

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Forum

Happy Mother's Day



Volume 88 Issue 5 - May 2013

California Capital Regional May 27-June 2, Sacramento, California

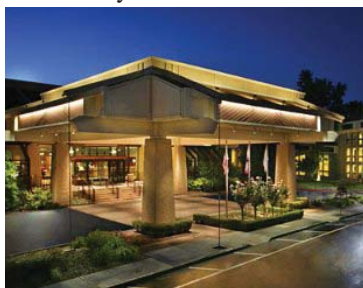


Old Sacramento Waterfront

By Pam Hughes
Tournament Chairman

Welcome to spring and sunshine! It's a great time to play bridge. Our upcoming California Capital Regional at the DoubleTree Hotel in Sacramento is right around the corner. There are all types of events – teams and pairs -- to suit every level of player. For the truly competitive, there's our signature two-day event, the California Capital Swiss Teams, of which the finals are played with pre-duplicated boards. As usual there are lots of Bracketed Knockout Teams. There are three days of the popular Gold Rush Pairs on the schedule, as well as our 10:00

& 3:00 Senior Pairs. We've set them all up for you, so come and play with us! **Think ahead:** summer can be very busy and fly by too quickly. Before this one does, make your reservations for the All-Western Championships Regional at the Hyatt in Santa Clara!



DoubleTree Hotel in Sacramento

District 21 Secretary Search



Year 2013 will be the last one that Cindy Kirk will be the District 21 board secretary. She will be stepping down at the 2014 Presidents Day Regional in Santa Clara, where elections for the position will be open for any D21 member that the election chairs of Jackie Ortiz and Bruce Blakely deem qualified through interviews. This is an election by the Dis-

trict 21 Board, and unit representatives, which will be held at the February Regional. The secretary position is afforded a small compensation by our district.

Those interested in running for District 21 secretary should contact Jackie (jackieo@sonic.net) or Bruce (bruceblakely@earthlink.net) to set up an interview to discuss their qualifications, and the parameters of the position.

President's Report

By Katherine Ewing
District 21 President



The word is out, it won't be long before our district will have 9000 members. A big welcome to the new players, and to those who have transferred in from other districts. District 21 will be eligible to have a fifth annual regional once we reach that number. It is so nice to keep growing and growing. Not all districts have been this fortunate.

Our Regionals

Our Clambake Regional in Monterey early this year went well. The director in charge was Matt Smith, who ran the tournament very smoothly, handled any disruptions nicely, and nearly always had a smile for the players. One thing did become apparent, there seemed to be more dogs attending the regional than in the past. Companion, working dogs are welcome and are recognized by vest, scarves or a dog tag. The family pet is not.

I understand about family pets, having just lost one, and how near and dear they are to us. We always have someone come and take care of ours when we are gone, and understand those of you who want to bring them along, especially when the hotel allows them, but they really don't belong at the tournament site.

Many folks are allergic to pet dander, afraid of dogs, and some are plain uncomfortable to be around them. So please keep that in mind when attending our tournaments.

Portola

Lots of nice things were said about the Portola, the playing site and hopes of having our tournaments there in the future. We signed a contract with the Hyatt, thus assuring us of lower room rates, for the next couple of years and then at that time maybe a new location can be found. The goal of the district is to try to keep room rates down, not increase our entry fees, hoping to attract more players. One of the hardest parts of finding a new location is the playing site - needing a minimum of 25,000 square feet. It must be clarified as indoor space as some hotels guarantee that amount of space, but it includes patios and other outside areas. There are other requirements as well, so if you know a place within our district please contact our tournament manager Pam Hughes.

Presidents Day

This year our Presidents Day Regional tournament was held in Sacramento. Attendance was down a little, perhaps having sectionals, the Nationals in San Francisco and the Monterey Clambake Regional so close in time, folks were a little "bridged" out. Hopefully attendance will pick up this year at the California Capital Regional in late May. I urge you all to attend.

The DIC for the Presidents Day tournament was Nancy Boyd. She and her crew did another great job. One of the events we had was the Open A/AX two session event, and it took a lot of time to figure out an 18 table Howell movement and make up the slips for each pair listing which table to move to for each round. Thank you Nancy. Another nice touch was the use of the computerized scoring and screen (borrowed from another district, thank you for sharing) for the evening session of the Barometer Pairs.

Some said it was hard to see the information if you were in the back of the room, others said it was nice not to have the projector and screen with "human" writing, as the print from the computer was easier to read. There was one big glitch that occurred during the regional, no fault of ours. The hotel double booked events on Saturday and all the tables, chairs, supplies, etc., had to be removed from half our playing area. Some of us were up late at night helping to take down tables, pack up supplies and move chairs. Then Nancy, Pam and their crews had to find areas for folks to play – followed by resetting the tables, chairs, etc.

I played in a side game in the afternoon, outside in a wonderful large tent which had chandelier lights in it, our own water, and goodies. What an experience that was. I thank all of you involved in making it work, running as smoothly as possible, and keeping the smiles on your faces. Needless to say the event planner for the hotel that "planned" our event is no longer there.

Canine Companions

Again, other than working/companion dogs, were in attendance at the playing site. This time someone actually fell over a dog, had to go to emergency care to find out that one or two ribs could be fractured and get taped up. That person still had bruises on the chest two weeks later.

So please take care of your pets, for their welfare and the welfare of others. Leave them in your room, have someone watch them while you are playing bridge, or leave them at home.

Starting Times

I have had several folks ask why do some events take so long to start. There are several reasons for that. The directors try their

(See President's on page 16)

D21 FORUM DEADLINES

Deadlines for all Forum copy and ads is the 5th of the preceding month!

Rich Luttrell
D21 Forum Editor
6550 2nd Street
Rio Linda CA 95673
Phone: 916 991-6997
Fax: 916 992-6997
luttrellr@sbcglobal.net

Change of Address
Send information to:
addresschange@acbl.org

Or by regular mail to:
ACBL/Address Change
P.O. Box 289
Horn Lake MS 38637