



District 21 Unitscope

Penticton is a cute 100 year old town located on an isthmus between two gorgeous lakes, Okanagan Lake and Skaha Lake, surrounded by hills. The Okanagan Valley is the Napa of Canada, its premier wine growing region. We took a day off from bridge to go wine tasting, which was great fun, and brought back a couple bottles of some good stuff. Due to import/export costs and regulations, BC wine is impossible to get here, so I'm hoarding my Howling Bluff sauvignon blanc! The area is also known for its agriculture, fruit in general and especially peaches, and as the home of the Canada Ironman Triathlon.

Perhaps inspired by the triathlon posters, I went running every morning on a great scenic trail in the hills above the lake. The bridge scene was terrific also.

Canadian players are exceedingly polite, friendly, and welcoming. I saw virtually no bickering, screaming director calls, ringing cell phones, gloating, lesson giving, or all that other negative behavior that nobody likes. Instead, sweet, dotty little old ladies out of an Agatha Christie novel greeted us with "Right then, we're Helen and Pearl, and welcome to our table!"

And the pair games were huge; heaven for dedicated matchpoint players.

Go next summer; you'll love it!

Back here in SF, all the local clubs are participating in Great Western Summer STAC Week, August 24-30. This month's unit game will be Great Western STAC pairs on August 29. Get your silver points here! Next month's game is Swiss Teams on September 26. All games are at noon at the Masonic Temple, 850 Brotherhood Way, and all are welcome.

Congratulations to our newly ranked: new Junior Master Gay Yamigawa; Club Masters Linda Bucklin, Linda Golm, Helen Spalding; Sectional Masters Flo Aragon, Jo Anne Levy, Sam Litovsky; Regional Master Matthew Quint; NABC Masters Carol Doll, Rick Rogers, Stephanie Rogers; Life Masters Martha Keller, Jeff Reid, Barbara Sonnenblick; and Bronze Life Master Norrie Cavallero. Good job everyone! Welcome to our new members: Olga Abouab, Richard Bodisco, Zdenka Bodisco, Barnaby Grist, and David Kennedy; and transfers Amy Bentz (Kansas City), Angeliki Magklara (Palo Alto), Ken Prag (San Mateo), Tully Rafferty (East Bay), and Joan Von Gehr (Palo Alto).

Say hello to these new faces when you meet them at the table.

San Mateo/ Redwood City

By M. C. Hevener

In May, the all-volunteer board of directors at Unit 498 met and elected new officers. They are president Kathleen Martin, VP yours truly, secretary Gretchen Schmeckle and treasurer Nancy Finney.

Raad Bunni offered to chair hospitality with Sandra Tilch as co-chair, and Hugh Huff takes responsible for our ever-growing membership.

We kicked off the year with a hugely successful unit game featuring boards from past National Championships. It was a sell-out with 30 tables, including a separate section of 99ers. While we have about a dozen doctors in our unit, it was Raad Bunni performing surgery on the deli chickens in our kitchen while other volunteers put out the sides and desserts for lunch.

In the 99er category, Joann Gates & Dorianne Heyman won first overall. Other success stories for Joe Kushner & Jane McLaughlin, Jane Blair & Marge Hodger, Barbara & Jim Curry, Karen Key & Debbie Weinstein and David Crampton & Lucile Chen. Big congratulations to all.

In the main event, "Play against the Champs," we had two sections of tournament hopefuls. David Hoffman & Robert Ng were high with over 62%, closely followed by Don Nemiro & Betty De Paola. Other high scorers were Joanne Allen & Dean Wangsvick, Norrie Cavallero & Rob Roman, Betsy Schneider & Pat Galligan, Dan Raider & Rajan Jeyakumar, Nancy Gordon & Roger Dewes, and Janice Nakao & Thomas Quinlan. Other unit regulars who placed included Gus & Lex, Joel Steinberg & Norman Kalman, Linda Schwarz & Jan Grove, Arlie Lamb & Ed Hornung, Carl Sutherland & Phil Scatena,

Judith Paul & Thomas Durden, and Alice Wallace & Penny Bellamy.

It was a really big day!

As I write this report Unit 498 players are down in Santa Clara at the Firecracker Sectional. Reports suggest they are winning lots of masterpoints. Results next month.

Unit regular Dr. Gordon Binder of Millbrae was honored by the French Government on Bastille Day. The President of France named him a "Chevalier of the Legion of Honor" for his service toward the liberation of France during World War II. Gordon relates, "I was fresh out of medical school; practically my whole class became battalion surgeons." When he was discharged in 1944 he took additional training in surgery and practiced in Milbrae as a family doctor. Gordon just turned 80 years young and now he can be found playing duplicate at our club several days each week. We honored Gordon at our July unit game, a Pro-Am event.

Results will be posted here next month.

Upcoming events include our Unit 498 sectional to be held on August 15 & 16 at the South San Francisco Municipal Services Building, 33 Arroyo Drive at El Camino Real. Saturday's events include the Art Weinstein Memorial 199er Championship which kicks off at 12:30.

Also on Saturday there will be a Compact Knockout and a separate pairs game. Sunday's Swiss games start at 10:00 a.m. For more information, contact Al Malouf at 650 342-7193 or acmalouf@aol.com

On Sunday, August 30, David Hoffman is hosting the 6th annual Maye Soules memorial tournament at the Bayshore Bridge Club. Silver points will be awarded plus trophies for the overall winners.

There will be a special 299er section for newer players. Reserve by calling David at 650 574-0460 or contact (e-mail) him at eyedoc243@sbcglobal.net

Sadly, we have to report that long-time regular player Roger Herz passed away after a short illness. The unit will miss him.

Unit 498 welcomes new ACBL members Betty Count, Olga Longstreet and Nancy Soltau. We have one new Life Master: Douglas Ryan of Redwood City, and note that Dan Stowell of Hillsborough has achieved Silver Life Master status.

Upcoming in the fall, certified instructors Mary Bates and Al Malouf will be launching a beginning bridge class on Wednesday nights from Sept. 3 through Nov. 18. Tell your friends this is a great opportunity.

For further information, contact Mary at 650 863-7575 or MaryBates@rcn.com

To view flyers on our events or to check out recent scores, just Google our web site at Unit 498. Then, for quick future reference, add our site to your Favorites. See you at the tables.

Santa Clara Valley

By Ray Yuenger

With some friendly arm-twisting, volunteers have stepped forward to serve on the Unit 507 board, namely Lynn Bartz, Mischel Postas, and Steve Burnham. The next board meeting will determine who holds what office, as well as the format of the August unit game, so I can't tell you yet.

June was a busy month for local tournaments. Elenalani Lam started off the Oakland Sectional with a 70.92% pairs game, good enough for first place. Li-Chung Chen had a section top in the same event and came back to win the evening session with a 69.5% game.

Crossing the bay to the San Francisco Sectional, Stu Goodgold & Bruce Luttrell were number 1 in the two-session pairs game. Second overall and first in his stratification was Eugene Hung. Rajeeva Sharma & Corinne Carter had strat tops in both limited and Open Pairs games.

Traveling down to the Hollister Sectional, Mike Roney had a section top and Eugene Hung had two strat tops in Open Pairs games, while Jane Slenkovich, Corinne Carter & Rajeeva Sharma had section tops in the limited pairs.

The Palo Alto Sectional took place in our back yard. First in their Knockout brackets, both compact and regular, were: Bonnie Beardsley & Jack Clinch; Lynn Yokel, Alan Malloy & Michael Bodell; Don Nemiro, Betty De Paolo & Dianne Shannon; Joe Chui, Leon Lee, Leslie Perkins &

Lynn Shannon; Norman Marks; and Gerry & Joan Piaget.

In the two-session Swiss, my 3M team, Melanie Kakalec, Michael Fleisher and Mindy Foos, was first in X and 2nd overall. That was a lesson in not giving up after a slow start. First in the C and D strat were Harry Shannon, Hugh Roberts, Roberta Murai & Miwako Wong.

Prevailing in the single-session Swiss games were: Dan Turkus, Norman Marks, Joe Chui & Peggy Sprague; Alan Malloy & Michael Bodell; and Robert Dean & Eugene Hung; with strat tops to Samuel Shat, Paul Lee & J.T. Wang; Norma Epler, Martin Anding, Gail Meikle & Donna Webb; and Rochelle Gutmann, Regina Norberg, Kathy Weiman & Sharon Krawetz.

In Open Pairs events, section and strat tops were earned by Gary Porter, Jeff Hack & Faye Parsons, Sabina Seim & Rita Tingley, Karen Kulander, Paul Nelson, Peter Friedland, Teddi & Derek Fiero, Connie & Lee Dimmit, Olivier Chapelle, Kathy & Larry Wagner, Richard O'Brien, Jennifer Stern & Jeffrey Pugh, Bill Langlois & Bill Reister, Mervin & Shirley Falk, Mike Cailean, Mindy Foos & Michael Fleisher, Barbara Luttrell, Harry Shannon & Ted Ujifusa, Chee Tung & Boyer Chu, Fung Bao & Jim Tseng, Yul Inn, Jack & Missy Verson, Mac & Milly Morris, Bertrand Hsu, and Amar & Susama Chunder.

Prevailing in limited pairs were Happy Fordham, Delores Dunlap & Dee Peterson, Rajeeva Sharma & Corinne Carter, Jimmy Woo, Betty Rosa & Karen Hunt, Janet Dekker, Morey Goldstein, Karen O'Connell & Marilyn Bliss, Lynn Bartz & Leslie Perkins, Devesh Goyal, and Alan Kaatz.

It remains the case, as I wrote in our *DiRekTor* newsletter, that our last unit game attracted 13 teams that were grouped into two round robin brackets. On the winning team in the upper bracket were Erin Gove and John Prior. In the other bracket it was Rajeeva Sharma, Jewel Schimke, Judy Namanny, and Rita Randolph.

Congratulations to our newest Masters. Eryl Barker, Bob Woldstad, Carole Woldstad (Regional); Lee Dimmit, Paul Lee, Kenneth Yip (NABC); Ben Bosklopper (Life); Ken Rosenfeld (Bronze); Robert Dean (Gold).

I remain wordily (if unworthily) yours at rayyuenger@comcast.net

Santa Cruz

By Susan Benich

In the July/August AARP magazine there was an article stating that Ernest Hemingway was once challenged to tell a story in only six words. Now, when I asked board member Bruce Dau to tell his story I did not place any such restriction on him, but here's what he sent me: "Okay, I started playing bridge at Stanford to avoid studying, back in the Goren 4-card major days. After college, I dove into my career as an organic farmer, and stopped playing bridge until my mid-life crises, when all my indulgences (began) bubbling to the surface. When I'm not playing bridge, I'm an itinerant trout bum." Hemingway would no doubt be impressed!

Our club can boast of the accomplishments of our members Ru Grant, Mardell Carman, Marilyn Nadler, and Pam Benz placing 1st in B in Swiss Teams in the Hollister Sectional. Also, Jill Davidson, Henrietta Cooper, Jonni Faircrest, and Phil Johnson placed 1st in C in the Swiss Teams competition. Other notable winners were Virginia Calhoun, Susan Darsey, Joanne Bruno, Vicki Kuhlmann, Cheryl Martin and Bill McIntosh.

High scorers for June at the club were Stephanie Kearnes & Pam Benz, 65% in the Pro-Am game; Bud Rice & Carol Maggipinto, 65.06%; Dick Wasserstrom & Ken Llacera, 65.19%; Robin Evenden & Charlie Pender, 65.48%; Phil Rodriguez & Neil Joseph Smyth, 65.51%; Don Nemiro & Elizabeth de Paola, 65.51%; Mick Friedberg & Ken Llacera, 65.63%; Mick Friedberg & Jeanne Dawson, 67.27% in the Pro-Am game; Pat Sanford & Wilma Gawthrop, 67.49%; Diane Rosetta & Joanne Winham, 69%; Don Seldeen & Neil Smyth, a whopping 70.37%.

Unit game winners for June 13 were Mick Friedberg & Ken Llacera in A & B, Diana Schilling & Susan Benich in C. 1st overall

in A & B for June 27 was Jeanne & Wayne Boss, in C, Mary Simoni & Vee Duvall.

I expect that most, if not all of you, have read or at least heard of the book, *The Giving Tree*. See if you can figure out who this "giving tree" is? Currently, this gentleman (1st hint) volunteers once a week at Opportunity to Read at the Watsonville Library helping five students with reading and writing skills. He also can be found once a week volunteering his time with the Friendship Club Challengers. This love of his enables him to help mentally challenged 10-16-year-olds bowl.

He volunteers six hours each Monday, Thursday, and Friday tutoring third and fourth graders in math, reading, and spelling. In his spare time he is on call with the Sheriff's probation department offering his skills for the Restorative Justice Neighborhood Accountability Board. In years past he volunteered for CASA, Special Olympics, Conflict Resolution Center, and Small Claims Court Mediation. Whew!

Congratulations to Irv Ottenberg for his outstanding example and service to the many non-profit organizations of which he is so proud to be a part.

Pam Benz invites you to attend her Aug. 3 Pro-Am game, her August 17 mini-lesson with guest speaker Jim Slinger, and her August 24 Great Western Summer Fun STAC game.

All intermediate players please contact Nancy Driscoll to sign up for her workshops to be held August 12, 19, & 26 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Her focus will be on how to play tournament hands.

It was good to meet and play against John & Mary Ebbs who have moved here from Ashland, Oregon. We hope to see them playing on a regular basis.

Santa Rosa

By Randee Dimond

Get me to the church on time; we have a few latecomers to our games, sometimes requiring a movement or board change. If you're going to be late, call the director or just give yourself a few extra minutes. (We know all the freeways and streets are under construction.)

There are a precious few openings left for our super-special guest coming on September 15 for the enjoyment of local players. Call Kathy at 591-5015 so you don't miss the boat.

Tom Gee, take your victory lap on getting your gold card in Las Vegas. A hearty congratulations to Rose Marie Johnson on becoming a Bronze LM. Two great achievements! Michael Livensparger & Kate Hill scored a 70% game in June and enjoy the spotlight with other winners: Ron McEwan, Andy Holroyd-sills, Bob Evans, Jerry Scoville, Erwin Linzer, Jackie Ortiz, Peggy Leiser, Jennifer Jones, Bob Klein, Paul Scheinberg, Gladys Sawyer, Elise Henderson, Dave Pankratz, Gary Robinson, Chris Flindt, Pat Frenaye, Mary Omodt, Barbara & Lou Meola, Patty Harberson, Carol Zocchi, John McNulty, Kathy Venton, Jerry Murphy, Sally Jamison, Tom Gee, Shirley Blum, Debbie Tesler, Lynn Blumenthal, Patty Hertz, Wendy Merget, Richard Zalenski, Brian Haley, Patricia Gittings, Lee Grams, Howard Jacobs, Jon Merry, Marie Eakle, Joanne Pransky, Sarge, Arnold Adams, Larry Borsian, John Vion, Abdul Navid, Bob Jones, Lynette Erlich, Cody Kirkham, Oak Sawyer, Tom Vecchio, Kate Wilmore, Larry Hansen, Sara Rothmuller, Nancy Johnson (glamorous even on crutches), Barbara Briggs-Letson, Rose Marie Johnson and, among other wins, Meryl Fischer & Mark Hersko who were victorious at the unit game.

Coming soon are North American Pairs on August 8 & 22. The latter date will be preceded by a lesson on squeezes by Bob Klein with lots of hands-on practice. Moral: don't hug your opponents; squeeze 'em! Our unit game is August 9.

Great Western Summer Fun STAC week is August 24-30. Monday pairs, Monday night congenial teams, Tuesday teams, Wednesday pairs, Wednesday night Pro/Am teams, Thursday Pro/Am teams, Friday and Sunday pairs.

October 30 will be "mellow yellow" card night; dress for the sixties (some of us

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