



What's New in District 22

championship on December 11 went to Bob Sendall - Gary Yant, Bruce Johnson - Judith Holland, and David Brown - Robert Matano.

December 14 was the last game of the year for SLO, with Mary Neal - Ron Schwarer finishing first overall in A/B with over 70%. Audrey Moore - George Sheffield captured 2A/B, and Pat Moore - Gary Stoner were 1C.

December 20 saw two Holiday Parties in our unit. In Arroyo Grande's open game, N/S 1A was won by Sue and Grant Morgan, while Sandy Hartley - Doris Dunn took 1B/C. E/W Sue Furchtenicht - Tom Snow were 1A, Clyde and Lynn MacQuoid 1B, and Lee Kanehl - Patricia Aldred 1C.

In the 49ers, top honors went to Cherie and Chuck Crockett.

In Paso Robles on the same day, N/S Ann Glover - Amy Roberts were 1A, and Judy Hall - Jim Parks 1B. E/W Lynn Crawford and I were 1A, Carolyn Bell - Lillian Disandro 1B, and Paul Harwood - Rick Shepard 1C. With so much terrific food at pot-lucks, the real winners for the month were those who didn't gain five pounds.

New Year's Eve, 60 brave souls came for the last game of 2012 in Morro Bay. Overall winners were Bruce Johnson - Judith Holland in A/B, with C players Sheila Selker - Marlyn Burch and Cathy Johnson - Stacey Stack tying for 1C.

Big news! Our sectional is February 22-24 in Arroyo Grande. A 199er section whenever possible, Compact KOs on Saturday, and a Swiss Teams event Sunday. See the flyer at slobridge.com All welcome, even those who come to beat us!

Santa Ana

By Marcella Lane

A very happy New Year to all. By this time you will have made all your resolutions and forgot many of them. But don't despair, if we keep at least two, I think we are making progress. Remember, just try to do better than last year. That's my motto.

Congratulations go to Jim and Sharon Kirby for making Life Master at the Palm Springs Regional. All of us remember when we made Life Master. We worked at it for what we thought was forever. Then suddenly we *made it!* Those gold points which took so long to achieve didn't seem so impossible after all. Sharon and Jim, we are very proud of you, and wish you many more wins in the future.

The end of the year has seen the passing of Joe Beatty, who was fearless right up to the end. We will miss him and remember his tenacity to keep active and to continue with his special kind of humorous remarks, never giving in to his illness. Joe was a good friend to so many of us. We send our condolences to all of his family here in California, and in Hawaii.

Our club had its annual New Year's Eve Party. Thanks to our hostesses, Renata and Sheila, for providing the excellent food and good company. We all had lots of fun even if the cards favored some more than others. We started the tradition of the New Year's Eve Party when the club was located on 17th Street. At that time several people wanted to have fun but not be subjected to the crowds and drivers who are everywhere. And then there were some people who just wanted to play bridge.

(Imagine that)!

If you find yourself in this situation and want a place to have a good time in 2013 while playing some bridge, remember us. In fact, give Sheila Wolff a call at 949 205-9713 to find our schedule of games right now. We'd love to see you.

And remember ... *keep counting!*

Santa Barbara

By Annetta Patrick

I begin this month's article with a salute to Larry Klimko. Since 1994 until his passing December 26 three years ago "Larry had been the leader and heart and soul of the Santa Barbara Bridge Club, and the one most responsible for the club's statewide recognition."

Larry was an accomplished player, and a devoted teacher, greatly enhancing the caliber and enjoyment of the game. Please take a moment, on this the anniversary of his passing, to remember Larry.

It is a new year, and "The beginning is the most important part of the work," according to Plato. But for one thing to begin another must end, which, in a convoluted way, leads me to the subject of endplays ... any play (usually near the end of the hand) that puts an opponent on lead to his disadvantage. Endplays occur far more often in suit contracts, and require a throw-in card, one that you can afford to lose. Before endplaying a defender, one must 'strip' the hand, leaving one trump in each hand to profit from a ruff-sluff. To learn more about endplays, check out Marty Bergen's booklet #18, *How to Execute an Endplay*.

Endplays, stripping and squeezes ... isn't the language of bridge intriguing?

Winners on the road at the Palm Springs Regional include Paul Mershon, who led our unit's showing with 15.21 masterpoints, followed by Mickey Plaut, Cherif Khoury, George and Adrienne Sturman, and Scott & Phyllis Denison.

Congratulations!

At home in November and December the following pairs scored 70% games. Carol Mackey - Adrienne Sturman (76.88%), Barbara Gowans - Linda Thompson (76.19%), Karen and Pete Warshaw (75%), Norma Shaw - John Whittlesey (70.19%), and Cheryl Miller - Laura Kuhn (70.83%). Well played, everyone!

The winter schedule of classes offered at the Santa Barbara Bridge Center can be found on the website. Check it out, and tell a friend.

Benjamin Franklin once said, "Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each new year find you a better man." I wish each of you peace and prosperity in the New Year.

Santa Maria

By D. Jackson

Hope you all had a good Holiday Season, but isn't it nice to be back to our normal routine?! We had a very nice Christmas Party and extend a special thanks to Peggy Johnsen and the others who made it such a success.

December began with a couple of STAC games and a few of our players landing in the district overalls. John Arbogast and Bonnie Hales earned extra points with their 69.08% game, and Peggy Johnsen, Chuck Scheithauer, Bill Allen and Sandy Hartley were also in the overalls.

Our four time winner this month was Barbara Basila and our three time winner was Vi Dallessandro with one of those wins a 71.53% game with yours truly. The two time winners were Bill Allen, Judy English, Dianne Bouquet, Pat and Pete Avotins, Bonnie Hales, and Diana Jackson. Also winning were Peggy Johnsen, Chuck Scheithauer, Sandy Hartley, John Arbogast, Tom Beswick, Gerit Fenenga, Bill Torpey, Margaret Arbogast, Dave Hickey, Marie Sheehy, and Yoli Medina.

We welcome Jan Pettis back from a Mediterranean cruise and Pat and Pete Avotins from the San Francisco Nationals - their first - and they even brought some points home. We had a few players headed to the Monterey Regional in January, so we look forward to hearing of their successes.

Speaking of success, congratulations to Christy Nichols for achieving the rank of Club Master.

Southern Gold Coast

By Jean Jolin

There are sure to be some new games in town as we start 2013. The Bridge Academy II in Thousand Oaks has new owners; they are Donna Bell and Alan Curtis, who are taking over from Gene Crubaugh. Gene has owned the club for the past eight years.

Gene said that he has enjoyed his own-

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in the 0-2000 Bracketed Swiss (six brackets). The major draws here are that for the Flight A teams the Super Swiss Teams final is also played Sunday, taking the major expert and professional teams out, and for the 0-2000 teams the squads are grouped by masterpoints into brackets of eight, with each team playing everyone in their bracket - but never play a team in a higher bracket. The rewards: each bracket pays gold points for first, second and third place teams within their bracket. Many, many more players win coveted gold points.

Gold Rush Pairs defined

The regional also expanded its popular Gold Rush Pairs from three days to four

ership and has "appreciated working with a wonderful group of people." He has assured us that he'll "still be around." Gene has made many good friends during his tenure, and we are delighted that we will continue to see him at the Bridge Academy.

Our dynamic new owners, Donna and Alan, are well-known in our club as outstanding players, teachers, and contributors. They released the following statement to the *Forum*: "We are thrilled and excited with our new roles and cannot wait to get started! We both love the game of bridge (playing and teaching) and will focus immediately on creating the best playing and learning environment possible for members of all levels at our club.

"Our plans include updating the playing area and computer, installing dedicated bulletin boards to increase communication, and initiating community outreach programs to attract new members."

The ambitious pair has kicked off their comprehensive teaching program this month with an eight-week Declare and Defend class, and a four-week class on Bidding the Majors. In February, they are offering three, four-week bidding classes: The Tuesday class will be Notrump Bidding, the Thursday class will be Two Over One, and the Friday class will be on Bidding Strong Hands.

We are all behind Alan and Donna, and wish them many grand slams!

days. There is need for definition of exactly what the Gold Rush Pairs are. It is really a strati-flighted event with Flight A/B open to all players and played separately. Simultaneously, entrants in the "gold rush" pairs are limited to no more than 750 MPs, playing in their own event. The draw here is the 0-750 strat winners are awarded gold points (overall finish and section top winners), allowing players to win gold without ever competing with, or against, anyone with more than 750 masterpoints.

If you were not one of the 2222 happy players who attended, you missed a great one. Don't despair, Mick and Nancy promise even more and better for 2013.

The Fabulous Palm Springs Sectional

March 8-10 2013, Palm Springs Convention Center

227 N. Avenida Caballeros - Palm Springs California



Schedule of Games

Friday - March 8

10:00 a.m. Stratified Open & 299er Pairs - Single Session Compact Knockout 1 of 2
2:30 p.m. Stratified Open & 299er Pairs - Single Session Compact Knockout 2 of 2; Stratified Swiss Teams - Single Session

Saturday - March 9

10:00 a.m. Stratified Open & 299er Pairs - Single Session Compact Knockout 1 of 2
2:30 p.m. Stratified Open & 299er Pairs - Single Session Compact Knockout 2 of 2; Stratified Swiss Teams - Single Session

Sunday - March 10

10:00 a.m. Stratified Open & 299er Pairs - Single Session; Strati-flighted Swiss Teams - Double Session that plays through the day with limited breaks
2:30 p.m. Stratified Open & 299er Pairs - Single Session

Sanction # 1303070

Masterpoint Tournament Flighting

Strati-flighted: A 3000+ AX 0-3000 B 1000-1500 C 500-1000 D 0-500
Stratified Events: A 1500+ B 500-1500 C 0-500 D Stratified 299er

Entry Fee per Player

\$11 - ACBL Members
\$12 - Non and Unpaid Members
\$25 - Sunday Swiss Team-Lunch included

Free Parking Available

Lunch available on site.

Free morning coffee. Concession stand is available throughout the day.

Tournament Director

Scott Campbell

Tournament Manager

Jack Barr

Partnership Chair

Gary Delestine

Accommodations

Host Hotel: Quality Inn Palm Springs
1269 E. Palm Canyon Drive
Palm Springs, CA
(760) 323-2775
Mention Palm Springs Bridge Sectional
Rate: \$79/night plus tax
Players should make hotel reservations early- before Feb 1, 2013

Book early! This is high season in the desert, and you don't want to miss out!

Come have fun with ACBL Unit 533 - Strike silver with us!

Esplanade Bridge Center

Tues - 10:00am / Thurs 9:30am (299ers)

Fri - 9:30am (Open)

Wed / Sun - 12:30pm (Open)

Wed 6:00pm & Fri 1:15pm (Supervised Play)

Tues /Thurs - 6:30pm (Open)



Beach Walk

437 S Hwy 101 Ste 102
Solana Beach, CA 92075



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LESSONS FOR ALL SKILL LEVELS

www.esplanadebridgecenter.com