

Southern California Bridge News

Volume 52, #11

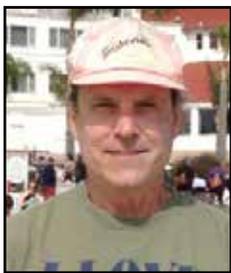
November 2016

Published By ALACBU

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

All the News...

by Mike Marcucci, District 23 President



Back when we actually printed this newspaper and mailed it to everyone, I'm told that the 1st of each month was a happy time and our players would snatch it from the mailman's hands to read all the latest news and results. I remember all the sectional flyers would be in

there – very useful in planning next month's schedule for chasing those silver points. Then we all gravitated to our Unit columns to review club results, who was the monthly MP leader, who was on a cruise, and when the next Unit Game was scheduled. The paper was a friend with all the month's news.

We have our Unit Reporters to thank for all that work, both then and now. These days you can skip ahead to the Unit News section of our paper and see their pictures. These are your caring volunteers from the Unit who collect all the event and personal news of the month and sometimes cap off the column with an entertaining bridge hand. Please thank them when they call you to collect some of those juicy tidbits of local info.

The first edition of the D23 Bridge News was edited by Max Hardy back in June 1964. Unit Reporters have been working ever since to keep everyone up to date on "all the news" that's fit to print. They need to know a lot of Unit members, be in tune with the local clubs, attend the Unit meetings, and stay close to future

PRESIDENT *continued on page 2*

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Proposed Changes to the Education Foundation

by Kevin Lane, District Director



Bridge is a game and should be fun.

Important ACBL Education Foundation vote

The ACBL Education Foundation is a separate organization from the ACB, built from extra card fees and dedicated to promoting bridge. The all-volunteer organization does good work, giving out around \$80K per year in grants. In addition, the ACBL Education Foundation has around \$900K in the bank.

Now that organization wants to become fully independent from the ACBL. I will oppose this motion in a vote in Orlando next month. The Education Foundation has its own board of nine trustees. The 25 members of the ACBL Board, including myself, elect the Education Foundation trustees and approve bylaw changes.

A group involved with the Education Foundation is proposing a bylaw change that would eliminate any formal connection to the ACBL. The Education Foundation would keep the \$900K, but the ACBL would no longer elect trustees or vote on bylaws. And this change is irreversible.

I oppose this plan. My reasons are four-fold:

- A major change demands a business plan. The motion-makers have no business plan. They have talked about raising millions of dollars and hiring people, but they have no business plan for either how they will raise money or how they would spend the money to promote bridge. They assert that any business plan is not the ACBL's business once/if they become independent.

- The proposed change is not needed. The current Education Foundation bylaws support the hiring of salaried professionals. I agree that the Education Foundation should adapt to changing needs, but the current

DIRECTOR *continued on page 3*

PRESIDENT *continued from page 1*

plans in the area so those sources of details for the column are current and timely. No use in reading about a game or party that already happened.

Believe it or not, I have read every Unit column for my Unit, Pasadena, since January 1972 (thanks to Cecil Cook's files). It was from those columns that most of our Unit history was gleaned. Past reporters had birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, travel plans, greetings to new players, new Life Master stories, injuries, college plans, graduations, picnic and party invites, jokes and funny stories, and, regrettably, player passings on the personal side. Then there were the incidents at the bridge table, examples of both ethics and honesty, a novel approach to a hand, strange director calls, game results, who did well at regionals, new visitors to the clubs, short explanations of new conventions, yearly point totals, awards, bridge class schedules, and any special event coordination requests for the month.

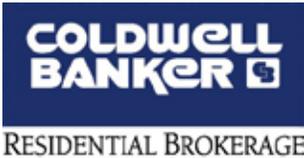
Some of these reporter columns were longer than the college papers we used to labor over, taking much of the printed page. Do you remember how small that printing was in the paper? We're talking a lot of news here! The Reporter may have had the hardest job on the

Unit Board. Their dedication not only spread the word to all Unit and District members, but created a history of all the happenings in that Unit for anyone in the future to read. Now there's a new project to put on the list – copies of **all** the Unit columns since June 1964! Anyone care to take on that job for your Unit?

The point here is to recognize the hard work of all our Unit Reporters and how much thanks we owe them each month for keeping everyone in the know. How can you thank them the most? Send in information on your players' and Unit's activities each month so they can write their columns! Tell them about your trip to the Orlando NABC when you played against Bill Gates! Buy them a coke sometime. Share all those tidbits of news that should result in your Unit being more of a family than just a random collection of bridge players. Families share stories. And then remember that your kids may be reading those stories when they look up that old 2016 edition of the Bridge News on their wristwatch computers of the future.

On another subject, the 2nd NAP Semi was held a few days ago. Hope you qualified for the Finals! We will have that Qualifying list on the web site soon. San Marino can handle a crowd in January. A nice facility with easy parking. Go D23!

Carolyn Taff & Marion Napier
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Looking for a Club?

Check out

<https://web3.acbl.org/findalist/club>

All clubs in Los Angeles
are listed.
You can look up all the
game times, locations, and
contact info.

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Photographer Wanted

by Tom Lill

If you've ever attended one of our District Regionals, you may have noticed that photographs of event winners are included in the Daily Bulletins whenever possible. Our regular photographer gave up the job a few tournaments ago, and we've been using a substitute. It is I, myself, as it happens. But I'm not really a "photographer," I just happen to have a camera. We are looking for someone with some photographic skills who would like to take over the job. The perks: well, you get some free plays at the tournament. Plus your name in the Bulletin. Interested? Please contact me, or any District officer (you can find their names on the District website, which is <http://www.bridgewebs.com/acbl23/>).

All you need to do is hang around the partnership desk after each session, take a few photos, and send them via email, thumb drive, or whatever, to the Daily Bulletin editor – who also happens to be me.

DIRECTOR *continued from page 1*

bylaws support an evolving mission.

- Irreversible votes shouldn't be rushed. Once the Education Foundation is fully independent, the ACBL would not be able to revert back to oversight.

- ACBL-raised money should retain ACBL oversight. The \$900K in the Education Foundation coffers was raised mostly through ACBL card fees. Therefore, the ACBL should retain oversight of that money. Note that a perfectly reasonable solution is to create a new organization with seed money from the Education Foun-

One More Picture from the July Regional



It took a while to get the picture, but here it is. Our Pro-Am at the July Regional in Long Beach was won by Nancy Nakanishi and John Jones. They are probably still as happy today as they were on that first Monday. Congrats to them and everyone who played in our Pro-Am. Hope you all have things to remember & look forward to next summer.

- Stan Holzberg, D23 Tournament Chairman

ation, thereby protecting the \$900K. Ask yourself: if the new organization will be raising millions of dollars, then why do they need the Education Foundation's \$900K?

I welcome your feedback on this issue. And remember, I post additional information at: <https://acbl23dd.wordpress.com/> I can be reached at: klaned23@gmail.com

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Around the Units in District 23



Long Beach by Jon Yinger

www.acblunit557.org
www.LongBeachBridge.com

September 25 Unit Game: Overall results: 1st in A: Aaron Jones/Jin Hu, 2nd Joseph Chaikin/Xiaoxue Walker, 3/4 tie Kevin Lane/Robert Shore and Ann Croul/Arnie Lier. 5th Cathy Bauer/Kay Amdon. In the B flight overalls: 4th Pamela Cole/ Dalia Hernandez, 5th Usha Bansal/Rob Preece. In the C flight overalls: 3rd Lavonne McQuilkin/Carol Murakoshi, 4th Betty Witteried/Christine Frumen, 5th Al and Sharon Appel. And in the 199er section Carolee Windsor/Buccannon were 1st, Bill Cray/Sandra Schlosser were 2nd. Congratulations to all!

70+% GAMES: Aug 16 through Sept 15: In the evening game Oct 5 Earl VanDerVord/George Welsh had 70%. And in the NLM game Oct 14 Bonny Walsh/Karen Watson had 71%. Congratulations to both pairs!

Big Masterpoint Awards: Sept 16 through Oct 15: In the open game Sept 16 Betty Witteried/Betty McClellan won 5.25mp for 1st, James Nicola/Phil Feldman 3.94mp for 2nd. Sept 17 Kiyo Nagaishi/Usha Bansal won 3.21mp for 1st. Sept 19 Bob Mault/Janet logan won 4.23mp for 1st, Toni Morford/Steve Rowe 3.17mp for 2nd. Sept 20 Marcie Evans/Jon Yinger won 5.98mp for 1st, George Welsh/Earl VanDerVord 4.49mp for 2nd, Ted Gibbs/Steve Mager 3.36mp for 3rd. Sept 21 Betty McClellan/Toni Morford won 4.23mp for 1st, Phil Schuster/Jon Yinger 3.17mp for 2nd. Sept 23 Larry Topper/Thad Mikols won 3.94 for 1st. In the unit game Sept 25 Aaron Jones/Jin Hu won 4.08mp for 1st, Xiaoxue Walker/Joseph Chaikin won 3.06mp for 2nd. Sept 29 John Melis/Kay Tseng won 3.50mp for 1st. Oct 3 Phil

Schuster/Sibyl Smith won 5.63mp for 1st, Steve Skinner/Rich Wasser 4.22mp for 2nd, Shirley Carroll/Jackie Hess 3.17 for 3rd. Oct 4 Earl VanDerVord/George Welsh won 6.94mp for 1st, Steve Sturm/Marty Blain 5.21mp for 2nd, Jackie Hess/Steve Skinner 3.90mp for 3rd. Oct 5 Mariko Kakimoto/Brandon Sheumaker won 4.69mp for 1st, George Welsh/Earl VanDerVord 3.52mp for 2nd. Oct 6 Jackie Hess/Shirley Carroll won 3.56mp for 1st. Oct 7 Carol McCully/Ed Barad won 4.69mp for 1st, Robert and Richard Bakovic 3.52mp for 2nd. Oct 8 Dominique and Arthur Moore won 4.13mp for 1st, Kiyo Nagaishi/Usha Bansal 3.10mp for 2nd. And in the ACBL-Wide Instant Match Point Game Oct 14 the big winners were: Steve Mager/Gerri Carlson 4.31mp, Brandon Sheumaker/Om Chokriwala 4.31mp, Betty McClellan/Steve Skinner 3.38mp, Eva Mroz/Penny Wentworth 3.38mp, Subba Ravipudi/Ron Lien 3.23mp and Marcus Evans/George Thompson 3.23mp. Congratulations to all!

Status Changes: New Club Master I. D. Patel. New Regional Master: Donna Kupfer. And new Diamond Life Master: Marcie Evans.

Get Well Wishes to Eileen Nelson

Upcoming Events at the Club

October 23: Unit Game 1 pm. Card fees \$8. Players with points from 0 to 199 pay \$1.99.

October 24-30: Club Championship Week. Extra points, regular prices.

October 31: Unit-rated Halloween Game. Costume contest with special prizes. Regular prices.

News from Leisure World Bridge Clubs

by Judy Carter-Johnson

September 22 Eight is Enough Swiss team game - Clubhouse #3: Three-way tie for first: Robert Mault, Kiyo Nagaishi, Mark Singer and Lynn Danielson; Joyce Henderson, Rob Preece, Sue McHale, and Alan Olschwang; and Marilyn McClintock, Sibyl Smith, →

Louise Seifert and Stan Johnson. 4th - Jeanette Estill, Cooie Dampman, George Alemshah and Ted Cooper. 5th- Bill Linskey, Fern Dunbar, Ellen Kice and Mike Nielsen.

October 6 Unit-rated game at Clubhouse #3: Chie Wickham/Gary Paugh 1 in A. Joan Tschirki/Howard Smith 2 in A. Bill Brooks/Tom Felice 3 in A, 1 in B. Sharon and Al Appel 4 in A. Simone Chottin/Jeanette Estill 5 in A, 2 in B. Cookie Pham/Barbara Vann 6 in A, 3 in B. Judy Carter-Johnson/Gene Yaffee 4 in B. Jack Dampman/George Koehm 5 in B, 1 in C. Winnie Warga/John Hagman 2 in C. Nancy Lichter/Monica Gettis 3 in C.

October 7 Club Championship Game – Clubhouse #1: Simone Chottin/Sibyl Smith 1 in A. Sue Fardette/Dorothy Favre 2 in A. Judy Carter-Johnson/Carmen Gross 3 in A, 1 in B. Cooie Pham/Chuck Cutchshaw 4 in A, 2 in B, 1 in C. Sharon and Al Appel 5 in A. Verna Burns/Joan Tschirki 6 in A. Linda Nye/Alan Olschwang 3 in B, 2 in C. Ernie Ross/Roy Tomooka 4 in B, 3 in C. Chie Wickham/John Hagman 5 in B, 4 in C. Nancy Lichter/William Dewell 5 in C.

70% Game: On October 14 Sue Fardette/Marilyn McClintock had a 70.37% game

Congratulations to Verna and George Becker on their 74th wedding anniversary. Verna plays regularly at our bridge games.

Reminder: ACBL classifies Leisure World bridge games as “invitational” meaning non-resident guests must secure an advance reservations. Games are held on Friday/Saturday at clubhouse #1 at 12:15. For reservations call: Friday—Jeanette Estill (714) 647-6209. Saturday—Joan Tschirki-- (303) 805 2729. Monday/Thursday at clubhouse #3 at 12:15. For reservations call: Monday—Midge Dunagan (562) 594-9686, Thursday—Cookie Pham (562) 431 6453. Phone number for clubhouse #3---Late arrivals, last minute reservations, last minute cancellations, need a partner--After 12:00 noon: (562) 481-7368.

Any news for next month’s column, please e mail me @ jcj90740@gmail.com results of all Leisure World games are posted on www.acblunit557.org



Pomona Covina by Tom Lill

Unit Game – Saturday, November 19, 11:00 a.m.
Individual – Saturday, Nov 4, 9:30, La Verne Site

The calendar was against us this month, so we cannot give you the results of our annual two-session championship, nor can we give you the results of the Board of Directors’ election. Next month, for sure.

In the October Individual, Albert Lax and Margie Hall tied for the top spot. Close behind them were Penny Barbieri, Bob Kakade, and Clint Lew. We start a new “fiscal” (whatever the term would be for a championship year other than a calendar year) this month. The overall championship goes to the player with the best overall percentage in his/her top six games. So come on out and play.

Speaking of which... last month we promised you the final results of the 2015-16 race. Drum roll, please! The top qualifiers (there were 17 players who attended six or more games) are:

Al Lax	60.9%
Clint Lew	58.2%
Roger Boyar	58.0%
Richard Patterson	55.7%
Steve Mancini	55.4%

Well, the Minters are at it again, racking up a 72.4% game. Ho hum. Other winners: Richard Patterson, Claudia Cochran, Gayle Ginsburg, Clint Lew, Sandy Jones, Penny Barbieri, Walt Otto, Hanan Mogharbel, Joe Unis, Herb Stampfl, John Barrow, Mary Miller, Chuck Lohr, Linda Tessier, Susie Emminger, Roger Ginsburg, David Ochroch, Dan Humphreys, Roger Boyar, and Yours Truly.

Last month, we mentioned the possibility of a joint sectional with the Downey-Whittier Unit. It turns out that Downey-Whittier has joined forces with Long Beach the past few years, so we are on our own. We’d still like to host a sectional... it’s been a long time... so stay tuned for developments. And if you have any ideas (such as a not-too-expensive place to host the tourney), give us a call/email/test/loud shout, or something. **Your** input will be appreciated! →

District 23 on the web:
<http://www.bridgewebs.com/acbl23/>

We have three promotions to report this month. Don Logsdon is a Sectional Master, Bob Kakade is a Regional Master, and Richard Patterson is now up in the high-rent district at Silver Life Master. Congratulations to you all.

For this month's Hand of the Month, we present another gem from the Laurel and Hardy School of Bridge. Everyone except poor East, who was dealt 13 cards and little more, blundered. Whose was the worst blunder? You Make the Call! We'll look at it from South's perspective first. Vulnerable against not, you pick up:

♠K ♥Q9876 ♦Q7 ♣T8765

LHO deals and bids 1♠. Partner overcalls 2♥, pass, over to you. For better or for worse, you pass, and LHO reopens with 2♠. Partner now calls 2NT (!?!), pass, over to you.

Well, after brilliantly not raising hearts on your first turn, you puzzle out that partner has a huge hand with a spade honor, likely the ace. Even if it's ♠Qxx, your ♠K is huge, so you bid 4♥. After three passes, RHO asks what 2NT meant.

Who knows for sure? No agreement on this auction, for sure, but partner likely has a good hand with that spade card. Sure enough, partner holds this moose: ♠AJ6 ♥AKJT6 ♦KT2 ♣A4.

Zounds! Making 5, for a bit above average. (Some pairs didn't reach game.) OK, four questions for you:

1. Why didn't North double and then show the hearts?

2. Why, oh why, didn't South raise hearts at his first turn?

3. And why, oh why, oh why, didn't West, with a moth-eaten ♠QT9xxx, just pass 2♥ and score a freezing cold top?

Your correspondent is ashamed to admit that he was one of the three non-East players. Oh well. Nobody's perfect, although this auction was perfectly awful.

Quote for the Month, an old chestnut, but highly appropriate: "When I was a boy I was told that anybody could become President; I'm beginning to believe it." (Clarence Darrow)

Until next month ...



Santa Clarita- Antelope Valley by Beth Morrin

We had a great turnout for the Instant Matchpoint game on Friday, October 14. The results are as follows:

North/South

- 1 Kathy Swaine and Rand Pinsky - 57.1%
- 2 Mary Ellen Downs and Beth Morrin - 54.2%
- 3 Mary Ann Nicholson and Charles Morrin - 49.6%

East/West

- 1 Sharry Vida and George MacDonald - 62.6%
- 2 Rita Vannatter and Kristi Kubo - 57.1%
- 3 Hal Underwood and George Lewis - 55.5%

Unit Game Results

Thursday, October 13 in Castaic

- 1 Roshen Hadulla and Anita Walker - 60%
- 2 Richard Stark and Lamonte Johnson - 56.7%
- 3 Bert Stock and Arif Shah - 54.4%
- 4 Carole Provost and Aggi Oschin - 52.9%

Unit Game Results on Sunday, October 16

Joshua Tree Bridge Club

- 1 Roy Ladd and Bert Stock - 65.7%
- 2 Tracy Boys and Ruth Baker - 58.3%
- 3 Sharry Vida and Russ Buker - 57.8%
- 4 Bill Brodek and Paula Olivares - 56.8%

Unit 556 will participate in the ACBL-wide Charity Game on Tuesday, November 22 at 6:45 p.m. at the Senior Center in Santa Clarita.

Sad News: Our friend and fellow bridge player Nell Schanz passed away on October 22 after a long illness. Nell was born and raised in Florida. She married an Air Force fighter pilot and they were stationed in Germany. The officer's wives were surprised she didn't play bridge and insisted she learn. Nell immediately fell in love with the game and played as often as she could. After the military, her husband flew for TWA airlines and was gone quite a bit. Nell entertained herself →

playing bridge and tennis. She was a sales director for Mary Kay cosmetics and earned a pink Cadillac for four years. In recent years she moved to California to be near her son. A gold life master, she was a wonderful advocate of bridge in our Unit.

As a former bridge teacher, she loved to mentor intermediate and novice players. An avid player she encouraged the start of the Friendly Bridge Club in Santa Clarita five years ago. We will all remember Nell's Bridge Tips which she gave at the start of the game. Nell taught us all the Montreal Relay convention which has become a staple in Unit 556. As one of her many partners Basant Shah said, "I had the opportunity and honor to play with her as partner." Nell Schanz will be greatly missed.

Unit 556 Board Nominations

Are you looking for adventure of a new and different kind? Unit 556 is seeking members who are interested in running for the Unit Board, beginning January 18, 2017.

This is an opportunity to give back to the Santa Clarita and Antelope Valley bridge community, meet new friends, and have an impact on changing things for the betterment of Unit 556 bridge players.

If you wish to self-nominate, please contact Ruth Baker (rbaker1243@sbcglobal.net) or Beth Morrin (morrin@sbcglobal.net).

Nominations must be received by January 1st.

Election of Board of Directors for Santa Clarita and Antelope Valley

The Unit 556 Board election will be held on Tuesday, January 17 at the annual "After the Holidays" Holiday Party at the Senior Center in Santa Clarita. The potluck dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the board election will be at 6:15 p.m. A Unit Game will follow the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 24 at 5:15 before the Tuesday Night Game in Santa Clarita (6:45 p.m.).



San Fernando Valley by Linda Silvey

December 3: Unit 561 Gala Holiday Bridge/Dinner

Unit 561 will host a Gala Holiday Bridge and Dinner Party on Saturday, December 3, at The 750 Club, 5700 Rudnick Ave, Woodland Hills. An Open, Stratified Game will start at 2 p.m. in Taylor Hall (usual bridge room), followed by a festive, holiday dinner (catered by Stonefire Grill) at approximately 5:45 p.m., in the Family Center on Rudnick Avenue.

The cost is \$30 per person and includes both bridge and dinner. Due to limited seating, reservations are required via purchase of non-refundable tickets by Tuesday, November 29. Ticket sales will begin Tuesday, November 1 at The 750 Club, or by mail to Rochelle Lotto at 23679 Calabasas Rd., # 375, Calabasas, CA 91302, (nanalotto@yahoo.com).

Cash (if paying at The 750 Club) or checks payable to "Unit 561" will be accepted. If you are mailing in your ticket purchase, please plan to mail no later than Friday, November 18, and include your check, telephone number, email address, and your partner's name (if known). Receipt will be confirmed by email and your tickets will be held for pick-up as you check in on December 3. Note: There will be no on-site ticket sales on the day of this event.

Get your Holiday Season off to a "Grand Slam" and don't miss out on this annual Unit 561 special event! For partnership assistance and/or further information, please contact M.J. Jubelirer at mjjubelirer@att.net .

Unit 561 Board Nominations

Are you looking for adventure of a new and different kind? Unit 561 is seeking members who are interested in running for the Unit Board, beginning January 1, 2017. This is an opportunity to give back to the San Fernando Valley bridge community, meet new friends, and have an impact on changing things for the betterment of U561 bridge players.

If you wish to self-nominate, please contact Denis Forst at diforst123@gmail.com or sign up at The →

750 Club. Nominations must be received by Tuesday, November 22. The Unit Board election will be held at the December 3 Holiday Party.

Special Congratulations

September Top Ten Masterpoints at The 750 Club were: Ron Malkin 12.72, Ray Primus 11.50, Gary Baxley 10.84, Susan Raphael 10.58, Phil Calloway 10.30, Shoshana Blumenfeld 9.61, Linda Silvey 9.06, Marty Hurwitz 8.33, Bill Raff 7.83, and Mike Wiener 7.45.

November 15: Braemar Dinner/Bridge Night

The next Braemar Dinner/Bridge Night will be held Tuesday, November 15. Dinner is \$18 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 North-South and East-West 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.

Ballot Stub Fundraiser

One of The 750 Club players (who wishes to remain anonymous) has offered to contribute \$2.00 to the Prince of Peace Church's Christmas Fund for each Ballot Stub or "I Voted" sticker that 750 Club players bring in after voting. This donation will be made in the name of The 750 Club, located on the Church's campus. The stickers or ballot stubs have been pasted to a special poster on display in the bridge room. All players are encouraged to exercise their privilege of voting in the November election and give special "Thanks" to this generous player for creating such a unique fund raising event!

November Activities at The 750 Club

Veterans Day will be celebrated on Friday, November 11. All veterans will be able to play for \$1 off the regular fee. STaC week will be Monday–Friday, November 14–18. Players will be able to earn silver points and the fee will be \$1 extra. 2017 Pocket Calendars will be distributed Monday–Wednesday, November 21–23. The 750 Club will be closed on Thursday, November 24

for the Thanksgiving Day Holiday. A regular game will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, November 25.

Calendar

Tuesday, November 1–Tuesday, November 29, ticket sales for the Unit 561 Holiday Bridge and Dinner Party. See details above.

Friday, November 11, Veterans Day celebration at The 750 Club.

Monday – Friday, November 14 – 18, STaC games at The 750 Club.

Tuesday, November 15, Braemar Dinner/Bridge Night starting at 6 p.m. See details above.

Monday – Wednesday, November 21 – 23, Pocket Calendar distribution at The 750 Club.

Tuesday, November 22, last day to submit self-nominations to serve on the 2017 Unit 561 Board. See details above.

Thursday, November 24, The 750 Club will be closed. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Saturday, December 3, Unit 561 Election for 2017 Board Members, Holiday Bridge and Dinner Party, at The 750 Club. See details above.



Torrance-South Bay by Steve Mager

Unit: www.freewebs.com/bridgeatunit568

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

Upcoming Events at the South Bay Bridge Club

Club Championship: Wednesday, November 2, 7:00

Club Championship: Friday, November 4, 11:30

NLM Club Championship: Thurs, November 10, 10:30

District 22/23 STAC: November 14-20

Swiss Team Club Championship: Tuesday, November 22, 7:00

Friday Night games on November 4 and 18

TSB Unit Christmas Party

The Christmas party will be held on Sunday, December 11 at the Tom Rico Center in Lomita Park. The address is 24424 Eshelman Ave with a free parking →

lot. Reservations are not required but would be appreciated in sign up lists at local clubs in November.

The unit will provide sandwiches, salads and drinks starting at 11:00 a.m. The unit would be grateful if unit members would volunteer to bring desserts.

The game starts at noon. It will be divided into two sections (Over 1,000 MPs and under 1,000 MPs).

Club Championships

The Club Championship on September 27 saw Lucy Gellner/Gaye Herrington winning Flight A and Setsuko Miyasaka/Jeanette Betts leading Flight B. On October 10 Fran Israel/Steve Ramos captured Flight A with Mark Raggio/Ernie Frank on top in Flight B. A couple other dates listed as Club Championships were not entered as such in the SBBC results page so the results will not be included here.

Team Winners

September 27: Sharon Biederman, Steve Ramos, Ed Piken, Mike Savage

October 4: Gerri Carlson, Mary Ann Coyle, Bo Bogema, John J. McDermott

Agile Bridge Club News

The Agile Bridge Club is now a 499er Club

STAC

Monday, 11/14, 12:15 p.m., 199ers Hermosa Beach Kiwanis Club

Monday, 11/14, 6:30 p.m., Open Pairs, El Segundo Women's Club

Tuesday, 11/15, 2:15 p.m., 499er, Hermosa Beach Kiwanis Club

Friday, 11/18, 10:00 a.m., 499ers El Segundo Women's Club

Agile Bridge Club holds its annual Club Membership Game Monday, 11/7, 6:30 p.m., El Segundo Women's Club.

Players from the Agile Bridge Club finished 1-2-3 in Flight C of the North American Pairs Semi Finals at Long Beach on March 9. They were John Janus & Jeff Grotenhuis, Bruce Shelden & Monzoor Ursani and Jon & Anni Pack.

Agile Bridge Club is currently offering two open Bridge cruises with sanctioned games and lessons: September 22-29, New England on Queen Mary 2. Already 20 players have booked. March 18-April 2, 2018 Valparaiso, Chile to Ft. Lauderdale Florida via the Panama Canal on Celebrity Infinity. For a cruise update visit www.cuebidcruises.com

Changes at the SBBC

The South Bay Bridge Club recently was closed for a week in order to paint and redecorate. Please come and see the improved facility

GUV Award

Since I am at a loss for a GUV Award story this month I will go back in time to repeat a story that is worth repeating.

An oftentimes partner of mine, who thinks I am the world's worst opening leader, presented me with this GUV Award. No doubt I am wrong, but I like to think my lead in a Swiss on the following hand as being one that a genius (an unlucky one) would make.

You hold ♠xx ♥Kxxxx ♦QTx ♣xxx. After RHO and you pass someone named Swanson opens 1♦ on your left, partner bids 1♠ and RHO bids 2♣. After you pass this Swanson guy (who I seem to recall has represented the ACBL a number of times in world championships winning a few) leaps to 6♣. Your lead.

Well you know LHO isn't stupid and surely has spades well under control so you come to the conclusion hearts must be the Achilles heel for the opponents. So you try a heart and have a near stroke when dummy comes down with: ♠x ♥-- ♦Axxxxxx ♣KQxxx. Of course declarer gets to throw his spade loser on the ♥A and since he has a sure diamond loser, this hand cost more than a few IMPs. This was a fact my partner will never let me forget. And this after me preaching to her to lead partners suit when in doubt. Maybe she is right and I am the worlds worst opening leader.

Na Zdrowie →

Looking for a Club?

Check out:

<https://web3.acbl.org/findalist/club>



West LA by Robert Shore

Holiday Party: November 20, 11:30 a.m.
590 S. Burlingame Ave., Los Angeles

Over the Top

The ACBL's highest rank is Grand Life Master. Not only do you need to accumulate 10,000 master points (with the usual assortment of colored points), but your resumé also needs to include a victory in a North American Championship event with no upper master point limit. As of this writing, according to the ACBL's records, only 444 people, living or dead, have ever achieved that status. I am delighted to report that this list now includes our own Tournament Manager par excellence, Peter Benjamin. Congratulations, Peter, on capping your bridge career by reaching this landmark. I hope that you enjoy the Unit Game held in your honor.

New Venue

By now, Unit members should have received your invitation to our Unit's annual Holiday Party. It will be held at the Brentwood Country Club, located at 590 South Burlingame Avenue, Los Angeles, California. The event will be on Sunday, November 20. Brunch begins at 11:30 a.m., and will include a program where, among other things, we bestow the Unit's Player of the Year and Volunteer of the Year awards. Bridge, which will be a Unit Game, begins at 1:15 p.m. The event also includes our Unit's annual membership meeting. We'll also take a moment to welcome Yehudit Hasin-Brumshten as the newest member of our Unit Board, and thank Cyma Aronow for her contributions as she leaves the board. I hope to see you all there.

They Did It in Pairs

The winners of our Unit-Wide Championship on the afternoon of October 10 were Rob Perlsweig and Peter Knee. Winning the Unit Game that evening were Aram Bedros and Wayne Karson. Moving to the tournament

trail, Donna and Stephen Massman picked up a pair of wins in the New York cruise ship Regional, taking first place in the Canadian Open Pairs and the Gaspe Open Pairs. At the Riverside Sectional, Ifti Baqai won the Friday morning and Friday afternoon Stratified Pairs games. Not to be outdone, Pat Bessone added her own double play, winning the Friday afternoon Stratified Non-Life Master Pairs and, playing with Lisa Caras, the Saturday morning Stratified Non-Life Master Pairs. Finally, although preparing for an upcoming trial has made it difficult to find table time, your Humble Scribe did manage to win the first Unit Final in Flight A of the District's North American Pairs competition. If you qualified either there or in the South Bay on October 30, I hope to see you in January in San Marino.

Welcome Mat

More than two full tables of new players took the plunge as new members of the ACBL in our Unit. Adding to our ranks are Barbara Barrett, Brian Christine, Joy Gibson, Peter Grace, Betsy Jentz, Carol and Victor Newlove, Jill Sattinger, and Kurt Schneider. Nearly filling out a third table by joining us from other Units are Azar Lajeuardi and Sydelle Vermut. Please give them all a warm West Los Angeles welcome when you see them at the table.

Around the Clubs

Turning in 70% games at Beverly Hills last month were Bob Ashen with Karen Schwartz, and Pete Benjamin along with Steve Mager. Club champions over the last month were Stephen Massman and Viktor Anikovich, a tie between Wayne Karson and Aram Bedros and Stephen Goldstein and Michael Shaw, Bob Ashen and Karen Schwartz, and Jeri Berger and Bob Ashen.

Steve Mager and Pete Benjamin won a club championship at Barrington. Hitting 70% were Ted Glaessner and Marty Blain, Rob Perlsweig and Peter Knee, Becky and Roger Clough, and Mitch Dunitz and Atsuko Kurishima.

As always, the Marina City Club holds its games Tuesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. at 4333 Admiralty Way. Call Robin Thayer at (310) 713-8647 for information or for a partner.

→

Climbing the Ladder

Patricia Baker, Anita Miller, Margaret Reitzel, and Nili Weingart have take their first step up the ladder of bridge achievement by becoming our Unit's newest Junior Masters. Larry Feldman has

reached Club Master status, and our newest Sectional Masters are Sandy Abouaf and Heather Ho. Bob Eisenstein and Zorina Pelant have become Regional Masters.

Laurie Rubin is now a Bronze Life Master. Garth Greene has reached Silver Life Master. Richard

Gliksman has become a Ruby Life Master. And as noted above, Peter Benjamin is our Unit's latest Grand Life Master. Congratulations to all on your accomplishments.

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

D23 Rank Changes September 2016

Junior Master

Aimee Deiter
Phyllis Fuller
Joy Gibson
Elizabeth Higgins
Steve Lotto
Cathy Martinet
Julie Moelis
Herb Seymour

Club Master

Allan Baraz
Marjorie Barg
Peg Burkhardt
Paul Chen
Florence Cooper
Stan Corbett
Leslie Dean
Robert Hall
Helen Johnston
Sam Lee
Sue McPherson
Barbara Olschwang
Rami Razouk
Marcy Weigand

Sectional Master

Nan Karnes
Melanie Moran
Sandra Price
Daniel Sonner
Alexander Wiles

Regional Master

Joanne Meyer
Linda Rasmussen

NABC Master

Katherine Cresto
George Tien

Advanced NABC Master

John Galligher
Dwight McCormick

Life Master

Claudia Cochran
Daniel Gornel
Michael Newman
Sherry Newman
Rachel Simon

Bronze Life Master

Sheldon Appel
Frances Every

Silver Life Master

Brian Dixon
Lynn Johnson

Ruby Life Master

David Peim
Basant Shah
Sue Ann Simon
Marlene Singer

Gold Life Master

Lise Cote
Emily Moffatt

Los Angeles Regional

Los Angeles, CA
February 6th - 12th 2017



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Need a Partner?

Diane Sachs
dianesachs@yahoo.com
562-981-4884

Tournament Manager:

Peter Benjamin
ahoneydo@aol.com
310-720-6050

Director-in-Charge:

Ken Horwedel

Tournament Chair: Stan Holberg
District 23 President: Mike Marcucci

ACBL Sanction: R1702072
Flyer Designer: Mr. F.

Monday, February 6, 2017

299er Free Workshop/lunch (Reserv. Rqd)	10:30 am
299er Pairs (single session)	1:00 pm
0-50 Pairs (single session)	1:00 pm
Aft Side Game Series (1 of 6)	1:00 pm
Stratified Charity Pairs (1 & 2 of 2)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
PM Side Game Series (1 of 6)	7:00 pm
Betsy Ross KO (1 of 4)	7:00 pm

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

AM Side Game Series (1 of 5)	9:00 am
Betsy Ross KO (2 of 4)	9:00 am
299er Pairs (single session)	1:00 pm
Aft Side Game Series (2 of 6)	1:00 pm
Gold Rush Pairs (1 & 2 of 2)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Bernie Mateer Memorial Stratiflighted Pairs (1&2 of 2)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Betsy Ross KO (3 & 4 of 4)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
George Washington KO (1 & 2 of 4)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Guest Lecture	6:15 pm
Stratified Swiss Teams (single session)	7:00 pm
PM Side Game Series (2 of 6)	7:00 pm

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

AM Side Game Series (2 of 5)	9:32 am
Early Bird Turbo Swiss (1 of 2)	9:32 am
299er Pairs (single session)	1:00 pm
Aft Side Game Series (3 of 6)	1:00 pm
Gold Rush Pairs (1 & 2 of 2)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Jan Nathan Memorial Stratiflighted Pairs (1 & 2 of 2)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
George Washington KO (3 & 4 of 4)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Abe Lincoln KO (1 & 2 of 4)	1:00 & 7:00 pm

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

Guest Lecture	6:15 pm
Stratified Swiss Teams (single session)	7:00 pm
PM Side Game Series (3 of 6)	7:00 pm

Thursday, February 9, 2017

AM Side Game Series (3 of 5)	9:32 am
Early Bird Turbo Swiss (2 of 2)	9:32 am
299er Pairs (single session)	1:00 pm
Aft Side Game Series (4 of 6)	1:00 pm
Lois Miller Memorial Stratified Pairs (1 & 2 of 2)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Abe Lincoln KO (3 & 4 of 4)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Ft Henry Board-A-Match Teams (1 & 2 of 2)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Guest Lecture	6:15 pm
Stratified Swiss Teams (single session)	7:00 pm
PM Side Game Series (4 of 6)	7:00 pm

Friday, February 10, 2017

AM Side Game Series (4 of 5)	9:32 am
Rise and Shine Turbo Swiss (1 of 2)	9:32 am
299er Pairs (single session)	1:00 pm
0-99 Pairs (single session)	1:00 pm
Aft Side Game Series (5 of 6)	1:00 pm
Gold Rush Pairs (1 & 2 of 2)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Unit 559 Stratiflighted Pairs (1 & 2 of 2)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Teddy Roosevelt KO (1 & 2 of 4)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Guest Lecture	6:15 pm
Stratified Swiss Teams (single session)	7:00 pm
PM Side Game Series (5 of 6)	7:00 pm

Saturday, February 11, 2017

AM Side Game Series (5 of 5)	9:32 am
Rise and Shine Turbo Swiss (2 of 2)	9:32 am
299er Pairs (single session)	1:00 pm
Aft Side Game Series (6 of 6)	1:00 pm
Gold Rush Pairs (1 & 2 of 2)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Pat Banks Memorial Stratiflighted Pairs (1 & 2 of 2)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Teddy Roosevelt KO (3 & 4 of 4)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
POTUS Compact KO (1 & 2 of 2)	1:00 & 7:00 pm
Entertainment Event	6:15 pm
Stratified Swiss Teams (single session)	7:00 pm
299er Pairs (single session)	7:00 pm
PM Side Game Series (6 of 6)	7:00 pm

Sunday, February 12, 2017

Stratified Fast Pairs (2 sessions)	10:00 am & TBA
WLA 2015 Player of the Year --- Bob Shore --- Flight A/X	
Swiss Teams (2 sessions)	10:00 am & TBA
Bracketed Flight B/C/D Swiss Teams (2 sessions)	10:00 am & TBA

Event Colors: 299ers: Orange / Teams: Green / Pairs: Blue

KOs may be handicapped. Games will be stratified by average masterpoints.

Stratified Games: 0-1500 / 1500-3000 / 3000+
Gold Rush: 0-100 / 100-300 / 300-750
Flight A/X: 0-5000 / 5000+
Bracketed Flight B/C/D:
Bracketed by average points of team.
No player over 3000 MPs

PM Swiss Teams: 4 x 7 boards
Turbo Swiss Teams: 3 x 8 boards
Sunday Swiss Teams will be finished by 5 pm.

Problem Solvers' Panel

Moderator: John Jones

Panelists: Nolan Chang, Om Chokriwala, Steve Hirsch, Jim Perkins,
Greg Thorpe, Fred Upton, Ian Wilson, and Zheng Zhang.

1

IMPs
NS vul

South	West	North	East
?	1♥	2♣	2♥

You, South, hold:

♠QT976 ♥8 ♦A4 ♣QT863

What call do you make?

These five hands are from this summer's GNT B held in Washington DC in July. The 56 board final paired two local teams. The district 23 team of Jack Chang/Zheng Zhang, Nolan Chang/Jim Perkins and Om Chorikowala/Fred Upton defeated the district 22 team of Steve Hirsch/Greg Thorpe and Joe Mack/Ian Wilson. The match was a complete roller coaster, and D22 gained 43 IMPs in the final set. This left the final margin as a single skinny little IMP. The way I got the hands was that Fred sent me nine interesting hands after the GNT in July. Not all the hands were from the final. I took the nine hands, rejected four, accepted four, and revised one. The panelists are all from one of the two final teams.

Nolan Chang: 5♣. I don't think slam is very likely; I would need partner to have the perfect hand.

Chokriwala: 2♠. I'm assuming that 2♠ is a one round force. Partner should have an opening hand for his two level overcall. Most likely he should not have much in hearts. In that case all his points will work very well with my hand. If he has spade support, then we should have a game in spades. Since I did not use the responsive double, partner can assume that I have tolerance for clubs. So, if he does not have spade support, he should bid 3♣, and we should be able to make 4♣ or even a game in clubs.

Hirsch: 2♠. I will show club support on next round.

Perkins: 3♥. This is by far the toughest hand of the

quiz. [This is a bidding panel, not a quiz. For it to be a quiz I would have to know the answers. If you want a grade, I'd have to give you all an "A" for a terrific performance.] I want to get to 5♣, but I want partner to know about the spades. I am going to start with 3♥ and hope that she can work out that a later 4♠ means I have a black two-suiter. My big fear is that it comes back to me at 5♥ with partner passing in the interim. We are pretty disciplined vulnerable overcallers at the two level, so I don't expect 5♠ to get us into too much trouble over 5♥. Even if she has to pull to 6♣, we should have the tricks, if we have the controls.

Thorpe: 2♠. This leaves us better placed if the opponents bid 4♥. Partner has three choices: either 4♠, or double, or pass. If he doubles I bid 5♣, if he passes I bid 5♣. If he passes over 3♥, I bid 4♣. If he bids 3♠ I raise to 4♠. If I had raised to 3♣ over 2♥ we would lose the spade suit.

Upton: 2♠. At the table I bid 3♥, but in retrospect I believe 2♠ is the better choice as the bidding will not die here and we rate to be able to show our club support next round.

Wilson: 2♠. We are going to play this in game, since partner has made a vulnerable versus not overcall. 4♠ may be a better contract than 5♣. Even if we do not have an explicit agreement here, this should be 100% forcing.

2
 IMPs
 EW vul

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

*Waiting, shows at least an ace, king or two queens.

You, South, hold:

♠A3 ♥K86 ♦AQ ♣AKQ976

What call do you make?

Nolan Chang: 2NT. No need to rush to 3NT since partner has basically established a GF with 2♦.

Chokriwala: 2NT. I debated between 2NT and 3♣. I decided on 2NT to protect against a heart lead.

Hirsch: 3♣. Showing where my points are. I will bid 3NT on my next bid unless partner supports clubs.

Perkins: 3♣ and then 3NT. This suggests slam interest in clubs, but not too much. A direct 3NT is not far behind, but I can't imagine anything going wrong with my plan here. Partner will bid her suit at the 3 level (or temporize with 3♦). Maybe I am not imaginative enough?

Thorpe: 3♣. I have too many tricks to bid two no trump. If I bid 3NT partner won't know I have a source of tricks. I am not sure why this hand is a problem.

Upton: 3♣. It is very tempting to rebid NT to protect my red suit holdings. But since my suit is clubs, part-

ner is likely to bid a suit if he cannot support clubs, and I will be able to continue with 3NT at my next turn. Also, 2♣ followed by bidding a minor should have a bit higher "minimum" than 2♣ and rebidding a major (since 11 tricks are needed for game) and I have that here, so 3♣ helps to convey that my hand is very powerful, even for a 2♣ opening.

Wilson: 2NT. Describes my hand very well, and protects my tenaces. This does not remotely look like a 3♣ rebid to me.

Zhang: 3♣ I will bid 3♣.

Fred originally wondered if opening 1♣ was a possibility in order to save space. However, the hand isn't really easier with a 1♣ opening. 2♣ is best even with the rebid problem. I could live with rebidding either 2NT or 3♣, but I like 3♣. It's easier with clubs than it would be with long diamonds because over 3♣, 3♦ is available for responder as a punt.

PSP#1 continued from page 13

Zhang: 3♥. Bid 3♥, showing invitational or better for clubs. In case partner bids 3NT, I will go on with 4♣. Slam in clubs is quite possible if partner has something resembling ♠AKx ♥xx ♦xxx ♣AKxxx. It looks like clubs almost always plays two tricks better than spades, even if partner has four spades.

Experts have a bid for this hand: 3♠. This is a fitted jump showing spades along with club support. The problem was magnified at one table because the pair bidding the hand had the agreement that 2♠ was non-forcing in that auction.

District 23 on the web:

<http://www.bridgewebs.com/acbl23/>

3
 IMPs
 NS vul

South	West	North	East
Pass ?	Pass	1♠	2♦

You, South, hold: ♠JT64 ♥AKT987 ♦9 ♣74

3a) Do you agree with the initial pass?

3b) What now?

3c) If LHO bids 5♦ and partner passes, is that a forcing pass?

Nolan Chang: a) I would pass. b) 3♦ limit raise. c) It isn't, but I would take some sort of action anyway.

Chokriwala: a) agree with the initial pass because I have 4 in the other major. b) 3♦ to show a limit raise in spades, intending to raise to 4♠ even if partner stops in 3♠. c) It is not a forcing pass situation given that I am a passed hand and partner opened in the 3rd seat.

Hirsch: a) Yes. Even though Greg and I open light, I would pass initially. b) 4♦. Splinter bid in support of spades. c). Yes - it is forcing upon me to do the right thing whatever that might be!

Perkins: Yes. a) If I were my partner's age (Nolan is a member of the United States junior bridge team), I would open 1♥. Now, I am the voice of reason in my partnerships. Imagine that. PASS. b) I want to show my fit now with 4♦. (Hearts be damned.) This way, when I double later, I won't have this voice in my head saying "Don't double with an undisclosed fit." Of course, hiding the hearts from partner can lead to the same problem from her side. c) I passed originally, and I have 2 quick tricks, and partner opened? The opponents bid 5♦? I'm going to double, whether partner's pass is forcing or not. If partner doesn't have two quick tricks, we're going to talk about opening bids. Even opposite a 3rd seat opening, I am worried that we might miss a slam here and only get 500 or 800 back for the double.

Thorpe: a) Yes, I agree with the initial pass. I would not preempt in hearts with four spades and an unpassed partner. b) I would bid 2NT, which in the system I play would show spade support and a mini splinter with a singleton in an unidentified suit. This leaves us better positioned after we have bid 4♠ and the opponents bid 5♦. We will always get to 4♠. The

question is what we do after the opponents bid 5♦. c) Pass is not a forcing pass. If partner passes, I will bid 5♠. If he doubles, I will reluctantly pass; partner should have some wasted values in diamonds and perhaps only five spades.

Upton: a) Yes, I agree with the initial pass. Mama taught me not to preempt when I have a limit raise for a different major suit. Don't we want to get to 4♠ when partner has ♠AQxxx ♥x ♦xxx ♣AQxx? Second choice would be to open 1♥ with this 7-loser hand, but I can't say that in print as my grandfather might read this. b) 4♦. Apologies if I'm hanging partner for opening light, but we may well be making 4♠ even opposite his subminimum. If he has a full opener I want to convey my support, near-max for a passed hand, and singleton diamond. He doesn't need all that crazy a hand to make 6♠, i.e. ♠AKxxxx ♥Qx ♦xxx ♣Ax will score it up. I want him to be thinking about slam without worrying about two diamond losers, if he's opened anything respectable. c) Yes. 4♦ said that we were making 4♠ and invited bidding more. I do not think it can ever be right for us to defend 5♦ undoubled here, especially at this point. Or rather, it very rarely can if partner has opened a gem such as ♠KQxxxx ♥QJxx ♦xx ♣K, where they are likely making 5♦ and we can make nothing. But we pay off to those in order to get the "Double vs 5♠" decision right, and one of those will be the winner with much higher frequency.

Wilson: a) yes. b) 4♦. I'll game force with four trumps and a stiff diamond. Perfect! c) Yes.

Zhang: a) Yes. b) What now? 3♦. c) No.

Again, I will use a fitted jump and bid 3♥ showing

4
 IMPs
 NS vul

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

* semi-forcing

You, South, hold:
 ♠Q9 ♥-- ♦QJ754 ♣AQ8432
 What call do you make?

Nolan Chang: 3♣. There could be a 3NT game if partner has the K♣.

Chokriwala: Pass.

Hirsch: Pass. I would pass as it just looks like a bad misfit. Where are the spades?

Perkins: Pass. I told Fred in DC that the way to show a void in your partner's 6-card suit here is to pass. Anything else is forward going and encouraging, especially when your partner is Om, who gets encouraged by the slightest provocation. He wouldn't listen to me there, and I doubt Fred will now. If I recall correctly, you, Jones, were on the pass team in DC also. *[Yes, and I'm still a passer! I like to stay low on potential misfits. 3♣ is more corrective than forward going, although it matters what 3♣ over 1♥ would have meant.]*

Thorpe: 3♣. 3♣ should stop opponents from competing in their spade fit. I hope 3♣ is a better spot than 2♥, and I do have some extras, although I don't like my hand. It is still possible that we have a club fit.

Upton: 2♠. I believe the "correct" bid here is 2♠, which can't be spades on this auction and therefore should

show this hand -- invitational with both minors. But this was my actual hand at the table and partner and I did not have this agreement. So 2♠ could easily have been a ticket to -1100 and singlehandedly (literally!) losing a close match. Failing to have 2♠ available, I chose 3♣ at the table and would bid that again, expecting that to be more likely to generate a plus score than passing 2♥. Which it was ... sort of ... but that's perhaps a story for another day. *[I believe partner continued to 3NT, failing. Then the fireworks began, with the entire team involved.]*

Wilson: Pass. Our methods have worked poorly here. This could be a horrible misfit, or we could be missing a minor suit slam. Also, opponents are about to balance into their spade fit, which could be good or bad. Perhaps 1♥ – 2♣ might have worked out better. At least I would have started to describe my hand.

Zhang: 2♠. Try to imply both minors, since it cannot be real spades. If partner takes it as a spade stopper and bids 2NT, I will try 3♣ to imply both minors. If he persist with 3NT, I am happy to pass.

Jim remembered correctly, I like pass.

PSP#3 *continued from page 15*

hearts with spade support. I think it's close whether to carry on to 4♠ if partner tries to sign off in 3♣. We are vulnerable at IMPs and my stiff is in the opponent's suit. I'll try 4♠. I think that a 2♥ bid should create a force if the opponents try 5♦. They don't know they are making 5♦. I think the general rule should be that a 2/1 creates a force on the partnership. This is NOT expert standard though.

What do you think?

Send letters to the editor to:

bridgenews@acblidistrict23.org

5

IMPs
EW vul

S	W	N	E
1♠	P	2♥	P
?			

You, South, hold:
 ♠AK97653 ♥863 ♦A2 ♣A
 What call do you make?

Nolan Chang: 2♠. No need to rush with 2/1, because the spade suit isn't good enough for a jump to 3♠, and most of the time I would rather play spades with a 7-1 fit than hearts with a 5-3 given the ♠AKxxxx.

Chokriwala: 3♥. There is a real possibility of 7♥ if partner has ♥AKQxx. My spade suit can be set up for discarding all of the losers in partner's hand with both minor suit aces as entries to my hand. If needed, he can also ruff clubs in my hand.

Hirsch: 3♠. I need to show my strength.

Perkins: 2♠. WTP? My suit is not good enough to insist upon it as trump unilaterally and I have slam interest. I mean, we are playing 2/1 GF, right?

Thorpe: 3♠. If partner bids 3NT, I'll bid 5♥ to ask him to bid 6♥ with strong hearts. If partner bids 4♠, then I will cue bid. This hand has a number of bids that make sense.

Upton: 3♠ I'll try 3♠ with this hand today. Hoping for 4♠ so I can go looking for slam, but if partner finds 3NT I'll reluctantly take him back to 4♥. If he rebids 4♥, we're off looking for a heart slam.

Wilson: 2♠. I need to find out whether hearts or spades are trump here. I have to mis-describe my powerhouse here initially to include partner in the conversation.

Zhang: 2♠. I want to know the number of hearts partner has. So I will bid 2♠, showing my length in spades. If partner rebids 3♥, I will bid RKCB. If she rebids 3♣ or 3♦, I will try 3♥ to indicate slam interest. If she rebids 3♠, it will be a bit uncomfortable, but I will bid 4♥, which cannot be a cuebid (skipping over both clubs and diamonds). A delayed raise will excite partner if she has ♠AKQxx or ♥AKxxx She will be wary of QJs in the minors since I am bound to be short in both.

I like 2♠ and then supporting hearts. This is an unusual hand with two short minor aces.

Next Month's Problems
 South, what call do you make?

1. MP, all vul

S	W	N	E
	1♠	Pass	Pass
?			

You hold:
 ♠KQ ♥QT864 ♦94 ♣KQ93

2. MP, NS vul

S	W	N	E
*		1NT	2♠
1♦	Pass		?

You hold:
 ♠5 ♥AJ84 ♦AK942 ♣A53

3. IMP, no vul

S	W	N	E
			1♥
2♦	2♥	2♠	Pass
?			

You hold:
 ♠T5 ♥Q863 ♦KQJT87 ♣A

4. IMP, all vul

S	W	N	E
?			

You hold:
 ♠A8752 ♥KQ9753 ♦2 ♣2

5. MP, NS vul

S	W	N	E
		Pass	Pass
1♣	3♦	Pass	Pass
?			

You hold:
 ♠AK5 ♥9 ♦KJ7 ♣AQJ953