

District 21 Unitscope

from visiting family in Germany. Paul Blumberg is back from his most recent globetrotting adventure.

New Members: This month the unit has three new members: Marja Marting, Donna Porria and Pedro Rodrigues. Welcome all.

Big Games: There seems to be a pattern going on here; big games one month, none the next month. This month there was three big games. Richard Scoggin & Sharon Bahry had a 82.50% game on March 20. Tom Howell & Sharon Bahry had 70.37% on March 16. Lin Goldstein & Satish Gupta had a 72.75% on March 29. Congratulations to all and double congrats to Sharon.

Sierra Canyon Bridge: Happy anniversary! The Sierra Canyon Bridge Club celebrated its second anniversary as a sanctioned club in March. Over the past two years, 21 of their players have joined the ACBL. The ACBL sanctioned Monday game is restricted to Sierra Canyon residents and invited guests. Residents usually progress from the Tuesday morning party bridge game to a non-sanctioned duplicate game on Friday afternoons to the sanctioned game. Kairong and Richard Michelsen were the leading masterpoint earners in March winning 1.68 masterpoints.

Iditarod Connection: If you remember, this time last year I reported that Eunice Parent's nephew, Dallas Seavey, had become the youngest winner of the Iditarod (the nearly 1000 mile sled dog race from Anchorage to Nome). Last year, Dallas beat out his dad (Mitch) who was 7th and his grandfather (Dan) who was 51st. This year, dad, Mitch won the Iditarod (his second, he also won it in 2004) and his son, Dallas, placed 4th.

Wow, can't wait for next year.
Wedding Bells: Lin Goldstein married his fiancée, Linda Power on Saturday, April 20. Join the new Mr. & Mrs. Gold in celebrating their marriage after the bridge game (4:30ish) on Sunday, May 5 at Bridge-4-Fun. Cake and drinks provided. Bring your favorite appetizer to share.

Unit game: The unit game was held on March 24. There were 12 tables. In 1st place were Mark Lundblad & Richard Michelsen; 2nd, Lin Goldstein & Dan Green; 3rd, Linda Averett & Kathy Evans; 4th, Gil Ramirez & Neal Moore; 5th, David Weinberg & Conrad Evans; 6th, Dave Dickey & Don Parsons. The next unit game is on April 28 at 1:15 p.m.

The winners of the Eight is Enough teams game on March 26 were Joyce Remsen, Dave Dickey, Evie Almeleh and Don Parsons.

There were a couple of special unit games held during March. The winners of the March 7 game were Bud Brewer & Satish Gupta; March 19, Marilyn Drendel & Robert Buchanan; charity game, March 5, Dave Dickey & Don Parsons; senior game, March 4, Carol Barr & Barbara Chism.

Rank Changes: This month has several rank changes. Eleanor Waldren became a Club Master. Don Parsons became a NABC Master. Cathy Johnson became a Life Master. Cora Robey became a Silver Life Master. Congratulations to all.

Sacramento

By Francine Dais

Theodore Roosevelt said, "At the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat." I think this says play more bridge! I also hear this and think, please don't let me dare so greatly at the bridge table that it leads to defeat, but let me be daring/bold enough to not miss games/slams. My main bridge partner laughs at me because I can take almost any statement or life experience and make it relative to bridge.

Some upcoming games: multi-site unit game June 15, 2013 (Saturday). Our next Sacramento area sectional is May 3-5 at 6826 Hazel Avenue in Orangevale. Home-made lunch is available for only \$5.00 on Friday and Saturday and only \$7.00 on Sunday. Thanks to Val Williams in advance for her wonderful hospitality!

Our regional is coming up soon, too: May 27-June 2 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Sacramento. Hope to see you there! Saturday, July 13, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. is our annual meeting and Swiss Teams game to be held at the Polish American Club, 327 Main Street, Roseville, California. Registration forms are available from the April news-

letter at our website www.playbridgesacramento.com

There is another great Theodore Roosevelt quote that I think is definitely applicable to this wonderful game of bridge, "If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn't sit for a month."

Aren't some of the most entertaining moments in bridge those where each partner believes the other is at fault for the bidding/defensive trouble you landed in? When we stop and think about it, the majority of the time when fault is debatable, there was something we ourselves could have foreseen or done differently to have altered the outcome.

Does that mean our partner wasn't at fault? No way. Partner is always at fault. That's what partners are for! We have to have somebody to blame when our own egos won't allow us to have it thrust upon our shoulders. After all, who wants to kick themselves in the pants and go for a whole month without sitting? That would make it very difficult to play bridge! What I find particularly amusing about this paragraph is as I'm writing it several rather spirited conversations with my partner over the last few months are flashing into my mind. Am I wrong in my suspicions that is going to be true of all or at least most of you too? I like to say I play no fault bridge. It's more important to discuss something for the purpose of improving your partnership than for whose fault it is. But blame me for something where I think you have totally screwed up, and I pull out that stinky fault card and plop it in the middle of the table at least as quickly and probably more adamantly than anyone else!

San Francisco

By Kim Fanady

Spring has sprung! Did you win enough money betting on the Kentucky Derby to pay your table fees and buy a round of mint juleps at the club?

The Great Western Spring Sectional Tournament at Clubs starts on Monday, May 6, and continues all week. STAC is your chance to win silver points at your regular club game. Post a big score and you'll make the Western Conference overalls and win double digit silver points!

All the local clubs are participating, so come on out and play.

This month's unit game is a Stratified Pairs event on May 11, and features a lesson on counting distribution of the hand by Jim Leuker. Lesson at 10:30, lunch at 11:15, game at noon. Did your mom teach you to play bridge? Bring her along and celebrate Mother's Day a day early! All unit games are held on Saturdays at noon at the Sunset Club, at the Masonic Temple, 855 Brotherhood Way, and all are welcome.

Welcome as always to our new members: Joseph Cole, Leah Cole, Claude Lowen, Joanne Stevens, and Sara Van Dyke; and transfers: Charlotte Blank (Palm Springs) and Rafael Garcia (Eastern Massachusetts). Be sure to say hello and welcome to these new players when you meet them at the table. Congrats to Unit 506ers moving up the ranks: new Club Masters Lucy Buchanan, Mike McWalters; Sectional Masters Mike Held, Judy Weil; new Regional Master Patty DeBono.

Good playing, everyone!
If spring has sprung, summer is just around the corner. That means that the San Francisco Summer Sectional is almost upon us! Make plans now to join us at our usual great location, the Janet Pomeroy Center out by the zoo, for lots of bridge, snacks and fun on June 8 and 9. Between sessions, you can visit the animals, take a hike down to Ocean Beach, or stroll around nearby Lake Merced. Or you can just grab a bite and pore over hand records with your fellow bridge geeks.

Look for our ad with all the info elsewhere in this issue. Hope to see you there.
Finally, we sadly say goodbye to Frank Bruce, another longtime fixture at the Sunset Club and unit games who passed away in March. A retired doctor, Frank played with surgical precision and good cheer. Our condolences to his family and friends.

Good luck to everyone at the big Sacramento Regional at the end of the month; I'm sure San Franciscans will cover themselves in glory as always! See you by the pool, and at the table.

San Mateo/Redwood City

By M. K. Key

Observation: The afternoon and evening sessions at Burlingame Bridge Club are getting really competitive. In March there were only seven first place pairs that earned 65% scores or better, but there were twenty-five first place pairs who earned between 60 and 64% scores in the different afternoon/evening games. High scorers included 69% by Aster Wu & Dimitri Sgolombis, 67% by Ed Hornung & Miwako Litwin, 66% by Ted Richmond & Roger Dewes and 65% by Sharon Legallet & Nancy Finney, Miwako Litwin & Antoni Baranski, and Ted Richmond with his partners Antoni Baranski & Robert Ng.

In the 299er a.m. I/N division first place winners included Wendy Benveniste & Helen LaRash, Margery Pacchetti & Logue Malouf, Dana & Mark Sorenson, Patricia & Paul Mock, Linda Duncan & Karen Key, David Crampton & Albert Polonsky, Robert Crosby & Larry Solari.

In the 199ers a.m. I/N division first place winners included Robert Chang & Mike Dotterweich, Virginia Maclean & Alice Redfield, Marlene Hubbard & Jeanie Kwong, Rose Bauer & Linda Duncan with a high 75% score, Logue Malouf & Maria Levy, Marge Harger & Glenna Cook with a high 71% score, Dorothy Hardwicke & Sue Corsetti, Karen Wisialowski & Lorelei Greenfield, Barbara Fregoso & Dolly Musey, Donna Pellegrini & Judy Olson, Camele Wanat & Nancy Fulton, Elizabeth Molumph & partner.

The winners of the third Thursday a.m. Mentee/Mentor Game were I/N Florence Glatt & LM Traudi Kofler.

The unit game held on St. Patrick's Day featured a delicious Corned Beef lunch with all the trimmings prepared by Patti Frederick, owner of the Burlingame Bridge Club. Pairs came dressed in green or orange and if someone didn't get in the spirit

of the day, they had to pony up a \$1.00 bill which was then pinned to their lapel. The best dressed leprechaun of the day was Don Doolittle.

Winners in the 300 MP Division & over were Loretta Baines & Bella Berkovitch and Robert & David Ng. In the I/N division the winners were Jon & Lorelei Greenfield and Lori Bard & Marianne Guttas.

Welcome to new 498 member Rosemary Wong, and transfers into our unit Anita Frech and Ed Hughot.

Congratulations to New Junior Masters: Marilynne Bachli, Judith Paulus, and Lois Scott; New Club Masters: Joanne Lewin, Clare Thorpe, and Frank Yeh; New Regional Master: Kal Aziz.

Congratulations to Eleanor Battaglia who is a New Life Master and to Peter Klebofski and Kris Tejwani who have become new Silver Life Masters.

Santa Clara Valley

By Ray Yuenger

Bridge gives us many opportunities to learn from our mistakes and even the mistakes of our opponents if we're paying attention. The same is true of scheduling tournaments. As a night owl, I've long been opposed to Saturday morning starts of sectionals, particularly when preceded by a long drive. I've finally seen the daylight. Members of other unit's boards can learn from my mistake. At our last fall sectional, the vast majority of players voted for a morning start, so the board changed the schedule, and at our recent spring sectional, a large number voted with their feet by creating our biggest turnout yet. We had the pleasant problem of scrambling to set up more tables. Dianne Barton-Paine said we seemed to be outgrowing our new venue at West Valley College in Saratoga already, but I think it all worked out for most people. Our sectional coordinator Mischel Postas spent some sleepless nights making sure the details were all considered. Many people contributed to the success by showing up early to set up tables,

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