

# Southern California Bridge News

Volume 51, #9

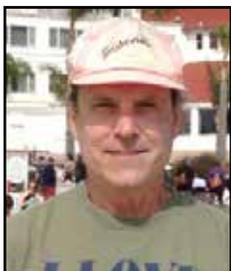
September 2015

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Chicago Observations

by Mike Marcucci



When you are a bridge player and go to an NABC, it's hard to write an article about anything else when that experience is fresh in your mind. Thinking about the site, the city, the events, the players you encountered, the strange hands that were dealt, the director calls, the

new restaurants, the conversations at lunch, the new resolutions made, and the lessons learned.

While last month, I had thought that this month would be the time to start into our LA history stories, my mind was changed in Chicago. As regularly happens, in several ways. One of my other expectations when planning out things to say was that I wouldn't have much to say about bridge playing – I'm still in the learning stage, not the teaching stage. But wait, that changed slightly in Chicago. Now last week on Michigan Avenue was not my first rodeo. In the last few years, your author has had a chance to attend Providence, Las Vegas, San Diego, and a few others, but this was the first NABC which felt comfortable. Of course, there was confusion about rooms, games, where to meet partner, and how much the taxis would charge. But the bridge itself was more enjoyable even with almost exclusively new opponents that were complete strangers. Many bridge authors recommend that one of the proven methods to learn faster is to get out of your comfort

PRESIDENT *continued on page 2*

### Inside This Issue

Around the Units .....	page 6
Bridge Stories .....	page 4
Los Angeles Regional .....	page 3
North American Pairs.....	page 5
Problem Solvers Panel .....	page 13
Rank Changes .....	page 4

## Chicago NABC Recap

by Rand Pinsky, District Director



I do not have all the stats from the Chicago NABC, but I am advised that our attendance exceeded our predicted table count of 13,000 tables by 685 tables. This is the second NABC in a row that our attendance has exceeded our expectations.

**ACBL Technology** Our new CIO has reported that our technology intra-structure needs updating. Based upon his report, the Board voted to increase the 2015 Capital Budget by \$100,000 to address this issue. Overall to date, Management has used only \$34,627 of its allocated budget of \$133,500 for Technology.

### Motions passed in Chicago

**Electronic Device Policy.** The Board has modified the Electronic Device Policy as follows: Electronic devices are allowable in the playing area at NABCs but such devices must be turned off and inoperable. Health related equipment or by permission of the Director-In-Charge are the exceptions. This policy applies to all pairs, team members, captains, play recorders, and kibitzers. Finally, a violation of this rule will result in a penalty pursuant to Law 91 of one full board at match-points/Board-a-Match, 12 IMPs at IMP pairs or Knock-outs or 20% maximum of Victory Points available per match. A second offense will result in disqualification.

If you wish to read the complete regulation, send me an email and I will send it to you.

**Automatic Membership Renewal Policy.** This was not a motion before the Board, but management is developing a policy where membership will be renewed automatically for a term of equal length to the previous membership term. There will be more information on this policy posted on the ACBL website.

**North American Pairs.** This motion allows for a replacement player at the National level only if a mem-

DIRECTOR *continued on page 13*

PRESIDENT continued from page 1

zone (your own club against familiar neighbors/players) and go play elsewhere, at different levels (other clubs, sectionals, regionals, etc). It may not be comfortable, but your bridge game will benefit.

And what does all this have to do with my present task of writing an interesting column that will entertain all our D23 friends? It has to do with what I decided in Chicago as the components for a bridge player to work on to elevate your game. At the risk of differing from the 1000s of books which have been written on this by professionals, here's a non-professional opinion: 33-33-33.

Everyone knows that we have to learn the rules of bridge including some of the more popular conventions. When we sit at the table, we have to have a general idea of bids to communicate, bids to interfere, bids

to penalize, and that all important green card – when to pass. Getting to the right contract or letting your opponents settle in a contract you can defeat, I propose is one-third of the game.

I propose that the next third is knowing how to play offense and how to play defense. I depart here from others who think that offense is 50% of the game and defense is the other 50% of the game. See how authors can disagree and still be friends? So we come to my last third.

I propose that the part of our game that ties everything else together is being a good partner. Also something that books are written about. One of my many observations in Chicago was how well many of our opponents treated one another. I saw players whose main interest was improving their game, not blaming anyone for what hap-

pened. I saw very polite exchanges about bids, plays, defense choices, and strategies. I talked with partnerships that extended back many years and observed how they treated each other, probably after many ups and downs at the bridge table. It was easy to spot the partnerships that worked. They were polite and courteous and calm. We've all probably read articles on bridge partnering. Remember the advice about your partner being your best friend for that day? Both games will be better when we learn how to practice such advice.

You may have noticed that my numbers don't add to 100%. What could the remaining 1% be? How about luck? If you happen to play Fred Hamilton on that hand where his side gets to 6♦ and everyone else settles in 3NT; well, just chalk up that hand as a 0 and try your best on the next. Nothing could be done on your part.

There are many opportunities to practice our games coming up in LA. Support your local Unit Games each month. The second stage of the North American Pairs competition starts soon. Look on our D23 web site for the Semi and Final Flyers. The Semi flyer is also in this issue of the Bridge News. We could not arrange all the games as early as we wanted so the Finals will again be in January. That flyer is not yet out. Our next Regional will be in Torrance in October. Speakers every day.

See you around the cityscape.

**Carolyn Taff & Marion Napier**  
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2444 Wilshire Blvd.  
Santa Monica, CA 90403  
DRE # 01074069 / 00413050

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Editor/Designer.....Jennifer Einberg  
Managing Editor.....Mike Marcucci  
Contributing Editor.....John Jones

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**What do you think?**

**Send letters to the editor to:**  
**[bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org](mailto:bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org)**

**Los Angeles Regional** Torrance, CA October 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> 2015

**GOLD RUSH PAIRS** Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday !  
 ♠ **New KO's** everyday but Thursday and Sunday, Swiss Teams!  
 ♥ **Star Speakers** -Tuesday through Saturday!  
 ♦ **299er** games twice a day !  
 ♣ **Daylight** schedule all week!



**Free 299'er Lesson & Lunch**  
 Free two-hour bridge lesson on Monday Oct 12th from 10:30am to 12:30, followed by lite lunch and free mini 299er game at 1pm.  
**Registration required !**  
 Please call Jeff Grotenhuis 310-600-4275  
 Regular 299er game at 3:15pm.

**Marriott South Bay Hotel**  
 3635 Fashion Way Torrance CA 90503  
**Reserve at 310-316-3636**  
**Reserve early, rooms will sell out!**  
 ♠ Room rate \$139 (please refer to ALACBU ATTENDEES Bridge Tournament)  
 ♥ Reserve before Monday, Sept 28<sup>th</sup> 2015  
 ♦ Self parking \$6.00 per day, Wi-Fi \$5.95 per day  
 ♣ Card fees \$14 for paid members, \$18 for others.

**Need partner or team mates?**  
**Diane Sachs**  
 dianasachs@yahoo.com  
 or 562-981-4884



Tournament manager **Peter Benjamin** 310-720-6050, ahoneydo@aol.com  
 Director-in-Charge **Brian Russell** Sanction #1510044

**Los Angeles Regional** Torrance, CA October 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> 2015

**Monday Oct 12th**  
**10:30 AM**  
**299er Free Lesson + Lunch followed by a mini game (reservation required)**  
 AM Side Game Series 1 of 6  
 First KO Session 1 of 4  
*Educational Foundation Stratified Charity Pairs 1 of 2*  
**3:15 PM**  
 Afternoon Side Game Series 1 of 6  
 First KO Session 2 of 4  
*Educational Foundation Stratified Charity Pairs 2 of 2*  
 Stratified Swiss Team Single Session  
 299er Pairs Game  
**7:30 PM**  
 PM Side Game Series 1 of 5

**Tuesday Oct 13th**  
**10:30 AM**  
 AM Side Game Series 2 of 6  
 First KO Session 3 of 4  
 Second KO Session 1 of 4  
*Frank Grant Memorial Open Pairs (0-1500/3000/3000+) 1 of 2*  
**GOLD RUSH PAIRS (100/300/750) 1 of 2**  
 299er Pairs Game  
**3:15 PM**  
 Afternoon Side Game Series 2 of 6  
 First KO Session 4 of 4  
 Second KO Session 2 of 4  
*Frank Grant Memorial Open Pairs (0-1500/3000/3000+) 2 of 2*  
**GOLD RUSH PAIRS (100/300/750) 2 of 2**  
 299er lecture (2:30) & Pairs Game  
 Stratified Swiss Team Single Session  
**7:30 PM**  
 PM Side Game Series 2 of 5  
 Stratified Swiss Session 1 of 2

**Wednesday Oct 14th**  
**10:30 AM**  
 AM Side Game Series 3 of 6  
 Second KO Session 3 of 4  
 Wednesday Compact KO Sessions 1 & 2  
 Open Pairs (0-1500/3000/3000+) 1 of 2  
**GOLD RUSH PAIRS (100/300/750) 1 of 2**  
 299er Pairs Game  
**3:15 PM**  
 Afternoon Side Game Series 3 of 6  
 Second KO Session 4 of 4  
 Wednesday Compact KO Sessions 3 & 4  
 Open Pairs (0-1500/3000/3000+) 2 of 2  
**GOLD RUSH PAIRS (100/300/750) 2 of 2**  
 Stratified Swiss Team Single Session  
 299er Lecture (2:30PM) & Pairs Game  
**7:30 PM**  
 PM Side Game Series 3 of 5  
 Stratified Swiss Session 2 of 2

**Thursday Oct 15th**  
**10:30 AM**  
 AM Side Game Series 4 of 6  
 Flight A/X Swiss (0-5000/5000+) 1 of 2  
 Bracketed Flight B Swiss Teams  
 [no player over 3000] 1 of 2  
*The Marvin Grabel Memorial Open Pairs Session 1 of 2 (0-750/750-2000/2000+)*  
 299er Pairs Game  
**3:15 PM**  
 Afternoon Side Game Series 4 of 6  
 Flight A/X Swiss (0-5000/5000+) 2 of 2  
 Bracketed Flight B Swiss Teams  
 [no player over 3000] 2 of 2  
*The Marvin Grabel Memorial Open Pairs Session 2 of 2 (0-750/750-2000/2000+)*  
 299er Lecture (2:30PM) & Pairs Game  
**7:30 PM**  
 PM Side Game Series 4 of 5  
 Stratified Swiss Session 1 of 2

**Friday Oct 16th**  
**10:30 AM**  
 AM Side Game Series 5 of 6  
*Frank Jones Memorial Open Pairs (0-1500/3000/3000+) 1 of 2*  
**GOLD RUSH PAIRS (100/300/750) 1 of 2**  
 Friday-Sat KO Session 1 of 4  
 299er Pairs Game  
**3:15 PM**  
 Afternoon Side Game Series 5 of 6  
*Frank Jones Memorial Open Pairs (0-1500/3000 /3000+) 2 of 2*  
**GOLD RUSH PAIRS (100/300/750) 2 of 2**  
 Friday-Sat KO Session 2 of 4  
 Stratified Swiss Team Single Session  
 299er Lecture (2:30PM) & Pairs Game  
**7:30 PM**  
 PM Side Game Series 5 of 5  
 Stratified Swiss Session 2 of 2

**Saturday Oct 17th**  
**10:30 AM**  
 AM Side Game Series 6 of 6  
 Open IMP Pairs (0-1500/3000/3000+) 1 of 2  
**GOLD RUSH PAIRS (100/300/750) 1 of 2**  
 Friday-Sat KO Session 3 of 4  
 Saturday Compact KO Session 1 & 2  
 299er Pairs Game  
**3:15 PM**  
 Afternoon Side Game Series 6 of 6  
 Open IMP Pairs (0-1500/3000/3000+) 2 of 2  
**GOLD RUSH PAIRS (100/300/750) 2 of 2**  
 Friday-Sat KO Session 4 of 4  
 Saturday Compact KO Session 3 & 4  
 299er Lecture (2:30PM) & Swiss Team  
 Stratified Swiss Team Single Session

**Sunday Oct 18th**  
**10:30 AM & TBA**  
 Flight A/X Swiss  
 (0-5000/5000+) 2 sessions  
 Bracketed Flight B Swiss Teams  
 (no player over 3000) 2 sessions  
 Stratified Fast Pairs  
 (0-750/750-2000/2000+) 2 sessions

♥ **Stratified games:**  
 0-750/750-2000/2000+  
 ♠ **GOLDRUSH:**  
 0-100/100-300/300-750  
 0 (no player over 750 points)  
 ♦ **Bracketed Flight B Swiss:**  
 Bracketed by average points of team.  
 - No player over 3000 points  
 - 3 teams in each bracket earn gold!  
 ♣ **KOs** may be handicapped, games will be stratified by average master points.

## 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.*

My story is fairly interesting. Nineteen years ago my husband developed Pancreatic cancer. After he had a whipple at UCLA it spread to his liver and lung. Since then, he has been in the hospital more than 100 times. I am an attorney and play golf and walk long distances. Now we would be home a great deal so I began to teach

myself bridge. I have been playing OKBridge at night while we watch TV. More recently I began playing tournaments online and playing at clubs and tournaments. I play at least 3 hours most nights. I have bridge partners from all over the world.

*Barbara Federman  
Sectional Master*

I have been chasing this for a while! I only play once a week and in Regionals when possible.

*Mary-Ellen Downs  
NABC Master*

### District 23 Rank Changes July 2015

#### **Junior Master**

Marjorie Bernath  
Jean Blasiar  
Sally Clark  
Sadika Elewy  
Andrea Forman  
James Gates  
Glenn Hatfield  
Sylvia Jones  
Sam Lee  
Patricia Moller  
Andrew Rooke  
Nancy Rosser  
Ann Shaw  
Amy Sinclair  
Steven Stiefel  
Sharon Tamboury  
Gregory Tsien  
Diane Vallette  
Andy Zhang

#### **Club Master**

D Clark  
Judith Estes  
Marie-Rose Kardous  
Jerome Katzman  
Barbara Killebrew  
Brenda Maroney  
Peter O Keeffe  
Rhonda Rundle  
Rosemary Schroeder  
Andrei Verona, Maria Verona

#### **Sectional Master**

Elizabeth Bentley  
Barbara Federman  
Sue Gocke  
Sandra Klasky  
Tony Mirchandani  
Angela Peters  
David Rosak  
Loretto Russell  
Bret Schaefer  
Beverly Sturman  
Jill Thesman  
Anna Urata

#### **Regional Master**

David Duke  
Stuart Hemple  
Rand Macquiddy  
Saul Prierer  
Ramesh Sawhney  
Susan Shane Schwab  
Ralph Vidal  
Barbara York  
Lucy Zhang  
Hanna Zhuang

#### **NABC Master**

Janet Bennett  
Terry Binns  
Zu Ming Cheng  
Mary Ellen Downs  
Dennis Hill

Fay Hsu

Anne Hurwitz  
Fuad Khuri  
Dwight McCormick  
Nancy Nakanishi  
Marianne Newman  
Bridget O'Sullivan  
Nancy Raiche  
Rae Yan

#### **Adv NABC Master**

Nolan Chang  
Barry Heller

#### **Life Master**

Jim Brunet  
Jack Chang  
Mori Taylor

#### **Bronze Life Master**

Jack Chang  
Robert Fieselman  
Alan Flower

#### **Silver Life Master**

Thomas Hirata  
Judy Hyde

#### **Gold Life Master**

Jeanne Dea  
Phil Schuster



# District 23

Reno - March 2016



## North American Pairs

### Semi-Final #1

27 Sept '15, 11:00 AM  
Long Beach Bridge Club  
4782 Pacific Coast Highway

### Semi-Final #2

1 Nov '15, 11:00 AM  
San Marino Comm. Center  
1800 Huntington Dr.

2 Sessions with a break

Snacks ☉ Sodas ☉ Coffee ☉ Gold/Red Points

Mike Marcucci - 818 903-2471

# Around the Units in District 23

## Glendale Verdugo by Sharon Wolf

Unit Game, September 12, 2015  
Lunch at 11:15, game at noon

Well, our sectional tournament has come and gone and by all accounts, it was a great success. Congratulations to Unit president and first-time tournament chair, Adam Barron, for the excellent job he did organizing the event. We also appreciate the efforts of Board members Betsy Josias and Nancy Lyon in setting up the room, Margaret Mataga in staffing the partnership desk, Patrick Cardullo, Kathy Bernick, and Adam and Margaret, in bringing bagels, doughnuts, deviled eggs, cookies, etc. Additionally, we want to thank non-Board members Karen Arase, Joanne Sasaki, and Steve Shanker for bringing goodies to share.

The Board of Directors welcomes new member, Fay Chu, to its ranks.

Results of the August Unit game were as follows:

N/S	
A1	Caroline Cohen & Tim Lolli
A2 B1	John Villalobos & David Rozzell
A3 B2	Carol Ashbacher & Cristi Kubo
A4	Jack Futrell & Rae Murbach
C1	Nathan Harris & Katherine Cresto

E/W	
A1 B1 C1	Ann Raymond & Sandy Rucker
A2	Gerry Belcher & Amr Elghamry
A3 B2	Mike Doll & Sharon Wolf
A4	Rose Boot & Bob Skjeie
B3C2	Morris Jones & Tor Hylbom

Our next Unit game is on September 12. Please join us.

## Pasadena-San Gabriel Valley by Marty Weiss

### Upcoming Events

559 Unit Game  
Sunday, September 6, 1:00  
San Marino Community Center  
1800 Huntington Drive, San Marino

Arcadia Bridge Center  
Beat the House Night: Friday, September 25  
Winners and Losers: Sunday, September 27  
Beginning Bridge Lessons  
(no bridge knowledge necessary)  
Courses begin:  
September 10, 7:30 or September 12 10:00  
The first six lessons are free

### Our Members Score!

Congratulations to all of the winners- there were too many for us to list. The following is a selection:

Glendale-Verdugo Sectional  
Friday Morning Open Pairs: Nolan Chang - Jack Chang, San Gabriel CA- 1st overall  
Friday Afternoon Open Pairs: Gary Swinhart, Sunland CA; Timothy Parris, Pasadena CA- 1st in B  
Friday Afternoon 299er Pairs: Lawrence Newman - Marianne Newman, San Gabriel CA- 1st overall  
Saturday PM Open Pairs: Karen Arase, La Canada CA; John Barrow, Monrovia CA- 1st in B

Pasadena Sectional  
Frank Jones Stratified PR: Amr Elghamry - Dominique Moore – 1st in A, Ann McClelland - William Martin - 1st in B, James Rozzell- Steve Shanker – 1st in C.

Rita Corwin Stratified PR: Patrick Cardullo, Los Angeles CA; James Rozzell, Burbank CA – 1st in B →

B/C/D Swiss Teams: Steve Shanker, Sandra Rucker, Margie Hall, Ann Raymond – 1st make it enjoyable.

*She was a bridge enthusiast  
Who always bid when she should have passed.  
Her partner said, "Hon,"  
"I'm not having fun.  
And I'm tired of finishing last!"*

*She replied, your comment is vile  
And I cannot abide your style  
You sit on your ass  
Do Nothing but pass  
You should try bidding once in a while*

*Finally, they agreed, one last try  
And they agreed, this time was 'do or die'.  
He bid, took a chance  
She said No-I won't dance  
And the partnership started to fly.*

Bev and Marty deny any autobiographical content in the foregoing. And, for those of you who believe this, we have a fantastic deal on one of the three bridge spanning the East River in NYC!

Jack Futrell won two events including the Swiss Teams and won the most points at the Pasadena Sectional. 21.13. He wanted to share the following: "I would like to thank all my wonderful partners who helped me win. They were Tim Lolli, Herman Helber, Rae Murbach and Fred Theurkauf."

This is an interesting story from the Pasadena Sectional. I was playing with Tim Lolli and I opened with 1♥ – Pass – Tim bid 2♦ – Pass – I now bid 3♠ (shows diamond support and shortness in spades) the bidding continued Pass – 4NT by Tim – Pass – 5♦ by me — 1 or 4 controls (I had 1 control) – Dbl now by left hand opponent — 6♦ by Tim – Pass - Pass - Pass —no Dbl from LHO —When RHO made his lead I asked Tim —why didn't you RDBL when LHO DBL —Tim answered —"I never saw his Dbl!!!! Needless to say he made the slam and we asked the opponent why did you double? He replied I thought you were going to end up in hearts and I wanted a diamond lead because I was void!!! Of course we told him if we had ended up in hearts – **he would have been on lead!**

By the way, kudos to the catering people with their excellent lunches at a really good price. Thanks also for all the hard work put in by the volunteers who helped

## Pomona Covina by Tom Lill

Unit Game – Saturday, September 19, 11:00 a.m.  
Individual – Saturday, September 4, 9:30 a.m.,  
LaVerne Site

The July Unit Game was won by Joseph Viola – Amr Elghamry, narrowly edging out Lulu Minter – Ronald Lien, and followed up by Vic Sartor – Bill Papa, Dominique Moore – Madhu Sudan, and Anand Kumar – Kiran Kumar.

The August Individual was won by Steve Mancini, followed by Richard Patterson, Evelyn Hubacker, Linda Tessier, and Yours Truly.

And, the August Unit Game was captured by Amr Elghamry – Dan Botoaca, with Gino Barbieri – Evelyn Hubacker and Tom Lill – Pat Rademaker tying for second. Fourth was Penny Barbieri – Rosalie Roberts, with Vic Sartor – Bill Papa rounding out the top 5.

No promotions this month; well, it is the dog days of summer.

The top game this month was a 76.04% shellacking by Lulu Minter and Vic Sartor. Other winners: John Barrow, Marry Miller, Bill Papa, Evelyn Hubacker, Gino Barbieri, Walt Otto, Hans Hehnke, Joe Unis, Herb Stampfl, Penny Barbieri, Sandy Jones, Genise Hasan, Joe Unis, Claudia Cochran, Linda Stuart, Hanan Mogharbel, Clint Lew, and Your Correspondent.

Lots of qualifiers for North American Pairs ... we'll give you the complete list next month, after qualifying is over.

Don't forget, the annual two-session championship is coming up, on October 24. It's a week late, because of the Torrance regional. Play one or two sessions, and join us for dinner between sessions, or not. Penny will be taking sign-ups for dinner at the Olive Garden.

For our hand-of-the-month, we have a another one of those "why me?" deals. Vulnerable against not, in fourth seat, you find yourself looking at this semi-balanced hand: ♠97643 ♥-- ♦-- ♣ AJT87532.

Well, it is sort of balanced, if you ignore the two missing suits.

The auction goes 1♦ – pass – 3NT, to you. Not a lot of high cards, but you do have some (!) shape, so you try 5♣. No good, the opponents buy it for 5♦, which →

makes easily. What could you have done?

Well, the frustrating thing is, partner holds: ♠JT52 ♥AQT76 ♦A64 ♣6.

RHO happens to hold ♣KQxx, so you are going down a **lot** in 6♣; but the opposing spades are 2-2 so you can actually make 5♠. Too bad the suit never got mentioned!

When was the last time you picked up an 8-5 hand ... with five spades, no less ... and didn't play the hand? Come to think of it, when was the last time you picked up an 8-5 hand in the first place? If my calculations are correct, the chances of an 8-5 hand (any two suits) are about 1 in 32,000. More or less. If you played four sessions a week, figuring 24 boards at a time, it would take you about 6½ years to play that many hands.

Quote for the Month: "Oratory is the art of making a loud noise sound like deep thought." (Bennett Cerf) Until next month ...

## San Fernando Valley by Linda Silvey

### Special Congratulations

July Top Ten Masterpoints at the 750 Club were Ray Primus 7.41, Philip Berk 7.15, Ron Malkin 6.86, Vera Mandell 6.10, Gary Baxley 5.87, Linda Silvey 5.87, Paul Endler 5.75, Bill Raff 5.59, John Tickner 5.59, and Doreen Harris 5.53. 70% Games were achieved by Irv Klasky – Ron Malkin 73.33% and Jeri Herman - Bill Morton 70.52%.

### North American Pair Game Results

Four North American Pair games were held at the 750 Club in June, July, and August (with one remaining game on Tuesday, August 25). Many of the players have been able to qualify for the next level of competition. The first and second place winners of each game were as follows:

Friday, June 26, Morning Pairs: NS -- Gloria Feerst - Doreen Harris (63.89%), Martin Hurwitz – Curt Darden (56.94%); EW -- Marjorie Romans – Ray Primus (65.42%), Margaret Amado – Ellen Sue Sarture (60.83%).

Monday, July 20, Morning Pairs: NS -- Eilene Gittleman – Eva Seri (63.99%), Gary Baxley – Vera Mandell (63.25%); EW -- Jo Ann Jubas – Gary Jubas

(66.53%), Philip Berk – Jim Lechner (61.64%).

Monday, July 20, Evening Pairs: NS -- Norman Bloomfield – Carol Bloomfield (67.10%), Michael Klemens – Martin Hurwitz (66.43%); EW -- Herbert Zweig – Bernard Davidorf (67.34%), Morton Light – Bob Soll (57.93%).

Wednesday, August 12, Morning Pairs: NS -- Jerry Goodman – Bob Soll (65.11%), Gloria Feerst – Phil Jones (63.11%); EW – Fuad Khuri – Robert Rice (67.81%), John Langer – Marta Peltz (65.03%).

### Braemar Dinner/Bridge Night

The next Braemar Dinner/Bridge Night will be Tuesday, September 29, the fifth Tuesday due to the Jewish holidays. Dinner is \$18 (may increase to \$20, pending September decisions) per person and starts at 6 p.m. and the bridge is \$5 per person and begins at 7 p.m. This is an ACBL sanctioned game and the first place NS and EW winners will receive coupons for Braemar's Wednesday night "Pastabilities" dinner. For reservations and/or partnerships, contact Nancy Klemens at nrklemens@aol.com or (818) 609-1071.

### Club Championship Week

The 750 Club will hold "Club Championship Week", September 7 -11. The winners and those placing in all games will receive extra black points for their efforts. There will be no additional card fees.

### Calendar

Monday, September 7 (Labor Day), the 750 Club will be closed for the night game.

Monday, September 7 – Friday, September 11, Club Championship Week at the 750 Club.

Monday, September 14 (Rosh Hashanah), the 750 Club will be closed for the night game.

Wednesday, September 23 (Yom Kippur), the 750 Club will be closed.

Tuesday, September 29, Braemar Dinner/Bridge Night. See details above.

Saturday, December 5, Unit 561 Holiday Bridge Party/Dinner. Please save the date!

## Santa Clarita-Antelope Valley by Beth Morrin

Unit 556 held its second Mentor Game of 2015 on Sunday, August 5 at the Joshua Tree Bridge Club in Palmdale. It was a great success with six tables. Each beginner/intermediate player was paired with a mentor using the basic Standard American system. The game results are as follows:

- 1/2 Nora Fincher & Sue Guzenske - 59.44%
- 1/2 Ruth Baker & Purshottam Tennarangam - 59.44%
- 3 Paula Olivares & May Ho - 56.67%
- 4 Mira Rowe & Susan Adkins - 56.11%
- 5 Onorita Pallanti & Mary Ann Nicholson - 50.56%

### Magic Mountain Sectional

Our sectional will be held at the Friendly Valley Auditorium, 19345 Avenue of the Oaks, Santa Clarita 91321 on Saturday, October 24 and Sunday, October 25. On Saturday, we will hold two single session events at 10:00 a.m. and 2:45 p.m.: a stratified open pairs and a stratified 0-300 pairs. The cost on Saturday is \$12 a session – snacks and sodas are included in the price. On Sunday we will hold a Stratified Open Swiss Team event and a Stratified Limited MP Swiss Team event starting at 10:00 a.m. The cost on Sunday is \$116 per team (which includes lunch). For more information, contact Bill Brodek at [bbrodek@yahoo.com](mailto:bbrodek@yahoo.com) or Tracy Boys at [abigquack@sbcglobal.net](mailto:abigquack@sbcglobal.net).

### Unit Game Results

Thursday August 6 in Castaic

- 1 Richard Stark & Lamonte Johnson - 65.6%
- 2 Bill Brodek & Paul Gill - 60.4%
- 3 Ted Maki & George MacDonald - 47.9%
- 4 Barbara Jones & Tom Jones - 45.9%

Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup> in Palmdale

- 1 Nora Fincher & Beth Morrin - 57.74%
- 2 Russ Buker & Barbara York - 55.95%
- 3 Stefania Benveniste & Fran Carbonel & 52.38%
- 4 Henry Roediger & Sharry Vida - 51.79%

### Upcoming Unit Games

Friday, September 18 in Palmdale at 12:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, September 29 in Santa Clarita at 6:45 p.m.

The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, September 29 in Santa Clarita at 5:15 p.m.

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

## Torrance-South Bay by Steve Mager

Unit: [www.freewebs.com/bridgeatunit568](http://www.freewebs.com/bridgeatunit568)  
SBBC: [www.bridgeclubs.org/index.php?id=sbbc](http://www.bridgeclubs.org/index.php?id=sbbc)

### Upcoming Events at the South Bay Bridge Club

Club Championship: Tuesday, September 15, 11:30  
Club Championship: Friday, September 18, 7:00  
Club Championship: Monday, September 21, 11:30  
Eight is Enough Swiss Teams:  
Saturday, Sept 26, Lunch at noon followed by game  
Friday Night games on September 4 and 18

### Club Championships

The July 20 Club Championship was won by Maurice Suhre/John J. McDermott in Flight A with Lorraine and Michael Kammerman leading Flight B and Roberta Brown/Harold Koletsky ahead in Flight C. The NLM North American Pairs Qualifier on July 23 was led by Jamila Malikiyar/Ken Brewer in Flight C with Marie Lynch/Charlotte Lewin on top in Flight D and Chris and Dave Larsen winning Flight C. The North American Pairs Qualifier on July 27 was won by Mike Welsh/Bob Rothman in Flights A and B with Marianne David/Harold Koletsky ahead in Flight C.

The Club Championship on August 5 saw Eva Piken - Nagler and Michael Piken on top in Flight A with Norman Futami/ Nancy Guenther winning Flight B. The NLM Club Championship on August 13 was led by Edward Rutenberg/Jamila Malikiyar in Flights A and B with James DeFlon/Bruce Walker leading Flight C. The Club Championship on August 17 was led by Betsy Amador/Harry Wessells in Flights A and B with Jeanette Betts/Mary Overby on top in Flight C.

**Team Winners**

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

July 21: Carol McCully, Ed Barad, Steve Ramos, Ed Piken

August 4: Mary Ann Coyle, John Farr, Bo Bogema, John J. McDermott

**Eight is Enough**

Saturday September 26 there is a special event at the South Bay Bridge Club. It is a Swiss team event called "Eight is Enough". Players with Masterpoints in excess of 2000 will be designated as a 3. Players with 750-2000 masterpoints are designated as a 2. Players under 750 Masterpoints are designated as a 1. Each team will consist of four players with designated values adding up to 8 or less. All players on a team will play at least one round with everyone else on the team. Lunch is at noon with the game starting sometime when everybody has sated themselves. If you can't get put together a whole team call the South Bay Bridge Club (310-325-7222) and they will help you fill out a team.

**Milestones**

I am very sad to report that one of my all-time favorite LOL's has died. Marilyn Smith passed away recently. She was a wonderful lady. Anytime I was playing against her, there the table was full of laughs. Marilyn was a very funny lady and the whole round always consisted of joking with each other. I am sure everybody in the club will miss Marilyn very much.

**District 22/23 STAC**

The following is a list of pairs that placed in the overalls of games played in TSB Clubs during the recent District 22/23 STAC.

Monday Morning, July 13, SBBC

- 1A Maurice Suhre/John J. McDermott
- 3A Ted Gibbs/Steve Ramos
- 4A Fran Israel/Bob Rothman
- 5A Carol McCully/Ed Barad
- 6A Lucy Gellner/Jeff Strutzel
- 7A 2B JoAnne and Cal Wallert
- 4B Steven Dagal/Han Sheehan

- 6B 2C Michael and Lorraine Kammerman
- 5C Elaine Godin/Pat Berg
- Monday Evening, July 14
- 1A 1B 1C Ed Srenco/Elaine Godin, Veterans Park
- 2A 2B Barbara Shortwell Betsy Miller, Veterans Park
- 3A 2B 2C Marilyn Daeshner/Frankie Victor, Veterans Park
- 4A 4B Stan Greengard/Mark Raggio, SBBC

- Tuesday Morning, July 15 SBBC
- 2A Fran Israel/Stan Greengard
- 5A Ernie Frank/Ray Mack
- 3B 2C Pat Berh/Roberta Brown

- Wednesday Morning, July 16 SBBC
- 7B Harry Wessels/Ed Srenco

- Wednesday Afternoon, July 16 Veterans Park
- 5B Robert Johnson/Linda Klein
- 9B 1C Gerald Ketz/Ralph Vidal
- 13B Rick Turner/Alyssa Kennedy
- 15B Kathy Rudolph/Linda Hoomani
- 17B 3C Valerie Takahashi/Thomas Hirata
- 22B William Baxter/Margaret Enders
- 12C Jeanette Betts/Anne Andres

- Wednesday Evening, July 16, SBBC
- 5A 5B 2C Ann Igawa/Harold Avent
- 6C David and Janice Scholler

- Thursday Morning, July 17, SBBC, 499er Pairs
- 1A 1B Madge Weinstein/Myron Mitzenmacher
- 2A Joyce Klossner/Betsy Miller
- 3/5A 2B Mary Gillett/Loretto Russell
- 3/5A Gerry Ketz/Fred Swinth
- 3/5A Gerry Gastelum/Nancy Raiche
- 6A 3B Barbara Green/Jamila Malikyar
- 4B James Deflon/Bruce Walker
- 5B Carolyn Woo/Edward Bucklin

- Friday Afternoon, July 18, Beach Cities BC
- 6A 2B Linda Klein/Robert Johnson
- 21A 8B Ed Srenco/Neil Kleiner
- 23A 10B Margaret Enders/William Baxter

- Friday Evening, July 18, Inglewood Beach BC
- 3A 2B 2C Joan Crishal/Carol Karon

6A 4B Kim and Harry Wang  
 7A 5B David Cheshire/Jeanne Tamaki  
 6B 4C Jane Tourino/Lee Sagendorf  
 5C Betsy Nicassio/Judith Estes

Saturday Afternoon, July 19, SBBC

1A Lucy Gellner/Fran Israel  
 2A Gabriela Jackson/Beverly Narahara  
 4C Janice Scholler/Lina Ashar

GUV Memorial Award

Well I have just returned from the Chicago NABC where I put in a performance leaving much to be desired. Since I am a nice guy I will not mention the name of my partner who left me in a sacrifice that went for 1700 where we had a sacrifice that only went for 100 available. As I said, I am a nice guy.

My real GUV award “may” go to the writer of the Bridge Column in the LA Times, Frank Stewart. In a Swiss match the opponent named Frank Stewart opened INT with a six-card diamond suit. His partner bid 3NT which was cold and resulted in a push on the board. No problem, except I couldn’t resist bringing up some advice the Times Columnist Frank Stewart had in his column a couple months ago. In that column he wrote he frowned upon opening INT with a six-card minor.

The Frank Stewart at the table, a renowned player, said he wasn’t that Frank Stewart. I am a little dubious that he was telling me the truth. Does anybody know for sure whether there are two Frank Stewarts, one a player who has won numerous championships and one who writes the LA Times Bridge Column?

Na Zdrowie

## West LA by Robert Shore

Fall Sectional  
 September 5 at Barrington  
 September 6-7 at Temple Akiba

### Fall Sectional

I hope you’re making your plans for our annual Fall Sectional over Labor Day weekend. Game time all three

days — Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, September 5-7 — will be 10:30 a.m. We are using two different locations. The Saturday game will be at Barrington. The Sunday and Monday games will be at Temple Akiba, a new location we’re trying for the first time. Temple Akiba is located at 5249 Sepulveda Blvd. in Culver City. As an extra added incentive, we’re adding an extra dollar to the card fees for the Swiss on Monday (which will be contributed to our District’s teams for Grand National Teams), and the Swiss will award points on the Regional scale (a 40% bonus). We look forward to seeing you there. Please let us know what you think of the new site.

### Did You Forget to Duck?

It’s that time of year again when we open the lists to candidates to become members of the Unit Board. It’s just one meeting a month, and you get to contribute to the direction of bridge in the West Los Angeles area. If you’re interested, there are sign-up sheets at Barrington and Beverly Hills and they’ll remain up until the end of September.

### Turnabout Time

This is yet another reminder that the time is fast approaching when we do our very best to match the ABA’s hospitality with our own. The third annual ACBL-hosted ACBL-ABA game will be held at Barrington on Sunday, October 4, with food to start at noon and bridge at 1:00 p.m. As always, it will be a Unit Game. I’ve heard a rumor that the two-time defending champion plans to make another appearance, so you can take another shot at knocking him off his throne.

### The Tournament Trail

The District 23 STAC was last month, and as usual we have winners to report. Peter Benjamin and Aram Bedros won the Monday evening game, and Ellen and Bob Kent won the Tuesday night game. Moving up the coast, Misook Jung played in the Castro Valley Sectional, and won the Friday morning 299er pairs game. We had a number of winners at the Glendale-Verdugo Sectional of Pasadena. Ifti Baqai won the Friday afternoon Open Pairs game. Becky and Roger Clough teamed with Cecil and Ted Glaessner to win the Saturday Compact Knockout Teams event. Viktor Anikovich won the →

Sunday Open Pairs game, and your Humble Scribe won the Sunday A/X Swiss. Moving down the road to the Pasadena Sectional of Pasadena, Pete Benjamin won the Rita Corwin Stratified Pairs, and Mike Savage won the Saturday Compact Knockout Teams.

### Welcome Mat

A couple of tables of additions to our Unit's roster. Gretchen Dawson, James Degner, Ann Liebig, Paula Namer, and Yu Zhang have joined the ACBL. Transferring into our Unit from places near and far and James Gibbs, Peter Knee, Joel and Susan Levine, and Elaine Macaslan. Please give them a warm welcome when you see them at the table.

### Around the Clubs

Ellen Anten and Becky Clough won the July 21 Unit-wide Championship in a real squeaker. Chuck Fonarow and Sam Haveson won the Unit-wide Championship held the afternoon of August 3, while the Unit Championship held the evening of August 3 resulted in a tie between Aram Bedros-Wayne Karson and Matt Matuszewski-Dana Berkowitz.

Robin Thayer reports that Richard Vincent and Katherine Weisberg scored up a 70% game at the Marina Club. As always, the Club holds its games on Tuesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. The address is 4333 Admiralty Way. Call Robin at (310) 713-8647 for more information or if you need a partner.

At Barrington, Sally Karbelnig and Danny Kleinman scored up a 70% game, as did Ted Glessner and Marty Blain. Aram Bed-

ros and Art Zail topped 75%, while Bob and Sandy Carroll approached (but didn't quite surmount) the 80% mark.

Club champions at Beverly Hills were Jeri Berger and Jim Clarkson, Valerie Aron and David Segal, and a tie between Mori Taylor and Katherine Weisberg and Howard Einberg and your Humble Scribe. Toby Idol and Viktor Anikovich combined for a 70% game.

### Climbing the Ladder

Many promotions to report this month. Kathy Cahalan, Jeanne Weiner, and Leonard Yee have become Junior Masters. Jan Drayer

and Rena Slomovic have reached Club Master status, while Pamela Boyer, Douglas Campbell, Sylvia Hurwitz, Sunny Lee, Mary Louise Shnier, and Ira Thierer have become Regional Master.

Marlene Felix is now an NABC Master.

Sandy Carroll is our Unit's newest Gold Life Master. Rhoda Him-mell has achieved the rank of Emerald Life Master. And of course, as reported in these pages last month, Mike Savage is our Unit's newest Grand Life Master, ACBL's highest rank. Congratulations to all on your accomplishments.

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

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email [brideldj@gmail.com](mailto:brideldj@gmail.com).



American Contract  
Bridge League

# Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: John Jones

Panelists: Gerry Bare, Mark Bartusek, Eddie Kantar, Roger Lee, Tim Lolli, Jill Meyers, John Swanson and Jon Wittes

1  
 IMPs  
 no vul

West	North	East	South
2♥	2♠	3♥	?

You, South, hold: ♠76 ♥A65 ♦AK765 ♣765  
 What call do you make?

*Is ♥Axx an adequate stopper in this auction?*

**Lolli: 3NT.** Last chance to get there. Partner can always pull with a twist hand. If he bids 4♣, I bid 4♠ and hope for the best.

**Bartusek: 3NT.** Hopefully West doesn't have a side entry. Close second choice is a responsive double (and converting a 4♣ bid to 4♠ promising diamonds).

**Lee: Dbl.** It feels bad to commit to 3NT with a heart holding like this. *[I'm with Roger on this one. 3NT feels wrong with just one stopper. Granted, it is the ace, and we can hold up until the third round, but I would really like more in hearts to venture 3NT.]*

**Wittes: Dbl (responsive).** This is too good a hand to pass. If partner bids 3♠, I'll pass. Spades may be

breaking badly behind declarer on this auction. If partner bids 4♣, I'll correct to 4♠. Over 4♦, I'll bid 5♦.

**Swanson: Dbl.** Defined as responsive, showing some values. I'll pass 3♠ and correct 4♣ to 4♠.

**Bare: Dbl.** I expect partner to pass about half the time, but if he bids 3♠ or 4♠ I'm OK. Partner expects convertible values and not three trump tricks.

**Meyers: Dbl.** I play this as a good 3♠ bid or a responsive double. I am treating this as a good 3♠ bid, I might not have three of them, but I have compensating values.

**Kantar: Dbl.** I can't decide between passing and bidding 3♠, so I will compromise and double.

DIRECTOR continued from page 1

ber of the pair dies before the National Finals. The replacement player however must meet the eligibility requirements of the Conditions of Contest.

**StaC Non-Member Surcharge.** This motion, which I voted against, failed. It would have required the sponsoring organization to charge an extra \$3 per person per session for non-members and non-service fee paying life masters. Besides hurting club attendance, the process for verifying a non-member at the time of the game and subsequently trying to collect the extra fee at a later date made this motion hard to support.

**KO Awards for 5-6 person teams.** This motion,

which I voted against, failed. The motion would have reduced the masterpoint awards for not playing all of the matches. The maximum reduction was 20%. I had received comments from many people on our District 23 Tournament committee who thought this reduction would discourage many of the sponsored teams from attending our Regionals. As I believe that we need these teams to attend our tournaments which help us reach our hotel room rental guarantee, I did not think this motion was in the best interest of our district.

Next month, I will report on the CEO Report presented to the Board in Chicago. As always I welcome your comments. You can reach me at Pinsky4Bridge@earthlink.net.

2

MPs  
no vul

E	S	W	N
2♦	?		

You, South, hold:  
 ♠3 ♥KQ54  
 ♦3 ♣AKQJ765

What call do you make?

**Bare: 5♣.** I bid as much as I can the first time. I don't want to bid 4♣ [clubs and a major] and have the bidding come back to me and want to bid 5♣ then. The opponents have had an extra free round of bidding.

**Bartusek: 5♣.** I can't see a good way of bidding this hand, especially when West is about to jump in diamonds. A club game seems like the most likely contract (hopefully partner has an ace).

*Some panelists try a conservative 3♣, hoping to get another try.*

**Lee: 3♣.** A massive underbid, but I play 3♦ is Michaels and 4♣ is clubs and a major, so this is the only thing that's possible. I think any sequence that shows 5+ hearts is a mistake.

**Lolli: 3♣.** It's very unlikely I won't get another chance in the auction since I only have 15 HCPs and a stiff spade. I think I should have a good grasp on what to do when it gets back to me.

**Meyers: 3♣.** If it goes all pass, we are high enough.

PSP #2 continued on page 17

3

MPs  
no vul

South	West	North	East
1♦ ?	Pass	1♥	Pass

You, South, hold: ♠AQ2 ♥Q3 ♦AKQJ9854 ♣--  
 What call do you make?

*We made a conservative 1♦ opening bid and now have to find a rebid. Opening 2♣ was possible but wouldn't make this hand trivial. 2♣ probably is worse than 1♦ if the opponents get into the auction.*

**Bartusek: 2♠.** WTP? Making a jump shift into a club void just doesn't make sense (how do you think partner will react with 0/1 Diamond and 5+ Clubs?). Sure, there might be complications if partner raises spades.

**Lolli: 2♠.** I would have opened 2♣ with this hand to avoid this artificial auction. With both opponents passing, my future for slam appears promising, even though partner may not get my hand right.

**Bare: 5♦.** 4♦ shows heart support, 3♣ is lower ranking but so distorts the hand that partner can never trust you. 2♣ opening might work out, but I don't like it. A solid major & a side ace can be shown by jumping to 4 after a 2♣ opening. This hand can't be described after 2♣. You might say it can't be described after 1♦, but at least partner knows I don't open 2♣ with weak defense.

**Wittes: 2♠.** I hate jump shifting into a three card major, but this hand is just too strong for any other action.

**Meyers: 2♠.** Looks like a strong jump shift to me, so I'm happy if partner bids 2NT.

**Lee: 2♠.** I play this doesn't necessarily show spades, but it's the only possible bid to me in any case.

**Kantar: 2♠.** I hope I can work my way out of this, but I have to either jump shift or leap to the heavens in diamonds. I'm hoping I can get enough info to know whether or not we belong in some slam.

**Swanson: 3♣.** Both 6♦ and 2♠ came to mind first, but I can always guess 6♦ later and 2♠ risks getting partner overexcited about a spade contract. Maybe partner will do something interesting over 3♣. He can't bid 8♣.

*Steve Robinson also suggested 3♣. I've never seen a natural bid on a void. Even with only three spades, I think 2♠ is a more descriptive call.*

PSP#2 *continued from page 16*

**Swanson: 3♣.** Some partnerships use a 4♣ overcall here to show clubs and a major, which would make that a possible choice. I prefer 3♣ which leaves a bit in the bag, but allows for 3NT. It will be surprising if 3♣ is passed out.

**Kantar: 4♣.** My own version of Leaping Michaels showing clubs and a four card major. Partner bids 4♦ to discover my major. Brilliant! Yvonne says so. *[That's great if you also have a way of showing clubs and a five card major. That would be brilliant and everyone would say so.]*

**Wittes: Dbl.** I don't want to lose the heart suit, though partner is more likely to bid spades. I'll correct any number of spades to clubs.

*I'm with Jon and like double here. It gives us some chance to uncover a heart fit, and the hand is strong enough to double and bid. Marshall is no longer with us, but I'll reflect back on Marshall's bidding tendencies. What would Marshall bid? 2♥! Count on my former partner getting on his soap box to hail the virtues the canapé overcall!*

**What do you think?**  
**Send letters to the editor to**  
  
**bridgenews@acbldistrict23.org**

4

MPs  
no vul

N	E	S	W
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	?	

You, South, hold:  
 ♠T ♥J3 ♦QT986 ♣QJT52  
 What call do you make?

*Can we mutter a collective "Yuk"?*

**Meyers: 2♠.** If I thought partner had five hearts, I would obviously pass but if partner is 54 in the majors, I would rather play my 5-1 fit.

**Lolli: Pass.** I'm stuck for now, but we're not doubled yet. If they do double, and it comes back to me, I bid 2NT and ask for partner's hoped for three card minor. If that doesn't work, I ask for "check please"!

**Wittes: Pass.** On these minimum misfit responding hands, a very conservative approach is usually the best.

**Bare: Pass.** If we get doubled, I can bid 2NT.

**Lee: Pass,** no compelling reason to believe something else is better.

**Bartusek: Pass.** WTP? Misfit - I don't want to encourage partner to bid again with a 2♠ preference (and let's stop low before the doubling starts). Hopefully partner is 5-5 instead of 6-4.

**Kantar: Pass.** Finally, a breather. Thanks John.

**Swanson: Pass.** I would correct to 2♠ if I could stand partner making another call.

5  
 IMPs  
 NS vul

East	South	West	North
4♥	?		

You, South, hold:  
 ♠AQ9 ♥void ♦654 ♣AJT8764  
 What call do you make?

**Lolli: Pass.** I went for 1100 recently, and it didn't feel good. Partner is still there to save the day in the event we should compete. That's my story, and I'm sticking to it.

**Meyers: Pass.** Welcome to the crapshoot.

**Bartusek: Pass.** Sure it might be right to bid on rare occasion, but I'd prefer not to commit suicide the rest of the time. Even if I get to a making contract, partner will likely hang me by bidding too much (partners often do that!).

**Wittes: Dbl.** Dangerous at this vulnerability, but partner, with moderate values with or without defense against 4♥, will probably be unable to act. If partner has a weak, balanced hand, we could be in trouble. I do have a reasonable seven-bagger to run to if necessary.

**Lee: Dbl.** I'll forgo clubs for the sake of flexibility. 5♣ is fine also. I think it's close.

**Swanson: 5♣.** I judge it to be a worthwhile risk. My cards are almost certain to win six tricks. Let partner produce the other five.

**Bare: 5♣.** Could go for a big number, but we might have a double game swing. We might make a slam opposite a square hand too weak to open.

**Kantar: 5♣.** Thank God this is over! How much did I go for, John?

*This month's other problems are either hypothetical, or the result is unknown to me. However, I do know the result on this one. Only one table had a 4♥ opener. The player holding this hand bid 5♣, was doubled and down one. Partner would pass a double and 4♥ probably is down two, possibly down three. I think this is one of the toughest problems I have presented in quite a while. My first reaction was Double, then I switched to 5♣, and then to Pass. I think it is very close, and any of the three actions could wind up looking great or silly.*

Next Month's  
Problem Solvers Panel Problems

1. IMPs no vul

South	West	North	East
	1♣	Pass	Pass
?			

You, South, hold:  
 ♠2 ♥AKQ543 ♦JT98 ♣J2  
 What call do you make?

2. IMPs NS vul

South	West	North	East
	3♠	Dbl	Pass
?			

You, South, hold:  
 ♠K42 ♥Q43 ♦7 ♣KT8765  
 What call do you make?

3. IMPs all vul

South	West	North	East
		1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
?			

You, South, hold:  
 ♠Q854 ♥A954 ♦KQJ75 ♣--  
 What call do you make?

4. MPs all vul

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

You, South, hold:  
 ♠AQ876 ♥KQ952 ♦T93 ♣--  
 What call do you make?

5. MPs no vul

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	1NT	2♥
?			

You, South, hold:  
 ♠AKQ543 ♥--- ♦KQJ43 ♣Q2  
 What call do you make?