a Bridge Club in most large cities and on every continent. Roger and I have played in Canada, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, England and St. Maarten. It is one of the few games to be played by people of all ages, races, and nationalities.

DIRECTOR *continued from page 1*

hands.' Management argues that there have been complaints regarding players who repeatedly make unusual bids in an attempt to make sure their partner does not play the hand—without the agreement of the partner. Examples include opening on trump with a small singleton, frequently with a six card major; opening one of a major in first or second seat with four cards when playing five card majors; and opening a natural no trump with a deviation of two to three points from the declared range. The **cons** include comments that it will be strongly opposed by a small and distinct segment of bridge players and that it will be impossible to enforce.

One final motion that has been proposed by the 0-10,000 Event Bridge Sub Committee, which I serve, is to establish two additional 0-10,000 National events, one being a Swiss to be held on the second Saturday and Sunday of the Fall NABC and a Mini-Vanderbilt KO to be held commencing on the Monday of the Spring NABC.

I will report next month on the results of these motions plus any others of major interest.

It's a Different View from Dummy

I am told that Flip Burgers in Atlanta features a Krispy Kreme milkshake. If I get an opportunity to find this place and Kathy is willing to come with me, I will let you know how it was next month. Until then, you can reach me at Pinsky4Bridge@earthlink.net.

Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: John Jones

Panelists: Gerry Bare, Marl Bartusek, Leo Bell, David Chechelashvili, Jeff Goldsmith, Eddie Kantar, Mister Mealy-mouth, and Jill Meyers

1

MPs
EW vul

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

* = 15+ to 18-

You South hold:

♠KQ ♥KJ9 ♦A763 ♣AJ84

What call do you make?

This is the fourth in a series of problems originally posed by the late Marshall Miles, the former editor of this column.

This was a Bridge World problem from March 1976.

Bare: 4♦. I don't know quite how to evaluate this hand even with a fit and 18 HCP. This looks like a case for four-suit transfers. Partner could transfer to 3♦ and then bid his/her other suit, splinter, or bid an invitational 4NT. *[Gerry plays that bidding a major after a transfer to three of a minor shows four cards in that major. This is not the common way of playing four-suit transfers. Most play that the major is shortness. Different methods create different inferences. Gerry knows that partner's diamonds are exactly five long, because he didn't start by transferring to diamonds. The other panelists don't know if North's diamonds are five or six cards long.]*

Bartusek: 4♦. I think I have enough to bypass 3NT at matchpoints and get to 6♦. One of my major suit holdings should fit nicely with partner's four-card major. I don't want to emphasize values in any suit by bidding one now.

Chechelashvili: 4♦. This is a strong forward-going bid. Any major bid at the three-level shows a good hand but not necessarily good enough to go beyond 3NT.

Meyers: 3♥. This is too good to bid 3NT. I don't know if partner is looking for best game or has slam interest. 3♥ is groping to see partner's next bid.

Goldsmith: 3♥. At matchpoints, I can't pass 3NT; partner need not have a slam try. He may have, however, ♠x ♥AQ10x ♦Q10xxx ♣Qxx, in which case 4♥ looks pretty attractive, particularly from the short side. Or he may have ♠xx ♥Qxxx ♦KQJxxx ♣x, and 5♦ is good while 3NT is hopeless. 3♥ will lead to a good spot opposite each of those hands.

A bid of three of either major in this sequence shows a concentration (normally a three-card holding) and a frequently a reasonable fit for diamonds. The thoughtful 3♥ bids might make it easier to stop in 4NT if we can't quite bid a diamond slam. Playing five of a minor on a not quite slam hand at matchpoints is a good way to get very few matchpoints. I like to play that 4NT is not Blackwood but a signoff if we are trying for a minor suit slam.

Bell: 4♣. This seems obvious to me. I have a great hand for diamonds, and I have first round control of clubs.

Kantar 4♣. I hope this shows slam interest in diamonds lacking a major suit ace.

2

MPs
no vul

South	West	North	East
?	3♦	pass	pass

You, South, hold: ♠Q4 ♥J ♦Q983 ♣AQJT64
What call do you make?

Marshall posed this problem in his 1992 book, "Stronger Competitive Bidding."

Ask an expert what is his favorite contract, and he will probably tell you 3NT. Experts love 3NT. It's the game that requires the fewest tricks, and expert declarers find ways to make 3NT. We have the opponent's suit stopped and a source of tricks. 3NT looks possible but dangerous. Will the panel risk 3NT? Will personality make a difference? Some of the panelists are more aggressive than others. Mealy-mouth is staunchly conservative and proud of it. Chechelashvili, on the other hand, is the most aggressive expert in Southern California. The others are someplace in between. Let's keep score and see how many of them shoot out 3NT.

Mealy-mouth: Pass. Seeking a plus on a deal that's probably a misfit for both sides. Perfect,

however, for 2♣ if playing Weak Jump Undercalls.

3NT bidders: 0 for 1.

Bare: Pass. Partner couldn't bid with presumed shortness in diamonds and length in the majors.

0 for 2.

Bartusek: Pass. Sure 3NT might be a decent spot, but it could easily be -500 (or even -1100). *[Would you sit out 3NT doubled?]* Partner is short in diamonds but did not act, so why should I? It looks to be a big misfit. Preempts work sometimes and if we missed a 12 opposite 12 3NT contract with my crappy major suit honors, then "Unlucky."

0 for 3.

Goldsmith: Pass. Partner is short in diamonds and didn't act. We are probably outgunned.

0 for 4.

Kantar: Pass. I was going to bid 3NT and then run to 4♣ if doubled, but didn't think it would look too good in print for my few remaining fans.

0 for 5.

Meyers: Pass. Might be my only chance for a plus.

0 for 6.

Bell: Pass. If my RHO doesn't have a good hand with the majors, I'll eat my cards. *[Would you like ketchup with that?]* If I were feeling my oats, I might bid 3NT and when doubled, retreat to 4♣, but I don't think I can stand a double in any contract.

Leo thinks about 3NT but goes with Pass. That's 0 for 7. Pass is pitching a shutout. But wait, one more panelist is left, and he is one of the most aggressive bidders on the planet. 3NT, David?

Chechelashvili: Pass. If partner could not act with diamond shortness, he needs to have perfect cards for us to make 3NT or 5♣.

That completes the shutout; pass gets all eight panelist votes.

PSP#2 continued on page 18

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3

IMPs
all vul

South	West	North	East
	1♣	dbl	1♥

?

You, South, hold: ♠76 ♥J4 ♦KT652 ♣KQ86

What call do you make?

This problem comes from the August 2005 Problem Solver's Panel.

Chechelashvili: 2♦.

Meyers: 2♦. No one forced me to bid. I don't think I have enough to bid 3♦, but I do have enough to bid again if it does not go all pass.

Bell: 2♦. Why not show my long suit and my values? At matchpoints, I would consider 1NT but I'm shooting for a plus score here, not a top.

Eddie was on the 2005 panel so we can look at his thoughts then.

Kantar (2005): 2♦. Not quite strong enough to bid 3♦ and notrump can come later.

Mealymouth was another 2005 panelist.

Mealmonth (2005): 2♦. Notrump can wait. If everybody passes, 2♦ should be as good a contract as any. If partner bids again, I can bid 3NT. If an opponent bids again, I can bid 2NT, happy to have provided a harbor in 3♦ in case partner doesn't like 2NT.

Mealymouth (2013): 2♦. What I'd have bid had East passed. Unless playing with the late Lilyan Eisenstein, who used to say, "diamonds are for wearing, not bidding," in which case I'd bid 1NT. With anyone else, notrump can await a further move from partner.

Again I'll quote Mike Shuman.

Shuman (2005): 1NT. Just routine...since we're not allowed to bid 2♦! [Maybe he was playing with Lilyan?] Second choice: 2NT. Who bids diamonds on these hands anyway?

Bare: 1NT. This is a maximum 1NT but not close to 2NT.

Bartusek: 1NT. Seems perfect. 1NT shows about 7+ to 11-. If they compete to 2♣, you can then offer up 2♦. Haven't you ever doubled 1♣ with 4=4=2=3? Of course, if partner has only three hearts then it will be a guess deciding whether to compete to 3♦ or not over the opponents' 2♥. It's often right to get in the NT first!

Goldsmith: 3♦. Red at IMPs, I can't resist a mild overbid in the hopes that partner will cue 3♥ and get us to 3NT. [This was an actual hand, and if you bid 3♦ then partner will bid 3♥, allowing you to bid and make 3NT.] 3♦ also blocks West from comfortably supporting hearts.

Playing 3♦ as blocking in this sequence is entirely possible. I have two partnerships in which I play a convention called Curly Cue Bids. 2♣ is then a constructive bid in diamonds, and 3♦ is blocking.

The panel vote in 2005 was 4 votes for 2♦ and 2 votes for 1NT.

Miles (2005): 1NT. I don't see why the first four panelists are so confident that they will get another chance. Partner actually held ♠AQxx ♥AQ98x ♦Ax ♣9x. Does he have another bid over a "free" 2♦ response? I didn't think so when I held that hand, yet you should have a good play for 3NT. From South's point of view, 3NT looks like the most likely game, and with a probable double stopper in clubs, why not bid 1NT?" [I'll bet that most of the panel would overcall 1♥ holding ♠AQxx ♥AQ98x ♦Ax ♣9x. That might make the auction easier, whether advancer's next bid is 1NT, 2♦, or 2♣ as a transfer advance into diamonds. The 1♥ overcaller might bid 2♠ if advancer shows strength and diamonds.]

4

IMPs
NS vul

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

You, South, hold:
 ♠K762 ♥Q63 ♦AKT76 ♣8
 What call do you make?

This was a problem from "It's Your Call" (2009).

Chechelashvili: 4♠. Although partner is asking for heart support, and most likely with xxx, or Txx, or Jxx at most, I will still go ahead and bid the vulnerable game. My stiff club could easily be a valuable asset. If I had one more club and one fewer diamond, I would bid 3♠.

Bare (2013): 4♠. I play that 3♥ shows four or more hearts and is not forcing to game. It could be looking for game or looking for a 4-4 fit. It could also be looking for a slam; if so, this is a good hand. Since 3♠ is not forcing, I bid 4♠. Some play 3♥ as a help suit game try. If that's the case, my hand isn't so good. This sequence needs partnership discussion.

Bare (2009): 4♦. in case partner is trying for slam.

Mealymouth: 4♦. Cue-bid super-accept of partner's presumed game invitation, just in case he has slam in mind.

Goldsmith (2013): 4♦. In case partner is slamming. I hope partner tries a Last Train 4♥, so that I can cue 5♣.

Goldsmith (2009): 4♠. What's the problem?

Bartusek (2013): 4♣. Slam is definitely possible if partner has a perfect hand like ♠AQxxx ♥AKxx ♦x ♣xxx. The problem is getting partner to realize it. 4♣ allows partner a temporizing (Last Train) 4♦.

Bartusek (2009): 4♣. This is a great hand. (A few experts would have bid 3♠ with my hand on the prior round.) Slam is possible even if partner was just

looking for the best major-suit game with 5-5.

Jeff thinks 4♥ is Last Train. This is standard with spades trumps. Mark thinks 4♦ is Last Train. Mark is catering to partner's thinking about hearts becoming the trump suit if he held 3=4=5=1.

Bell: 4♣. I may not have the chance to show the club control later in the auction. There is a lot of merit to 4♦ to show the potential source of tricks. This is usually a question of partnership style.

Meyers: 4♣. I don't love cue bidding with a singleton, but I am concerned that if I bid 4♥ partner will think I have three spades and four hearts. There is no ambiguity that 4♣ is a cue bid.

Kantar: 4♣. If this is a game try, I'm accepting. If this is a slam try, ditto. I can't have a 3=1=5=4 pattern with extras because I would have rebid 2♣.

Miles (2009): 4♣. I strongly prefer 4♣ to 4♦. Partner will play you for something in diamonds once you have bid them, but if he lacks a club control, he may be reluctant to bid past game after 4♦. He actually held ♠AQxxx ♥AKxx ♦x ♣QJx and bid Blackwood (1430) followed by slam. He might not have bid 5♣ (denying a club control) over 4♦.

I'm with the panelists that there is not a one size fits all solution to this problem. Each of 4♣ and 4♦ makes sense. I normally don't bid shortness as the first cue bid in an auction, but I think this time it has merit, because partner will assume I have decent diamonds if I am cue bidding at all. The singleton club could be the key to reaching slam. I definitely think partnership discussion is important here.

5

MPs
EW vul

South	West	North	East
?			1♦

You, South, hold: ♠AKQT762 ♥A84 ♦JT5 ♣--
What call do you make?

This problem is from more "Accurate Bidding" (2011).

Mealymouth: 2♠. I assume we are playing Strong Jump Overcalls. [*Strong Jump Overcalls have been out of fashion for several years. I am frequently asked who Mealymouth is. Maybe he is Rip Van Winkle?*] 4♠ if we are playing Weak Jump Overcalls, as I am unwilling to risk a Wooldridge Gambit (bid 2♠, feigning weakness, requiring East to reopen with a je-ne-sais-quoi double per his undisclosed partnership agreement that West's pass over my preempt is forcing, then redoubling to close the trap on the opponents).

Bartusek: 4♠. Sure, slam is possible, but this rates to be the correct spot, and I do not want to let the opponents find their club fit. I will bring partner back into the decision by doubling 5♣ if the opponents bid it. You can collect some nice numbers this way when the opponents believe you are preempting and they refuse to be shut out.

Bell: 1♠. My initial reaction was to bid 4♠ to make it tough for the opponents to find their minor suit fits. They are vul vs. not, however, and 5♠ isn't out of the picture. 1♠ includes partner in the auction.

Meyers: 1♠. I don't think I have enough to double and bid, but I have enough to bid 1♠ and then jump in spades.

Chechelashvili: 1♠. Followed by 4♠ if partner passes. I don't believe there is a risk of 1♠'s being passed out.

Goldsmith: 1♠. I have too much slam potential to

leap to 4♠ vs. an unpassed partner. Why can't he have ♠Jxx ♥KQxxx ♦x ♣Kxxx?

Kantar: 1♠. If partner isn't strong enough to bid, how much can I make, especially with those diamonds?

Bare: Double. Could be cold for a slam opposite some only fair hands short in diamonds. Someone will probably bid when I have ♦J10x.

Miles (2011): Double. I think a double, followed by the minimum bid in spades is the best way to describe this hand. Usually this sequence will be based on more high cards and fewer spades. One of the panelists [*This was from a previous panel, probably a PSP panel, but he didn't state in his book*] said, 'I hope no one is considering a notrump contract.' Well, I was. What if partner bids 2♣, followed by 2NT over my 2♠? I would gladly raise to 3NT with my eight-trick contribution. I would also raise to 3NT if he responded 1NT. If partner can bid notrump either immediately or belatedly, we must have a diamond stopper, and I am more worried about a diamond ruff in a spade contract than that the opponents will run the club suit against us in a notrump contract.

If you have questions, possible problems or a comment, email me at johndjones44@yahoo.com.

This column is dedicated to the memory of Gary King, who passed away on July 25. Gary was an avid reader of this column and always was very interested in learning the most current advanced bidding methods.

PSP#1 *continued from page 13*

Mealymouth: 4♣. The sensible notrump range tells me that this problem probably appeared in The Bridge World more than a decade ago ... unfortunately, not in the January 2001 Master Solvers' Club, else I could just look to see what Richard Margolis bid and do the same. Without my favorite rabbi on whom to rely, I'll have to use my own judgment. This hand is on the

cusps, not a good 18 HCP but not a bad 18 HCP either. It is an easy 4♣ now, showing the ♣A with interest in a diamond slam while denying any major-suit ace.

Miles (1976): 4♣. "I have a pretty good hand. So I may as well show it by passing the three-notrump level and bidding a first round control."

The late Mike Shuman, once a frequent PSP panelist, also cue bid

4♣.

Shuman (1976): 4♣. "Confirming diamonds and bidding the cheapest ace. 3♥ followed by 4♦ over 3♠ or 3NT is OK, though far less clear."

The 1976 BW vote was 12 votes for 4♣, 7 votes for 3♥, 2 votes for 4NT (intended as Blackwood), 2 votes for 4♦, and 3 inexplicably conservative votes for 3NT.

PSP#2 *continued from page 14*

Marshall created the problem; let's hear from him.

Miles "Stronger Competitive Bidding" - 1992: 3NT. Bid 3NT! A typical non-vulnerable 3♦ bid is ♠Jx ♥xx ♦AJTxxxx ♣xx, and West might be even weaker. A hand such as ♠Jx ♥xx ♦AKTxxxx ♣xx, is a very good preempt. Let's give West his typical 6 HCP, which leaves 22 HCP for partner and RHO. Suppose partner holds ♠Kxxx ♥KQxxx ♦K ♣9xx, which would leave RHO with ♠ATxx ♥ATxxx ♦x ♣Kxx. It is hard to predict how the play would go, and dummy's ♣9 might be crucial, but quite likely you will make your contract. West won't have the entries to establish and cash his long suit, but you can establish and cash your long suit. If you think I cheated by picking ideal cards for partner, try exchanging his hand with RHO's and you are still likely to make 3NT." [Partner holding ♠ATxx ♥ATxxx ♦x ♣Kxx would likely double 3♦.]

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telling him whether or not you have a relevant card in the suit?

I believe that except in some specifically defined situations (such as when you have a ruff available), an attitude signal should carry the latter meaning. As I phrase my philosophy with my partners, I'm not smart enough to know what you should do, but I am smart enough to know what I'm looking at. If this is your agreement, though, then the current situation calls for count, not attitude. Why? Because if declarer held the diamond ace, he would win it in order to assure himself an extra trick in the suit by later leading toward dummy's jack. Thus, by the time trick 1 is over, partner will know your attitude (whether you have the ace). But he may need to know how many diamonds are cashing, particularly since dummy's diamond spots offer the threat of a ruffing finesse. Luckily for me, the very experienced partnership defending this hand against me weren't on the same page and they went wrong, letting me score an extra trick for a top.

Welcome Mat

A whole host of new members joined our ranks last month. Please give a friendly hello to Richard Deweese, Lynn Harvey, Jacqueline Holly, Judy Lender, Joanne Mardesizh, Ubaldo Marson, Bonnie Okamoto, Sandra Pressman, and R.M. Zadeh, as well as to Jessica Goldberg, who transferred here from Philadelphia. We look forward to many years of seeing you at the table.

Around the Clubs

Club champions last month at Beverly Hills were Richard Glatzer and Farideh Sigari, Deborah Stain and Harold Kahn, and Maria Pendergast and Joanne Minken-Levy. Picking up 70% games were Dovid Crum and Bill Carlson and Susan Somogyi and Marty Blain.

Art Zail won a pair of club championships at Barrington, playing with Aram Bedros and with Connie Fishbach. Danny Kleinman and John Lu won the club championship at Cyma's Game. Picking up 70% games at Barrington were Michael Nash and Hans Kraepelien (each with a pair), Aram Bedros, Art Zail, Om Chokriwala, and Steve Yaffe.

Climbing the Ladder

Paula Nataf is our Unit's newest Junior Master. Susan Chapman has become a Club Master, while Nancy Koss and Dr. Roman Sydorak have become Sectional Masters. Dr. David Stern is now a Regional Master, and Meredith Murad has become an NABC Master.

Sally Karbelnig has become a Silver Life Master. Congratulations to all on your accomplishments.

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



Torrance, CA | October 14-20