



Berkeley/El Cerrito/ Richmond

By The Beer Dude

Fall's fell; may Giants be in the playoffs; may Raiders be off & running - no hope for the Niners. Warriors are huge favorites to win NBA (no surprise - they have 2 of the 3 best players in the league, neither of whom is a whiner like Lebron). May rain come early to reduce fire danger.

August unit game I covered; here's September 2: The Cobeens daylighted the field in a 6.5 table game (1-winner movement that limits sit-out to 2 boards). Eric & Susie 2A; Lamar & Dick 3A; "H" & Jack Wholey 4A; Meg Gallaway & "3 Wood" 2B; & Dexter & Gordon (whom I dubbed "The Saxmen"; if you've seen the movie "Round Midnight," you'll know). October games are Friday 7th & Wednesday 19th. BTW - I had no control over the printing error in September issue that dropped the 4 from 24 in the BBQS date (results in Nov).

We added 3 new members: Arun Adga, Peg Bogle, & Caryl O'Keefe; plus transfers-in Jill Fisch & John Gassenheimer from Philly, & Tyler Maxey from Atlanta. New Club Master is Jakob Karstena (20+); Andrew Lazarus moved up to NABC Master (200+). On & up ye go - good work! We killed our fall sectional 4ever - low recent attendance & unstable date issues; mucho dinero saved!

Jack Shiffer was August LM Club champ; Jan Kosel took the NLM title. 65% games? None! - everyone beat up on each other! October is Jane Johnson club champ month; ours will be 26th & 28th. Xtra MP's @ no extra charge; such a deal!

D21 Board meeting I attended September 4 produced much good news, 1st being that all the cards used in the regional team games (& at sectionals for all games) have been replaced w/plastic cards that should last five years! The boards for pair games use those damned bar-coded cards because D21 hires out pre-duplication; they've put a system in place to alert the contractor of bad cards. D21 now is on Facebook; you don't have to be a Facebook user to view it; details @ the D21 website (we have a button to it on our home page). Also, the room block for the Modesto Regional has sold out, & Pam Hughes, whose column you see on the front page of this paper, is looking for more; details also on D21 website, which Grant Robinson of U499 does a damned good job of maintaining. Last, we honored director Dianne Barton-Paine (aka "Bear") for her long years of service to us: a big teddy bear & a turtle pendant (she's famous for putting a small turtle in front of the habitually slow).

I need to find some petrified snails (or plastic escargot mock-ups) to use in my games? Good luck in Modesto if you go; temps should be 70-80. I'll have to do November column early, as I'm headed back to my DC-area 1962-78 stomping grounds 4th-12th to hang w/friends &, if lucky, catch a Giants-Nats playoff game.

Tweak beerman1949@gmail.com to brag/gripe/suggest; unit info & game results available 24/7 @ www.berunit497.org

Carson-Tahoe

By D. Marie Bresch

Unit 465 has been busy this past month. Many extra tables because of the Tahoe visitors and special games. A new beginners' class is in progress by Gary Nitzberg. Party bridge players are becoming duplicate bridge players. We welcome them with open arms. It is a nice opportunity to learn the duplicate game while playing. The results of the Western Conference

District 21 Unitscope

STAC Open Pairs was a long list, and some of the winners are our members. Here is the list that I found, and hope I did not miss anyone: Jim & Midge Breeden, 13.1 MPs 68.52%; Geoff Stokes & Doug Smith, 2.06 MPs 64%.

A number of unit members attended the Reno Sectional last month at the Nugget Hotel in Sparks, Nevada. The first night was an 8-is-Enough event; it was an exciting game. First place, Paul & Joseph Kushner (son and father) and Geoff Stokes & Doug Smith; 2nd, Gary Nitzberg & Donna McLeod and Otis & Betty Clamp. Congratulations to all. It was an interesting evening.

The unit game in Gardnerville hosted 14 tables due to the Lake Tahoe summer bridgers; they will be missed when they return to their other homes in far away places. Results: 1st A, John Ide & Thelma Nelson; 2nd, Robert Garret & Paul Kushner; 1st B, Bruce Moon & Larry Brilliant; 2nd, Otis & Betty Clamp; 1st C, Bruce Moon & Larry Brilliant; 2nd, Trudy Bittman & D. Marie Bresch.

The Peterson wedding was beautiful; it was in their garden. Weather was perfect, lots of family and friends to help celebrate. Beautiful bride and the cake was yummy. Wishing them many years of happiness.

Reminding you of the October 6-9 sectional tournament (if the *Forum* reaches you before it happens). Lots of excitement and fun and food. See you there!

Happy playing.

Diablo Valley

By Lisa Assoni

October, the month where fall nestles in, and the costumes come out. The Jack-o-Lantern is a symbol of celebrating Halloween, Oktoberfests, and pumpkin pie. The associated terms of a pumpkin are either endearing or frightful. When playing bridge, we don't want to be a gourd in someone's side. Yet, we try to intimidate the defense with interfering bids and try to scare the bejeebers out-of-em. Perfect timing. Hey, we're here to try and win.

This strange holiday has dark roots that stem back to the Romans and the Druids, centuries ago. So best not to stir up trouble, as goblins and witches may ring your bell. It's quite a unique holiday, since we're all told not to answer our doors, unless we know who's-a knockin.' More goodies to come, as we prepare for our annual Tunnel Tourney. Find a partner, and plan to play. This year, the competition will be on Sunday, October 9, and hosted by East Bay Unit 502. They won last year, so come and help us bring the coveted plaque back to this side of the Caldecott. Win or lose, we always have a fun-filled day of play.

Well, no fear, bridge is here. Something new, and don't be blue. You too can win MPs. It's a new venue for Unit 499. Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club and Unit 499 are on the menu for hosting our annual Diablo Valley Fall Sectional. On Saturday, October 29, two sessions games begin at 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., catering to Stratified Open Pairs. Sunday, October 30, is for Bracketed Swiss Teams. Both groups must play both sessions. Break time is short, so calling all hands on deck, as a delicious lunch will be available for purchase.

It's goin' be yummy.

There's also a newbie game for players with fewer than 99 masterpoints. Here's a savory way to earn extra points. A single session Swiss Teams is slated for Sunday, October 30, at 10:00 a.m. More info is available on our website at Unit 499. Jackie Zayac is tournament chair, and you can contact her at 925 284.2309 or jackiezayac@gmail.com Partnership desk will be available at tournament. For directions and location, or more informa-

tion, check out our website at diablovalleybridge.com Click on CCBC.

Also Mark Humphreys will host another Pro-Am game. He's a la king to our unit. He really is quite a guy, and is so dedicated to helping all members of Unit 499. I'm really looking forward to playing this event. This is a game where the Life Master plays with a lower ranking player, and hopes to help them earn a dash of masterpoints. The event will be held on Saturday, October 22, (with a light breakfast at 9:00 a.m., and game beginning at 9:30 a.m.). As you recall, this game has been held on Thursday evenings (at DVBC). With the new (CCBC), this makes cents. Less traffic, less gas used, and you can drive during the day. And, all for the cost of \$7.00. Indulge in a special play date with food and friends.

Let's make a deal at the Lamorina Bridge Club, located in Orinda. What a lovely setting to play your favorite game. You can't beat this. Lunch is provided for most games. Check out our website for further details. You can also contact Winnie or Jerry at Winnie@wjasper.com Relishing every point is Jacqueline Marshall who scored. She became a Bronze Life Master. More stones were uncovered. Ruby, one of my favorites, was awarded to Helen Locey.

Way to go, girls!

Enjoy October, and don't eat all of the kids' candies.

East Bay

By Larry Bowerman

Hope everyone enjoyed their summer. As we move into the fall, there are a few important items to note. First, the East Bay Unit 502 November sectional has been cancelled, due

to an accidental double booking of our location. Instead there will be a regular unit game at the EBCBC on Sunday, November 20, at 1:00 p.m. There will also be regularly scheduled unit games on Sunday, October 2 & November 6.

Second, mark your October calendars for the annual Tunnel Tournament (Unit 502 vs. Unit 499) on Sunday, October 9, and the Dick Hart Memorial Pizza Swiss Teams event on Sunday, October 16. Both events will be at the EBCBC. The Tunnel Tournament is a two-session event (sessions begin at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.) with lunch included, all for \$15.00 per person. The Pizza Swiss Teams event begins at 1:00 p.m. (pizza lunch at 12:15 p.m.). The entry fee is \$10.00 per person. Reservations are required, so organize your team and sign up not later than October 14 by contacting Karen Cabrera at cabrerake@sbcglobal.net

It has recently come to our attention that we have been remiss in reporting some significant accomplishments that occurred earlier this year. At the Reno Nationals in March, Jessica Lai won more than 60 Platinum points by finishing well in three events: 17th place in NABC Women's Pairs (partnered with Jo Ginsberg), 6th place in the 0-10K Swiss Teams (teamed with Grant Vance, Jo Ginsberg and Len Vishnevsky) and 5th place in the NABC Fast Pairs (partnered with Dmitri Shabes)! And, she recently achieved Gold Life Master. Congratulations, and way to go, Jessica!

The August 7 unit game was a NAP qualifier with two sections. The Section A results were: 1st overall, Grant & Gregory Vance; 2nd, Richard Walker & Hugh Callahan; 3rd, Jessica Lai & Tanakorn Lavanakul; 4th, David & Joyce Denyven. The Section B results were:



New Bridge Club Forming!

Peninsula Duplicate Bridge Club

**Located at Holiday Inn Express
1650 El Camino Real; Belmont, CA
ACBL Sanction 273474**

Games Held Wednesdays and Thursdays

**Open and 299er Games Started August 17
EasyBridge for Beginners Will Start September 29**

**More Information and Schedule Available at
www.PeninsulaDBC.com**

