

Southern California Bridge News

Volume 50, #5

May 2014

Published By ALACBU

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Bucket List

by Becky Clough, ALACBU President



Do you have a bucket list? I do. Ever since I was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease 13 years ago, I decided to try and do the things and go the places I had always dreamed about. I've been lucky because Parkinson's has placed few limits on me, and I've been able to cross a number of things off my list. Among other things, we went to Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti, the Galapagos, and we went to Gatlinburg. I believe that Gatlinburg should be on every bridge player's bucket list and visited at least once.

Gatlinburg bills itself as "the country's favorite regional" which seems is true in that Gatlinburg is the country's largest regional, having more than 1200 tables daily-- equal to our attendance at Woodland Hills for the entire week. Why is this? I think the answer is three things - location, accessibility and program.

Gatlinburg is a bustling little tourist town surrounded on three sides by the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The park was established in 1934 to protect the last of the southern Appalachian forest, which once covered more than 4 million acres. After almost virtual elimination due to logging and fires, the park today encompasses 521, 895 acres. The Cherokee Indians described these mountains as shaconage, meaning "blue, like smoke." The bluish mist, which clings to the mountainsides, gives the park its name and remains among its most distinct features. Bridge player are among the 9,000,000 yearly visitors, to the park - the most visited park in the nation. The tournament is held in April with spring in all its glory. Spring has no particular characteristic in Los Angeles, but in the mountains of Tennessee, spring arrives in every lush shade of green you can imagine.

PRESIDENT *continued on page 12*

Top 50 Bridge Clubs

by Rand Pinsky, District Director



Top 50 Bridge Clubs for 2013. It has been reported that two of our district's bridge clubs placed in the top 50 bridge clubs in table count for 2013. Placing 18th was the Long Beach Bridge Center with 8,436 tables and Beverly Hills Bridge Club, 23rd with 7,575 tables. First place went to the Hartes' Club of New York with 13,622.5 tables. For online clubs, Bridge Base hosted 778,721 tables in 2013.

District 23 Masterpoint leaders for 2013. The April Bridge Bulletin listed by category the top 25 masterpoint leaders for the ACBL for 2013. Earning recognition from our District included: Lisa Karako, Deborah Levinson, Denny Seltzer, John Petrie, Aram Bedros, Dalia Hernandez, Sherman Gao, Albert Stock, Om Chokriwala, Roger Lee (1st in the 2500-5000), and Leo Bell.

I hope I listed everyone and if I missed, please let me know so I can correct it next month.

Happenings with the Board of Directors in Dallas. The Dallas board meetings did not produce any earth shattering motions. One highlight (for me) included getting elected Treasurer of the ACBL for the third consecutive year.

Many appointments were made including David Berkowitz as NABC Seeding Chair for 2014, Michael Huston as NABC Appeals Chair for 2014, David Berkowitz, Ralph Katz, Paul Lewis and Kerri Sanborn appointed to the Hall of Fame Committee, Chris Compton, GS Jade Barrett, Will Elhers, Bob Hamman

DIRECTOR *continued on page 2*

Inside This Issue

Around the Units	page 4
District 23 Regional	pages 6, 14
Problem Solvers Panel	page 13
Rank Changes	page 3

2014 GNT Qualifying

2 sessions/day, Starts at 10 am

Open and Flight B, May 3-4
Barrington Bridge Club

email: howardeinberg@yahoo.com for more information

GNT Qualifying Results

April 27 at Long Beach Bridge Center

Flight A

1st William Schreiber, Michael Mikyska, Ron Feldman
Alan Myerson

Flight C

1st Frederick Upton, Nima Badizadegan, Eric Chenteh
Tang, Nolan Chang

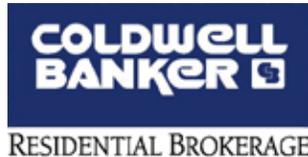
2nd David Kempe, Joseph Viola III, Matthew Klimesh, Bob Johnson, Gerard Geremia

2nd Robert Novell, Robert Novell, Donald Garner, Margie Lee

Carolyn Taff & Marion Napier REALTORS

Your Real Estate Partners for Life

Relocation, Seniors, Luxury Properties and First Time Buyer Specialists Representing Buyers and Sellers in Probate & Trust Transactions; Estate, Condo and Investment Properties; Complex Real Estate Matters; Referrals; and Executive Transfers



Carolyn 310-871-5051
Marion 310-721-7782
2444 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica, CA 90403
DRE # 01074069 / 00413050

Southern California Bridge News

Published monthly by ALACBU, Inc.

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

email bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org

Editor/Designer.....Jennifer Einberg
Managing Editor.....Rebecca Clough
Contributing Editor.....John Jones

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.

PRESIDENT *continued from page 1*

and Jeff Meckstroth appointed to the Competitions & Conventions Committee and Cheri Bjerkan, Denny Clerkin, Bob Glasson, John Fout and Kevin Wilson appointed to the Ethical Oversight Committee. Finally, Tom Peters, Lisa Berkowitz, Michael Hutson and Nagy Kamel were appointed to the ACBL Disciplinary Committee and Robb Gordon, Eric Rodwell and Roger Stern were appointed to the ACBL Laws Commission.

Some of the motions passed included selecting Atlanta, GA for the 2018 Summer and the 2023 Fall NABCs. Also the motion pertaining to pairing of swiss team events passed requiring the first match to be entirely random draw or random draw within strata. Then for each subsequent round no two teams shall meet twice in the event and each team will meet a team whose current record is a close to its own as feasible.

Finally, a motion passed allowing card fees for a non member playing at a Membership Club to be as much as 100% more than a member's entry fee.

It's a Different View from Dummy

I've started sending congratulatory emails to all District 23 members on any rank change they accomplish. I have asked each recipient for a short story about their bridge. I will be publishing these letters in our Southern California Bridge News.

As always, if you want to reach me, write me at Pinsky4Bridge@earthlink.net.

Bridge Stories

These are short bridge stories from District 23 players who earned a new rank last month, as collected by Rand Pinsky

Besides my past bridge experience, I give all the credit to Jeff Grotenhuis and the Agile Bridge Club. I've learned the modern conventional bidding from Jeff and the club members. Jeff has a zero tolerance policy with regard to inharmonious behaviour, something I appreciate. I've had lots of luck and good partners, always a desirable circumstance. District would be well advised to listen and evaluate Jeff's suggestions with open minds in view of the success he is enabling here in the South Bay.

*Fred Roach
Club Master*

I just have been playing at the Arcadia Bridge Center and on cruise ships, so that's my simple story about how I got my Club

Master. I am interested in finding new partners with whom I can play bridge, but I like it to be fun. I play fairly simply, with Jacoby Transfers, weak two openers, convenient minors, Stayman and a few other simple things.

*Marcia Hoffman
Club Master*

Bridge never came easy to me, but I love it and meet so many wonderful people. I am not an inspiration to anyone, unfortunately. I had a marvelous bridge teacher for the past 3 years.

There will never be anyone like Mr. Mark Anthony Sinagra. All his students were totally devoted to him and held him in the highest esteem. He retired in December to pursue his other interests.

*Barbara A Mintz
Junior Master*

My bridge story is not too unique and Club Master is a nice

marker but not earth shaking.

A few years ago I filled in a social bridge game with only experience in playing Hearts. I started reading the bridge column in the LA Times. A patient friend talked bridge with me and I played socially and tried the local Bridge Clubs. Thank you to my friend and partners.

In June 2012 I was diagnosed with cancer. Surgery, chemo and radiation. My daughter gave me an iPad and I played a lot of bridge on line while undergoing treatment.

Now I take nothing for granted and I'm grateful every day.

I enjoy tennis, bridge and watching my grandchildren grow up. I appreciate the beauty around me and find it curious how on occasion I witness club players become so intense. It's a game, not cancer.

*Bob Becker
Club Master*

District 23 Rank Changes March 2014

Junior Master

Edna Broman, Eleanor Davidorf
Rohini De Silva, Esq
Jan Drayer, Thea Drayer
Joseph Duke, Barbara Mintz
Peter O Keeffe, Marvin Robbins
Marcy Weigand

Club Master

Bob Becker, David Donahue
Arthur Hammarlund
Susan Hammarlund
Melody Harper
Marcia Hoffman
Nan Karnes, Joan Oliver
Bette Treiman

Sectional Master

Virginia Brewer
Zu Ming Cheng, Barry Heller
Barbara Holman
Benjamin Kuschner
Irwin Salk, William Suter
Stephen Woelfer, Barbara York

Regional Master

Helene Fierman, Carol Hanson
Claudia Henry
Myron Mitzenmacher
Nancy Raiche
Andrew Rottenbacher
Marilyn Skolich

NABC Master

Yehudit Hasin-Brumshten

Michael Lo, Joerg Rottenbacher
Richard Schaeffer, Life Master

Life Master

Lidia Epelbaum, Joan Feldman
Patricia Shellogg Seal
Frederick Upton, r

Bronze Life Master

Timothy Finlay
Phyllis Greenstein

Silver Life Master

Janet Cooper, Paula Olivares

Gold Life Master

Xingping Kang

Around the Units in District 23

Glendale Verdugo by Sharon Wolf

May Unit Game, May 10, 2014
Lunch at 12:15, game at 1:00

Our new address is the YMCA at 140 North Louise, Glendale, CA 91206. The phone number (which is now functional) remains the same: 818-500-8669.

All Saturday games, including Unit games, begin at 1:00. There is a Wednesday night game, starting at 7:00, downstairs in Conference Room D.

Results of the April Unit game, which honored the winners of the 2013 Mini-McKinney and Ace of Clubs races, were as follows:

N/S	
A1	John Barrow & Karen Arase
A2	Caroline Cohen & Tim Lolli
A3	Ann Banta & Ron Moeckel
B1	Carol Provost & Rufus Rhoades

E/W	
A1	Brad Beland & Amr Elghamry
A2	Jack Futrell & Rae Murbach
A3	Bill Papa & Shui-Ming Huang
B1 C1	Paula Olivares & Bill Brodek
B2	Sandra Rucker & Ann Raymond

Please join us on April 12 for our next Unit game.

Long Beach by Jon Yinger

unit website: www.acblunit557.org
club website: www.LongBeachBridge.com

March 23 Unit Game: Overall results: 1st in A: John and Jo Melis, 2nd Arne Lier/Ann Croul, 3rd Kevin Lane, Robert Shore, 4th Jackie Hess/Lucy Gellner,

5th Hanefi Erten/Oliver Yildiz, 6th John Petrie/Orhan Gurbuz. In the B flight overall: 5th Lisa Kuo/Murat Veysoglu, 6th Eileen Nelson/Eleanor Baratelle. In the C flight overall: 3rd Doreen Maes/Phyllis Greenstein, 4th Jane Reid/Joyce Henderson, 5th Betti and Warren Harris. Results in the NLM section: 1st overall Nancy Raiche/Garry Gastelum, 2/3 Tom and Bill Dilks tied with Ralph Brunson/Tim Panik. Congratulations to all!

April 13 Unit Game: Overall results: 1st in A: Eileen Nelson/Julie Cunningham, 2nd Betty McClellan/Jo Daigle, 3rd Mark Leonard/Phil Clayton, 4th Carmela Chiurazzi/Walt Schafer, 5th John Petrie/Alberto Feilhaber, 6th Fay Beckerman/Sherry Troeger. In the B flight overall: 4th Larry Slutsky/Dennis Schmitz, 5th Rob Preece/Usha Bansal. In the C flight over all: 3rd Jane Ried/Joyce Henderson. Results in the NLM section: 1st Colleen Bilas/Dalia Hernandez, 2nd Bill Dilks/Lynn Danielson, 3rd Ken Baker/Tim Cole, and tied for 4,5,6,7 Juanita Smith/Madge Weinstein, Nancy Troussaint/Pam Cronn, Peter and MJ Giotta, and Mike and Bert Nielsen. Congratulations to all!

70+% Games March 16 through April 15: In the open game Sunday March 16 Jo and John Melis had a 70.14%. And in the NLM game Monday evening Apr 14 Dalia Hernandez/Colleen Bilas had 70.83%. Congratulations both pairs!

Big Masterpoint Awards March 16 through April 15: Mar 17 John Bralliar/Jackie Hess won 3.27mp. Mar 23 Jo and John Melis won 4.96mp for 1st, Arnie/Anne Croul 3.72mp for 2nd. Apr 1 Jo Daigle/Cliff Goodrich won 4.68mp for 1st, Joyce Henderson/Jane Ried 3.51mp for 2nd. Apr 8 Marcie Evans/Jon Yinger won 3.85mp. Apr 9 Sherman Gao/Weiling Zhao won 3.15mp. Apr 11 Jo Daigle/Marcie Evans won 4.43 for 1st, Eddie Gruber/Diane Starbuck 3.3mp for 2nd. Apr 13 Eileen Nelson/Julie Cunningham won 4.25mp for 1st, Jo Daigle/Betty McClellan 3.19mp for 2nd. Congratulations to all!

New Members: none this month

Status Changes: New Club Master: Warren Harris. New Regional Master: Dalia Hernandez. New Silver Life Master: Tom Ludwig. Congratulations to

→

you all!

Get Well Wishes to Lois Abramson.

Upcoming Events at the Club: Western Conference StaC May 5 through May 11. Silver points; fee: \$12. Club championship week May 18 through May 24. Extra points, regular prices. May 25 Unit Game: Lunch 12:30pm, game 1pm. Our Unit Game has become very popular for players in all strats. Recently, we have had enough players for two Open Sections and a Non Life Masters Section. NLM's are encouraged to attend. The people are fun and the food is great. What more could anyone want? Memorial Day Monday May 26 unit-rated game. A picnic lunch will be served before the game and extra points will be awarded after the game. Let's make it a Red, White, and Blue Day!

News from Leisure World

by Judy Carter-Johnson

Club Championship Results: April 11 (Clubhouse #1) overall winners: Jane and Tom Gibbons 1 in A. Dorothy Favre/Stam Blitz 2 in A. Bee Kinman/Verna Burns 3 in A. Mariann Klinger/Howard Smith 4 in A, 1 in B. Jean Byer/Jaye Woodington 2 in B. Sylvia Kaprellyan/Jack miller 3 in B, 1 in C. Cookie Pham/Joyce Basch 4 in B, 2 in C.

April 14 (Clubhouse #3) overall winners: Marilyn McClintock/Sharon Baren 1 in A. Rhea Scharf/George Koehm 2 in A, 1 in B, 1 in C. Bee Kinman/Bill Linskey tied with Shirley Knopf/Joe FioRico for 3/4 in A. Shirley Knopf/Joe FioRico 2 in B, 2 in C. Joyce Henderson/Howard Smith 5 in A, 3 in B. Verna Burns/Judy Carter-Johnson 6 in A. Cookie Pham/Thuan Pham Gwynn tied with Jeanette Estill/Jpohn Chang for 4/5 in B.

Upcoming Club Championship Dates: Clubhouse #3—Thurs June 12 and Thurs June 17. Clubhouse #1—Friday July 11 and Saturday July 19.

Upcoming Unit Rated Game: Clubhouse #3 Monday May 19.

If you have any news for next month's column please email me: jcj90740@gmail.com. Results of all Leisure World games are posted on www.acblunit557.org

Get the Unit 557 Newsletter via email: Send me your email address and I'll put you on the list. My email is jjyinger1@gmail.com.

Pasadena-San Gabriel Valley by Marty Weiss

Play as You Go

My brief bio mentioned that Bev and I have tried to play some bridge in whatever cities we have visited abroad. We've played in Paris and Nice, Milan, Rome, Chiavari, Barcelona, Madrid, and London.

One of the great bonuses of playing abroad is that the percentage of English speakers among bridge players is much greater than the general population, so it's much easier to relate to and communicate with the locals in a bridge club. It's a far better way to learn about restaurants, things to do and see, and, yes, even make new friends. I remember some players at the club in Barcelona tipping us off about a wonderful restaurant...a French place, no less, that we'd never have found on our own.

And, of course, the bridge itself is great fun, albeit difficult sometimes, trying to understand an unfamiliar convention of theirs, or explain one that we are using. And the occasional oddities.

Like the director, at the club in Chiavari, warning us of the house rule..."No opening at the '1' level with less than 9 points."

Or in France, where the cards are different than ours. The king has the letter 'R' (for Roi), the queen has the letter D (for Dame) & the Jack, the letter 'V' (for valet). It took a while until we could comfortably count the points in our hand.

Or Milan, where I was amazed at the number of young people playing bridge, at a club game, by the way with more than 30 tables. The answer, I learned, was that bridge was taught in the schools there.

And finally, Milan again, where after driving up from Florence, on checking into our hotel, I was trying to find out how to get back to the hotel if we would play at the club I had previously played at on a prior trip. The desk clerk's English wasn't great....sounded like 'why no play here?' It took a while until we learned, to our astonishment, that there was a fine twice weekly game that very evening right at our hotel. We played, came in 2nd, for which we were awarded 2 jars of delicious Italian condiments.

Big Games

76.79% Joe Viola – Amr Elghamry March 23 →

Winners and Losers Game, Arcadia
 73.89% Abby Triback and Julio Cervantes, April 3
 Arcadia Bridge Center

Unit Game Winners April 6

First: Shiu-Ming Huang – Amr Elghamry 71.1%
 Second: Lulu Minter, Bill Papa 64.1%
 Third: Mike Doll – Patrick Cardullo 62.3%

Upcoming

559 Unit Game: Sunday, May 4 1:00 at San Marino
 Bridge Club

Arcadia

“Beat the House” Night: Friday, May 16 7:15 PM
 Arcadia Bridge Club
 “Winners and Losers”: Sunday, May 18 1:00 at Ar-

cadia Bridge Club

STaC Games (Silver Points):

May 8, Thursday morning 11:00
 May 9, Friday evening, 7:15
 May 10, Saturday afternoon 1:00

Tournaments beyond our unit in May:

Oceanside Sectional: May 2-May 4
 La Jolla Sectional :May 24-May 26
 Balboa Sectional: May 31-June 1

Please email me at Martyweiss559@yahoo.com
 with your big games or stories or comments so that I
 can include them in the column.





LOS ANGELES REGIONAL

Long Beach, CA

June 30 - July 6, 2014

Hilton Long Beach
 701 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach CA
 Reservations: 800-445-8667,
 or reserve online at
LosAngelesRegional.com

Reserve Early - Rooms will sell out!!!

- Room rate **\$94** single or double (incl. free in-room Wi-Fi) (code: So. Cal. bridge)
- Reserve by 5:00pm May 29, 2014
- Discounted Self Parking \$5



- Tournament Manager, Peter Benjamin, 310-720-6050 ahoneydo@aol.com
- Partnership, Betty Jackson, 562-594-4420 rjackson6277@roadrunner.com
- Card fees \$13 for paid members, \$17 for others

- Five days of **GOLD RUSH** Pairs! Gold Point awards and no player will have more than 750 masterpoints!
- New **KO's** start every day, Monday-Saturday!
- Friday, Saturday, & Sunday main event games are on a **Daylight Schedule - 10am & 3pm***! (Sun. aft. time TBD).

Need a Partner? Need Teammates?
 Try our online partnership desk at LosAngelesRegional.com

Brian Russell
 Director-in-Charge
 Sanction 1407029

Pomona Covina

by Tom Lill

Unit Game – Saturday, May 17, 11:00 a.m.
Individual – Saturday, May 3, 9:30 a.m., LaVerne site

The April Individual was captured by Claudia Cochran, with Steve Mancini and Paul Chrisney right behind, and a three way tie between Margie Hall, Linda Tessier, and Bob Kakade.

The April Unit game was captured by Roger Boyar – Richard Patterson, followed closely by Vic Sartor – Hans Hehnke, Penny Barbieri – Jack Chao, Kim Horn – Georgiana Battuello, and Thomas Lill – Ann McClelland. Anand and Kumar took the flight C honors.

Don't forget: the Longest Day is coming up soon (June 21). All events will be at the Knights of Columbus site. We're having a session at 9:00 a.m., another at 1:30 p.m., a third around 5:30 p.m. (more or less), and – who knows – if enough people want to stick around, we can have a fourth session. It's on a Saturday, after all. We will be providing breakfast-type goodies, with a box lunch for purchase (similar to last year), and the usual fine snacks to help ruin your diet.

Promotions this month: Kiran Kumar is now a Regional Master, and Gino Barbieri is up to NABC Master. (Next stop for Gino, that coveted gold card). The race for the top game this month was a photo finish. Well, pretty near. Fred and Lu Minters' 67.86% just edged out Sue Ruoff – Herb Stampfl at 68.82, then came Roger Boyar – Richard Patterson at 67.56 and Bill Papa – Vic Sartor at 67.46. Other wins were posted by, Karen Olin, Don Naf, Hanan Mogharbel, Walt Otto, Clint Lew, Gayle Ginsburg, Kurt Trieselmann, Georgie Battuello, Cynthia Willett, Genise Hasan, Joe Unis, Hans Henke, Charlotte Capelle, Penny Barbieri, Sandy Jones, and Mary Miller.

Unless Your Correspondent missed someone, the only Unit member to score at the Woodland Hills sectional was Linda Stuart, who took top honors in a 299-er game.

This month, we will depart from our usual hand-of-the-month nonsense, replacing it with a different hand-of-the-month nonsense. In third seat, you find yourself looking at

♠A62 ♥AQ9843 ♦AKJ7 ♣--

To your surprise, partner opens the bidding (as dealer) 1♣. You aren't using any fancy methods, so 1♥ seems pretty obvious. Pard comes back with 2♣ (Joy and Rapture), and you force with 2♦. Partner takes a preference with 2♥. Now what? Partner could have only 2 hearts (if so, probably something like 2=2=3=6). Needing more information, you try the fourth suit (2♠). Pard can't help, calling 3♥. Sigh. Over to you. Now what?

It sounds like the hands fit very poorly. You could have a trump loser (or two), there are probably spade losers, and the club honors in pard's hand may be useless (unless they are headed by AKQ ...). Made your decision? Rien ne va plus. Sounds like 4♥ is the place to be. Pard tables the following collection:

♠K ♥J76 ♦Q43 ♣KQ7632

Hmmm. Although that may be one of the shabbiest opening bids on record (the whirring noise you hear is Alvin Roth and Tobias Stone, spinning in their graves), the two major-suit pictures are pure gold. 6♥ is where you want to be, and with ♥Kx on your right, ♥Tx on your left, all 13 tricks roll home. Yet only one pair got to the slam. Without just blasting to 6♥ and praying, how do you get there?

Now the other side of the coin. You pick up (as dealer): ♠AQxxx ♥A ♦Ax ♣Axxxx.

Nice – looks like 20 points to me. You open 1♠, and partner responds 2♣. This is one of those times you are very glad you are playing 2/1, giving you an easy (and forcing) 3♣ bid. Partner signs off with 4♠. And you ... ? You have 20 points (maybe more, with the double fit). Partner could force to game. Why not 6♠? Blackwood isn't going to tell you much that you don't already know. Pard must have some kings, to have a game force with an aceless wonder. Sure enough, pard's hand is

♠KTxx ♥Kxx ♦xx ♣KQJx

Your losing diamond goes on the ♥K and 13 tricks roll in. Yet only two pairs got to the slam. How do you not get there? Oh well. Maybe we'll figure this game out, some day.

Quote for the month: "Experience is what you get looking for something else." (Mary Pettibone Poole)

Until next month ...

Santa Clarita-Antelope Valley by Beth Morrin

Bridge at the Joshua Tree Bridge Club in Palmdale is in its third year. They offer four open games each week: Tuesday at 12:30 p.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., Friday at 12:30 p.m. and Sunday at 1:00 p.m. In addition to the open games, they also offer a limited game on Wed. afternoon at 12:30 and beginning bridge lessons using the Easybridge! program on Mondays and Saturdays.

Unit News

On Sunday April 6, Joshua Tree hosted a Unit Game and an awards ceremony for the winners of the 2013 Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney races.

The North/South winners of the game were:

First: George Lewis and Nora Fincher with 61.7%.
Second: Rand Pinsky and Nell Schanz with 60%.
Third: Ruth Baker and Tracy Boys with 59.7%.

The East/West winners were:

First: Carol Ashbacher and Kristi Kubo with 61.7%.
Second: Bill Brodek and Paula Olivares with 55%.
Third: Henry Roediger and Sharry Vida with 50%

Mini-McKenney Winners for 2013

1-5	Benjamin Kuschner
5-20	Rosemary Frankian
20-50	Dan Spector
50-100	Albert Stock
100-200	Sharry Vida
200-300	Roy Ladd
300-500	Douglas Kuschner
500-1000	Paula Olivares
1000-2500	Bill Brodek
2500-5000	Paul Markarian
10,000+	John Swanson

Ace of Clubs Winners for 2013

0-5	Rosalee McEntyre
5-20	Rosemary Frankian
20-50	Dan Spector
50-100	Albert Stock
100-200	Sharry Vida
200-300	Roy Ladd

300-500	Beth Morrin
500-1000	George MacDonald
1000-2500	Bill Brodek
2500-5000	Nell Schanz
10,000+	John Swanson

A second Unit Game was held on Thursday, April 10 in Castaic.

The North/South winners were:

First: Hansford and Mira Rowe with 60.4%
Second: Ted Maki and Nell Schanz with 59.8%
Third: Russ Buker and Viviane Dinehart with 58%

The East/West winners were:

First: Lola Messiha and Brad Ward with 64.9%
Second: Marguerite Pinkers and Bert Stock with 58%
Third: Ruth Baker and Kristi Kubo with 55%

A third Unit Game was held on Tuesday, April 15th in Santa Clarita.

The winners were:

First: Charles and Mary Ann Self with 62%
Second: Phyllis Seeder and Ed Berliner with 57%
Third: Lamonte Johnson and Markle Vandervort with 53%

The Castaic Club held a Chuckwagon Lunch on Thursday, April 3 where players were invited to wear their best western attire to be entered in a drawing for a special prize. Basant Shah won the drawing and received two tickets to the Cowboy Festival at Melody Ranch. This will be an annual event to be held every April.

Congratulations to Ruth Baker for recently making Life Master.

Future Events

Western Conference S.T.a.C. games will be held on May 6th and May 9th at 12:30 PM at the Joshua Tree Bridge Club.

The Unit will hold a Mentor game on Sunday, May 18th at the Joshua Tree Bridge Club. Anyone interested in participating should contact either Rand Pinsky (kathyrand@earthlink.net) or Beth Morrin (morrin@sbcglobal.net). →

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

Western Conference STAC: May 5-10
NLM Club Championship: Thursday, May 1, 10:30
Club Swiss Team Championship, Tuesday, May 13, 7
Club Championship: Friday, May 16, 7
Club Championship: Wednesday, May 21, 6:30
Friday Night games on May 2 and May 16

South Bay Sectional Cancellation

The South Bay Sectional for this year has been cancelled. The unit is working on plans for the 2015 sectional. Currently a ProAm game is planned for Memorial Day weekend on Saturday, May 24 at the SBBC. Contact Gerri Carlson through the SBBC for a reservation.

Club Championships

The March 24 Club Championship was won by Stanley Greengard/Mark Raggio in both Flights A and B. On April 7 the Club Championship was captured by Claire Hulett/Stamley Greengard in Flight A with Roberta Brown/Nancy Collinge taking Flights B and C honors. On April 16 Lorraine and Michael Kammerman took Flights A and B honors with Jean Brunner/Dolly Weiner winning Flight C.

The March 17 Club Championship at Veterans Park was won by Ed Srenco/Elaine Godin. On March 19 the Veterans Park Club Championship was won by Bob Bacharach/Henry Crowder in Flight A. There was a tie for Flight B honors between Joanna Wallis/Mary Gillett and Kris Kumar/Gayle Owens who also took Flight C.

On March 21 at Anderson Park the Afternoon Club Championship was won by Elaine Godin/Robert Fieselman in both Flights A and B. The Evening Club Championship at Anderson Park was led by Barbara Shortwell/Henry Crowder in Flight A with Rachel and

Barry Simon on top in Flight B.

Team Winners

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

March 18: Cecil Cook, Jeff Strutzel, John Brailliar, Steve Ramos

March 25: Sharon Biederman, Steve Ramos Ed Piken, John Jones

April 1 : Carol McCulley, Ed Barad, Lucy Gellner, Wayne Otsuki

April 8: Mary Ann Coyle, Bo Bogema, John Farr, John J. McDermott

April 15: Tie: Gerri Carlson, Les Rawitt, Jo-Anne and Cal Waller Mary Ann Coyle, Bo Bogema, John Farr, John J. McDermott

Milestones

We are very sad to report that Andy Anderson passed away recently. Andy was a regular participant in games at the SBBC as well as local tournaments. He was a very congenial guy. He always had great stories to tell and asked me very intelligent questions with regards to Bridge and even my engineering career. I know he will be missed by many at the SBBC.

GUV Memorial Award

Well I have both a sad story and a happy story to report this month. First I will tell you Ed Piken's sad story from the North American Pairs final at the recent Dallas NABC . I may not have remembered the hand exactly correct but Ed told me he held something like ♠Ax ♥xxx ♦JT9x ♣JTxx. His partner opened 3♠ and RHO bid 3NT passed out. Ed asked me what I would lead. It was matchpoints and the opponents appeared to be favorites to make so I said I would make a passive lead of the ♦J hoping to not give away a Spade trick and maybe having the opponent go wrong in guessing Spades. Apparently Ed thought the same way. Bad luck. The passive lead allowed the opponent to make mucho tricks in NoTrump. RHO had overcalled 3NT holding a doubleton nothing in Spades while Ed's partner held KQxxxxx. Groan. Ed faired a lot better in the next event finishing very high in the National IMP pairs.

The happy story involves my oftentimes partner Gerri Carlson. She got to a 4♥ contract holding a →

Diamond void. Opening leader led the ♦K and dummy came down with ♦Qxxx. Of course she trumped. I'd like to say this was a corollary of Roger's rule. Roger's rule, in case you don't remember, was named after Roger Clough who said if you showed up with an unexpected void early in the hand, play a card of the same color. Roger's rule might not apply here since Gerri had to play a card of the same color while trumping. But the opening leader thought it was a Diamond and before Gerri played another card he banged down the ♦A. The director said Gerri could except the lead and she wisely did, once again trumping and now having the ♦Q as the trick needed to make her game. Is this the first time in Bridge history that declare trumped the first trick in their hand and then trumped the second trick also in their hand?

Na Zdrowie

West LA by Robert Shore

That Will Be the Week that Was

We liked it so much last year that we're trying it again. Starting May 12, right after the end of the Great Western STAC, we'll be holding nearly a week of Unit Championships. We'll start things off Monday at Barrington and Beverly Hills. The Tuesday evening game at the Marina on May 13 will be another Unit Championship, and then on Wednesday afternoon, back to Barrington and Beverly Hills. The evening team game at Beverly Hills on Thursday, May 14, will be another Unit Championship, and then on Friday (you guessed it), we'll do yet another Unit Championship at Barrington and Beverly Hills. We'll cap things off on Saturday, May 16, with the week's final Unit Championship at Beverly Hills. More points, more players, and more fun. I look forward to seeing you there.

Decadence Galore

By the time you read this, our District's representatives for Grand National Teams will probably have been selected. The winning teams will represent our District at the Summer Nationals in Las Vegas and we'll receive a nice little check to help them on their way. I hope you had the opportunity to put together a team. Starting in June, the journey begins for the opportunity

to represent our District in the North American Open Pairs being held at the Spring Nationals in New Orleans. Once again, winners can look forward to a nice check from the ACBL or from the District. Be sure to play a club qualifier to keep your options open. And effective this year, the Flight C limit is 500 points (and you can't be a Life Master), and the Flight B limit is up to 2500 points.

Auf Wiedersehen

I understand the German expression *auf wiedersehen* translates literally as "until we meet again." It's in that spirit we bid *auf wiedersehen* to a pair of familiar faces who are now shuffling their cards on a more exalted plane. We received the news that Millie Fraider passed away, as did Pat Banks. Our condolences to their family and friends.

From Valley to Desert

Between the Dallas Nationals and Easter week, there were surprisingly few tournaments last month. However, as usual a number of Unit players forced their way onto these pages by finding their way to the winner's circle. Roger and Becky Clough were on a bit of a tear, winning both the Friday and Saturday Compact Knockouts at the Palm Springs Sectional, along with the Saturday afternoon Open Pairs and (along with Mike Savage) the Sunday Swiss at the San Fernando Valley Sectional (where they were also the top master point winners).

Back at Palm Springs, Viktor Anikovich's team won the Saturday afternoon Swiss, and Donna Massman's team won their bracket of the Saturday Compact Knockout. Up in the San Fernando Valley, Patricia Shellogg Seal won the Friday morning 299er Pairs game, and your Humble Scribe barely held on for the win in the Saturday afternoon Open Pairs game.

Leaving the state, David Segal and Valerie Aron won the Wednesday afternoon Open Pairs game at the Las Vegas Sectional, while Bill McClean's team won the Wednesday morning Swiss. Some of us also made the trip to Dallas. Reese Milner's team won the first Friday-Saturday Knockout Teams event, and Martin and Carol Klein won their bracket of the Sunday-Monday Knockout Teams event. Doug Kuschner took home a win in the Tuesday night Zip Swiss. →

Choose Your Line

I made it to Dallas Wednesday evening, and had time to kibitz the last several rounds of the Mixed Pairs. White against red, I saw the following hand played in 6 spades (the opponents were silent):

Dummy: ♠KJ8 ♥AQ7 ♦T93 ♣K976
Decl.: ♠AQT65 ♥6 ♦AQ ♣AT853

The opening lead was the ♠4. After drawing trump in 3 rounds (LHO started with the ♠43), declarer cashed the ♣A, fetching RHO's queen. Declarer led another club and saw the last of the club spots, so it was decision time. Declarer seemingly misguessed (and violated the principal of restricted choice) by playing the ♣K.

But now there's an elegant line to combine many chances. Declarer can simply cash the ♥A and exit with a third club. If LHO holds the ♥K, she's endplayed — a heart lead allows the queen to score (as long as declarer was careful to retain the ability to win the fourth club in dummy) and a diamond yields a free finesse. And if the heart finesse is off, Declarer still can try for his 12th trick by taking the diamond finesse. In this case, LHO had both red kings, so either the end play or good guessing was necessary to make the hand.

Welcome Mat

Somebody must be doing something right, because we have enough new members this month for a game of Chicago. Please keep an eye out for Daphne Davids, Daniel Duic, Lisa Gauff, Susan Louiseau, Joanne Millius, Tony Mirchandani, Leila Otey, and William Purcell.

Let's be sure to make them feel welcome as they join us in our obsession. Transferring in from other Units are Alma Balter, Marilyn Berry, Judy Hyde, Morris Kaswen, Joel and Susan Levine, Louise Nash, Daniel and Frani Ridder, Jacqueline Silver, and Zachary Vedro.

Around the Clubs

Barrington Club Champions last month were Shuli and Effie Katz. Aram Bedros and Paul Smith both scored a pair of 70% games, joined by Art Zail, Sid Brownstein, Steve Yaffe, Ed Davis, Ted Glaessner, Marty Blain, Constance Abell, and Yvonne Snyder.

Rhoda and Lew Himmell and Sheri Rivera and Aram Bedros won club championships at Beverly Hills, as did the team of Stan Holzberg, Alan Daniels, David Pelka, and Joel Schiff. Racking up 70% games were Rahim Israel and Eddi Samandar,

Anna Benatar and Joyce Lelah, and Kevin Lane along with your Humble Scribe.

Climbing the Ladder

Our Unit's newest Junior Masters are Jerrold Felsenthal, Joelle Green, Ruth Lehrfeld, Tony Mirchandani, Leila Otey, Lynne Rabineau, and Tim Wright. Shoreh Toufanian is now a Club Master, while Elisabetta Beraldo, Pam Boyer, Paula Nataf, and Stephanie Young have reached Sectional Master status. Gabe Rosenberg, Rona Schneider, and John Soldano are now Regional Masters, and Jodie Rachmil has become an NABC Master.

Jerry Goodman is our Unit's newest Life Master. Congratulations to all on your accomplishments.

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

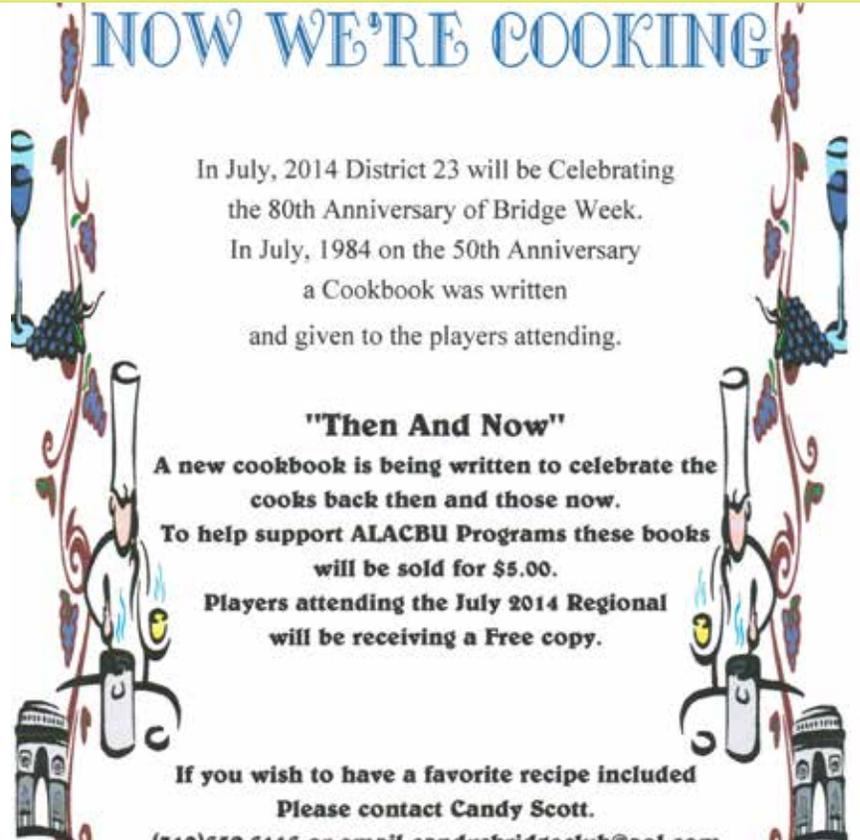
NOW WE'RE COOKING

In July, 2014 District 23 will be Celebrating
the 80th Anniversary of Bridge Week.
In July, 1984 on the 50th Anniversary
a Cookbook was written
and given to the players attending.

"Then And Now"

A new cookbook is being written to celebrate the
cooks back then and those now.
To help support ALACBU Programs these books
will be sold for \$5.00.
Players attending the July 2014 Regional
will be receiving a Free copy.

If you wish to have a favorite recipe included
Please contact Candy Scott.
(310)652-6116 or email candysbridgeclub@aol.com



Getting to Gatlinburg is admittedly difficult if your mode of transportation is the airplane. Knoxville, the closest airport, is not a direct flight from anywhere - north, south, east or west, except Chicago, Atlanta or Dallas Fort Worth, but if car is your transportation choice, Gatlinburg is only a day's drive for two-thirds of the U.S. population east of the Mississippi River.

The Gatlinburg Regional is known for its abundance of Gold Point events. It was the first regional in the country to offer new knockout team events every day and you can play five sessions every day (morning, afternoon, dinner bell, evening and midnight) if you so desire. Most of us don't even pretend to have the stamina necessary to do that, but our friend Chris Moll, from Raleigh, North Carolina, played every session offered for the week two years in a row. Unlike our regionals that attract 3 or 4 brackets for each knockout, Gatlinburg has 20 or 25 brackets every day. It makes me jealous just to think about it.

The playing site is definitely unique. The main area of the convention center has an area of more than 148,000 square feet, one-third of which is reserved for players with less than 750 master points. The other two-thirds of the space houses both the team and pair events for the rest of us. When that space gets too tight, the continuing knock outs are sent upstairs to the 78,000 square feet of ballroom space. Compare this with the 10,000 square feet of space we play in, in Woodland Hills or Torrance.

Gatlinburg lodging is very diverse - ranging from cheap motels to upscale hotels or to mountain cabins and chalets. Groups of 2 or more couples often share a chalet, and enjoy a party atmosphere for the week. Roger and I traded our Hawaii timeshare for one in Gatlinburg three times. Food too, is diverse. Restaurants feature down home southern cooking of fried chicken, barbecue ribs, biscuits and gravy, corn bread and pancakes. Several upscale restaurants have great salad bars and the usual fast food restaurants abound.

If you want to take time off from the bridge table, Gatlinburg offers many opportunities. With the proximity of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park with its 800 mile of trails so close, many of use of our mornings to hike. One of our favorites is the Sugarland Valley Nature Trail. It is a short trail with both some elevation gain and a small waterfall. You can even hike part of the Appalachian Trail that stretches from Georgia to Maine. Seventy-one miles of the trail follow the Smoky's ridgeline for nearly the length of the park.



Other ways to appreciate and enjoy the lush and beautiful scenery include:

- The Roaring Forks Motor Nature Trail beginning at the top of Historic Nature Trail Road.
- The Space Needle featuring an elevator ride to the cloud deck for 360 degree viewing.
- Ober Gatlinburg, the 120 passenger Aerial Tramway to the Ober Gatlinburg Ski Resort and Amusement Park
- Sky Lift Gatlinburg rising 518 feet above Gatlinburg for breathtaking views of the city and the Smoky Mountains.

Shopping in Gatlinburg is another adventure with more than 500 gift and specialty shops to explore. Hand-crafted leather goods, wood carvings, baskets, quilts, jams and jellies, homemade fudge and candies, jewelry, custom glassware, and pottery are widely available. Of particular interest is the Great Smoky Arts & Crafts Trail, the largest gathering of independent artisans in North America. Located on an eight-mile loop only three miles from downtown Gatlinburg, it features over 120 shops, studios and galleries for those interested in finding one-of-a-kind pieces.

It is clear that this little town has been a destination for many years and that the community of Gatlinburg works hard to preserve the old mountain town feel and Southern Appalachian charm. First settled by the Cherokee Indians, the first white settler, William Ogle, came to the area in 1802. For decades the community was known as White Oak Flats until Redford C. Gatlin arrived in 1856 and opened a general store and post office. Gatlinburg was an agricultural-based society until Great Smoky Mountains National Park opened in the 1930's and soon tourism thrived. Today Gatlinburg has developed into a four-season resort destination.

Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: Leo Bell

Panelists: Gerry Bare, Jeff Goldsmith, John Jones, and Mr. Mealmouth

1

IMPs
no vul

South	West	North	East
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
?			

You South hold: ♠A ♥AT9 ♦AKQ743 ♣T65
What call do you make?

BARE: 3♦. This is an underbid, but lack of a 4th heart is critical.

GOLDSMITH: 3♣. Eight tricks needs to force game. The only real options are 3NT and 3♣. 3NT could go minus against our grand if partner has roughly ♠xxxx ♥KQxxxx ♦xxx ♣---, so 3♣ it is. Playing with the late Marshall Miles, where 3♣ wasn't entirely forcing, however, I wouldn't want to play 3♣ versus ♠xxxx ♥KJxxx ♦x ♣xxx.

JONES: 2♠. This would be unthinkable if my partner is not an expert! Partner must be good enough to know that jumps shifts are sometimes manufactured. 2♠ gains some room that 3♣ doesn't, plus I actually have a spade honor. Even with this creative bid, I'm not out of the woods. I'll try to support hearts next. The late Mike Shuman confided that he jump shifted into a

singleton ace once, and said it worked like a charm.

MR. MEALMOUTH: 3♦. Breaking the unwritten rule of today's bridge that one must never have a maximum for one's call. Anything else would be a huge distortion from which I wouldn't know how to recover.

Some of the panelists want to step softly by bidding 3♦ while the others virtually force to game. I sympathize with the latter, but think they will find it hard to land in the right strain. I'm surprised no one thought of the temporizing 2♣ call. Yes, there is danger of playing there when partner is 3=4=2=4 with a bad hand, but on any hand where partner bids again, you will be better placed to judge the best contract.



2

IMPs
all vul

South	West	North	East
	2♦*	Pass	3♦
Pass	Pass	3♥	Pass
?			

*weak; may be 5 card suit

You, South, hold: ♠QJT987 ♥T97 ♦4 ♣653
What call do you make?

BARE: Pass. Why can partner bid at the 3 level and not at the 2 level? Maybe he has fairly short hearts and good clubs. If he has hearts and spades an original double would be in order.

GOLDSMITH: Pass. 3♥ rates to be playable. Partner will be disappointed in this dummy, but that's no reason to bid 3S and be disappointed in the dummy myself. Why didn't partner overcall 2♥ last time? Maybe his suit wasn't good enough: ♠x ♥Axxxx ♦Axxx ♣KQx. Maybe he didn't think he was strong enough and both opponents are heavy. Maybe he has some other reason. To guess at partner's delayed action is perilous.

JONES: Pass. Partner doesn't show spades, I have a ruffing value, and I don't want to be doubled. [Seems unlikely when all you're missing is the ♠A and K.]

MR. MEALMOUTH: Pass. With a hand that figures to take several tricks more in a spade contract than a heart contract, I'd love to bid a "corrective" 3♠, but I can't, as partner won't imagine that I have a weak hand and will probably bid again. So I'll pass ... unless, of course, North is the ghost of Marshall, in which case I'll bid 3♠ not expecting him to pass but to reach our only making contract when he bids 4♠ with his 0=4=3=6 hand.

I held this hand and passed as did all the panelists. Mr. Mealmouth was the only one to point out that the hand will play much better in spades than other

strains. Partner was 1-4-4-4 with a good hand. 3♠ will go down 1 whereas 3♥ goes down 3 or 4!

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL

June 30-July 6, 2014

Sandy Beaches, Ideal Weather
& July 4th Fireworks!!

Hilton Long Beach

701 W. Ocean Blvd. Long Beach, CA

\$94
single/dbl.
Free in-room
Wi-Fi

Reduced-rate parking \$5.00/day
\$94 rate available until 5pm May 29 or until block is filled

Reserve Now! Rooms will sell out!

Reserve online at LosAngelesRegional.com or
call 800-445-8667 (code So.Cal.Bridge)

0-750 GOLD RUSH, KOs, Fast Pairs, 299ers
New 4-session Board-a-Match Swiss
Aft/Eve schedule Mon-Thu. Daylight games
10:00 am/3:00 pm, Friday thru Sunday

Monday June 30: 10 am Free 299er Lesson & Lunch
1:15 pm Pro-Am game. *Registration required for both.*

For more information & details go to:

LosAngelesRegional.com



Tournament Manager: Peter Benjamin, ahoneydo@aol.com 310-720-6050

3
 IMPs
 EW vul

West	North	East	South
1♣	1♠	2♦	?

You, South, hold:
 ♠T9876543 ♥J7532 ♦-- ♣--
 What call do you make?

BARE: 6♠.

GOLDSMITH: 4♠. D6+1S. Roll a die, add one, and bid that number of spades. No one knows the right thing to do with this hand. I'll guess 4♠. I might then be able to buy the hand for 5♠, but if I bid that directly, the opponents will know I'm saving. Anything below 4♠ gives them a cue bid, so I won't try to walk the dog that much. If I bid 6♠, I'll either end up in 6♠ doubled, which is likely no matter what, or I'll end up in 7♠ doubled, which is less desirable than buying the hand lower. Regardless, the opponents are not buying the hand unless partner doubles in front of me, and even then, not below the six-level.

JONES: 6♠. Pass, hoping to let the opponents fail to

straighten out their opposing voids, has a chance to work but I like this better; 6♠ may even make. 7♠ is a little too much, and any lower number of spades lets the spade fit out of the bag without causing enough damage. Psyching some number of hearts is cute, but yields the opponents more room.

MR. MEALY MOUTH: 6♠. Risking missing a laydown grand slam when partner's singleton heart is the ace. However, we may reach 7♠ if West takes a 7♦ save and North makes a forcing pass, or if East takes a 7♣ save and partner bids 7♠ over my forcing pass.

*Amazingly enough, 6♠ makes! Partner's hand was
 ♠AQJx ♥x ♦xxx ♣AJxxx.*

THE TORRANCE SOUTHBAY UNIT 568 SECTIONAL MAY 23-26

HAS BEEN CANCELLED

The Sectional is still being shown in the printed ACBL Bridge Bulletin because it went to press before the cancellation, so please do not rely on the Bridge Bulletin.

The Sectional has been removed from the online calendar.

**WE WILL WORK TO HOLD THE SECTIONAL NEXT YEAR
 SO PLEASE LOOK FOR OUR ANNOUNCEMENT NEXT SPRING.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PAST ATTENDANCE, AND WE HOPE TO SEE YOU NEXT YEAR.

FROM THE UNIT 568 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4

IMPs
no vul

South	West	North	East
Pass	3♠*	Dbl	1♠
?			Pass

*weak

You, South, hold: ♠J964 ♥AT8 ♦AJ73 ♣96
What call do you make?

BARE: Pass.

GOLDSMITH: 5♦. This is a complete guess. Tomorrow, I might pass. Give partner ♠--- ♥KQxx ♦KQxx ♣KQxxx. Maybe we can make 5♦, maybe nothing. But he could have ♠--- ♥KQJx ♦KQxxx ♣AKxx, and we'll have fine play for a grand.

JONES: Pass. I lead the ♣9.

MR. MEALY MOUTH: 5♦. They still pay bonuses for non-vul games, don't they? [*Why yes they do, Mr.*

M] After two- or three-suited invasion (a better word for it that pinko-pacifist Bridge World editor Edgar Kaplan rejected in favor of "intervention!"), the burden of reaching game falls mainly on advancer.

While I'm not a slave to the "Law of total tricks", it seems wrong to me to defend a three level contract when the opponents have nine trump. As Jeff pointed out, there are relatively minimum hands partner can hold where we are cold for slam. Teammates are usually unhappy when you come back with -530 or even +100 or +300 and they are -920.

5

IMPs
NS vul

South	West	North	East
Pass	Pass	Dbl	2♦*
?			Pass

*11-14 with 6 diamonds or
5 diamonds + 4 a four-card major

You, South, hold: ♠Q73 ♥AKT5 ♦Q975 ♣64
What call do you make?

BARE: 3♦. I plan to play 4♥, 3NT or even 4♠. It's a bit of an overbid but getting the best vulnerable game is worth the risk.

GOLDSMITH: Pass. I don't have enough to force game, so I take the money.

JONES: 2NT. This is natural, not Lebensohl (the 2♦ bid wasn't weak). This is a small overbid, because partner's double was in balancing seat, but this looks like our best move to get to game if it's there.

MR. MEALY MOUTH: 3♥. To invade after a Mixolydian 2♦ [*No doubt named after Mr. M's cousin Mr. Mixolyd*], even more than after a Tahitian 2♦

(similar to a Mixolydian 2♦ but always six diamonds and never a four-card major), [*Mixolydian is a new convention for me. Although a Tahitian 2♦ can't have a four-card major, a Tahitian 2♣ can have a four card major. – Jones, editor*] partner needs shape and strength, even in the passout seat, so I'll trust him to have full values and invite game. See the obiter dictum in (4) above.

The quandry with this hand is how to make a move toward game. I like Gerry's start, but what to do if partner bids 3♥ or 3♠? Perhaps Jeff's pass solves that problem, but there's no guarantee you're beating the contract.