



What's New in District 22

(Continued from page 9)

Chaganlal and Louis Block, Kathy Revello and Ellie Elphick and Sue Boyle and Bob Moore.

Thank you to Adele Gerstenhaber for her grace and expertise in arranging for the delicious luncheon in Coronado. And a special shout-out goes to Eleanor Kipperman, the esteemed former national director who stepped in to direct two games in Coronado when the regular directors could not be with us. We appreciate Eleanor's cheerful competence, as well as her long-time devotion to the club.

San Diego Bridge Club: Dan Molnar and Bob Shapley won three times. Other winners were Cheryl Rankin and Kevin Lewis and Louis Block and Gary Piazoni.

Desert Cities

By Nancy Erickson

March Desert Cities Unit 533 held its annual meeting on January 29 at the Duncan Bridge Center. Outgoing president Nance Lodge shared with the membership the list of accomplishments achieved in 2016. David Lodge, treasurer of District 22 presented the unit with a check for \$4,500 ... our share from the very successful and profitable NLM Regional co-hosted by the unit and district. Treasurer Bill Dani reported the treasury has \$28,565, with the added check of \$4,500; the new board will start the year with \$33,065.

Three directors were elected at the meeting: Sally Corey and William Stine, who both currently serve, and newcomer Shirley Gibson. President Lodge also announced, with deep regret, the resignations of Mac Becket and Don Freeland. The unit owes such a debt of gratitude to these two men for their significant contributions to the board, most notably in the creation and maintenance of the unit's website.

Following the meeting, attendees participated in the final game of the District 22 and 23 Winter STAC competition. Congratulations to the winners: open overall - Joseph Radvansky & Rosalyn Borys, N/S and 1st E/W - Bob Wernick & Merle Friedman. In the 499ers overall - Judy Mesjak & Terry Schreder and E/W 1st N/S - Marty Martin & Ken Davis.

The unit at its organizational meeting elected William Stine, president, Susan Tracey, VP, Sally Corey, secretary and Shirley Gibson, assistant treasurer. Bill Dani will continue as the appointed non-voting treasurer. He will begin to train Shirley to assume his duties. The board has also appointed Sanford Hertz and Carol Wilkinson to fill the seats created by the resignations.

The results of the Sun and Fun Sectional will appear here next month.

Marjean Larson and Glenna Shannahan are offering classes in March at DBC; please visit our website bridgewebs.com/acblunit533/ for more specific details. Bev Hartin reports that Monday's Novice 0-20 Supervised Play with Mimi David has resumed. Mick Riccio's Mick's Club will hold a GNT qualifier in March, please check his website, bridgewebs.com/mick/ for more specifics.

Mark your calendar the Unit 533 Awards Presentation and Game is Sunday, April 2, at DBC.

We welcome Don Barr, Lynn Brooks, Ronald Gauny, Lawry Ross, Barbara Segal, Gary Sitzmann, Lindy Sitzmann and Millie Taylor to our family of ACBL duplicate bridge players.

Major promotions by ACBL since our last article include: Ruby Life Master Jim Lopes; Silver Life Master Zora Bain, Francesca Luzuriaga and Eva Nyiri; Bronze Life Master Lynne Castoldi and Life Master Ken Davis and Hiyam Vanderwilde. All other promotions are posted on the unit's website.

Unit 533 lost an icon. On February 11, retired ACBL League Counsel Peter Rank passed away unexpectedly. His loss cannot be measured - he was a giant among men. The unit also expresses its

sympathy to the family, friends and partners of Ric Goodwin, Rami Monsky, Rob Sommer and Patsy Esfeld. They will be missed.

La Jolla/Beach

By Skipbid

Lynne O'Neill and Bill Grant took 1st overall in our January 8 unit game, with Flight B going to Janice Joerger and Mike Munson and Flight C to Ramey Farah and Victoria Haines.

On January 15 Elaine Chan and Jennifer Prairie won both Flights A and B, with Matthew Kidd and Ruth Ng taking Flight C. In our third game this month, on January 29, Carolyn Casey - Marilyn Peters-Dunn were the big winners, capturing all flights: A, B, and C.

The unit welcomes new members Elaine Cohen, Gregory Hansen, and Frank Mulligan. And our advancements in ACBL rank this month occurred in a record-breaking eight categories: new Junior Master - Frances McCloskey; new Sectional Master - Sandy Sherman; new Regional Master - Scott Van Hoften; new NABC Master - Sharon Pratt; and new Life Master - Mary Ann Scher. And three big ACBL jewels were won as follows: new Silver (1000+) Life Master - Robert Garin; new Gold (2500+) Life Master - Elaine Chan; and new Emerald (7500+) Life Master - David Abelov.

Great job, all! (Please refer to this column for a free play in February or March.)

Lompoc

By Lynley Bernau

The rainy days of January were well spent at the bridge table. Many had planned to attend the Monterey Regional, but the weather kept them home. Suzanne Budabin and Nick Segal, also Skook Porter and Don Beck braved the storms and had success gathering red points. Suzanne and Nick are veteran regional and sectional travelers, and are in Riverside at this time. They are very successful at all the tournaments they attend. Congratulations to them: they represent Unit 528 very well.

Many plan to play in the Swiss Teams event in Santa Barbara on Sunday, February 12. We wish them great games and much success. There are several sectionals in the near future, and many of our players look forward to attending.

Our winners for the month of January are: Malcolm Anderson, Ada Bakalar (3), Don Beck (2), Lynley Bernau (4), Suzanne Budabin (3), Joyce Gehlhaar (3), Jo Gowenlock, Maralynn Haney, Tom Hodges (3), Barbara Holt, Charles Littlejohn (2), Lynn (Skook) Porter (2), Mike Scavone (2), Nick Segal (3), Tom Small, Frank Swanson (5).

Congratulations to all.

Special congratulations to Frank Swanson with five wins. He has certainly become one of our top players, playing with several partners.

The Solvang/Buellton game has a new facility which works very well. The table numbers have picked up. It's well worth the drive across the Valley for the Lompoc folks.

Our best wishes and concern go to Malcolm Anderson, who is having some health problems. We do hope he feels better soon and is able to return to our games in the near future. We miss him. He has always been a tremendous help with our September sectional, and, great asset to our unit.

May February bring sunny days, great games, good luck and lots of points.

Bye til next month.

Ridgecrest

By Tony Miller

We lost one of our players late last year. Kathleen Sat moved here several years ago from Orange County. She had a brief illness

and didn't respond to treatment.

On January 31 we began meeting at a new venue for all of our games. We are now at the Masonic Hall in Ridgecrest. After two decades at the Santiago Ridgecrest Estates clubhouse, the new manager really didn't want us there.

We participated in STAC games in December and January. Unfortunately we can't get the five tables necessary for the open game; in some instances we were the only game in what is called the Auxiliary Pairs. Dave and Mary Flatman had a massive 75.5% on the Sunday afternoon game.

We had some other big games: Greg Vernon and I had a 77.5% on December 30. Sounds impressive, but easier to do in a 2 1/2 table game.

The COM Bridge Club held a charity game in December that raised \$125.00 for Cystic Fibrosis. COM manager Mary Kay Bornfleth and her husband Jay are back playing. She suffered a fall this summer, and couldn't use her hands for several months.

Riverside

By Nancy Alvarado

As I write this, the Super Bowl remains undecided and the Riverside Regional is still in progress. Mary Ann Braden has been doing double-duty at the regional as both Hospitality and Partnership chair, handing out T-shirts, cups and bags to winners, and pairing up eager combatants. She is no doubt looking forward to a rest and return to our peaceful club where there are no complaints, no demands on her time, and no one asking her where to buy a sandwich. Welcome to Dwaine Hawley, visiting from Mexico, who dropped by to find partners for the regional and play in the club at the end of January. Many of us are playing at the regional - results here and next month.

Dagmar's Wednesday game is specifically for those discovering duplicate bridge after playing socially. Fern Thomson provides a free hands-on lesson at 10:30, then play begins at 12:00. The atmosphere is casual and friendly and there is bidding help for newcomers and lots of snacks. Partners are provided if you need one. It is a great way to get involved in both the club and the game after an absence. Welcome last month to Tish Fleming and Aniece Amos. For those who are becoming more comfortable with duplicate procedures, the Friday game lets you ease into more competitive play. It is limited to intermediate players and you can come without a partner. It may seem intimidating but Terry and his gang are basically friendly and will help you learn while you play.

The January Sunday unit game was well attended, beginning with our famous potluck followed by a highly competitive game that was dominated by a smoking 75% score by the winners Jim Tanner - Bill Hamann, followed by Bipin Patel - Paul Caslavka, Pat Mascari - Tony Mascari, and Mona Busick - Shirley Raney. The first Saturday unit game was an individual game won by Mary Ann Braden. Adelle Beck and Mona Busick tied for 2nd, and Holly Marks and Nancy Alvarado tied for 3rd. No partner is needed at this game because everyone rotates and plays with everyone else attending, to determine an overall winner.

A Sectional Tournament at Clubs (STAC) awards silver points to players during a special sectional game held at our club in which the same hands are played concurrently at many different clubs. There are hand records and winners compete in overalls for additional silver points - if we can muster the minimum of five tables. We were short one table at January's STAC - where were you? Winning silver were Terry Berg - Paul Caslavka, Owen Kustner - Bill Hamann, Dave Ruoff - Millie Garrison, Blaine Hawley - Bob Stotts. Winning scores were high enough that they surely would have won extra silver in the overalls if we had just put together one more table. Maybe next time.

Saddleback

By Robert Micone

Welcome Unit 525 members to a busy month and a number of accomplishments from our members. We start out with Junior Masters Julie and Samuel Schreiber as well as New Club Masters Kathryn Grantham, Barry Jacobs, Dr. Philip Stein and Gretchen Thompson. New Sectional Masters include Gary Benike, Mary Kay Dargan, Yie-Fann Hao and Thomas Loh. New Regional Master Maria Glasgow. New Bronze Life Master Myrna "Cookie" Kupperman and New Ruby Life Master, my friendly partner, Al Martinez.

Congratulations to all these advancing players as they move up in rank. Other accomplishments: the Riverside Regional just completed and Unit 525 member Joe Mack was on the winning team in the Saturday Compact Knockout ... congratulations to Joe who also finished 2nd in GNTeams in Washington last summer. I think he's due for some 1sts!

The January unit game was won by David and Rita Wakeman with a 67.6% game. They shared with me that they have now been married for 50 years and that just proves that husband and wife teams can last a long time and do very well in the game of bridge. The Laguna Woods Club held a "Learn Bridge in a Day" seminar in late January and 20 tables or 80 new players showed up to learn this game of a lifetime. Many of them also signed up for a continuing series of classes and lectures to improve their skills because the better they get, the more they will enjoy the game as we all know. Next month we will be holding the annual summary for the winners of Ace of Club and the unit Mini-McKenney winners. A special shout-out to May Mengstab and Wayne Gorski for winning the Sectional Master and the Regional Master District 22 Mini-McKenney championships. These are substantial accomplishments that are very difficult to achieve to beat everybody else in your bracket in a given year. So when you see Mae and Wayne, give them a special pat on the back.

I welcome our new members this month: Lynn Bisciegia, Judy Teverbaugh and Catherine Whitney. Please introduce yourself to others in your games so you can find new partners and get more involved.

Until next month and the Mini-McKenney and Ace of Club Awards, I wish the rain would stop someday so that we could walk to the club rather than put an umbrella over our golf carts.

Have a great month at the tables.

San Diego

By Vicki Creamer

Thanks to Wirt Gilliam, who annually hosts a New Year's Day game, for taking over our first Sunday, January 1. Good bridge, good food, the usual! Open winners were Lilliane Kirchoff - Rick Roeder; Flight B, Larry Sherman - Ken Batko; Flight C, Alex & Jenny Prairie. Winners in the 1499er strat were Batia Kvashny - Marge Van Hemert; Flight B, Mina Taylor - Bonnie Sattler (also winners in Flight C). Remember there is always a free lesson before our games given by Maritha Pottenger, or Tom Herzog, our special teacher who fills in when she's not available.

Third Sunday open winners were Lynne Newman - Randall Dougherty; Flight B, Robert Mann - Supriyo Datta, also winners in Flight C. Winners of the 999er strat were Jan & Lynne Erikson; Flight B, Sharyn Pyrz - Pat Sullivan; Flight C, Barbara Boisvert - Joanna Daam. Hospitality was provided by Barb Holles, with help by Ron and Mary Huffaker, as usual. Special thanks to our director, Davis Bennett. Not only did he direct, but called an extra player and joined the game to make an even number of tables.

Thanks, Davis!

Milestones: Junior Master: Barbara