

The Western Conference

CONTRACT BRIDGE FORUM

Happy Mother's Day!



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D22 GNT Flights Open & Flight B



FLIGHT B 1ST
Shailesh Gupta - Harvey Jaffe - Kenny Pan - Sherman Gao - Dustin Stout



FLIGHT B 2ND
Renee Alpert - Joan Kaye
Winston Chang - Frank Lin



FLIGHT B 3RD
Steven Jackson - Yann Jackson
Gary Waldron - Carol Foster

By John Kissinger
D22 GNT Coordinator

Five teams competed in the Grand National Teams Open Flight, two less than last year. Unfortunately, one Open team did not compete because of a scheduling change. Nine B teams competed, four more than last year. Much better. The increased turnout among the B flight was very encouraging. A tenth team lost a chance to play as one player did

not properly qualify. All teams played nearly the same boards on the first day, as did Flight B teams on Sunday.

The Open Flight competition was an example of the adage, "never give up." At the half-way point on Saturday one team was in a losing position against all of the other four – and by an average of 11 IMPs/match. However, they turned it around in the second half, securing 2nd place, good enough for the two-

team playoff on Sunday.

Close Finish: One team went down in a grand slam in the last few boards; had the other pair got to the makeable small slam they would have won.

SOCBC: Once again South Orange County Bridge Center did not charge for the venue. The players enjoyed muffins and grapes for breakfast, coffee all day, sandwiches and salad for lunch – with extras for those who wanted more.

ACBL D22 Youth Members

By Nancy Erickson

The 2017 Youth NABC will be held in Toronto, Canada on July 27-29, 2017. This three day event is

a wonderful opportunity for you to compete with your fellow youth members from other states and foreign countries. Additional information about the YNABC can be found at acbl.org/juniors/youth-nabc/

Your District 22 Board of Directors encourages you to participate in the YNABC, and will provide a \$200.00 stipend for five youth members to attend. To qualify for the stipend youth members must compete in a minimum of three scheduled events. To be eligible for

the stipend prospective applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Be a member of good standing with ACBL
- Be registered with the Education Office at ACBL by June 15 acbl.org/ynabcreg
- Have a valid U.S. Passport
- Complete and send applications by June 15 to:

Nancy Erickson
37805 Thurne Street
Indio CA 92203
Phone & Fax 760 200-0265
Email: erick3333@aol.com

Seventy Percent Club

79.17% Bill Ringbom-Eli Zinner, Blacklake D.B.C., Mar. 26
75.00% Dana Taylor-Ron Stenson, Laguna Woods, Mar. 1
74.47% Dorothy Purcell-Joan Segal, Adventures in Bridge, Mar. 16
74.31% Lance Malkind-Anne Malkind, SOCBC, Apr. 14
73.61% Don Joynt-Ann Joynt, Laguna Woods, Mar. 4
73.61% Dave Mathison-Janice Janecki, Adventures in Bridge, Mar. 30
73.28% Norman Woo-Mark Itabashi, SOCBC, Mar. 24
73.05% Janet Ansfield-Ron Heller, The Soledad Club, Nov. 21
73.00% Dave Speer-Donna McLeod TGIF Bridge Club, Mar. 10
72.78% Atul Agrawal-Michael Lehrfeld, Laguna Woods 99ers, Mar. 14
72.75% Stafford Kelly-Peter Jeffrey, Santa Barbara B.C. 499ers, Mar. 7
72.62% Fred Carlisle-Chris Romanini, Bakersfield Intermediate, Mar. 13
72.57% Norma Jean Shaw-Mickey Rosenzweig, Santa Barbara B.C., Mar. 13
72.50% Elisabeth Tufo-George Economou, Victorville B.C., Apr. 5
72.40% Prem Sehgal-Robert Buchanan, Adventures in Bridge, Mar. 15
72.35% Nancy Wood-Nancy Stowell, Townhouse D.B.C., Mar. 26
72.35% Dennis Charles-Jeff Steward, Ventura Unit Bridge Club, Mar. 30
72.28% Mariko Kakimoto-Weishu Wu, Balboa, Mar. 22
72.21% Helvia Miller-Ben Holtman, Laguna Woods, Mar. 24
72.00% Chebil Jada-Lois Hausman, Adventures in Bridge, Mar. 19
72.00% Peggy Bailey-William Wellman, Hemet D.B.C., Mar. 6
71.99% Robert Micone-Sherman Gao, Laguna Woods, Mar. 1
71.65% Mary Terrell-Bill Williams, Hemet D.B.C., Mar. 27
71.53% David Priest-Bruce Maclin, Bakersfield, Apr. 4
71.51% Carol Delino-Juniel Worthington, Laguna Woods, Mar. 13
71.43% Rick Kerbel-Carl Hoeberling, Sun City D.B.C., Mar. 8
71.38% John Adams-Mike Murray, Laguna Woods, Mar. 23
71.25% Win Lievsay-Mary Wells, Bakersfield Intermediate, Mar. 6
71.19% David Abel-Dorn Bishop, Adventures in Bridge, Mar. 22
71.06% Oliver Yildiz-H. Hanefi Erten, Balboa UG, Apr. 2
71.00% Debra Cameron-Robert Wood, Goodtime D.B.C., Mar. 16
70.83% Joyce Gehlhaar-Barbara Holt, Lompoc B.C., Mar. 2
70.83% Darlene Bigos-Sherry Kroop, Adventures in Bridge, Mar. 10
70.83% Virginia Hoppe-Milt Fader, Bridge 4 Fun D.B.C., Mar. 8
70.83% Dave Speer-Donna McLeod COM Bridge Club, Mar. 28
70.63% Jackie Williams-Abigail Wright, Marrakesh, Apr. 14
70.56% Alex Copeland-Frank Model, Laguna Woods, Feb. 23
70.54% Mark Itabashi-Norman Woo, SOCBD, Mar. 27
70.51% Ed Zevery-Wallace McCoy, Encinitas B.C., Apr. 6
70.41% Pat Delamontanya-John Butisbauch, Visalia, Mar. 31
70.41% Gary Arthurs-Gail Lapins, SLO D.B.C., Mar. 13
70.25% Carol Veit-Jack Benoualid, Harvey's Bridge, Apr. 3
70.24% Ron Sterns-Marilyn Christy, Balboa, Mar. 9
70.20% Rick Gold-Rick Kerbel, Fallbrook, Mar.
70.08% Barbara Ehrlich-Shirley Corey, Laguna Woods, Mar. 1
70.00% Steven Koller-George Economou, Helendale Duplicators, Mar. 20

Bill's Back Burner

By Bill Grant
District 22 President



"Dirty Little Secrets"

I guess "dirty little secrets" are suitable for a "backburner" column. Paul Linxwiler, *ACBL Bridge Bulletin* editor, shared one a couple months ago, when he admitted he played with robots on Bridge Base Online for ACBL points. Mine's probably a little worse, because I'm fairly hooked on the Bridge Base game called Robot Reward - Best Hand, where for a buck you play for 15 minutes with a robot partner to see how many points you can get, to get a jackpot ranging from 80 cents to \$4.40. In a typical game, my competitors (usually around a dozen) might be Wafiak and Pontiman from Indonesia, Pink Flag from Palestine, airforce1 from Australia, talepov from Bulgaria, Usia from Romania, ndavies from Great Britain, cramboo from France, 001menumo and Shubi from Canada, and LeoLaSota and AKQ10xxx from the U.S.

So this game that we worry is dying out has become totally international, at least on the Internet. (The district often advertises its five regionals on Bridge Base.)

On a non-wifi bright side, here in San Diego on March 5 Wirt Gilliam held a 13th Anniversary Party for his very successful Adventures in Bridge club, celebrating a history of 112,300 tables and 728 new players, not to mention 434 new ACBL memberships! AiB is consistently listed in the top 25 clubs in the country. Wirt has also spoken very highly of a meeting he attended in Kansas City with club owners, bridge teachers, "Learn Bridge In A Day's" Patty Tucker, and Kevin Lane's Board of Directors Task Force; the groups are working to attain more harmony among ACBL.org, bridge teachers and directors, and club owners.

One of our district's objectives, embedded in Article II, Section H of our bylaws, is "To assist club owners and managers in promoting duplicate bridge." In the last couple years, we have started to refocus on that objective but have yet to come up with a clear set of goals to achieve it. (Maybe we should invite Wirt to one of our board meetings ...)

Youth Bridge

And we are encouraging our youth members to attend the 2017 Youth North American Bridge Championships (YNABC) in Toronto, Canada on July 27-29, 2017 during the ACBL's NABC National Tournament. As we did last year, the district will provide \$200 stipends to the first five applicants. Additional information about the YNABC can be found at acbl.org/juniors/youth-nabc/

Quarterly Report

Speaking of new members – according to the latest QUIP report from ACBL, our district membership is 7008, up about a quarter of a percent from last year. Nationally, the figure is 167,046, up about one-tenth of a percent.

Charles Goren Would

Ending up slightly off-topic: I'm lucky enough to have a wide variety of partners. And so I find the same hand can elicit two wildly variant comments: "How could you open that 11 count?" or "How could you not open that amazing 5-loser?" Until recently I've been using Karen Walker's great Rule of 22 to keep peace, but a while back my brother-in-law found Charles Goren's *Point Count Bidding in Contract Bridge* (1952) in a box of books from an estate sale. Looking through that classic book, I found this comment: "If you are seized with an irresistible urge to make a bid, allow yourself one point for that urge."
Wow! Even Charles Goren.

D22 Kansas City NABC Winners

1. Jason Feldman, San Diego	122.74
2. Mark Itabashi, Murrieta	115.43
3. Mark Perlmutter, San Diego	84.51
4. Ross Grabel, Palm Desert	83.43
5. Howard Weinstein, Rancho Mirage	82.65
6. Norman Schwartz, Carlsbad	81.93
7. Henri Farhi, Chula Vista	77.79
8. Jon King, Balboa Island	76.29
9. Phil Clayton, Huntington Beach	72.54
10. Kent Hartman, San Diego	69.72
11. Mark Bartusek, Santa Barbara	67.47
12. Peter Weichsel, Carlsbad	55.56
13. David Abelow, La Jolla	50.50
14. Rick Roeder, La Mesa	47.07
15. Maritha Pottenger, San Diego	44.98

(See Winners on page 16)

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