

Solvers--Continued from page 7

Gaer: Pass. Partner heard the auction. Holding the ♠A is a big advantage, and the rest of the suit is good also.

Hampson: Pass. Random series of actions, but I haven't shown any strength so I have about five winners extra for my bidding.

Monzingo: Pass and hope for the best. This is a two Alka-Seltzer auction; however, I would not be in this position since I would have opened 3♠ in first seat (I also play Flannery).

I like the creative use of bidding double to show a major/minor, planning to pass 2♠, but without that toy, I would have passed it out at 1NT (bidding diamonds now is a transfer in our system) - wishing I had bid 3♠ initially.

Stansby: Pass, an easy one. I like my chances better in 3NT than 4♠.

Dunitz: 4♦. I think there is an element of poker in this decision. I held this hand and ran, playing my LHO for the ♦K. I would be inclined to run (again) because I think it is very difficult for your LHO to double without a diamond card. Congratulations to David Weiss for getting me out of my comfort zone!

J.S.: *He didn't get me out of my comfort zone! As East, I had no idea what suit partner wanted led. What would you lead holding: ♠Q432 ♥1065 ♦62 ♣8743? A major suit lead will hold the contract to ten tricks; after a club lead declarer might take eleven. West held: ♠AJ7 ♥AQJ42 ♦97 ♣QJx - a hand many would open 1♥ (although I prefer 1NT). Regarding the double of 3NT - you can form your own opinion.*

Happy Holidays!

Allan Falk, "Spingold Challenge"

The purpose of this book will be served only if it provokes you to think along lines you have until now overlooked, or if it prompts you to discuss certain situations in bidding or defense with your favorite partners with a view to selecting the methods best suited to your own style.

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| A. Attitude | I. Kinsmen | (Hidden Word: "tr[ap pet, it e] vinces ...") |
| B. Leventritt | J. Shutout Bid | |
| C. Lower of Two Suits | K. Positive | |
| D. (*) Awareness (Anagram of "we are sans") | L. If You Hit It | U. Looks Hopeless |
| E. (*) Number (Double Meaning Homonym) | M. Notion | V. Louis II |
| F. Fifty Points | N. Ghost Story | W. (*) Evil (Hidden Word in Reverse) |
| G. (*) Average (Anag. of "gave ear") | O. Overtrick | X. Nobody's Fool |
| H. Lucky Win | P. (*) Lieu (Homonym: "Lieu = Lew") | Y. Go Over the Top |
| | Q. Down and Dirty | Z. (*) Eyebrows (Anag. of "boys were") |
| | R. Chose | |
| | S. Hundred Honors | |
| | T. (*) Appetite | See puzzle on p. 7 |

Solution to the Hand of the Month

(See the problem on page 7)
(See Hand at the bottom)

First, let's do the basic counting of tricks on this hand: you have seven tricks from the minor suits ... no more and no less ... and can always get two tricks from the spade suit by giving up a trick to the king. In hearts, you have two

sure winners, with a straight finesse for the queen. So obviously you should test spades before falling back on the heart hook.

But be careful how you take the spade finesse! If the ♠K is with East, you can always score three tricks if you play it right. Win the opening lead in dummy, then play a low spade away from dummy toward the ♠QJ. If it wins, lead a diamond to dummy's 10-spot and repeat the maneuver. Now you are home with three spades and two hearts to go with the seven minor suit winners.

If the ♠Q loses to the king, you should win West's return and test for 3-3 spades. Failing that, there is still the 50% chance of the heart finesse.

So the bottom line is, you should make 6NT on this hand: (1) When the ♠K is with East; (2) When the spade loses to West, but the suit breaks 3-3; or finally, when the heart hook works. Kantar rates the overall percentages of success to be about 85%, and that's good enough for me.

But beware: anyone who starts the spades by leading queen or jack out of hand (a zero-percent play) deserves to have his Christmas Santa morph into the Grinch!

- ♠ A532
- ♥ AKJ
- ♦ Q105
- ♣ K42

- ♠ 106
- ♥ 10854
- ♦ 874
- ♣ J1096
- ♠ K984
- ♥ Q97
- ♦ 632
- ♣ 853

- ♠ QJ7
- ♥ 632
- ♦ AKJ9
- ♣ AQ7



Linda Ehrlich
Scottsdale, Ariz.



Kathy Drake
Santa Barbara, Calif.



Christine Haedt
Mill Valley, Calif.



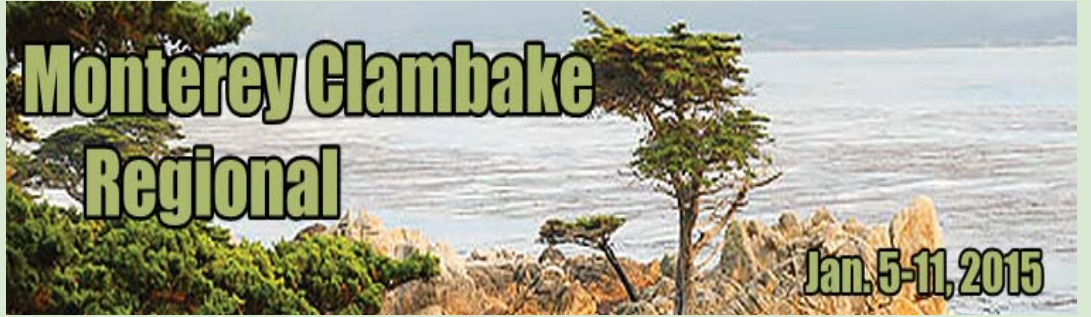
Melanie Haddad
Tiburon, Calif.



Robert Greene, Santa Barbara, Calif.



Tish Gainey
Santa Barbara, Calif.



Tournament Highlights

- New Knockouts Daily
- Four Days of 0-750 Gold Rush Pairs
- Friday Open Pairs Qualifies to a BAROMETER final
- Three Stratified Side Game Series
- DAYLIGHT PAIRS Tuesday - Saturday at 10 & 3
- Free bridge concepts lectures Tuesday-Saturday at Noon
- Celebrity Speaker Program

ENTRIES STILL ONLY \$10
UNPAID & NON-MEMBERS \$14

District 21 website is your first resource for our Regionals:
Make early partnership arrangements
Make hotel reservations
Plan your tournament events
Gather general information/directions
www.d21acbl.com

For information contact:
Pam Hughes: 916-774-0990 jmom380@yahoo.com
Partnership: Doug Hong doughong@msn.com
District 21 website: www.d21acbl.com
On site tournament info: 408-810-2273
Please comply with D21's Pet Policy. See website for details.
Schedule subject to change.

DISTRICT 21: Upbeat Bridge...Low Key Atmosphere!

Monday, January 5

- 1 Monterey Stratified Charity Pairs
Charity Stratified Swiss Teams
99/299ers Stratified Charity Pairs
- 730 BING CROSBY BRACKETED KOs
Round 1, Continues Tuesday 9, 1 & 7
Peninsula Stratified Charity Pairs
99/299ers Stratified Charity Pairs

Tuesday, January 6

- 9 BING CROSBY KOs - round 2
Clambake Stratified Side Pairs 1st of 5
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS
1 Cannery Row Strat Side Pairs 1st of 4
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 730 OPEN PAIRS 0-3000/3000+
BIG SUR GOLD PAIRS 0-300, 300-750
JACK LEMMON BRACKETED KOs
Rds 1 & 2 Continues Wednesday 1 & 7
BING CROSBY KOs - rounds 3 & 4
- 730 Stratified Swiss Teams
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
Cannery Row Strat Side Pairs 2nd of 4

Wednesday, January 7

- 9 MONTEREY SWISS TEAMS, 1st of 2
Continues Thursday at 9am
Clambake Stratified Side Pairs 2nd of 5
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS
1 Cannery Row Strat Side Pairs 3rd of 4
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 730 OPEN PAIRS 0-3000/3000+
BLUE WHALE GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
TIGER WOODS BRACKETED KOs
Rds 1 & 2 Continues Thursday 1 & 7
JACK LEMMON KOs - rounds 3 & 4
- 730 Stratified Swiss Teams
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
Cannery Row Strat Side Pairs 4th of 4

Thursday, January 8 GOODWILL DAY

- 9 MONTEREY SWISS TEAMS 2nd of 2
Clambake Stratified Side Pairs 3rd of 5
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS
1 Tom Watson Strat Side Pairs 1st of 6
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 730 OPEN PAIRS 0-3000/3000+
CARMEL GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
STEINBECK BRACKETED KOs
Rds 1 & 2 Continues Friday 1 & 7
TIGER WOODS KOs - rounds 3 & 4
- 730 Stratified Swiss Teams
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
Tom Watson Strat Side Pairs 2nd of 6

Friday, January 9

- 9 MICHELLE WIE SWISS TEAMS
1st of 2 - Continues Saturday at 9
Clambake Stratified Side Pairs 4th of 5
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS
1 Tom Watson Stratified Side Pairs 3rd of 6
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 730 OPEN PAIRS Qualifies to a
BAROMETER FINAL
NQs enter 7pm Swiss or Side Pairs
SPANISH BAY GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
ERNIE ELS BRACKETED KOs,
Rds 1 & 2 Continues Saturday 1 & 7
JOHN STEINBECK KOs - rounds 3 & 4
- 730 Stratified Swiss Teams
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
Tom Watson Stratified Side Pairs 4th of 6

Saturday, January 10

- 9 MICHELLE WIE SWISS TEAMS 2nd
Clambake Stratified Side Pairs 5th of 5
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS
1 Tom Watson Stratified Side Pairs 5th of 6
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 FREE Student Game 0 - 5 masterpoints
- 1 & 730 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
CYPRESS COMPACT KO TEAMS
ERNIE ELS KOs - rounds 3 & 4
- 730 Stratified Swiss Teams
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
Tom Watson Stratified Side Pairs 6th of 6

Sunday, January 11

- 10 ****EARLY START 10am****
STRAT A-X TEAMS
56 boards with a short break
Strat A 3000+ Strat X -0-3000
B - C - D TEAMS two sessions with a short break
Strat B 1000 - 2000
Strat C 500 -1000 Strat D - 0 - 500
BOB LUEBKEMAN SENIOR SWISS 55+ yrs
2 sessions with a short break
CLINT EASTWOOD FAST STRAT OPEN PAIRS
2 fast sessions with a short break
99/299ers Swiss Teams & Stratified Pairs
2nd session TBA

Events in BOLD FACE are two or more sessions and award gold points. Single session events award red points.

KO Events with only one Bracket may be Handicapped

Stratified Events Key Unless otherwise posted.

A 2000+ B 750 - 2000 C 0 - 750

Eligibility for Flighted Events based on top player. Thereafter, stratification based on average of pair/team