

Southern California Bridge News

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

District 23's Convention Man

by Becky Clough



When you hear about a new bridge convention or treatment, what do you do? Many of us head to the table set up at all of our regionals with pages and pages of Mike Savage's convention write-ups. Mike is familiar to most everyone in District 23 as a club director, expert player, and the convention man.

Mike is a fourth generation Californian, brought up in San Bernardino. While in high school, Mike and his older brother Phillip learned to play bridge with his parents as they transitioned from Culbertson to Goren.

Mike attended Occidental College and after completion of a successful first year, he joined a fraternity. His choice? The bridge playing fraternity, of course. Bridge playing became more important than studying. After flunking out, Mike enlisted in the United States Army. He was sent to the Presidio of Monterey, a military language school, to learn Russian. Upon completion of the course, Mike was issued a top secret security clearance and posted to Germany to eavesdrop on the Russian military in East Germany during the early years of the Vietnam War.

After his discharge from the Army, Mike returned to the United States and settled in Los Angeles. He bounced around career wise for a while working for a bank and a loan company, but he was fortunate to

PRESIDENT *continued on page 2*

Inside This Issue

Around the Units	page 4
Bridge Stories	page 3
Grand National Teams	page 11
Problem Solvers Panel	page 12
Rank Changes	page 11

Clubs and Membership

by Rand Pinsky, District Director



As I reported last month, I have been appointed chair of the National Board's Clubs and Membership Committee. I served on this committee last year and this year was appointed chair by Suzi Subeck, ACBL President. I am excited by this appointment as

Clubs are the heart of the ACBL. And in connection with Clubs and Membership, the committee is the home for marketing. Besides my board committee members, the staff for this committee includes Carol Robertson, Director of Clubs and membership Services and Alex Turner, Marketing Director.

The focus and charges of my committee for the year include:

- Review all aspects of Club Bridge
- Evaluate general regulations for club games
- Review special games at clubs
- Look at the club fee structure as related to club services
- Consider methods to improve membership growth through clubs
- Evaluate how both full-service clubs and smaller clubs fit into the ACBL structure. Should the ACBL be committing more time and resources to one or the other?

Multi-Section Club Games

Another aspect of clubs that was discussed at our last board meeting was Multi-Section club games. My committee plans to continue this discussion. The point of discussion: Is it proper when some clubs have multiple open sections where by design, the club makes one section significantly stronger than another section? This raises some questions.

1. Is this a violation of ACBL rules which prohibit stacking the field?

DIRECTOR *continued on 15*

PRESIDENT *continued from page 1*

become a part of a group of young bridge players tutored by Paul Soloway in the new 2/1 Walsh system. He played competitively into the 1970's and had regular partnerships with Ed Davis and Milon Edwards. In the early 1970's, Mike semi retired from competitive bridge to concentrate on a career in technical illustration and commercial art.

In 1980, Mike pulled up stakes and moved to Ajijic, on Lake Chapala in Jalisco, Mexico with his good friend Andre Bruley. Poor, but happy, they lived there close to five years writing, teaching, and playing bridge.

Mike returned to Los Angeles to care for his ailing parents in Crestline. During this time, he began directing in bridge clubs in Riverside and Los Angeles. In 1988, Mike met his life partner Carmelo Orihuela. Together nearly 30 years, they've been legally married since 2008. During the early 1990's Mike worked as a part-time ACBL director at many local tournaments. Later in the 1990's he gave up tournament directing to concentrate on club directing and writing.

It was during that time that Mike began his convention write ups. He often could not find

substantial written information about a bridge convention he had heard about, so he began research through personal interaction and the Internet to collect the lore surrounding a convention and then compiling it for one of his write-ups. Mike tells me he probably plays only about 50% of the conventions he has written up.

Mike said that his facility with writing probably sprang from his penchant for reading which began when he was a very young boy and continues to this day. He works full-time five days a week and competes in local ACBL tournaments on the weekends when they happen, but still finds time to read at least one or two books a week. It's helpful that he taught himself speed reading during his youth as he loved reading so much and wanted to see what happens next in a novel, that he began scanning/speed reading to find out what happened in a book faster and faster.

Mike has won more than 100 regional titles and one coveted national title in the Senior Swiss in Atlanta, Georgia in 2005. Closing in on 10,000 points, Mike will soon be the 18th Grand Life Master (dead or alive) in District 23. Mike was also appointed to the ACBL Good Will Committee in recognition for his contributions to bridge.

1964-1972 Southern California Bridge News Copies Needed

The Association of Los Angeles County Bridge Units is compiling a history of the district - some of it even going back to 1935.

This history is a work in progress and is in need of a favor from some unknown, kind bridge player in LA. We need issues of the District 23 Bridge News that are, so far, hard to find. The very first issue of the Bridge News was in June 1964. If anyone knows of the existence of any issues from #1 through December of 1972, we would like to borrow them for a short time as part of our history research. If you know of anyone who can help on this matter, please contact Mike Marcucci at 818 903-2471.

Thanks from ALACBU.

Carolyn Taff & Marion Napier
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Bridge Stories

This recurring series in the Southern California Bridge News includes short bridge stories from District 23 players who earned a new rank last month, as collected by Rand Pinsky

I feel like a super rookie and really don't have any interesting tales to tell about my bridge experience so far. Maybe in the future...

*Rhonda Rundle
Junior Master*

I married Bob Adam 54 years ago and he is my bridge partner.. He was a bridge player when I married him and, of course, he wanted me to go to a class to learn Bridge, which I did.

We started playing duplicate at Long Beach Bridge Club on Los Coyotes in 1974 and we both thoroughly enjoy playing bridge. We are so lucky to have so many tournaments nearby to play. We have played in different countries. In fact, I reached my goal of Silver Life Masters in Mexico, which was very thrilling.

It is a wonderful game for retirees. I hope in the future there will be more young people taking up the game of Bridge as it is fun, getting to know a lot of people from all over the world, keeps one's brain active, and it is inexpensive.

*Patricia Adam
Silver Life Master*



I have been fortunate to have the pleasure of playing with many good players.

I really started learning how to play bridge by reading Alfred Sheinwolds "5 Weeks to Winning Bridge" -- it took more than 5 weeks that's for sure, but it was all well worth it.

My first regular bridge partner was Mike Pudlin who was a great bridge partner and very good friend until he passed away a few years ago. I later took some lessons from friends Mike Shuman and Kerri Sanborn (prev. Shuman) and shortly thereafter Hermine Baron asked me to play and thought I had "potential." We played together at least once a week for many years until she passed away. Hermine taught me a lot and it was always a good time with lots of laughter and

enjoyment. I also had a regular partnership with Peter Hajdu from Budapest, Hungary who was in a exchange program at USC. When I visited Peter in Budapest years later and we played bridge, I bid a game which made and a friend of his who was kibitzing asked "Don't you think you should have invited." I replied "I didn't come all the way to Budapest to play in a partial!" Everyone laughed and I no longer was nervous. Another one of my favorite bridge partners and good players is Gerry Belcher. We started playing in the 80's (I think) and we still play to this day. I stopped playing bridge from 2002 to 2012, and in those 10 years I earned less than 100 master points. Starting in 2013, I threw myself back into bridge because I missed my friends and bridge and started playing with a really wonderful person and excellent bridge player named Rae Murbach. I owe a lot of my good games and results to Rae, Tim Lolli, Gerry Belcher, Steve Sturm, and many others. So thanks to all my wonderful partners who have put up with me and to those that still do! My slogan is "Bridge can be your road to happiness."

*Jack Futrell
Gold Life Master*

One night in 1961, awaiting a late-arriving partner, I played the first round by bidding my absent partner's hand blind, then moving over to declare his contract or enlisting the dummy to take his place and defend with me. When my partner never arrived, I played the entire session the same way. The best call I made at my partner's turn was a Lightner Slam Double when I had a long suit and guessed that he was void. Right! I finished with a 61% game (move over, Roger Maris!) ... alas, only good enough for second place. I wonder whether the ACBL put an asterisk next to the fraction of a masterpoint I earned. Resentment from the pair that finished third induced the club to forbid any repeat performances.

Ever since, I have had to face it: bridge is a partnership game. I owe the vast majority of the masterpoints I have won in the last 20 years to my student partners. Although many others have played with me occasionally, I thank most of all Nancy Heck, Sally Karbelnig, Evan Krantz and John Lu for my Diamond Life Mastership.

*Danny Kleinman
Diamond Life Master*

Around the Units in District 23

Glendale Verdugo by Sharon Wolf

Unit Game: March 14, 2015
Lunch at 11:15, game at noon

Results of our February Unit game were as follows:

N/S

A1	B1	Patrick Cardullo & Mike Doll
A2		Robert Shore & Martin Blain
A3		Tim Lolli & Carolyn Cohen
A4	B2 C1	Carol Provost & Rufus Rhoades

E/W

A1	B1 C1	Temo Arjani & David Rozzell
A2	B2 C2	Sharon Wolf & Steve Shanker
A3	B3	Adam Barron & Margaret Mataga
A4		Nell Schanz & Roshen Hadulla

Our next Unit game is on March 14. Please join us.

Long Beach by Jon Yinger

Unit website: www.acblunit557.org

Club website: www.LongBeachBridges.com

January 19 Unit-rated MLK-Day Game:

Overall results: 1st in A: Charlotte and Steve Sturm, 2nd Judy Elbogen/Cathy Bauer, 3rd Ralph Beazley/Jo Daigle, 4th Kay Tseng/John Melis, 5th Betty McClellan/Jon Yinger, 6th Betty Witteried/Christine Frumen. In the B flight overall Betti Harris/John Petire were 2nd, Usha Bansal/Sean Lui 3rd, Earl VanDerVord/Michael Daley 4th, Lynne Finley/Kay Hyland 5th. And in the C flight overall April Berg/Ralph Rivera were 2nd, Sharon Biederman/Kiyo Nagaishi 3rd, Trudy Lamendola/Linda Renkus 4th,

Doreen Maes/Phyllis Greenstein 5th. Overall results in the NLM section: 1st in A: Lynn Danielson/Anita Padgett, 2nd Pam Cronn/Bonny Walsh, 3rd Elizabeth and Kent Burrell, 4th Don Vallance/Barbara Wallace. And in the NLM B flight overall Kersten Truelson/Ann Herman were 2nd, Martin Landau/Anita Smith 3rd, Arlene Spatz/Dale Blessing 4th. Congratulations to all!

January 25 Unit Game: Overall results: 1st in A: Doreen Maes/Phyllis Greenstein, 2nd Wei Pei/Phil Hiestand, 3rd Orhan Gurbuz/John Petrie, 4th Jo Daigle/Betty McClellan, 5th Cecil Cook/Mark Tang, 6th Usha Bansal/Rob Preece. In the B flight overall Keith and Susan Hafen were 3rd, Robert and Richard Bakovic 4th, Liang Fan/Linda Nye 5th. In the C flight overall Carl Muchnik/Jeff Grotenhuis were 5th. Congratulations to all!

70+% Games: There were no 70+% games in open games over the past month. In the evening NLM game Feb 9 Lynn Danielson/Bill Dilks had 72.56%. Congratulations to Lynn and Bill!

Big Masterpoint Awards January 16 through February 15: In the MLK unit-rated game Jan 19 Steve and Charlotte Sturm won 5.40mp for 1st, Cathy Bauer/Judy Elbogen 4.05 for 2nd, Jo Daigle/Ralph Beazley 3.04mp for 3rd. In the unit game Jan 25 Doreen Maes/Phyllis Greenstein won 4.11mp for 1st, Wei Pei/Phil Hiestand 3.61mp for 2nd. Feb 9 John Melis/Kay Tseng won 3.79mp for 1st. Feb 10 Ted Gibbs/Steve Mager won 4.67mp for 1st, John Petrie/Louis Shen 3.50mp for 2nd. Feb 11 John Melis/Pam Kirkner won 4.08mp for 1st, Earl VanDerVord/Mike Welsh 3.06mp for 2nd. Feb 12 Walt Schafer/Steve Love won 3.79mp for 1st. In the big game Feb 13 Steve Mager/Gerri Carlson won 5.69mp for 1st, Ralph Beazley/Earl VanDerVord 4.27mp for 2nd, Kim Wang/Mike Welsh 3.20mp for 3rd. Feb 14 Walt Schafer/Carmela Chiurazzi won 3.35mp for 1st. Congratulations to all!

Get Well Wishes: Mary Thomas

New Members: Gene Lentzner, Colleen Bilas. Welcome to the club!

Status Changes: New Junior Master: Sandra

→

McDonald. New NABC Master: Martin Lipman. New Advanced NABC Master: Dalia Hernandez. New Bronze Life Master: Linda Renkus. Congratulations to you all!

Upcoming Events at the Club

March 1: February Unit Game
lunch at 12:30, game at 1 p.m.
March 2-8: Districts 22-23 STaC week.
Silver points. Card fee: \$12.
March 22: Unit Game
lunch at 12:30, game at 1 p.m.

News from Leisure World

by Judy Carter-Johnson

Club Championship Game: January 8 (Clubhouse #3) overall winners: Bill Linskey/Howard Smith 1 in A. Bee Kinman/Eileen Nelson 2 in A. Joyce Henderson/Rob Preece 3 in A, 1 in B. Ron and Marilyn McIntock 4 in A. Linda Stein/Betty Witterried 5 in A. Fern and Hank Dunbar 6 in A. Jim Kaping/Alan Olschwang 2 in B, 1 in C. Chie Wickham/Harshad Vora 3 in B, 2 in C. Ted and Joan Wieber 4 in B. Carmen Gross/Norma Krueger 5 in B. Claudette and Richard Barrach 3 in C. Jack Dampman/George Koehm 4 in C.

Get Well Wishes: To Verna Becker

Upcoming Club Championship Games:
Clubhouse #3 March 16, April 16

Upcoming Unit Rated Game: Clubhouse #1
April 25.

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

Pasadena-San Gabriel Valley by Marty Weiss

Congratulations to District 23 National American Pairs Winners in Flight A, Art Gulbrandsen of Monrovia and Mike Spero of Burbank. They will be representing District 23 at the Nationals in New Orleans on March 11, 2015. Best of luck!

Our members scored at the following regionals held in late January and early February. Monterey Regional: Rae Murbach-26.57 ; Jerry Murbach -26.57; Michael Marcucci-22.67. Riverside Regional: Jeffrey Goldsmith- 51.02 points; Zu Ming Cheng- 16.54;

Rae Murbach -16.47; Jerry Murbach-16.47; Janet Wickersham- 13.5; Herman Helber-11.16; Joe Viola – 9.69 points.

March Events

Unit Game: March 1

Election Party and Unit game – San Marino

Arcadia Bridge Center

STAC Games: Sectional Tournament at your local club - Win Silver / EXTRA Points.

March 5 Thursday, 11:00

March 6 Friday, 7:15

March 7 Saturday, 1:00

Beat the House - Friday March 20, 7:15

Winners/Losers - Sunday, March 22 Sunday, 1:00

This month, we have a guest columnist, His Honor, Sir Bidalot. His submission serves as a reminder of how fortunate we are to have such fine directors monitoring our events. If you have ever played at clubs run by lesser directors, as I have, you know how that can erode the quality and fun of our game.

Years ago, there was an excellent Broadway show called, "Ain't Misbehavin'." Well, it seems that some of you have been misbehavin'. It is the intention of this column to inform you, so I'm going to let you in on a few "secrets." When calling the director, simply call out (not yell), "Director, please." When the ogre arrives, let him or her get in a few licks-- I mean words. After all, he or she is there to protect and serve, just like the LA Police. Don't all of you act like the late Joan Rivers saying "Can we talk?" One person at a time and only when the dictator-- I mean director-- asks you to. When the director pronounces his or her "commandments," also known as rulings, do not immediately appeal to a higher court such as "The People's Court," Judge Wapner, or Judge Judy presiding. You may appeal but I advise that if you do, your kids are safely in another state and that your health and dental insurance coverage is more than adequate. You may ask for (don't ever "demand") a committee. But, guess what, the director in a club game is not required to give you one.

Remember! The job of a director is a thankless one. When was the last time you heard a player saying "thank you" after an unfavorable ruling? Remember that the director is your friend (who needs enemies?) and deserves respect. You wouldn't mistreat your →

dog or cat, so why should you mistreat the director? So, as per the famous song by Aretha Franklin, give the director some R-E-S-P-E-C-T. (Do I have to spell it out for you?)

Also remember bridge is a timed event and everyone's time is valuable so please try to move on time and take your partner with you!!

Another proper way to start the game when you are on lead is to make your lead face down, ask if there are any questions, and if there are none make your lead **before** writing down the contract on your scorecard.

Respectfully yours, Sir Bidalot

Pomona Covina by Tom Lill

Unit Game – Saturday, March 21, 11:00 a.m.

Individual – Saturday, March 7, 9:30 a.m. at LaVerne

The February Unit game, due to the conflict with the Woodland Hills regional, was delayed a week, which places it **far** beyond our publishing deadline. Look for results next month.

The February Individual was won by Don Logsdon, followed by Ann McClelland, Your Correspondent, Margie Hall, and Richard Patterson. This month's game will be a STaC – silver points!

One promotion this month: Dea Toutoungy is now a Junior Master. Congratulations, Dea, and keep up the good work.

The final standings for the 2014 Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney awards are out. Congratulations (and awards!) to:

MPs	Ace of Clubs	Mini-McKenney
0 – 5	Don H Nakasaki	Dale G Quasny
5 – 20	Peggy Diller	Sofi J Kasubhai
20 – 50	Judy L Husted	Judy L Husted
50 – 100	Kiran Kumar	Kiran Kumar
100 – 200	Claudia Cochran	Claudia Cochran
200 – 300	Sherman Gao	Sherman Gao
300 – 500	Thomas M Lill	Thomas M Lill
500 – 1000	Clinton Lew	Clinton Lew
1000 – 2500	Vic Sartor	Vic Sartor
2500 – 5000	Ann C McClelland	Jack Chao
5000 – 7500	Bill Papa	Bill Papa

Several races were decided by a point or two – in one case, the winner's edge was only 0.62 masterpoints.

The biggest edge went to Mr. Gao, who with over 500 points, easily outdistanced the competition, and won not only the Unit award, but the District 23 top spot.

The top game this month was a 70.1% effort by Vic Sartor and Bill Papa. Once again, we have a lot of other names up on the leader board: Richard Patterson, Carolyn Siracuse, Fredy and Lu Minter, Hanan Mogharbel, Kurt Trieselmann, Ron Purkis, Ann McClelland, Penny Barbieri, Sandy Jones, Claudia Cochran, Evelyn Hubacker, Joe Unis, Genise Hasan, Gail Ginsburg, Pat Radamaker, Clint Lew, Ken Bloomfield, and Yours Truly.

Sad to report, we have lost another member. Long time Unit member and swell fellow Rick Witham passed away last month after a short illness. He will be missed.

You think you hold poor cards? Top this: Your Correspondent, playing in the Riverside regional, picked up a true Yarborough. (Gee, thanks, Mr. Dealing Computer.) OK, that happens about one time in 1,828, according to my calculations. Just three days later, in a club game, along came another true Yarborough! I played a total of 149 boards that week, somewhat short of the 1,828 quoted earlier. You figure the odds!

Our hand-of-the-month this time is just one of those curiosities that make the game so interesting.. and frustrating. Third in hand, you find yourself looking at: ♠8 ♥T6432 ♦987532 ♣A.

Your usual mess. Partner opens 1♣. Well, that ♣A gives you enough to respond, and you brace yourself to respond 1♥. Somewhat unexpectedly, RHO calls 1♥! Well, that takes you off the hook, and it goes pass – pass back to partner, who chimes in with 1NT (probably showing that tweener 18-19 balanced hand). RHO passes, and now you can afford to call 2♦, knowing you have an 8-card fit. But can you? Normally, you would be transferring to hearts over the notrump bid. You just have to hope partner works it out that you don't **really** want to play in RHO's suit. And now the Laurel & Hardy method comes in, because partner accepts the "transfer!" You have no option but to rebid your diamonds. Fortunately 3♦ makes... barely. Yes, partner did hold 19 balanced.

Quote for the month: "Don't be afraid to go out on a limb. That's where the fruit is." (Jackson Browne)

Until next month ...

San Fernando Valley by Linda Silvey

Calendar

Special Congratulations

New Life Master Achievements by Unit 561 Players are: Life Master – Carol Bell and Phil Calloway; Bronze - Paul Endler, Charles Shapiro, and Debora Stein; Gold (2,500) – Lance Kerr; and, Diamond (5,000) – William Ng and Freddie Straus.

2014 Mini-McKenney Revision: As a result of the February update the winner for 20-50 MP's is Eddi Samandar.

January Top Ten Masterpoints at the 750 Club were: Susan Raphael 16.65, Jim Gardner 12.59, Gary Baxley 11.38, Bob Glasser 10.37, Dennis Hill 9.43, Margie Bulmer 9.24, Phil Calloway 9.11, Gloria Malkin 8.14, Curt Darden 8.10, and, Ravnesh Amar 7.83. Dennis Hill and Martin Hurwitz achieved a 74.77% game.

Current News

Unit 561 Mini-McKenney/Ace of Clubs Awards Celebration will be held on Saturday, March 7, at the 750 Club. A catered lunch will be served buffet style at noon, followed by Intermediate/Open games at 1:00 p.m. The fee is \$12.00 and reservations are requested. A sign-up sheet is available at the 750 Club or email mjjubelirer@att.net for reservations/partnerships.

Braemar Country Club Dinner/Bridge Nights are held every other month on the third Tuesday. These ACBL sanctioned games are organized by Michael and Nancy Klemens, directed by George Siegel, and you do not have to be a member of Braemar Country Club to participate. Buffet dinner (\$17.95) is at 6 p.m. and includes soup, salad, grilled chicken, three kinds of pasta and three sauces, dessert, coffee and tea. The game (\$5.00) is at 7 p.m., and the NS and EW winners receive coupons for Braemar's Wednesday Night Fresco Italiano dinner. The next game is March 17. Address is 4001 Reseda Blvd, Tarzana. Participation in both the dinner and bridge game is required. For reservations/partnerships, contact nrklemens@aol.com or 818/609-1071.

Monday, March 2, Unit 561 Board Meeting, at the 750 Club, 2:45 p.m.

Saturday, March 7, Unit 561 Mini-McKenney/Ace of Clubs Awards Celebration, at the 750 Club, details listed above under "Current News".

Tuesday, March 17, "Luck O' the Irish Day," at the 750 Club. Wear something green and get in the drawing for free plays.

Tuesday, March 17, Braemar Dinner/Bridge Night, details listed above.

Wednesday, April 1, "April Fools Day" at the 750 Club. Wear something "foolish" and get in the drawing for "Free Plays".

Friday/Saturday, April 24 and April 25, San Fernando Valley Sectional, at the 750 Club. Limited MP Pairs, Fri, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Stratified Open Pairs, Fri and Sat, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. ACBL members \$12, Non-members \$15. Swiss Teams, Sat, 10 a.m. \$110/Team (includes lunch). M.J. Jubelirer – mjjubelirer@att.net, Tournament Chair/Partnerships.

Santa Clarita-Antelope Valley by Beth Morrin

Unit 556 held its first board meeting of 2015 on February 3 in Santa Clarita and officers and committee chairs were elected. They are as follows:

Unit President: Paula Olivares
 Unit Vice President: Ruth Baker
 Unit Secretary: Bill Brodek
 Unit Treasurer: Meressa Naftulin
 Unit Electronic Chair: Bill Brodek
 Sectional Committee: P Olivares, R Baker, B Brodek, R Ladd, B Morrin
 Unit Disciplinary Chair: Tracy Boys
 Unit Recorder: Roy Ladd
 Unit Publicity: Beth Morrin
 Longest Day Chair: Elaine Moore
 Mentor Games Chair: Roy Ladd
 ALACBU Representatives: Kathy Swaine and Rand Pinky
 Sunshine: Rita VanNatter

Unit 556 lost seven members last year. The board voted to send a contribution to the ALACBU →

Scholarship Fund in their memory. Our condolences to the families and friends of Ken Bonnell, Bob Erb, Fabian Fang, Sylvia Feiman, Gordon Goslin, Linda Jannsen, and Emma Stark.

The next Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 24 at 5:15 p.m. at the Senior Center in Santa Clarita.

Future Units Games: March 5 at Joshua Tree Bridge Club, March 16 at The Friendly Bridge Club, March 24 at the Senior Center in Santa Clarita, and March 26 in Castaic.

Mini-McKenney Awards for 2014:

0-5 MP	Gay Gipson
5-20 MP	Joshua Kuschner
20-50 MP	Benjamin Kuschner
50-100 MP	Barbara York
100-200 MP	Dan Spector
200-300 MP	Albert Stock
300-500 MP	Roy Ladd
500-1000 MP	George MacDonald
1000-2500 MP	David White
2500-5000 MP	Paul Markarian
10,000+ MP	John Swanson

Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Awards for 2014:

0-5 MP	Gay Gipson
5-20 MP	Robert Kofnovec
20-50 MP	Rosalee McEntyre
50-100 MP	Barbara York
100-200 MP	Dan Spector
200-300 MP	Albert Stock
300-500 MP	Elizabeth Morrin
500-1000 MP	George MacDonald
1000-2500 MP	Bill Brodek
2500-5000 MP	Roshen Hadulla
10,000+ MP	John Swanson

Congratulations to Bill Brodek, Roy Ladd, Bert Stock and Margie Pinkers who won the Wed. February 18 Bracket 2 Knockout at the Woodland Hills Regional.

Visit us on facebook for pictures from various tournaments and other activities: <https://www.facebook.com/ACBLUnit556>

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

District 22/23 STAC: March 2-7
 Club Championship: Tuesday, March 10, 11:30
 Club Championship: Friday, March 13, 7:00
 Club Championship: Monday, March 16, 7:00
 Club Championship: Friday, March 27, 11:30
 Friday Night games on March 6 and 20.

Club Championships

The January 28 Club Championship was won by Harry Wessells/Ed Srenco in Flights A and B with Carole King/Beverly Narahara leading Flight C. On February 11 the Club Championship was won by Cal Waller/Stanley Greengard in both Flights A and B.

Team Winners

Following are the winning quartets in recent Tuesday night Swiss team games.

Jan 20: Gabriela Jackson, Sharon Biederman, Steve Ramos, Ed Piken
 (Tie)
 Carol McCully, Ed Barad, Lucy Gellner, Wayne Otsuki
 Jan 27: CVal Gamio, John Brailliar, Steve Ramos, Ed Piken
 Feb 10: CVal Gamio, John Brailliar, Steve Ramos, Ed Piken

TSB Unit Final 2014 Masterpoint Leaders

The following are the players who led their respective categories in the 2014 Torrance South Bay Unit masterpoint races. Included are Mini Mckenney leaders and the Helen Shanbrom Ace of Club Leaders.

MP, Mini McKenney, Ace of Clubs Leaders

0-5 Joseph Duke (35), Joseph Duke (17)
 5 - 20 Melody Harper (29), Melody Harper (26)
 20 - 50 Laura Gastelum (58), Barbara Laier (35)
 50 - 100 Nancy Karnes (85), Nancy Carnes (51)
 100-200 Tien Zee (135), Richard Bakovic (72)
 200 - 300 Colleen Bilas (165), Colleen Bilas (48)
 300 - 500 Jeanette Betts (106), David Lyons (92)
 500-1000 David Peim (231), Mike Welsh (79) →

1000 - 2500 Steve Ramos (495), Stan Greengard (121)
 2500-5000 John Brailliar (304), Fran Israel (114)
 5000-7500 Lucy Gellner (231), Lucy Gellner (99)
 7500-10000 Bruce Horiguchi (474), Bruce Horiguchi (35)
 10,000+ John J. McDermott (712), John J. McDermott (180)

TSB Unit NAOP Heroines and Heroes

The Torrance South Bay Unit did rather well in the District 23 finals of the North American Pairs. The Unit pairs qualifying for the finals to be played at the New Orleans NABC in March are the following.
 Flight A - 2nd: Ed Piken (Playing with Victor Anikovich)
 Flight B - 3rd: Steve Ramos/Michael Piken
 Flight C - 1st: Colleen Bilas (Playing with Dalia Hernandez)
 Flight C: 2/3 Tie: Gerry Gastelum/Nancy Raiche

GUV Memorial Award

There was at least one outstandingly unsuccessful pair from our unit at the recent District 23 NAOP final. Well that was myself and the poor guy who was stuck with me... Bruce Horiguchi. For our partnership that day it almost seemed like there was a full moon hovering over the Barrington Bridge Club. On one hand my RHO opened 4♥ and I thought I passed with a hand that was an easy pass. Apparently I had put a double card on the table and didn't even realize it. Partner pulled to 4♠ and went for a big number. I didn't even realize it till the next day when partner and an opponent enlightened me about the double.

That wasn't the worst of it however. I can give some of the credit on the next one to Bruce. On one hand we reached a 4♥ game. Bruce held the ♠Axxx and a club void. However when he tabled Dummy. He put down what appeared to be ♠xxx and a singleton ♣A. Nobody seemed to notice that the ♣A was really the ♠A. I won the opening spade lead with the king a little surprised that RHO didn't take the Ace. I led a low club and said play the Ace, except now the opps realized the Ace was the ♠A and I was forced to play it and lose the trick. This led to me going down a trick on a hand stiff for five. I think I got negative matchpoints on that one. Bruce gets half the GUV award on this one for being the first person not being able to tell a spade from a club. It was that kind of day.

West LA by Robert Shore

Unit Games on March 17

12:30 p.m. at Barrington and Beverly Hills
 7:00 p.m. at Marina Club

The City of New Orleans

I hope some of you are making plans to enjoy New Orleans. Some lucky souls participated in the North American Pairs District Finals and were fortunate enough to earn a check from ACBL to help pay the way. Your Humble Scribe won the Flight B District Final for the third (and last) consecutive year, and hopes to return from New Orleans as a national champion. A number of other Unit members also earned the right to represent our District in the event.

Whip Inflation Now

Those of you who frequent the tournament scene may have noticed a change. The masterpoint scale has increased. The change is most noticeable for pair games. At the unit and sectional level, awards appear to have increased by 25%. Regional pair awards seem to have increased still further. Swiss team awards also have increased, but by a smaller margin. So for those of you who need extra points, or extra colored points, to reach Life Master status, the goal has become more achievable. So get out there and play.

I'd Like to Thank the Academy

It's that time of the year when we bestow awards for 2014 performances at the table. The Mini McKenney award goes to the player in each masterpoint category who was a member of our Unit for at least half the year who won the most masterpoints in 2014. The Rookie award goes to Sin Orensztstein. Earning the Junior Master award was Shoreh Toufanian, while Cheri Bitar is the Unit's winner in the Club Master category. Lisa Karako took home top honors among Sectional Masters, and Paula Nataf topped the Regional Master field. Philip Calloway earned the NABC Master award.

Winning most points among "ordinary" Life Masters was Jodie Rachmil. The Bronze Life Master winner was Doug Kushner. Your Humble Scribe →

topped the Silver Life Master Category and Mike Mikyska won the Gold Life Master competition. Reese Milner was the Unit's top Diamond Life Master. Pete Benjamin earned the most points among Emerald Life Masters and Becky Clough topped the podium among Grand Life Masters.

In a similar vein, ACBL has announced winners of the Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs awards, given to the player in each category who won the most points at club games. As has been my habit, I'll try to deliver those certificates in person so that the winners can bask in the appreciation of their peers. It's always been one of the highlights of my year.

Farewell

A pair of farewells to note this month. We have learned that Shirley Frankel passed away. Also leaving us was Stella Bernard. We know that both of these players will be missed. Our condolences go out to their friends and family.

Card Combination

All red in second seat at matchpoints, you hold:

♠KQ82 ♥Q94 ♦10963 ♣63.

Dealer passes, as do you, and LHO opens 1♠ in third seat. Partner pipes in with a 2♣ overcall, but RHO raises to 2♠. That's passed around to Partner, who isn't ready to surrender and continues with a double. Rather than try to shoot out 3♦ red in what might be a 4-3 fit, you decide to try your luck at defense. Partner leads the ♠3 and you see this dummy:

Dummy: ♠J97 ♥J1052 ♦A4 ♣Q1072
You: ♠KQ82 ♥Q94 ♦10963 ♣63

Declarer plays small from dummy and you insert the ♠Q, declarer winning with the ace. Declarer tries a small club toward dummy, but partner flies with the king and returns another club. Declarer then passes the ♦8, which partner ducks to your 10. Needing to keep trump control, you return a diamond to the ace. Declarer tries a spade, but now you win the king and lead a third spade. Declarer comes off dummy with the ♥J.

Ducking is correct for two reasons. First, it's not

impossible that declarer has the ace, in which case you must duck to prevent declarer from winning two tricks in the suit (by leading toward the 10 after capturing your king). Admittedly this is unlikely because declarer would probably have used the ♥A to take a diamond ruff on dummy. But even if declarer has the king, ducking is right because it "builds a fence" around partner. If you duck, declarer will never be on dummy again and therefore will never get the chance to cash the ♣Q. You'll eventually come to a club, two diamonds, a spade, and two hearts, to beat the doubled contract by a trick. If you cover, you need partner to get the defense right by returning a heart (knocking out dummy's last entry) before allowing declarer back to her hand to draw your last trump, so that she can cash the ♣Q in safety.

St. Patrick's Day

For those who can't make it out to New Orleans, there will be Unit Championships scheduled for St. Patrick's Day, March 17. There will be a Unit-Wide Championship at 12:30 at Barrington and Beverly Hills, and then a Unit Championship at 7:15 at the Marina Club. Good luck, and win lots of points.

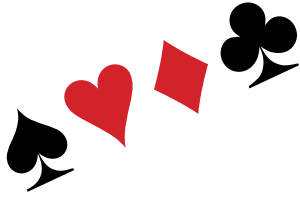
Also coming soon, we have restored the Spring Sectional to our schedule. The tournament will be played May 2 and 3 at Barrington. Saturday will see our usual schedule of pairs games and Compact Knockouts, and Sunday will feature a Swiss. Game times will be 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Saturday, 10:00 a.m. and TBA on Sunday. Come see for yourself how many more points are available on the tournament trail.

Welcome Mat

This month's new members are Susan Gornel, Sam Lee, Gail Provizer, and Alex Wiles. Transferring into our Unit are Joel and Susan Levine, Doris Levinson, Ralph Monkarsh, and Pauline Spalding. Please give them a big welcome when you see them at the table.

Around the Clubs

Beverly Hills reports 70% games by Chuck Fonarow-Rahim Israel and by Dovid Crum and Gil Stinebaugh. Club champions were Danny Kleinman-Sally Karbelnig and Sylvia Shallon-Alan Chapman. Picking up 70% games at Barrington were Jim →



District 23 Grand National Teams Qualifying

Barrington Bridge Club

April 11-12: Flight A and Flight C

April 25-26: Open Flight and Flight B

The complete Conditions of Contest can be
found at www.acbldistrict23.org
. Direct any questions to
howardeinberg@yahoo.com

Perkins-Tate Shafer and George Wagner-Art Zail.

We also held some Unit Championships. The January 19 game was held as a split-site event. Winning at Beverly Hills were Sara Wilson and your Humble Scribe, while the winners at Barrington were Adrienne Green and David Bohnett. Taking the February 12 Unit-wide game were Wayne Karson and Art Zail, while Friday the 13th was lucky for our February 13 winners, Lou Papp and Chuck Fonarow. The February 12 team game also was a Unit Championship; its winners were Roger and Becky Clough, Dan Hugh-Jones, and your Humble Scribe.

Climbing the Ladder

Congratulations to Ed Pelant and Tate Shafer, who are our Unit's newest Junior Masters. Selma Archerd is a Sectional Master, while Susan Frank and Shelley Singer are now Regional Masters.

Debora Stein has reached the rank of Bronze Life Master. Congratulations to all on your accomplishments.

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

District 23 Rank Changes January 2014

Junior Master

Kathy Bernick
Elizabeth Bowen
Carolyn Brice
Alan Cohen
Mara Cohen
Michael Connell
Robert Culbert
Robert Hardaway Jr
Irwin Jaeger
Harry Levitt
Joan Riback
Rhonda Rundle
Doni Sidell
Donald Vallens
Jackie Wollner
Wanda Yao
Xuhong Zhou

Club Master

Kelley Butcher
Phyllis Cohen

Anne Doublier

Linda Klebs

Herb Koch

Richard Lowenstein

James Morrow

Gerald Parry

William Phifer III

Mary Roberts

Adrienne Sarmiento

Peter Satuloff

Eva Schilk

Tate Shafer

Richard Siefert

Judith Stone

Rose Marie Tashima

Sectional Master

Richard Barrack
Linda Schlesinger

Regional Master

Jody Lombardo

NABC Master

Anand Kumar
Benjamin Kushner
Joianna Ogner

Bronze Life Master

Joan Wieber

Silver Life Master

Patricia Adam
Pamela Cole
George MacDonald
Lavonne McQuilkin
Richard Stevenson

Gold Life Master

Jack Futrell
John Petrie

Diamond Life Master

Danny Kleinman

Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: John Jones

Panelists: Gerry Bare, Mark Bartusek, Leo Bell, David Chechelashvili, Eddie Kantar, Michael Shuster, John Swanson, and Jon Wittes

1

MPs
no vul

South	West	North	East
	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	2♣	3♠	4♣
?			

You, South, hold: ♠A954 ♥765 ♦K65 ♣QT4
What call do you make?

I received answers from the above eight panelists, and when Eddie sent in his answers, he included the responses of his wife, Yvonne Synder. They asked who did better, so I'll score it, and we will see who does better. Who will win the Family Feud: Eddie or Yvonne?

If we have eight spades and they have nine clubs, then there are 17 total tricks. If we can make ten tricks in spades, they should be able to take only seven tricks in clubs. The Law says double. There are other considerations involved. If partner has six diamonds, there are 18 total tricks, and we have a double fit. On the other hand, partner could have two clubs, and there would only be 16 total tricks. I need to suggest defending. Partner is allowed to pull my double and should with six diamonds or a club void. If partner is 4-4-4-1 and there is no reason why he couldn't be, 4♣ doubled will be juicy. Spades will frequently be 4-1. So even if partner is 4-6, he may well need ♠K, ♠Q and ♠J for 4♠ to make if the opponents can take 3 side winners and then lead a second round of clubs to tap the dummy.

Bartusek: 4♠. Admittedly, I have wasted club cards opposite partner's shortness, but I have two very valuable cover cards for partner's presumed 4-6 distribution. *[Why does partner need to be 4-6?]* I'm also non-vul, so getting doubled shouldn't be too devastating when 4♠ is wrong. *[Doubled or not, you may be trading a plus score for a minus score.]*

Chechelashvili: 4♠. After partner's 3♠, with ♦Kxx I have to bid it, especially at this form of scoring. But I would bid the same at IMPs as well.

Shuster: 4♠. We might not be beating 4♣, and we rate to have play for 10 tricks on offense.

Bare: 4♠. An overbid, but sounds like partner is distributional with long diamonds.

Wittes 4♠. Partner surely has club shortness, and with my diamond fit, 4♠ seems like an easy bid.

Swanson: Double. The 'Law' strongly indicates that defending is correct. They likely have 9 trumps, and we have 8. Game will be a good bet only if partner is 4-6.

Bell: Double. Partner didn't splinter, so I have no slam ambitions. Hopefully, we can score 6 tricks to beat all pairs +450 or +480.

Kantar: Double: I can't get myself to bid 4♠ because I don't think I can make it. Spades figure to be 4-1, as one of them figures to have a singleton.

Family Feud: Eddie doubles, Yvonne bids 4♠. *My panel is a little on the 4♠ side, but I am strongly in the double camp, and I get to be the scorer. Give the point to Eddie. Score: Eddie 1.0 - Yvonne 0.0*

2

MPs
no vul

South	West	North	East
1♣	1♦	Pass	1♠
?			

You South hold:

♠A ♥KJ42 ♦8 ♣AKQJ852

What call do you make?

Bare: 4♣. Might miss hearts, but 4♣ is a better description, especially since there was no negative double.

Wittes: Double. 2♥ would not show my distribution and power. Partner might even pass 2♥ with a very weak hand with 3 hearts and 1 club. If spades are raised, I will compete to the 4 level in clubs. If partner should bid hearts freely after my double, I will bid game.

Bell: 3NT. Yes, I know I only have 8 tricks, even with a spade lead, but I expect partner to be bust, and 3NT might even be a cheap sacrifice against a spade contract. Of course, if doubled by the diamond bidder, I'll put on my running shoes.

Bartusek: 2♥. Partner might have heart length with a very poor hand. This way when I bid clubs again (probably at the 5 level over 4♠) he should know what to do. I doubt that bidding a large number of clubs immediately will hinder the opponents' competing in spades.

Swanson: 2♥. The plan is to rebid clubs, if necessary, over an opposing 4♠ call. A double here would be takeout, but partner will be expecting more defense and less offense for that call.

Chechelashvili: 2♥.

Shuster: 2♥. Showing extra strength, and most of my shape seems easy. It will be hard to keep all of clubs, hearts and NT in play and get partner to choose correctly. There really isn't another good way to start. When LHO calls 2♣, and it is passed back to me, I'll try 3♠.

Kantar: 2♥. Don't like it, but I bet you get some 3NT bids. Marshall would be very disappointed in me.

I held this hand at the table and bid 3♠, hoping I was showing a spade stop and solid clubs. Partner, holding something like ♠Kxx ♥Qxx ♦xxx ♣T98x bid 5♣, which is, of course, best. The opening leader was so sure that I held a spade stop with solid clubs that he asked my partner 3 times. My partner insisted that hand would bid 2♣, followed by 3♣. The panel didn't begin to address this, but jump cuebids without partner's bidding frequently ask for a stopper. Given a choice of cuebids, it is normal to bid the suit in which you have a stopper in. It is logical to extend that principle to jump cuebids, too. Thus, I think 3♠ should be close to this hand. I believe 2♠ should be more of a general strength cuebid.]

Family Feud: Eddie answered 2♥, while Yvonne bravely jumped to 3NT. Most of the voters opted for 2♥, even if they admit that 2♥ is not exactly perfect. 2♥ is fine, but channeling MM and bashing 3NT has to be given consideration. Call it a tie. Score: Eddie 1.5 - Yvonne 0.5.

3
 IMPs
 EW vul

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	1NT*	Pass
?			Pass

*1NT = Forcing

You, South, hold: ♠AT75432 ♥KT ♦AK3 ♣K
 What call do you make?

Let's hear from the 3♠ bidders first.

Bare 3♠. It's hard to evaluate this hand.

Shuster: 3♠. Probably enough... this lets partner know I don't need a spade fit for game.

Bartusek: 3♠. This seems normal since my ♣K is probably wasted (and the 7th spade makes up for the poor suit quality). My five loser hand requires aces, and spade support, which partner should be able to evaluate effectively. A 4♠ bid seems too aggressive to me.

Chechelashvili: 3♠ - invitational - I will miss game only when partner has ♠Kx ♥xxx ♦Qxxx ♣xxxx and trumps split 2-2, or singleton honor offside.

Kantar: 4♠. Not going to sweat this one with a seven-bagger.

Bell: 4♠. Not enough to jump shift, and 3♠ seems so wimpy. I'll bid 4♠ just in case I can take 10 tricks.

Wittes: 4♠. I surely don't like the quality of my spade suit, but even with a stiff spade in partner's hand, we will make game opposite a number of minimum responses as long as trumps aren't 4-1. My only fear would be if partner had a reasonable hand with a spade void, and 3NT might then be a viable spot.

Swanson: 4♠. This is a hand for Gazzilli. [Gazzilli is a convention where after a 1♠ or 1♥ opener and a forcing 1NT response that a 2♣ rebid by the opener has multiple meanings. The 2♣ rebid can include a minimum hand with clubs, and other stronger hands that may or may not have clubs. This helps limit other rebids to showing a minimum.] I could bid 2♣, then 3♠, to show a leaky suit and 16-17. After a standard 3♠ rebid (which is a bit of an underbid), partner won't have the information to judge whether 3NT or 4♠ (or 3♠) is best, so I'll make the decision for him.

I also held this hand at the table. I loved the potential of the hand outside of spades. I bid 2♦, in tempo! My partner (Gerry Bare) jumped to 3♥, a light invite in our system. He held x QJ9xxx xx AQxx. I raised to 4♥ making 5 (he would have made 6 if he was in it). The other table reached 4♠, down one and doubled by the opening leader holding KQJ9 of spades. I still like making a low level flexible bid on this hand (2NT is possible also). If partner passes 2♦, you will probably make it, mostly on a crossruff, with 4♠ likely a poor contract. No panelist (including Gerry) bid anything other than 3♠ or 4♠ (although Swanson did spot the problem and wanted to bid 2♣ Gazzilli). Have I completely lost it? Maybe, but I think making flexible bids on hands without good suits has great merit.

Family Feud: Eddie answered 4♠, while Yvonne tried 3♠. I like 3♠ better, so score a point for Yvonne. Score Eddie 1.5 - Yvonne 1.5.]

4

IMPs
NS vul

South	West	North	East
?		1♣	3♦

You, South, hold:
 ♠864 ♥K74 ♦852 ♣AK63
 What call do you make?

Claude Vogel, an expert from Chicago, held this hand during the recent Riverside regional.

Bare: Double. Allows for an “unlikely” 3 NT. Pass is a possible alternative.

Bartusek: 4♣. An overbid, but it seems the least of evils. I like my three small diamonds in this hand which implies shortness in partner.

Wittes: 4♣. Partner rates to have at least four clubs, if not more, unless he has the dreaded 4-4-2-3 distribution.

Bell: 4♣. I would obviously like to have another club, but nothing else seems reasonable. If I make a

negative double, it seems like I’ve started down a slippery slope from which there may be no recovery. Pass is an option, but then what do I bid after partner’s reopening double?

Chechelashvili: Pass - too long in diamonds for any other action.

Shuster: Pass. Partner hasn’t promised long clubs, and I don’t have a particularly great hand. If partner reopens with a double, I’ll regret having not bid 4♣ now (I’ll suck it up and bid 5♣ then), but sometimes LHO bids, or partner passes 3♦.

Swanson: Pass. If partner is short in diamonds he will double (thereby

giving me another problem). If he has values in diamonds and was too strong to open 1NT, he will bid 3NT.

Kantar: Pass. If I bid, we are sure to get too high. Besides, the bidding isn’t over by any means.

Claude passed at the table. What was the winning call on the actual hand? Absurdly, the winning bid is 3NT, which will only make from your side. Even Marshall wouldn’t find that one. Isn’t bridge easy?

Family Feud: Eddie and Yvonne both passed. Score a point for both Eddie and Yvonne; Eddie 2.5 - Yvonne 2.5.

DIRECTOR *continued from page 1*

2. Is a two section game comparable to two separate one-section club games where one club always has a stronger field because of geographic or temporal factors, except the overall awards are paid for multiple sections within a single club?

3. Should the overall awards be paid to the “weak” section, because there is more volatility in the scores, making it easier to have a high percentage game? It can be argued that the weaker pairs have an advantage from having not to play the strong pairs that are in the other section.

One possible answer to these questions to be discussed is to require that overall awards be based on scoring across-the-field. Since most large clubs already use hand records, this may not be a problem.

Additionally, sections can still be scored individually, but the event must be re-scored to determine overall winners. As almost every club uses computer scoring, this would not be a hard task to perform.

This is just a beginning. Any thoughts or suggestions are welcome.

And remember, I can always be reached at Pinsky4Bridge@earthlink.net

5

MPs
all vul

South	West	North	East
?	1♥	1♠	Pass

You, South, hold:
 ♠K75 ♥6 ♦Q85 ♣Q87543
 What call do you make?

I managed to send out a hand I didn't intend (I made two mistakes on the same hand). A legal bidding problem? Completely! I wish it hadn't been legal, because the panelists would have known something was wrong instead of scratching their heads trying to find something of a problem. They unanimously answered 2♠, same as almost all other bridge players in the world would do. For them and for you, my faithful readers, mea culpa, mea culpa! I'll use the intended problem later.

Shuster: 2♠. Is there even another option?

Bartusek: 2♠. I can't imagine an alternative. At least one of the queens will probably be of no value.

Swanson: 2♠. WTP?

Bell: 2♠. Invoking Al Roth. *[What's the problem?]*

Chechelashvili: 2♠

Bare 2♠. I don't see the problem.

Wittes : 2♠. I would just bid 2♠ even with a singleton heart. My hand just isn't good enough to take more aggressive action with only 3 trumps.

Kantar: 2♠. Whatever the trap is, I have fallen into it.

Family Feud: Both Eddie and Yvonne bid 2♠, like 99.9% of bridge players would. Final score - Eddie 3.5, Yvonne 3.5. Well done by both of them!

Next Month's Problems

1. IMPs Both vul:

South	West	North	East
?	1♣*	Pass	1♦**

* Precision, 16+ HCP
 ** negative, 0 – 7 HCP

You, South, hold:

♠-- ♥J ♦AKQT87642 ♣AQ6
 What call do you make?

2. MP NS vul:

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
?			

You, South, hold:

♠A ♥AQ743 ♦82 ♣AQJT6
 What call do you make?

3. MP No vul:

South	West	North	East
Pass	1♥	1♠	Pass
?			

You, South, hold:

♠9 ♥K93 ♦KT8 ♣QT8743
 What call do you make?

4. IMPs Both vul

South	West	North	East
?	1♥	Pass	Pass

You, South, hold:

♠-- ♥5 ♦KQ532 ♣AKQJ653
 What call do you make?

5. IMPs No vul

South	West	North	East
?	3♠	Dbl	Pass

You, South, hold:

♠KQ5 ♥AJ3 ♦AJT4 ♣Q84
 What call do you make?

What do you think?

Send letters to the editor to bridgenews@acblidistrict23.org