

District 21 Unitscope

membership appreciation game and annual general membership meeting will be consolidated into one game, the second Sunday in June. This game is, as ever, free to unit members.

As you may have noticed, our unit game schedule is a work-in-progress, so please feel free to contact board members with suggestions; more games may be added.

Teasing you now, there is an excellent educational event upcoming the week-end of March 5-6. Details to follow, but put this on your agenda. There will be two sessions, so that all levels of players will be served.

The next big event is the Monterey Clambake Regional, to be held back at the Hyatt, December 31-January 5. Note that this starts on a Tuesday this year, rather than the Monday afternoon. Our unit has been asked to provide volunteers again for the hospitality desk. There will be a sign-up sheet posted at the unit. This doesn't take much of your time, doesn't take away from your playing time, and it can be fun, trust me.

Three of our snowbirds have left for the winter. Bye-bye to the Blankleys and Laura Quinn; see you in the spring.

Jerry Cox and Karin Evans are new Junior Masters; Marian Carapezza and Carol Marquart are Club Masters. Randy Morris is now a Sectional Master and Joan Chambers has reached Regional Master Status. And big congratulations to Sue Finley for achieving the rank of Silver Life Master.

Details are not available yet, but more will be revealed about a series of EZ bridge classes for beginners sometime in the New Year. Think about how your party bridge friends could benefit, or your old college room-mate with whom you played Goren. Think about any of your friends who are newly retired. We would be happy to welcome them to our world.

Recent high games reported are: Fran McGrew & Pat Haynes, 77.57%; Randy Morris & Alan Hedegard 72.46%; Janet Hedlund & Joan Roberts, 76.25%; Gerry Tipton & Bill Putnam, 72.22%; Elizabeth & Michael Nasr, 71.43.

Nine tables participated in the local NAP qualifying round on 9/21 and ten pairs qualified to go on to the next round at the district level in January at Diablo Valley. Rain Wilmoth & Jane Williamson were the overall winners.

We are www.montereybridgeclub.com 831 384-7800. I am maru0407@comcast.net And, yes, I do live in Salinas, thank you for asking.

Napa/Solano/Sonoma

By Tom Sheahan

The balloting is over, the votes have been counted, and we have a new board of directors for the Sonoma club. John Rothschild has been elected president, Dan Harp vice-president, Roger Bohl treasurer, and Renate Bialy secretary. The other board members include Lilyan Frank, Joe Freeman, Jay Gardner, Barbara Lemme, and Joanne Wegsten. That's a very highly qualified group to run the club. Suzie Davis decided to step down after many years on the board. She was an excellent member introducing her mentoring program, the 299er game in Stone Hall, and always helping out at Holiday Parties in the club. She will be sorely missed from the board. Thank you Suzie!

Jay is our longest tenured board member and needs to be acknowledged for all he has done for the club. He brought Barbara Lemme, Marsha and myself into the club with his teaching, is always willing to mentor new players, and does a great job as a good-will ambassador for the game and is an all-around good guy. Jay originally joined the board the same year that he and General Mariano Vallejo and their usual teammates from the Miwok tribe won the Vanderbilt Knockout Teams championship at the Nationals held in El Verano. Who will ever forget their upset victory over the highly favored El Camino Real team captained by Father Junipero Serra that year?

Again we have lots of multiple winners in our games. Anita Pensler set the tone last month and it continued this month. Al Iapicca and Randy Hoyle were on top of their games in September. They won two games together in Sonoma, and Al teamed up with Steve Mercer for one win and Don Powell for another. Don & Wayne Gordon won the lone unit game played last month. Randy also won another game with Theila Smith as his partner. Other Sonoma winners were the teams of Larry Page & Susan Cook, Bill Wells & Bill Oran, Nancy Gunn & Evelyn Holtz, and Molly Johnston & I.

Congratulations to Al and Randy for great playing!

In Napa, the duo of Gerry Fox & Tom Ja-

cobson won their usual two games while Chris Larson & Jerome Fenton, and Adrienne Varin & Anita Pensler came out ahead.

The competition in Rio Vista was stiffer as the winning teams were spread around. Wilma & Ken Powell, Sue Voigtin & Chandler Stauffer, Alan Morris & John Shick, and Cliff & Natalie Crew all were in the winners circle.

The 299er game in Sonoma continues to flourish and is enjoyed by many players. Top finishers in that game include Barbara Storrie & Shirly Le Seuer, Suzie Davis & Doris Mendell, Wilma Nelson & Florence Porter, and Renate Bialy & Frank Thompson who came in with a nice 70% game.

Congratulations go out to Britt-Marie Eldred for making Bronze Life Master!

Palo Alto

By Barbara Sonsini

Bali Confidential: The World Bridge Federation stayed true to thinking global and chose Bali as their venue for the 41st World Bridge Championships. The U. S. sent two teams for each of three events: Bermuda Bowl (open), Venice Cup (women) and D'Orsi Cup (seniors). Our squad was chosen from the winners and runners-up following a 10 day team trial event in Orlando, Florida. Some of our teams went early to acclimate to the relaxed and equatorial happening that is Bali. The hotels are situated on the beach surrounded by lush gardens, ancient statuary and lagoons, all of which are vaguely reminiscent of Hawaii on steroids. Lots of small animals were omnipresent - both slimy and furry - both in the landscape and sometimes in the privacy of our rooms - not to mention myriad bug visitors on hand.

The Balinese who worked in our hotels and restaurants made our stay delightful with their beautiful smiley faces, native costumes and willingness to please in every way. After breakfast we all headed to the elegant brand new Convention Center across the street from our hotels. The format started with a one week Round Robin of 22 teams representing their countries who were invited to participate. My team was in second place after the first week and full of confidence for the final one week Knockout Stage. Unfortunately, we ran into a "buzz saw" when playing the English squad and never advanced past the quarter-finals. Our USA II team ended up winning the event, so we U.S. women felt we could hold our heads high.

Many thanks to the World Bridge Federation who thought big and delivered big time! And to Jan Martel who was our fabulous point person for our American team trials and world competition.

Reno

By Kathy Evans

Help Wanted: I have informed the unit board that I will be completing my tenure as author of the *Forum* article each month effective December 31. So starting with the January article, the unit needs a new editor. If you are interested, please let Richard Michelsen know.

Disabled List: Gene Richards is recovering from wrist surgery. Mary Wyatt had a fall but is up and around again. So let's get healthy and stay healthy.

Big Games: It was a big month for big games. September 4, Rich Scoggin & Gil Ramirez, 70.0%; September 10, Guy Archambault & Gene Richards, 72.62%; September 24, Don Parsons & Dave Dickey, 72.45%; Sept. 26, Sybil Lucks & Regina Houston, 70.37%; September 27, Lin Gold & Satish Gupta, 72.22%.

Congratulations to all.

Unit game: The September game was held on the 22nd. First, Dan Green & Steve Print; 2nd, Don Parsons & Dave Dickey; 3rd, Charlotte Falk & Richard Schiveley; 4th, Virginia Kellermeyer & Paul Blumberg; 5th, June Lucas & Molly Rakestraw; Flight B 3rd, Bobbi Kornbluth & Lee Dunn; 4th, Richard Michelsen & Mark Lundblad.

Bridge-4-Fun held numerous club championship games during the month. The winners of the game on September 2 were Charlotte Falk & Bob Luebke; October 4, Rich Scoggin & Gil Ramirez; October 7, Charlotte Falk & Bob Luebke; October 8, Dan Green & Steve Print; October 11, Charlotte Falk & Richard Schiveley; October 13, Sybil Lucks & Kathy Evans; October 17, Charlotte Falk & Lin Gold; October 19, Jim & Pat Peterson.

The winning team in the Eight is Enough charity teams game on September 17 was Donna Mcleod, Gary Nitzberg, Don Parsons, and Dave Dickey.

The winners of the special unit game on September 27 were Lin Gold-Satish Gupta.

Annual Election: The annual meeting & election is scheduled for November 24 at Bridge-4-Fun. This means that the search is on for unit members to run for the board. A term of office is three years. The board meets a minimum of eight times a year, so it really isn't a huge time commitment. Dave Dickey, Don Parsons, and John Swanson are the nominating committee. If you would like to serve on the board, please contact Dave, Don or John. The absentee ballots will be available at the club no later than October 31.

The next unit game will be October 27 at 1:15 p.m.

Sacramento

By Francine Dais

Upcoming multi-site unit game: Nov. 3, 2013 (Sunday). Winter sectional: December 6, 7, & 8 with some newly adjusted strats, etc. The winter sectional also includes the unit Holiday Party on December 8. Want more games/details? www.playbridgesacramento.com

Sacramento is a very exciting bridge community with several clubs catering to bridge enthusiasts. Web links to all of the games can be found at the above web address.

The Dante Club in Sacramento has games seven days a week hosted by different owners, kicked off on Sunday with the awesome Marvin Arnold's game at 12:00 noon. Of note in November is some more advanced bridge lessons in the Master Class Series on Saturdays. Look it up and show up to improve your game, but don't forget to come to play also! Each game on every day of the week offers something unique in this very happening club. Monday and Friday at 11:00 John directs and Joy cooks real treats for your palates. Join Ali and Anne for Finger Food Thursdays. Albert Chow directs and serves great lunches on both Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The Sacramento Dante Club also hosts a number of evening games, and it would be great if more people got involved. It gives you an opportunity to meet some of those folks who aren't retired yet you get a fresh new perspective on bridge. On Monday evenings at Dante Club we have Anne Hill's relaxed and fun 299er games; John & Ronnie McMurdie's Tuesday night game is a great night to play for some real game challenges. (Congrats to Ronnie on reaching over 20,000 masterpoints!)

Thursday night is the invitational club, and Friday night come celebrate the end of the week with some fun bridge folks and yummy desserts.

Folsom Bridge Center is another of the wonderful bridge clubs in the area. Coming up in November they have Turkey Party club championship on the 17th at noon. And on Sunday, December 15 at noon, they have the Holiday Party club championship. Put those dates on your calendar, but don't wait for those special days. They have games every day of the week and provide lunch before all games. Folsom also offers a wonderful mentor/mentee day on special Sundays.

Congratulations to Terence Degan of the Foothill Bridge Center for becoming a Life Master! Join them Sunday, November 24 at noon for Bingo and their 1:00 p.m. Swiss Teams game. Foothill's team games are a real treat. But don't wait until the 24th to show up. They have lots of other fun bridge for you between now and then.

Check out the large club Tuesday game at the Roseville Duplicate Bridge Club. The games are stratified and Liz Shirai (772-9244) arranges partnerships.

Don't forget the Lincoln Hills Duplicate Bridge Club in the beautiful setting of the Kilaga Springs Lodge with bridge lessons every Wednesday at 11:45 a.m. Check out their schedule and their wonderful down-home welcoming club.

San Francisco

By Kimberly Fanady

How did it get to be November? Seems like it was just spring, just summer, and now the holidays are upon us. But forget the turkey. To a bridge player, November means that the Fall NABC is almost here! Good luck to everyone headed for this year's edition in Phoenix; win big, rake in the gold, and make us proud. I always need material for this column, so go give me something to write about!

Here on the home front, this month's unit game will be a Swiss Teams event on November 9. Next month, come celebrate the

holidays with your fellow Unit 506ers at our annual Holiday Party and pairs game on December 14. All unit games are at the Masonic Temple, 850 Brotherhood Way, and all are welcome. Also coming up next month, the Great Western Holiday STAC; silver points for everyone at all the clubs.

Congrats to this month's rank advancers: new Junior Masters Austin Hills, Marilyn Nebenzahl, Sara Van Dyke; Sectional Master Helen Johnson; Regional Masters Steven Boyle, Daphne Bransten, Dan Edelman, Barbara Voss; NABC Masters Ed Mah, Kayoko Miki; Life Master Kris Wong; Bronze Life Master Doris Martin; Silver Life Master Joelle Benioff. Well played all!

Welcome as always to our new members: Jesse Chao, Sue Debets, Judith Heim, Tracie Waxman; and transfers: Robert Iles (Santa Clara) and Sylvia Jones (New Hampshire).

Say a special hello when you see these new faces at the table.

Finally, we sadly say goodbye to Jean Wildberg, who passed away in September. In the last few years, Jean added bridge to her many interests and pursuits, and quickly became a regular at the San Francisco clubs. She lived a long, full, and very accomplished life, and will be missed. Our condolences to her family and friends.

Hope your holiday is full of things to be thankful for: friends, family, good health, good food, good drink, and onside fitnesses. Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!

San Mateo/ Redwood City

By M.C. Hevener

October is upon us with November in our sights. Our pal Karen Key has left for Elk Grove (Sacramento) and I'll try to diligently report on our activities for the next couple of months.

Many of our members attended the Santa Clara Regional, and we were well represented in the winner's statistics. Rosie Bauer and Pam Hakman, Gretchen Schmeckle and Gert Philippi early in the week, and David Hoffman with Bud Kalafian in the Wednesday Senior Pairs. On Thursday in the Senior Pairs, a 1st place win was recorded by Ted Richmond and Robert Ng with a 69%, followed by Loretta Bains & Bruce Bishop in the same event. Again in the Saturday Senior Pairs, Vicki Lerner and David Strauss scratched, followed by Loretta Bains and Teiko Peterson.

Art Quey & Maureen Vasquez were part of a winning Knockout team in Bracket III. A 1st place win was achieved in the Monday Swiss Teams by Ray Fong, David Chan, Joseph Fang and David Ng, earning them each over 17 MPs. Another successful Senior Swiss Team was Ed Horning, George Prozan, Arlie Lamb and Gigi Maki.

We now have 491 active members in our unit. New members are William Fowkes, Nora Frei, with transfer Jonathan Krass from Menlo Park.

Success stories: Evelyn Katchman is a new Junior Master, Marian Christensen has achieved Club Master status, and new Sectional Masters include Florence Glatt, Adrian Lim and Joan Sullivan. Eileen Battat and C.J. Johnson are now Regional Masters. Bronze Life Master was achieved by Barbara Hariton, and new Silver Masters include Raad Bunni, Gert Philippi and Linda Schwarz.

Our September unit game on September 7 showed the skills of Glorai Darke & Zak Mohammed (66%) and Florence & William Glatt (63%). Well done.

In September some unit members scored over 65% games in the open division. Of note, Barbara Berwick & Patti Frederick did it twice, and once each for Lenore Karp & Leville Greenfeld, Stephen Kennedy & Harvey Brody, and Ann Longknife & Roger Dewes.

NLF division results show a whopping 73% game for Larry Solari & Bob Crosby. Likewise, Carole Ann Genaro & Alice Redifeld.

Next month I'll report on the NAP unit finals and the Non-Life Master Sectional from October, plus the great Halloween event held at our club.

This month we resume our Mentor/Mentee program with games the second Thursday of each month: November, Dember, January and February. There is a signup on the bulletin board at the club.

For November, be alert that our unit game of the month will be held on Saturday, November 23 at Bayshore Bridge Club. This will be a Pro/Am event, so find yourself a partner and sign up. Be sure to mark your calendar for our annual Holiday Party, on December 7 this year.