

District 21 Unitscope

BER

By the Beer Dude

August brings Great Western STAC back mid-month, and your last chance to qualify for the NAPs. 2nd BBQ Swiss coming Sept. 11; ad in this issue & I hope in the next. Maybe this time I'll find time to make beer.

Short & sweet I had to be, as I flew out 7/1 for a week w/my DC-area friends & one of their kids' nuptials.

June unit game drew 6 1/2 tables for our 1st NAP Qualifier. "H-J" topped the field, with Susie Wiebe & Eric a nose behind. 3-4 A, a length behind, were Bob Berger-Joel Teller (who also were 1B) & Terry Boyd & Grant Robinson. 2B were Keith Gunn & Dan Rubinfeld; 3B were Linda Scheffer & Marge Hutchings. Tough game; top three in each direction were 56.07-58.93 %.

Last chance to Q is Sunday the 30th; we'll be back at Castro then. I'll catch In/Out/rank advancements next time.

Club updates: June MP Champ is John Begley; best games were Grace Uyeno & me on Mon (63.33%), "H-J" on Wed. (66.67%), & Grace again on Fri., this time w/Joyce Burks (68%). *Free Play* day is Fri., Aug. 13; only your cards can be unlucky. King will be running that game, as I'll be in Wisconsin for some beer-related activities. STAC game for sure on Wed., 18th; also on Mon., 16th if Larry's around to direct. We lose Fri., 20th because of moving back to Castro CH; no games on 8/20 & 23! We resume on Wed., 25th.

Finally, our condolences to friends & family of WenChao Macbride, who passed away June 28 after suffering a major stroke two weeks earlier.

May your remaining summer days be fun & profitable (as I hope Eric & I were in Del Mar August 6-7).

www.berunit497.org is where to find the latest on us; tweak beerman49@msn.com when you wanna brag or gripe.

Carson/Tahoe

By Rich Turissini

News: During a discussion concerning her native country's dramatic 2 to 1 victory over Brazil in the second round of the soccer World Cup, Jony Sellers made note of this writer's alarming ignorance of her own recent ascendancy to ACBL Life Master.

As of this writing, the Dutch national team is still widely known as "the best team that never won the World Cup." But Jony has already accomplished a milestone, in Reno at the 2010 April Showers Sectional. Belated congratulations to Jony, and good luck to Holland in the coming weeks.

The top masterpoint winner at the Carson City Bridge Center during April was Donna McLeod with 4.25. Ken Grafton's 3.34 was good for second place while Marie Bresch followed closely with 3.28. Donna also came in first in May with 5.61 MPs. Gary Nitzberg was second with 4.39, while Imogene Meyer and Betty Clamp were third and fourth with 4.04. and 3.09 MPs, respectively.

The June leader was Ken Grafton with 5.65 MPs. Donna McLeod was runner-up with 3.42, followed by Thelma Nelson with 2.58 and Imogene Meyer's 2.55 MPs.

Game Results: A unit game was held at the Carson Bridge Center on June 13, with the following results: 1A: Gary Nitzberg & Shelly Zimpler, 2A: Beverly Meyer & Imogene Meyer, 3A: Rick & Vivian Betcher, 4A/1B: Francesca Petrucello & Ralph James, 4A/2B: Nancy Palmer & Yuki Stevens, 5A(3B) Leona & Nick Pchelkin

The following are results of Carson Valley Bridge Club games held during June at Sharkeys Casino in Gardnerville: May 31: 1A: Ruth Rouse & Roxanne Hart, 2A: Gary Nitzberg & Thelma Nelson, 3A: Beverly Batdorf & Sam Batdorf. June 7: Betty & Otis Clamp, 2A: Beverly Meyer & Aleeta Jones, 3A: Carole Voge & Jony Sellers, 4A: Bruce Mitchener & Roxanne Hart. June 14: N/S 1A: Thelma Nelson & Beverly Batdorf, 2A: Leona Pchelkin & Nicholas Pchelkin, 3A: Theresa Pinney & Sam Bat-

dorf; E/W 1A: Gary Nitzberg Geoffrey Stokes, 2A: Rick Betcher & Viv Betcher, 3A: Kathy Bekke & Ole Bekke. June 21: N/S 1A: Kenneth Grafton & Bob Garret, 2A: Gladys Turissini & Konrad Garret, 3A: Imogene Meyer & Aleeta Jones, 4A: Marie Coffey & Donna McLeod, 5A/1B: Betty & Otis Clamp, 6A/2B: Leona & Nick Pchelkin; E/W 1A: Gary Nitzberg & Shelley Zimpler, 2A/1B: Paul Lockwood & Mary Phillips, 3A/2B: Barbara & Bill Strand, 4A/3B: Bob Allgeier & Fran Coursey. June 28: N/S 1A: Aleeta Jones & Ben McLeod, 2A: Ken Grafton & Bob Garret, 3A: Carole Voge & Donna McLeod, 4A/1B: Betty & Otis Clamp; E/W: 1A: Julie Cardinali & Beverly Meyer, 2A Paul Lockwood & Mary Phillips, 3A: Beverly & Sam Batdorf.

Diablo Valley

By Chris Pisarra

Okay, the ringing in my ears is easing up, so I guess I can start writing. No, the ringing isn't from the fireworks, I wore earplugs for those. I'm just hearing things after a long weekend in Orlando with Gail & Susan Rowley, former Unit 499 big shot. Yes, there is such a thing as too much fun.

Two weeks in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia were calm and peaceful; four days in Orlando could wear a fellow out. I played in the Orlando bridge club, and was mightily impressed with the large screen TV they have set up tied to their computer so you can see all the results right away, and it doubles as a 42" clock, too.

No excuse for being slow in that club.

There was some excitement around here, too. Looking at the results from the Firecracker Sectional in Palo Alto, it appears the Unit 499 just crushed the rest of our entire district.

Grant Robinson & Terry Boyd played with friends from Marin, and won the Friday Compact KO, Bracket 1, and were 2nd in the Thursday Compact KO, also Bracket 1. That's more than a little impressive.

Andrew Fine & Beth Eggers won Flight C of the Thursday afternoon Open Pairs. Judy Keilin, Hedy Wee, Elizabeth Golamco and Frank Concepcion were 3rd Thursday in Bracket 2 of the KO. Keith Gunn & Dan Rubinfeld won the Thursday evening Swiss Teams.

Did I mention the restaurant with gator bites in Orlando? Real genuine alligator. If they sold shoes, they could be a one stop gator shop.

Friday in the Compact KO, Cass Hawes, Kathy Von Dohre Nadine Levine and Glenn Boyce topped Bracket 2, while Sue Eltringham, Marj Russel, Carroll Brooks and Lynn Humphrey won Bracket 4. That meant Unit 499 was first in 3 of the 4 Brackets and 2nd in the third; pretty darned amazing, I should think.

Jack Meng, Judy Keilin, John and Lynne White were 2nd in B of the Sunday Swiss Teams. Bruce Johnsonbaugh & Bill Samuels were 4th in C of the Friday Afternoon Open Pairs

Eileen Pieticha & Inja Hwang had a section 2nd in Strat E in the Sunday 199er Pairs.

In Florida you can buy fireworks right in the grocery store. The safety police don't let up, though. It is against the law to smoke indoors, yet the fireworks displays have large "No Smoking" signs all around them anyway, just in case.

Marj Russell, Sue Eltringham Carroll Brooks and Janice Strauss were 2nd in another KO; the Sat/Sun event, Bracket 3. Lisa Evans & Jack Fulcher won Bracket 1 of the Blue Compact, while Andy Fine, Beth Eggers, Hedy Wee and Jo An Reid were 3rd in Bracket 3.

I know I've written about regionals with fewer local winners. What a tournament this is turned out to be.

Meanwhile, back at the local, there will be a Pro-Am event Thursday, July 22. Ally Whiteneck continues to pack the house with her mentoring sessions. Iris Libby has returned from a month in Florida working on the perfect tan with her daughter.

Remember that the Santa Clara Regional is coming up the end of August; if you don't have your room reservations, you

should. Call the hotel today.

And that's all the news I have. If you had sent me some news at Chris@Pisarra.com, I'd have more to say.

East Bay

By Sandi Davis

The 4th of July Membership Appreciation Picnic and NAP qualifier went off without a hitch under the excellent planning of Mary Payne. An afternoon of great food and good bridge were the order of the day. Special thanks goes to food preparers Donna Rolle, Betty Kael, Susan Weibe, Shirley Rodenborn, Tom Pajak, Dave Cartwright, Sandi Davis, Joyce & Dick Hart, and Les Friedman. The overall winners from the top were Jessica Lai & Grant Vance, Teresa Boyd & Ron Kow, Les Friedman & Marty Holtz, Cass Hawes & Nadine Levine, Tom McKelvey & John Santibanes, Teresa & Ed Seputis and Tom Pajak & Donna Rolle. Many people qualified and you can check that out at the website, www.eastbayunit-502.com

In case you did not qualify, there will be a second club level qualifying game on August 15 at Mosswood starting at 1:00. While you are on the website, make sure that you have added your name to the unit directory.

At the June 6 unit game, N/S Betty Kael & Ron Kow came in 1st winning the OA while E/W Joyce & Dick Hart won their direction. At the June 20 unit game, E/W Cass & Nadine came in 1st OA with Carl Larsen and daughter Sherry Larsen Beville winning 1st N/S. Well done, everyone!

Welcome to new member of Unit 502 Florence Siegel, transfer from BER.

Rank changes include Barbara Stumpf as our newest Club Master, Eileen Thompson reaching Sectional Master, Susan Kovacevic and Barbara McNeal achieving Regional Master and Gerry Litton has become our newest Life Master. Congratulations!

The district will be voting in the fall on whether the evening starting times at Regionals should be moved from 7:30 to 7:00 p.m. If you have an opinion on this, send me an e-mail or let Joyce Hart know your stance.

As many of you are aware, there has been a change to day and location of the week-day games formerly held at Mosswood. The only games still being held at Mosswood are the Sunday games on the first and third Sunday of each month. There is now a Monday game at Redwood Recreation Center starting at noon. The Tuesday game at Mosswood is now the Tuesday game at Redwood. The under 750 game at Dimond Library is unchanged. The Thursday Redwood game is still that. The Friday game at Mosswood is gone.

Sadly we lost several members recently, E. G. Lemmon, Bill Stephens, and WenChao Macbride. Bill recently played at Mosswood where he was honored for winning both the Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney for 2009. Wen Chao was frequently at the tables over the years with many partners as well as her twin sister WenYen Leong. Over the last year she had also enjoyed the partnership she had established with her daughter Bonnie. Wen Chao had many diverse interests as a longtime tennis instructor, an accomplished painter and a joyful belly dancer. She will be missed.

Remember to send me your good news, bad news or interesting stories at: sandstress@mail2sandra.com

Fresno

By Laura Da Costa

Hello everyone! We had nine tables come out for the annual graduation/Am-Pro pair game. Six of our nine new Life Masters were able to enjoy a game (for free) to honor their achievement. The winners N/S were Beverly Daniels &

BARBEQUE SWISS TEAMS

BERKELEY EL CERRITO RICHMOND
ACBL UNIT 497 (www.berunit497.org)

Saturday, September 11, 2010

12:00 NOON and 5:45 p.m.
El Cerrito Community Center
7007 Moeser (at Ashbury), El Cerrito

COME ONE - COME ALL BBQ DINNER

BETWEEN SESSIONS!

Entry Fees: \$72.00 per Team (all day)
\$36.00 per Team (single session)

Eric's Chicken

Beer Dude Beef

Paul & Jims
Beans
& all the
Trimming

Gale's
Salad

FOR INFO CONTACT JIM SCOTT
eurekajim@aol.com or 510-525-1759
Unit 497 Members Get Free Dinner
Others pay just \$7

Via westbound I-80: Exit Cutting Blvd East (toward the hills), then right on San Pablo, left on Moeser. ECCC is on the left.
Via eastbound I-80/580: Exit Central, turn right and follow Central to dead-end at Ashbury. Left on Ashbury to ECCC.
If the lot's full, street parking should be plentiful.