



District 21 Unitscope

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tournament in Santa Rosa. Unit game is on March 25, a chance to earn extra black MPs, \$9.00.

John & Patty Shribbs traveled by RV to three tournaments in January, combining family, tourism and bridge, earning 30 MPs, including 10 gold, reaching the half-way point toward their Life Master goal. Doris Leckie turns 100 in March; "cake" day to be announced.

BG Calendar: Competitive Bidding, Bridge Basics II, starts Thursday mornings March 3, 9:30-11:30 a.m. with Kate Hill and Tuesday evenings, March 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m. with Kathy Venton. Unit 509 Calendar: March 12, Daylight Savings begins; Spring forward. March 18-19, Santa Rosa Sectional, new start times both days are 10:00 a.m.; see poster on our Facebook page, ACBL Unit 509 Santa Rosa CA. March 20, first day of Spring! April 2, Unit 509's Mini-McKenny and Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Awards celebration at 12:30 p.m., followed by a unit game at 1:00 p.m. 2016, 1st place winners were Robert Keays, Karen Aabel, Pat Lebeck, Ron Welch, John Shribbs, Ron Chestnut, Nancy Stetson, Larry Spanier, Patty Hertz, Peter Lit, Chris Flindt, Nancy Gunn, Kathy Venton, Sara Rothmuller, Bob Klein, Erwin Linzner and Carlos D'Assumpcao.

The Buzz: (1) If Mark Hersko gives you a ride to the Bridge Gallery and you want him to give you a ride home, take his car keys; just ask Pat Frenaye.

(2) Abbe Cohen is the "evil queen" in the A Theatre for Children production of McQuadle: A Dragon's Tale, a show for children, playing in early March.

(3) Ron Chestnut and his partner, and Nancy Stetson and her partner, just happened to be playing in teams games at Monterey with Conrad Larkin and his partners when they each reached the magic number of gold points they needed to become Life Masters. I've always suspected that Conrad was a lucky charm; now I'm sure of it! So if you need just a few more gold points.

(4) Cecelia Zachar is now directing Unit 509 games in both Petaluma and Santa Rosa.

(5) Welcome back to Nilesh Gheewala after a serious head injury. Healing thoughts to Peg Devine who recently broke her ankle. And we're missing you,

Bob Klein.

I don't know much about the non-bridge life of most of the people I spend quite a lot of time with and, frankly, I'm curious. If you feel the same way, help me start a new feature in *Forum* called "Did you know that X?" If you, or someone you know in Unit 509, has done or is doing something notable or unusual in his or her life, just drop me an email. I will use good judgment before including the item and/or will check in with the person first.

Please send items or corrections for *Forum* to nancyemilystetson@yahoo.com Sometimes a longer edition of *Forum* is posted on Facebook "ACBL Unit 509 Santa Rosa CA"

Silicon Valley

By Ray Yuenger

Our Spring Sectional is taking place this month at two different venues. There is a Friday evening pairs game March 24 at the San Jose Bridge Center at 1190 S. Bascom Avenue, Suite 105, in San Jose. Pairs on Saturday the 25th and teams on Sunday the 26th will be at the usual location at West Valley College. Please see our flyer in this newspaper for the details.

At the Monterey Regional, in two-session Open Pairs games, Cheryl Mandala & Yul Inn took 1st. Earning stratification tops were Tony Trebaol (twice), Phyllis Vierra, and Frank Xie, with section tops to Bill Langlois & Bill Riester, Don Nemiro & Betty De Paola, Paul Nelson & Bob Ritz, Will Watson, Elenalani Lam & Dorr Clark, and Stu Goodgold & Bob Ritz.

Vera Huelbig placed 1st in the Gold Rush Pairs. Section tops went to Joan Schlinkert, Jory Segal (twice) & Roger Joseph. Roy Tsai & Judith Hecht took 1st in a 299er Pairs game. Susan Dietz & Joanne Quermann were 1st in a 99er Pairs game.

On winning Knockout teams were Brenna Wundram & Mary Steele; George Welch & Stacie Bowman; and Pangjie Xu. Prevailing in their Swiss stratification were Alan Wood & Michael Hughes.

At the San Francisco Sectional, Anne Bossange & Roy Tsai placed 1st in a 499er Pairs game. Will Watson's Swiss team was 1st in the open bracket. Pre-

vailing in their respective brackets were Shailesh Sampat, Lynn Bartz, Annette Powers, Andy Scott & Gavin Scott; and Shrikant Sathe & Sudha Verma.

At the Livermore Sectional, K-P Cheng & Daren Kuo were 1st in an Open Pairs game, while Jie-Ren Shih had a strat top. Prevailing in their teams bracket were George Welch, Andy Scott & Linda Rocha.

First in Flight B of the District 21 North American Pairs were Qing Yang & Elenalani Lam. Second were Luen-Jyh Luo & Tsao-Tung Tsai.

Congratulations to our unit's newest Masters: Steven Jacobson, Kyoko Oga-wa, Lea Pavlovich (Junior); Jerry Arden, Thomas Morse (Club); Arki Galicki (Sectional); Hadi Eslambolchi, Judy Reeve, Mike Wyman (Regional); Timothy Maloney (NABC); and Roger Joseph (Advanced NABC).

If you have any suggestions for making evening club games more inviting, please let me know. From what I read, bridge players across the country are less inclined to play evening club games, but maybe there's a new format worth trying.

South County

By Kate Hare

The new Hayward 500 Bridge Club has had a very successful start with an average attendance of seven full tables a week. All players with less than 500 MPs are welcome to play. The club is well organized and expertly run by directors Sarah Simmerman and Barbara Dabney. Prior to play there is a half-hour lesson and discussion of hands lead by Don Bierman. As a way to encourage newcomer/intermediate players to participate, every player is allowed to ask the director one instructional question during play. There are games Monday through Friday in Unit 500. There is also talk among some directors that there may soon be an additional opportunity for sanctioned play in the southernmost part of the unit. Visit the unit's website for developments on that possibility.

Tournament Trail: The Monterey Clambake Regional was well attended by South County players. There were 17,083.65 masterpoints awarded to 1,523 players and Unit 500 players brought home their share. Even though the results have already been posted, acknowledge-

ment here is appropriate for players who took 1st place in their respective events. Bo & Brent Xiao, Darlene Mayhew & Norma Bozzini and Ethan Liu & partner all had 1sts in the Open Pairs events in which they participated. In side pairs games, Carla Francis & partner and Jean Wood & partner were winners.

In the Jack Lemmon KOs, Kunio Okui's team ranked number one. In the Daylight Pairs, Carla had another 1st, as did Alan Davis & partner. In the 299 Pairs, Olga Swartz & partner were big winners. Tina & Bob Kahn were tops in the Gold Swiss Teams and in the Cypress KOs, Rory & Bo Xiao and team reigned supreme.

Congratulations to them and all players who brought home points!

Big Wins: Vince De Pasquale & Bill Schoenemann had a great game at the Inter-club Championship at Redwood Bridge Club in January. They placed 2nd overall in the ACBL-wide event and earned over 10 MPs! That win gave Vince the points he needed to move up in rank to Gold Life Master! Well done.

If you have any ideas for ways to increase membership please share them with any board member or club director. Your input is appreciated.

Advancements: There were a few Master rank changes: Olga Swartz (Sectional) and Vince De Pasquale (Gold Life). Congratulations!

Stockton

By Wendy Buchanan

Oops, I have egg on my face! Last month I mentioned SBC is hosting a sectional in September on the Delta Queen. The tournament is still afloat ... but will occur on the Klamath.

We continue to have much to celebrate as Stockton Bridge Center members achieve milestones through acquiring masterpoints. Jack Fitzgerald recently became a Life Master, always a major milestone. Congratulations, Jack! We're very proud of your efforts and we know you are appreciative of Rose Knutson who partnered with you at several area sectionals recently to help you earn the required silver points.

Debbie Greenberg and Irmgard Owen earned Section Master status and Nelda Smith became a Club Master. Well played, ladies!

SBC: Tanya Alonzo led all players with 4.99 points for the month of January closely followed by Maryanne Sievers with 4.80 points. The highest percentage game for the month goes to Ann & Bill Nutting with a 69.29%; Doris Ashcroft & Pam Kitto had a 66.67% followed by Corey Baumbach & Joan Garcia with 67.41%.

SBC Intermediate: The Thursday game experienced the Godzilla of all bidding misunderstandings with an unnamed pair going down eight tricks, yes, you read that right, eight tricks!

We welcomed three new members into the fold: Barbara Gregory, Helen Wood, and Pete Cobb.

High game for January goes to Debbie DeZarn & Wendy Buchanan with a 63.74% closely followed by Cissy Hilken & Norma Fetters with a 61.07%.

Oak Park: Mort Horn and Dennis Del Paine were the masterpoint leaders for January with 3.89 points. The top game was played by Doris Ashcroft & Pam Kitto with 70.83%. Maria Uriz & Marilyn Rickard had the top hand this month with a 1460.

Oak Park welcomed new players, David & Pat Hixon as well as the Helen & Helen team, Wood and Scott respectively.

Because the SBC-Oak Park journalist will be cruising the Caribbean with Audrey Grant the end of February, beginning of March, there will be no *Forum* column next month.

Almond Blossom Sectional Unit #457 Chico, CA March 17th - 19th 2017

Friday: March 17th

10:00 AM and 3:00 PM
Stratified Open Pairs: Single Sessions
Stratified 299'ers: Single Session

Saturday: March 18th

10:00 AM and 3:00 PM
Stratified Open Pairs: Double Session
(Grass Roots Fund Game, Play Through)
Stratified Single Sessions Welcome
Stratified 299'ers: Single Session

Sunday March 19th

Stratified Swiss Teams
10:00AM & TBA
Stratified Open Teams
20 point Victory Scale
6 Boards/ 8 Rounds out by 5:30 PM

Open Pairs Stratification:

A=2000 & up
B=750-2000
C=0-750
D=100-300, E=50-100, F=0-50
(Stratifications may be adjusted by Director)

Partnership: Fay Frazier:

Phone # 530-892-0350 /Cell: 228-9046
e-mail: cfrazier@saber.net

Tournament Chair: Doug Jacobs:

Phone # 530-342-6144

Unit # 457 Sanction #S1703082

Entry Fee: \$10.00 per Session

(Non ACBL & / or Unpaid member fees: \$13.00)

There will be sandwiches, etc. to purchase
for intermission during the Sunday Session

This is a Zero Tolerance policy event
Eagles Hall - 1940 Mulberry, Chico, CA

