



District 21 Unitscope

(Continued from page 9)

New: free Easybridge! lessons started in January with great success. So far, each lesson has five or six tables. Some are returning faces, but many are brand new to our clubhouse. Though the schedule isn't set yet, the plan is that in April, most of these students will move on to the second set of Easybridge! lessons, while we start a new beginning group.

There must be something about January games, just like last year during that month, we have had many players earning 70%. Though no one from the Oakhurst clubhouse started 2017 with the achievement, we did have one from the Madera clubhouse, Gary Nelson & Richard Meffley, 75% in the Wednesday evening open game. The first two 70% games in Fresno for 2017 were performed by the same pair in the same game in back-to-back weeks. Mun Takeda & Gerard Laquerriere, 70.14% in the Wednesday afternoon open game, then had a 72.22% one week later. The two Jays, Jay Roll & Jay Shapiro, 75.46% in the Thursday morning open game. In the Thursday afternoon 750 game Judy Geary & Barbara Brock, 72.11%.

In the Saturday afternoon 199er game we had the accomplishment occur on two separate days, Jeff Nevins & Fred Schellack, 71.67%, and Walt Kelso & Brenda Ward a huge 82.22%.

Lastly, on the Tuesday evening 99er/lesson game, we have the rare double 70% game as Marilyn & Steve Fabian, 71.67% just beating out 2nd place Fred Schellack & Walt Kelso's 70%.

We would like to welcome two new members to Unit 522: Joan Clark (Clovis) and Alan Sakamoto (Fresno).

Well, that is it for this month; there should be a lot more to report in the April edition as we will have results from the Fresno Winter Sectional and Pro-Am Swiss Teams game.

We also should have the plans and date for the Anniversary Party.

Livermore Valley

By Rosemarie LaFrancesca

March is here and Spring is around the corner. We have had plenty of rain and snow and hope that the drought is behind us. There is no drought at the card table, however. With our Monday and Thursday games, a short drive over the hill to the Brentwood area allows one to play on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. I guess Wednesday can be for chores and Sunday is a day of rest. What could be better than spring in the Livermore Valley?

The Livermore Bridge Club website is livermorebridge.com You will find a calendar of events there; you can also find Paul's bridge tips and publications via

Sacramento-- Continued from page 1

only won't be able to accommodate all of us, they won't honor the bridge rate! For \$129 it is still a wonderful option at a very nice hotel.

Hotels

The Marriott TownPlace Inn and Suites Cal Expo is a new option for us. I think it's going to be wonderful, because not only does it include a hot breakfast, each guest room has a sitting area and a kitchen! Their rate will be \$109.

The Crowne Plaza is a little further away (about three miles) but they are offering rooms at our bridge rate of \$102,

pfdubois.com/publish

We hope you will join us weekly for bridge at the Livermore Bridge Club. We meet Mondays and Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in the IOOF Building, 2160 First Street, in Livermore. Parking and entrance are in the rear; an elevator is available.

Novice games (0-99 points) are held the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Encourage your bridge-playing friends to give duplicate bridge a try!

We are happy to see some of our 99ers play on Mondays as well. Keep up the good work, 99ers!

Most games, including extra point games, are only \$6.00. STAC games are \$8.00; Educational Fund Games are \$7.00. Reservations are suggested for the Monday STAC. Players bring food to share; the club provides coffee/tea; a good time is had by all.

With the Oscars behind us, who can name a book or movie where bridge played a vital role? I did see Groucho Marx jump on a lady's lap and say, "Oh, isn't this contact bridge?" Agatha Christie's *Cards on the Table* has the murderer put the contract at 7NT so his partner had to play the hand; everyone concentrated so much on the hand that the dummy had the freedom to do the dastardly deed.

What's worse? ... 7♠ was a laydown.

Marin

By Gail Haar

We are welcoming several new members to Unit 508 and look forward to meeting them at the table; Leigha From, Heidi O'Connor, Carla Small and Sherri Sugarman. Unit members moving up in Master rank are: Bruce Innes (Club); Uta Bender & Klaus Werner (Sectional); Richard & Terry Gordon, Miriam Kaegi, Rita Schaulat, Ann Schweichler, Annette Tham and Andrea Ventris (NABC); Cyrus Ansari (Life); Christine Haedt, Terry Kee, and Henry Kingdom (Bronze Life). And achieving Ruby Life Master is June Zullo. Congratulations to you all.

There will be two unit pairs games in March: Sunday, March 12, and Sunday, March 26.

The winners of the unit game in January were Alex Engelmeier & George Duncan, 65.05%. Having big games were Larry Quenzer & Peter Sager (74.40%); Dick Crocker & Joe Taggard (74.31%); Michael Hartnett & Nancy Ferguson (71.11%) and Lani Valentine & Vicki Quinn (70.24%).

Many Marin players came home with points from the Monterey Regional but there's only room for our 1st placers. Matthew Quint & partner (Daylight Pairs); Gene Simpson & team (M/T KO1; W/Th am Swiss A); Naomi Spiegelman & part-

ner (299er Pairs); Tracey Bauer & partner (Th ABC Open Pairs B); Carole Liss & team (a.m. Swiss A); Andrea Ventris & Stan Green (299er D); and Loretta Bromberg & team (Senior Swiss A).

Last month I mentioned that games at the Crossley Bridge Club will be using "The Common Game" where scores are match pointed against thousands of others playing the same hands across North America. Expert hand analysis and personal playing analytics are also provided as a learning tool. The Monday and Tuesday games at Pickleweed have been successfully using The Common Game for a while. Now we have no excuse for not improving our game!

Speaking of improving our game, Bruce Blakely presented an excellent lesson on "When to Draw Trump, and When Not To" before the January unit game. The next formal educational opportunity will be Thursday, May 11. Mark your calendars to spend the day at the Next Key Center in Novato learning with Jerry Helms, teacher, author and expert player. Jerry will be talking on "Defend to Win!" in the morning and "Maximize taking tricks!" in the afternoon. The \$80 registration fee includes lunch. Space is limited and registration closes May 3. Send your check made out to ACBL Unit 508 to Rita Schaulat, 526 Entrada, Apartment 103, Novato 94903. Inquiries to Rita (415 444-6517 ritaschaulat@gmail.com), or Chris (415 888-8788 koehlerchristine@gmail.com).

Find a partner, find a team and come to the Unit 508 Marin Spring Sectional April 22 & 23. There's a two session Stratified Open Pairs on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Single session 0-50, 299er and Stratified Pairs at both those times also. Sunday there is a two session Bracketed Swiss Teams (10:00 a.m. & TBD) and, new this year, a single session Stratified Pairs at 10:00 a.m.

Remember: "When you are in a bad contract, be an optimist. When you are in a good contract, be a pessimist."

Modesto/Merced/Sonora

By Gail Vick

Winter has arrived, and we are surrounded by the coziness of a little fog and much needed rain and the howling of the wind! A time to stay indoors and play bridge!

Bill Gilmore, an avid duplicate bridge player in the 70s, 80s, 90s, and into the early years of 2000, passed away in December. He was 85, a Life Master, very kind, humble and laid back.

Many of our unit went to Monterey; however, several stayed short, due to the inclement weather, returning home early. The top winners in Monterey were Bruce Ruskin with 31.20 points, ranking at 115, Lee Maddox won 14.41 points, ranking at 313, Pat Gallo and Dee Heller attaining 9.17 points each, ranking at 536, and Mike Saeler with 7.95 points, ranking at 595. Others that placed in order of ranking in their events, were Barbara Page, Gail Vick, Libby Longstreth, Christine Barkley, Marcia/Jim Laird, Bob Rodenheizer, Ralph Jungwirth, Trelle Uhl, Kathy High, Vickie MacClyment, Pam Sands, Sherrie Barakatt, Connie Arnold and Judy Remmers.

Mary Sue Moore & Joyce Ielmini were the high scoring winners of the unit game on January 15, with 58.33%. Highest percentage for the month went to Bruce Ruskin & Frank Frohman with 70.54%.

The beginning/intermediate Sunday Group had a game on January 1, with high game by Pat Gallo & Barbara Bogart with 63.33%, and Sherrie Barakatt & Mike Saeler were 1C/2B/3A.

Congratulations to Judy Remmers who has reached the status of a Bronze Life Master.

The Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs masterpoint races have come to a close. First place unit honors for Mini-M go to: 0-5, Michael Saeler (both); 5-20, Wes Remmers; 20-50, Sharon Von Tersche; 50-100, Michael Modest of Merced (both); 100-200, Christine Barkley (both); 200-300, Pam Sands; 300-500, Barbara Page; 500-1000, David Jenkins of Sonora; 1000-1500, Frank Frohman (both); 1500-2500, Lee Maddocks; 2500-3500, Ray Adams (both); 3500-5000, James Kenyon (both); 5000-7500, Chris Brown (both).

First place in the AC are: 5-20, Hermione Isakow of Merced; 20-50, Mildred (Mickey) Holt; 200-300, Everett Nagode of Stockton; 300-500, Dave Terry of Merced; 500-1000, Dave Jenkins of Sonora; 500-1000, Dennis Northern of Merced; 1000-1500, Frank Frohman; 1500-2500, Robert Frohman of Gilroy.

Sunday, the 22nd saw "The Return of the Engebretsen's!" Apparently, John & Imogene had been distracted by the never-ending football bowl season which, for reasons only known to the bowl masters, finally ended. The duo celebrated by having a near Engebretsen, finishing 1C/1B/2A. Unfortunately for the Engebretsen's, the cards were hot for Libby Longstreth & Chris Barkley who turned in a very nice 68% game to win A. Sunday also saw the return of the Von Tersches, Neil & Sharon who showed they had not forgotten the game either, by crossing the finish line into the land of "masterpoints." Joyce Rudesill & Jeanne Russo finished out the month with 64%.

Our monthly winners were: 1st, Libby Longstreth and Chris Barkley; 2nd, Barbara Bogart; 3rd, Pat Gallo; 4th, Joyce Rudesill and Jeanne Russo. 1st in B was Barbara Bogart and 1st in C was Debbie DeZarn. Congratulations to you all.

News from Sonora and the Foothills: The January players of the month: Monday, Duane Oneto and Rich Banks, 2.91 points; Tuesday, Dana Davis, 1.52; Wednesday, Dave Jenkins, 1.99; Friday, Duane and Vicky Oneto, 2.99.

The big game for the month was 74.70% by Bonnie Landis & Dave Jenkins.

Alan & Susan Hamilton returned from a holiday cruise through the Panama Canal just in time to join their team partners Bob & Lydia Solomon at the Monterey Regional. They won a Knockout Teams event, and placed in a Swiss Teams bringing home 21 plus points. Christine Vanderliet & Catherine Holt enjoyed their first 49er game in Monterey, winning red points.

Alan Hamilton has also taken over as the director of our Monday and Tuesday game as of January 1, allowing Duane Oneto to semi-retire after many years of service.

Monterey

By Mary Block

Erratum: Lyde McReynolds is now teaching the intermediate Bridge classes at the Carmel Foundation, having picked up the baton from Jill Leach.

The Monterey Clambake is in the books for another year. Thanks to all the local volunteers who worked morning, noon, and night and our own indefatigable Donna Jett: Debbie Anthony, Louise Barnard, Mary Block, Stephanie Booth, Debbie Davis, Hetty Eddy, Barbara Genovese, Bev Gillfillen, Maria Gussner, Scott Hanham, Leon Heller, Pat Heller, Heidi Hollman, Betty Jackson, Janet Kanstrup, Susan Mazzei, Susan Mehra, Bee Melendez, Marguerite Primrose, Betty Prunty, Norma Riggs, Kurt Schnebele, Arlene Seckel, Bob Sokol, and Dennis VanMiddlesworth.

The high masterpoint winners from Unit 530 were Rita Shugart (48.57) and Jackie Stewart (39.76).

NAP -- Continued from page 1

3rd Andrea Ventris & Henry Kingdon
4th Sarah Youngquist & Cornelius Duffie.

Time is closing soon to pre-register for the Grand National Teams. For Flight A, deadline is March 15. Information is on the D21 website under GNT; then hit GNT A.

For more information: jackieo@sonic.net