

CONTRACT BRIDGE FORUM

The Western Conference



Happy
St. Patrick's Day!

www.acbldistrict22.com

Volume 92 - Issue 3 - March 2017

72nd Pacific Southwest Regional San Diego, April 10-16, 2017



San Diego's Beautiful Town and Country Resort & Convention Center in Mission Valley



By Lamya Agelidis
Tournament
Co-Chair

Now that the Riverside Super Bowl Regional is over, it's time to look forward to the next District 22 regional: this

one is set – for the 38th time – in the Town & Country Resort and Convention Center in beautiful San Diego. Hurry up and make your reservations: rooms are booking up!

What events should you play in? Well, you'll be spoiled with even more choices this year. In response to the growing popularity of the Bracketed Swiss Teams event, we have introduced that two-session event on Thursday this year, in addition to the one we introduced last year to kick off the tournament on Monday. And ... no need to go out between the Monday afternoon and evening sessions of this Bracketed Swiss, since we'll be regaling you with a complimentary light dinner!

We'll offer Knockout Teams galore, starting on Tues.-Wed.-Thur. and Sat., and Swiss Teams across two evenings Tues.-Wed. and Thur.-Fri. If you enjoy a more relaxed setting, kick off those shoes and join us in the evening side games Tuesday through Friday, offered at 2 for the price of 1!

If you prefer pairs games, there's no shortage of that at our regional, with single session side games, or double sessions pairs games. Featured again this

year is the popular Friday IMP Pairs with IMP scoring.

Intermediate/Newcomer players, you're in luck! Apart from the almost daily Gold Rush Pairs two-session events offered Tuesday through Saturday, you can sign up online for a *free* mentoring opportunity to play with one of our local players, who may have as few as 800 points ... or as much as 15,000 points! First come, first served, so put in your request quickly at pacificsouthwestregional.com

Free I/N receptions, *free* bridge lessons, *free* tips and handouts are just a few things you can enjoy during this week.

Tournament co-chairs Lamya Agelidis and Bill Grant are looking forward to hosting you. Drop by the hospitality booth staffed by volunteers from the various units to pick up a new sticker (and a candy for that extra sugar boost during the game!), and hopefully a prize or two if you score a section top or overall win. Let Jim and Shay Andrews find you partners if you're in need, and allow Marge Van Hemert to show off her team of great caddies!

More information can be found on our website: www.pacific-southwestregional.com.

Tom Adams: Centenarian



Tom Adams

February 8 was Tom Adams' 100th birthday. There was a celebration brunch & party before Judy's Game at the J & J Bridge Club in Costa Mesa, cooking done by

locals. Tom moved from the San Fernando Unit to Huntington Beach and the Balboa Unit 16 years ago. He is a Diamond Life Master who, with his regular partner Ethyl McDermott, won several regional events in the 70s, 80s and 90s. Tom is one of 11 siblings – all of whom lived into their 90s, and his mother to 105!

Peter Rank 1938-2017



Peter Rank

District 22 has lost an icon of bridge: Peter Rank of Palm Springs who died at his home on February 11. Peter was a long time partner of the great Barry Crane and in 1965 won the Top 500 (McKenney Trophy) playing mostly with Crane. Peter

was also the youngest person ever to make Life Master, but held that title for only one year.

Peter had a successful law career, including the past 15 years as ACBL League Counsel. He retired last July and was devoting his time and many talents to producing his newest Broadway type show for our Fall NABC in San Diego: "There is Nothing Like a Game!"



Bill's Back Burner

By Bill Grant
District 22 President

Our Riverside Super Bowl Regional was a big success this year, with 1358 ½ tables – up 33 ½ tables from 2016. Besides the great venue (I love walking down that beautiful mall deciding where to eat), great bridge and I/N program (thanks to DIC Arleen Harvey and coordinator Maritha Pottenger), there were great hotel accommodations. We owe a huge part of that success to District Director Ken Monzingo, co-chair Lamya Agelidis, and partnership chair, Riverside's own Mary Ann Braden, all of whom stepped in to fill the huge void left by our dear Teri Atkinson, who ran this tournament in recent years. Teri's memorial services were held February 6 in Bakersfield. Unit 539 President Lamya, by the way, also chairs our Pacific Southwest Regional (April 10-16) as well as two annual San Diego sectionals. Thanks to all these people for their hard work!

D22 Regional Success

Two more big tournament success stories have occurred recently in the Palm Springs area.

In December our yearly Holiday Regional in Rancho Mirage was up 54 ½ tables to a total of 3930 ½, marking its 10th straight year over 3000 tables, and again the second largest in the country, beaten only by Gatlinburg. And in January Palm Springs Unit 533 hosted their second four-day 0-750 NLM (Non-Life Master) Regional with 481 tables attending, beating their first one (and our district's first) in 2016 by 29 tables.

These Palm Springs I/N Regionals have set national records, and we extend hearty congratulations to Nance Lodge, Unit 533 President, her husband David Lodge, DIC Scott Campbell, and all the Unit 533 volunteers. We also congratulate top masterpoint winners Terry Schroeder, Joe Hopkins (Flight A/B) and Xiaobin Sun and Mac Becket (Flight C). We're hoping other units in our district might like to follow suit with their own NLM regional tournaments: 25% gold in overall awards and section tops in two session events. No player may be Life Master or have over 750 MPs. Please contact your area representative if interested.

Learn Bridge in a Day

Another big success occurred on Saturday, January 29, at the Laguna Woods Bridge Club, where they held a Learn Bridge in a Day taught by Sharon Biderman and Marjorie Michelin, with 74 attendees, 40 of whom signed up for further lessons. The local Saddleback Unit contributed \$500 and paid for the teachers, and the district kicked in \$100. Education chairman Ed Cowan (email edjean.lw@gmail.com) welcomes questions about the setup.

Ventura Regional

Finally, I'm extremely happy to report that Diane Gunther, Newbury Park, our newly elected Area I district representative (Unit 532, Thousand Oaks) to the D22 Board of Directors has volunteered to chair our Ventura Halloween Regional, October 30-November 5. Let's all wish her the best!

Teri Atkinson – 1936-2017



Teri Atkinson

Teri Atkinson, our beloved chairman of both the Riverside and Ventura Regionals, passed away Saturday, January 21, at her home in Bakersfield. She had bravely battled a cancer problem for years, but was active up to the final months.

Teri held many jobs in bridge: president of the district, long-time member of the Western Conference Board, and First Alternate to the National Board of Directors, as well as tournament manager.

Janis Terrel "Teri" Atkinson was born in Buffalo, Oklahoma, on August 26, 1936. In the summer of 1953, she moved with her

mother to southern California where she met and then married James Atkinson in November 1954. They had three children and moved to Bakersfield in 1963. It was here that Teri began taking college courses at Bakersfield College while the kids were in school. She then went on to Cal State Bakersfield where she earned a Bachelor's Degree and a Masters Degree. She taught school for several years and went on to become a middle school principal in Moreno Valley and Santa Clarita. She moved back to Bakersfield in 2002 and became very active in our world. Always the consummate teacher, she began teaching others her passion, the game of bridge.

Memorial Services were held in Bakersfield February 6.

District 22 Forum Copy/Ad Deadlines

The *Forum* deadline for all articles, and all ads, is the 5th of the preceding month.

Email all unit reports and sectional ads to: kenm@kenmonzingo.com

All ads must be prepaid, payable to D22 ACBL c/o David Lodge, Treasurer 219 Loch Lomond Road Rancho Mirage CA 92270

Change of Address
Send change of address to: addresschange@acbl.org or snail mail to ACBL: Address Change P.O. Box 289 Horn Lake MS 38637