

What's New in District 22

information at 760 734-4518.

Reminder: Lake San Marcos Duplicate Bridge Club is back to its roots at Lake San Marcos Pavilion, 1105 La Bonita Drive. New card fees will be \$7.00. Same location as the unit games. Much better parking! More space! Nice kitchen!

The Wednesday game starts at 10:30 a.m. and includes a Free Chalk Talk starting at 9:30 a.m. by Jean Holt, snacks and coffee. Players are asked to bring a bag lunch if they desire. The cost is \$7.00 for chalk talk and game. For information call Jean at 760 734-4518 or Nina at 760 736-9386. Address is 1105 La Bonita Drive, San Marcos 92078.

ACBL Ramona Duplicate Bridge 1721 Main St. Ramona 92065 #101; Club manager: Mary Ann Houston 760 789-1132 houston6805@sbcglobal.net

Game times: Tuesday 3:00 p.m., Wednesday 9:30 a.m.; Thursday at 6:00 p.m. and Friday at 9:30 a.m. Call for classes and additional bridge activities.

San Luis Obispo

By Bud Zeuschner

With games and winners and achievements from Paso Robles to Nipomo, bridge on the Central Coast in January got 2017 off to a rousing start. Special kudos to new Club Master Robert Conover, and to Regional Master Donna Kimber. Nice milestones to celebrate!

Our special games included the ACBL Junior Fund benefit game played on January 19 at 5-Cities, where the C strats were won by Donna Kimber - Gary Gram, while A/B were swept by Linda and Burt Echtenkamp - great playing for a great cause. Not to be outdone, the SLO Club hosted its own Junior Fund benefit on Monday, January 30, and made it a duplicated Swiss event. Yes, you read that correctly, duplicated Swiss! We have Bill Ringbom leading the team that puts in many hours getting the many sets of boards ready so we all play the same hands and have a print out hand record at the end - much appreciation to this erstwhile crew! And who won, you ask? The A/B team winners were Jim Solomon, Doris Dunn, Cass Schwartz, Ellen Wu, while the top C team consisted of Jack Phirman, Robert Conover, Monique Levy and David Brown. A great game format we hope spreads to many units.

Speaking of units, our monthly championships were contested in SLO, as always, on the second Saturday, January 14, in SLO, with Jim Merzon - Bob Sendell 1st in A, Fred Strong - Pat Hallock winning the B flight, and Vandy Lesefko - Jack Phirman top spot in C.

Congrats, champs!

We also found time to celebrate the 90 years young Jean Lardon, and bright fixture at our tables since 2012. Born in Montreal, Jean worked (in secret) with the Canadian Research Council on their contributions to the Manhattan Project (is it okay if I let that out of the bag?). After the war, Jean visited New York and decided to stay, worked for Air France, where she met and married Henri Lardon. They had two daughters, and Jean earned degrees from Queens College and Columbia. Moving frequently for Henri's job advancements, Jean often taught French. They sailed the Caribbean for six years, and later bought a small flat in Brittany where they lived part time and part time in Miami. After Henri died in 2012, Jean relocated to SLO, and now graces our games with fine finesse to match panache - Happy 90th, Jean!

And we finished January with bang-up week of STAC games. District place winners on Monday were A: Gail Lapins - Gary Arthurs (SLO), B: Lynn McQuaid - George Godde (SLO), and C: Barbara and Frank Naylor (Paso Robles). Tuesday found Bettye and Michael Landino sweeping A/B/C in Morro Bay for a very nice district placement. Wednesday's STAC winners were Dave Elder - Torre Houlgate-West, with a district ranking of 3rd in A, but 1st in B - Wow!

Rick Shepard - Charlie Senn were close behind, in a 6/7 tie in C. STAC games

were offered both in Paso Robles and Five Cities on Thursday. Placing in the district overalls from Five Cities were Doris Dunn - Marilyn Bullock A and B, while Paso Robles players Marvin Seger - Jim Parks won 2nd in C for the district. Triple winners in the district-wide standing appeared on Friday. Gail and Al Lapins were 2nd overall in A, while Jim Sololmon - Cass Schwartz placed 2nd in B, and Judy Obermeier - Mike Carroll took the 3rd place slot among the district's C group. A fine showing by our great players at every level - hearty congratulations and hefty points!

March will kick off with our First Wednesday potluck dinner at the SLO Club, starting at 5:30 p.m. We will celebrate (a day late, I know), Mardi Gras with some good Creole, N'Ahwlins dishes, so get ready for Gumbo, Jambalaya - I know I'm planning to BE etouffe! Come eat and play, even if you can't bring a dish - there is always plenty! *Laissez les bon temps, rouler*, as Jean might say? See then, and in the meantime, deal me in!

Santa Barbara

By John Whittlesey

Our club is slowly recovering from The Big Flood. The fans are still blowing, but the entire club is now usable ... including the men's room! A big improvement.

As I write this, the duplicating machine is still out of action. Hopefully by Thursday it will be up and running again. In the meantime, keep shuffling, dealing, and playing those wild, distributional hands!

On January 29, the SBBC held what used to be an annual "Eight is Enough" teams game. Because of the HUGE (Donald Trump's favorite word; trying to be politically correct here) turnout, it has been decided to make it a bi-monthly event! The next one will be held on Sunday, February 26.

Thirteen teams showed up: six teams played in the open section, seven teams played in the 499er group. The winners in the open section were 1st Maria Black, Norma Jean Shaw, Mickey Rosenzweig, John Whittlesey; 2nd Richard Miller, Cheryl Miller, Joel Kreiner, Barbara Gowans.

In the 499er Section, winners were Mimi Draves, Jill Bellowe, Jody Shapiro, Perry Shapiro, with Joan Murdoch, Jo Lepley, Lylie Frances, John Maxwell in 2nd, and a 3/4 tie between Susan Case, Claude Case, Patti Monroe, Julie Antelman and Bronwen Jones, Jack Look, Mimi Putnam, Susanne Gillingham.

It's worth noting that in the open section the winners garnered 3.45 silver points for winning a six teams game ... one session! That should get a few more players interested in the next "Eight is Enough" game on February 26! A pizza lunch with Caesar Salad will be on the table, starting

at noon. That should bring in a few more players! Pizza lady ... please order at least one large ham and pineapple pizza.

The Santa Barbara 499er Spring Sectional will be March 11 and 12, at our club. There will be four single session Stratified Pairs games, at 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., respectively. Tournament Chair Catherine Pickett has more info at 805 680-7554 or catherine@pickett-thome.com

New Club Masters: Susanne Gillingham, Stina Hans, John McClure; **new Regional Masters:** Julie Antelman, Doris Becker, David Hardin, Barry Jones, Betsy Northrop; **new NABC Master:** Gennelle Linville.

In other sports, Mark Bartusek won a No Limit Texas Hold Em poker tournament at the Chumash Casino on January 21. He demolished a field of 175 players to win \$7,000! It's nice to meet bridge players who have more than one hobby ... and excel at both (or possibly more!).

This month's anecdote is a hand from a game at our club, played on January 14. I played 4♠ as *South*. The *East* player promised to buy one entry fee for me if

he remained nameless.

♠ QJ108
♥ J108
♦ QJ7
♣ A94

♠ 5432
♥ AQxxx
♦ K
♣ 1082

♠ --
♥ xxx
♦ 97432
♣ KQJ73

♠ AK976
♥ K5
♦ A1098
♣ 65

I won the opening ♠2 trump lead, as *East* discarded the ♦2. I continued with another round of spades, *West* following with the ♠3, as *East* discarded the ♦3. A third round of spades brought forth the ♠4 from *West*, and the ♦4 from *East*. Finally, I extracted *West*'s last trump, the ♠5, as *East* discarded the ♦5 of diamonds!

"How symmetrical," I thought. What are the odds? I was now in dummy, and all set for the diamond finesse ... so I led the queen. *East* produced the ♦6! "Hmmm," I mused. "There's only one diamond outstanding ... and it doesn't look like *East* is protecting it!"

"I demand the king!" I shouted at *West* ... and he reluctantly produced it ... much to the amusement of my partner, and embarrassment of *East*! Everyone was in 4♠, going down on the losing diamond finesse ... except at our table. I take no credit for card reading!

This actually happened, and those are the actual spot cards. The archives don't retain the hand records from previous months, but I have one printed out!

Any more news, hands, or anecdotes would be much appreciated by me at sprucebay@yahoo.com

Santa Maria

By D. Jackson

The conquering heroes have returned from the Monterey Clam-bake Regional, points in hand. Topping the list of winners are Jan-Grieff Zinner and Eli Zinner, along with Marie Sheehy, Yoli Medina, Marilyn Bullock, Al Quod and Karen Trapp.

The four time winners in the club games are Robert and Jean-Allen Faust, and the two time winners are Art Herbon and Bill Tenney. Completing the list of winners are Kirby O'donahy (our seasonal visitor from British Columbia), Peggy Johnsen, Vi Dallessandro, Diana Jackson, Marie Sheehy, Yoli Medina, Jim Solomon, Dave Elder, Chuck and Judy Scheithauer.

Congratulations to those who played well enough in the Winter STAC games to appear on the district overall list: Marie Sheehy, Yoli Medina, Bill Torpey, and Gerit Fenenga.

We are pleased to have Pat Orlando on the mend and back with us. Now let us hope we all remain in good health for the remainder of the year and have a happy and winning 2017.

South Orange County

By Bob Reynolds

Fran Foresta retires!

Fran was a founding father of our bridge club, and it seemed that he had been around forever. SOCBC celebrated the passing of an era on January 5 with a special luncheon and tributes. Under Fran's 28-year tutelage, Unit 538 has grown from 150 members to over 550. I would say that we will miss him dearly, but he promises to come by with Linda and play now and then. Everybody enjoyed the party balloons and the elaborate luncheon. Thanks to Janie Matlaf, Loli Henderson, Dianne Velick, Bob & Marilyn Cavanaugh and Anne Roblin for making this a truly memorable event. After this phenomenal event, we played bridge - what else?

Do you have any bright and adventur-

ous friends that would like to learn to play bridge? Can they hold 13 cards? Jane Dober is teaching a beginner's class just for them that has over 50 students in it. The new Audrey Grant Basic is Monday mornings and covers the most basic aspects of bridge. After the initial 4-lesson series is over, a new Play of the Hand" Series 2 will begin. Series 3 will cover Conventions that Everybody Should Know. So, come on out if you want to make new friends and have fun. Contact Jane at janedober@gmail.com

In addition to beginner's classes, we have loads of classes for advanced players to polish up their skills. Check our calendar at southorangecountybridge.center

(Notice the dot before center.)
Achievements: Dan Glasgow and Jane Dober have become Gold Life Masters. Way to go, guys.

Also, check the 70% listings elsewhere in this issue. You will find a healthy list from our club!

The winners of the GNT game on January 12 were Dianne & Edgar Hunt N/S and Marjorie Michelin and Ellis Feigenbaum E/W.

The winners of the unit game on January 15 were Gale Senter & Denny Seltzer N/S and Steven Love & Jerry Schreider E/W. The winners of "8 is Enough" on January 19: sections A & B, Dianne & Bill Velick, Donna Franklin and Kristine Stoddard. For section C it was Frank Grossman, Ed Maher, Kim & Edgar Vana.

The unit game is March 19, and "8 is Enough" is on March 16. Come join the fun.

I would like to welcome Ann Raymond and Vicky Renzulli to SOCBC. Be sure to greet them when they come to play.

Southern Gold Coast

By Joe McHugh

Hard to believe that another year has passed, but here we are in February, 2017. Last month featured the Unit 532 election luncheon. There were also the regular daily games at Bridge Academy II to keep us busy, including a STAC week and several club championship games.

We had two 70% games in January. Just six days into 2017 on a Friday morning, Dovid Crum and Sy Zemlyn scored the first 70% game of the new year. Three days later, at a Monday morning session, Armand Szulc and Claude Le Feuvre matched the feat with a 70% game of their own. Congratulations to both pairs on these excellent performances.

The Unit 532 election luncheon was held on January 29 and drew 16 full tables playing in two sections. In addition to the game, participants were treated to an excellent lunch and were asked to vote in the latest members to the Unit 532 board of directors. In the game, the open section, where we had 12 full tables, featured Connie Raabe and Gerry Collier's 1st overall finish. Bob and Linda Gruber finished 2nd overall, with Claude Le Feuvre and Dwight Hunt in 3rd overall. The 299er section was paced by Ray and Raeann Koerner as 1st overall, with Connie and Peter Wiere finishing 2nd overall. Thanks to everyone who came out to support the unit.

We had one member advance in rank this month. Don Daly advanced to Gold Life Master (more than 2500 points). Please join me in congratulating Don on this stellar achievement.

The unit and Bridge Academy II will be holding a one-day Swiss Sectional on April 23. The sectional will be point-limited with each team having 2000 masterpoints or fewer with no one player having more than 750 masterpoints. The fee for each team will be \$100, which includes a continental breakfast and a catered lunch. Breakfast will be served starting at 9:30 a.m. with the game at 10:00 a.m.

So, if you are eligible to compete, think about getting your team together for what promises to be a fun event.

(More Units on page 16)