

District 21 Unitscope

all, and thank you to intrepid reporter, Janelle!

The Maye Soules Memorial game was a large success due to the efforts of David Hoffman, Patti Frederick, and Gary Soules. With the assistance of sous chef David, Patti catered a barbequed lunch for 18 tables of players, who enjoyed appetizers and salads, hamburgers and Italian sausages and dessert before the game began. David and Maye's son Gary started the tradition 12 years ago to honor a great lady, bridge player and teacher, who was a member of our unit.

Come play at our Saturday, September 26, Back to School unit game! Ted Richmond will start the day by teaching a lesson on New Minor Forcing at 9:00 a.m., and the game will start at 10:00 sharp. Recess (bring a bag lunch) will be from 12:00 to 12:30. The game will continue until 2:30 p.m.

October 18-19: Come play at the Unit 498 Intermediate/Newcomer Sectional! You've heard the buzz; now come check us out at the Bayshore Bridge Center and earn your silver points! For more information about this and all of our events, games, and classes, go to www.unit498.com. Also, there's always club news and fun pictures of our events on our Facebook page, ACBLUnit 498, thanks to our techno master, Sally Samuels!

Have you noticed the packed house at Raad Bunni's Tuesday & Friday morning classes and games? Tuesday morning lessons start at 9:00 a.m. on Bidding and Conventions, and on Friday mornings, classes are on Defense and Play of the Hand. After the lesson, the 299er game starts at 9:30 a.m.

The best news for beginners and newcomers is that Raad has opened a section for 0-5 masterpoints. You can take Raad's lesson and then play and advance your skills with others at your own level.

Welcome to our newest members: Stephen Childs, Nathan Gennaro, Carol Rossi, Greg Speckman, and James Zylla.

Congratulations are in order to our new Masters: Lily Preiner (Junior); Nancy Alden, Stephen Bird, Judy Olson, Oliver Pieron, and Jana Torchia (Club); Nancy Fulton and Mary Polly (Sectional); Robert Crosby (Bronze Life).

Keep an eye on us, all you new and continuing players! Joanne Lewin is heading the committee to invigorate our Mentor/Mentee program, which will be gearing up soon for the next session. With Ted Richmond, Raad Bunni, Eileen Battat, and Linda Schwarz on board, this committee will get Unit 498 on track to offer the opportunity to play with advanced mentors. The program will start soon, but don't worry, we'll keep you posted when the next session will begin and how to participate in it.

Don't forget to visit us online for everything Bayshore Bridge, but, even better, come play at our Bridge Center on the bay. We're saving you a seat.

Santa Cruz

By Karen Schamberg

It's time for the Surf's Up Sectional on October 10 & 11. Once again, it will be held at the Kirby School, 425 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz. There are Stratified Open Pairs and Intermediate/Newcomer Pairs games on Saturday, as well as Stratified Swiss Teams & Intermediate/Newcomer Swiss Teams on Sunday. If you need a partner, contact Jan Winham at 831 291-0479.

Sending a heartfelt shout-out to Josh Karter of Kirby School for allowing us to use this special place for our sectional.

Tour the world via photographs from two of our members: start in Santa Cruz with photos by Bill Dykstra, continue on from Carmel to Canterbury, Virginia City to the Volga River through the lens of Jim Martin. The display continues through October. Members wishing to

exhibit their work should contact Pam Benz at pbenz@cruzio.com

Congratulations go out to Carol Maggipinto & Malcolm Sprott who had a 70.83% game last month.

In the past few months, we've lost several other members. Our condolences go out to the families of Gloria Morrison, Nadine Mastin & Roxanne Vatuone. They will all be missed.

I'm going to take a moment to pay tribute to one of my favorite, albeit occasional, partners, Irv Ottenberg. Irv passed away last year, but I think of him often. He was smart, funny, kind, and always a gentleman. You'd find him at Table 4 in the big, black, bosses' chair. He led an interesting life, serving 14 years in the army and later becoming an insurance claims adjuster. When he retired, he volunteered with Special Olympics, CASA, Opportunity to Read, and with New Brighton Middle School and Monarch Elementary. He used his experience in overcoming his own dyslexia to help others with learning disorders to master reading. He was married to another of our members, Ann Ottenberg, and was a devoted husband and father. Irv was an inspiration to all who knew him.

Congratulations to our Master rank advancers, Susan Slinger & Peter Gelfand (Gold Life), Janet Tainty (Advanced NABC), Robin McDuff (Club), and Darby Kremers & Fortunee Cohen (Junior).

A very warm welcome to new members, Steven Nelson and Dawna Sutton.

We have games most days at the SCBC. Our unit games will be on October 3 & 24. There are also special games for all levels of players. If you have fewer than 20 points, there are special newcomer games on October 14 & 28. Nancy Wainer will be teaching "Defense in the 21st Century" classes on the first & third Monday evenings. In addition, her popular Bridge Camps are on the first Thursday. Jane Jennings 199er games are held on Monday nights with a free class prior to the game.

As a reminder, the SCBC is a fragrance-free venue. Please use unscented, non-perfumed products. To see the Unit 550 schedule and calendar, to get information on our mentor program, or to contact one of our club owners, please visit our website at santacruzbridge.org

Santa Rosa

By Nancy Stetson

Advancers: shout-outs to new Junior Master Brian Aabel and Silver Life Master Patty Hertz.

Chicago: Sara Rothmuller, Kate Hill and Paul Hoge earned double-digit MPs at the national tournament, and Shelly Dunietz, Brian Haley, Evelyn Holtz, Patty Hertz, Lynn Blumenthal, Nancy (Johnson) Roviario, Conrad Larkin, Nancy Gunn, David Pankratz and Kristin Rimal earned single-digit MPs.

At Home: Larry Borsian, Erwin Linzner, Gary Robinson, and Larry Hansen scored 74% in an August teams game! John McNulty & Randee Dimond and Judy Kayan & Florence Boxerman scored 70% or more in pairs games. Bob Rottmayer & Mary Lyons, Mary Omodt & Shelly Dunietz, Cris & Paul Pecknold, Erwin Linzner & Bob Klein, Richard Zaleski & Eleanor Wales, Donna Soehrens & Karen Rice, David Levitan & Howard Balfour, Jackie Ortiz & Pat Scoville, Barbara Norman & Jan Conklin, Gary Robinson & Larry Hansen, Cindy Ketelsen & Larry Wyner, Cecelia Zachar & Sara Rothmuller, Ken Koutz & Bob Rottmayer and Nilesh Gheewala & "Ram" Ramanathan scored 65% or more.

Most MP Winners in August: <5000 David Levitan, <1000 Bob Rottmayer, <500 Barbara Norman <300 Ken Koutz, <100 Rich Gain and <20 Cathy Netz. (You can only win once per calendar

year). Pick up your free play coupon at the Gallery!

Coming Up: Earn 5% gold points on October 1, 7, 13, 17, 21, 22 & 26, and on October 16 in an Instant MP game, 11:45 a.m.; section top winners will earn 1 gold point each. Earn silver points at the Santa Rosa Sectional tournament October 3-4; paires and teams games for everyone (zero to unlimited MPs). If you need a partner or team, contact Kathy V. Thursday mornings, October 1-15, More About Doubles, continued, 9:30-11:30 a.m., with Kate H., \$15.00 each. October 31, Best Halloween dresser wins a free play from me!

The Buzz: (1) Watch for a new Unit 509 game coming soon in Petaluma! (2) Kathy V's daughter, Danielle, is a new news anchor on KQED. (3) Thanks to Ron Chestnut, we now have a QR code (square array of pixels) on our promotional posters that smart phones with a QR-reader app (like KAYWA) can scan to automatically bring up an associated website; i.e., the code on our October sectional poster calls up an ACBL page of our poster. (4) Omar Sharif (1932-1915) said, "The real question is why I spend so much time making movies when I could be playing bridge."

Tips from the Experts: Mike Lawrence says, "When you are defending and dummy goes down, estimate how many high cards your partner has. Sometimes you can tell with amazing accuracy." And Larry Cohen says, "Don't lay down, or underlead, an ace (at trick one). In the middle of the hand, lead the king on defense from ace-king. A shift to an ace denies the king."

Send items or corrections to be considered for the *Forum* to nancyemilystetson@yahoo.com. For a longer version of the *Forum* and photos, go to your Facebook page and search for ACBL 509.

Silicon Valley

By Ray Yuenger

Our Fall Sectional is taking place again at West Valley College in Saratoga, one of the best venues for bridge in the area. Pairs games will start on Friday, October 23 at 1:00 p.m., with pairs games on Saturday and Bracketed Swiss on Sunday. The full schedule can be found elsewhere in this newspaper.

I'm writing this after six days of bridge at the All-Western Regional. Thanks to the Fast Results website for giving us such timely information that I can report all the results by the evening of the last day of the tournament. This column is two days past the deadline so I can bring you these results: In the top ten of grueling premier four-session Open Pairs, Peter Sun placed fifth, Adam & Elianna Meyerson were eighth, and Yul Inn & Cheryl Mandala were ninth.

In other two-session Stratified Open Pairs games, first in their stratifications were K-P Cheng & Yu Chang, Joel Singer, Lynn Bartz & Ken Imboden, Surendra Mandava & Arif Janjua, Tony Trebaol, Kat Wesolowska, and Samuel Shat. Earning section tops were Erin Gove & Janet Adamiak, Dianne Shannon, Yul Inn & Peter Friedland, K-P Cheng & Daren Kuo, Bob Ritz, Ken Imboden, Larry Wagner, and Barbara Luttrell & Anne Boboricken.

In limited two-session pairs games, first in their stratifications were Ann Wainright & Sharon Krawetz, George Welch & Andy Scott, and Carole & Bob Woldstad. Section tops went to Jennifer Duval & Vera Huelbig, Fred Brown & Leila Mattinger, Margaret Dalton, Ruth McCann, Yu & Shirley Chang, Terry Ahern, William Dougherty and Arthur Zhou.

First in their strats in limited pairs games were Judy Reeve & Tillie Myers, Rochelle Alhadeff & Francine Effren, Arlie Stephens & Gavin Nesom, Alan &

Martha Huggins, Rajeev Jog and Brenda Hatton.

Prevailing in their Knockout matches were Tsao-Tung Tsai & Luen-Jyh Luo (twice); Alan Wood; Rajeeva Sharma, Samuel Shat & Paul Lee; Will Watson; and Frank Zie.

Winning in their two-session Swiss strats were Steve & Sarah Chen; Tsao-Tung Tsai, Luen-Jyh Luo & Olivier Chappelle; Adam Meyerson; Bill Rieser; Paul Lee; Raghu Agarwal; and Arthur Zhou. Some people could have been listed twice, but you can see the list is already long.

Earlier, at the San Mateo Sectional, Bob Ritz & Stu Goodgold were first in the Swiss A strat, with Yu Chang tied for first in X. K-P Cheng was first in the Open Pairs.

Even earlier, at the nationals in Chicago, first in their team brackets were Karen Rice, Fred Brown & Raghu Agarwal and Joel Koransky & Ken Rosenfeld. Cadir Lee's team prevailed in a Knockout. First in their team strats were Pangjie Xu & Di Wu and Peter Friedland.

In national events, Li-Chung Chen was 14th in the Werner Open Pairs. Kevin Rosenberg was 7th in the Mixed Board-A-Match. Adam Meyerson's team was 15th in the Roth Swiss. Rich Reitman was first in the LM-5000 pairs.

Western Conference Summer STAC week took the place of a local sectional in August. Having games over 65% were Pamela Meckenstock & Judy Macarthur; Lynn Yokel & Ken Imboden; Malcolm McLaughlin & Ed Barlow; Michael Fleisher & Mindy Foos; Frank Lowenthal; Victor Rivkin & Boris Ginzburg; T-C Yang; Bruce Scott; Jeffrey Pugh & Jennifer Stern; Kathy Keener & Samuel Shat; Fran Dickman & Ted Ujifusa.

Congratulations are due a number of new Masters: Joanne Quermann, Michael Young (Junior); Donghui Lu (Club); Judy Macarthur, Joan Schlinkert, Songtao Zhang (Sectional); Julie Lee (Regional); Anne Dudman (Advanced NABC); Linda Nemmer, Jory Segal (Life); Wendy Fotland, Preston Kauk (Bronze); Lynn Yokel (Diamond).

If I overlooked your accomplishments, I apologize. It'll take me a day or two to recover from the regional intensity. The politics of District 21 with two ongoing elections for national officers have been a sideshow that I've been drawn into reluctantly. It may merit further discussion in next month's article.

South County

By Kate Hare

Unit 500 has some exciting news. Bob Hamilton and Valerie Byrne, long time players and partners, were married over the summer. Congratulations and best wishes to them. Also big news is the retirement of director Charlie Conrad from the Easybridge! clubs. Charlie will continue to be active in Unit 500 as a player, co-director of San Felipe Club and president of the unit's board of directors. Thursday & Saturday Easybridge! will continue to operate under the direction of Jan Hollowell, Barbara Dabney and Sarah Simmerman.

If you missed the deliciously successful salad lunch unit game, honoring Trudie Sinclair for her contributions to the unit over the years, mark your calendar for Friday, October 23. Unit 500 is holding the brunch unit game that day. Quiche will be served prior to the game and there will be plenty of beverages and snacks during play. As always, the meal is complimentary for Unit 500 members and \$2.00 for non-member players. For more information visit the Unit 500 website, unit500.org and while you are there consider visiting our Facebook page, and

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