



What's New in District 22

1st, the Habers 2nd, Imboden - Haderl 3rd, Smith - Lohr 4th, and Abbott - Sheehan 5th.

Coronado

By Jean Seager

Congratulations to Jan Erikson, unit president, who has achieved the rank of Bronze Life Master, surpassing 500 masterpoints. We'll see Jan and his wife, Lynn, when they return from a trip to the East Coast, where they are visiting family and - of course - playing bridge.

At the Eastlake Bridge Club this month, Alexander Prairie and Kathleen Hennessy scored 71.82 percent. Other Eastlake winners were Kathie Angione and Richard Keplinger (twice), Betty Birmingham and Fred Nimitz, Walt Bochenek and Robert Shapley, Judi Bunch and Martha Walker, Letha Couch and Beverly Stebbins, and Gail Welty and Chriseeta Sloan.

In Coronado, Marguerite Cook had a great month, winning four times, twice with regular partner Hazel Metz and twice with Norma Lyerly. Other winners included Phil Akre and Al Schuster (twice), Marty Roth and Dick Palmer, Jan and Lynn Erikson, Ann Lehrer and Saul Morantz and Jean and Bill Seager. Also victorious were John Pizzato and Dick Palmer, Leila and Marty Bloomberg, Dorothy Buck and Jean Scripps, and Norma Lyerly and Phil Akre.

There were some new developments at the regional tournament in Las Vegas.

For the first time, tournament officials stratified teams according to the players average points rather than placing a team (or partnership) in the strat of the player with the most points. This means if your partner had many more points than you did, you didn't necessarily have to "play up." Initial reaction to the change was quite positive. This new system, adopted by ACBL, can be instituted at club games or tournaments at the discretion of the directors.

In Las Vegas, Vicky and Larry Bamberger continued their winning ways in the knockout competitions. They were third/fourth in one match and they won another one. Kathleen Hennessy and Sharon Gordon, along with local players Jim and Shay Andrews were second in C, and 4/6 in B in a Swiss Teams match.

They also finished well in a 60-table Swiss match, with a second in C, 4/6 in B and 7/8 in A. Jean and Bill Seager were second in C in a side game.

As if playing bridge in Las Vegas weren't exciting enough, we experienced an afternoon thunderstorm that had us ducking under waterfalls in the stairwells of the parking structure and dodging puddles on the sidewalks.

Happy summer to all.

Dana Harbor

By Kathy Braeunig

Abig thank you to Cathy Cram for writing the *Forum* column for the past year. Jennifer Porter and I are taking over, and will alternate throughout the year. Yes, it's going to take two of us to fill Cathy's shoes!

Welcome new members James Clifford and Jeffrey Rocklin and transfers Hanefi Erten and Marvin French. We hope to see you playing often. New rankings are Junior Master: Peggy Brand, John Horvath, Frances Krause, Arlen Ryberg; Club Master: Stephanie Fletke, Tanya Johnson, Susan Marcley, Kay Skjei; Sectional Master: Rejane Larochelle; Regional Master: Karen Aiello, Dae Leckie, Janie Matlaf. Keep on climbing that masterpoint ladder.

Congratulations to the many Dana Harbor players who won points at the Balboa Sectional. Those who placed 1st in their events were Steven Love, Hemant Bhatia, and Jim and Gale Senter in Flight A Open Pairs games, Bob Levine and Gayle Gerth in C Open Pairs, Kristine Katz and Pat Dolphin in 299ers, Alan and Debbie Gailfus and team in Compact KO Bracket 1 and Phil and Ruth Richter, Tilak Lall and Virginia Johnson in Compact KO Bracket 2. Placing 1st in Swiss Teams events were Steven Love, Larry Sharp, Judy Elbogen and Philip Hiestand in Flight A, Hemant Bhatia's team in Flight X, Jacob Weisberg, Bart Friedberg, and John and Linda Jonas

in Flight B, and Dae Leckie, Judy Alvord, Pat Dolphin and Kristine Katz in 299er Flight C. Steven Love was the top point winner earning a total of 30.90 points.

On the tournament trail, Pat Dolphin brought home over 14 points from the Ventura Regional. At the Las Vegas Regional, Mark Itabashi had multiple victories and collected 34.89 points, Ron and Sandra Livingston placed 1st in C Fast Pairs and Sharon Forslund, Barbara Pierce, Marcia Holland and Myrna Silverman placed 1st in C and 3rd in B in Swiss Teams. Word is Marcia did not commute to Vegas by ordinary means. Because she had a last minute airline ticket snafu, her husband volunteered to fly her to the tournament in his home-made experimental RV9 aircraft.

Even though he has had this plane for three years, this was the first time Marcia agreed to join him for a flight, and she said it was white-knuckles all the way. Anything for bridge! She arrived safely and in time to help her team snag some of those elusive gold points.

Winners from the fifth Sunday of the month unit game on May 31 were John and Susan Kissinger, LaVern Fabrick and Ann Nixon, Kit Dailey and Tilak Lall. The June 21 unit game top achievers were Patricia Menefee and Andy DeLeon, Charles Messall and Roman Matusik, Susan Benon and Jacob Weisberg.

Leading the pack of masterpoint winners for our open club games in June were Jacob Weisberg, Andy DeLeon and Jane Dober. Speaking of Andy, he had two 70+% games this month! The top three spots for 299ers go to Richard Lee, Tom Snooks and Kristine Katz.

199ers who had 70% games this month were Diane Starns, Virginia Krikorian, Bonnie Douglass, Cathy Cohen, Sue Field, Richard Lee, Kathleen Friesen, Judy Alvord, Harold McBee, Evelyn Crook, Peggy Dakin, Suzanne Edison, Mary Jean Dennis and Bonnie Myers.

Club members Sandy Busby and Judy Roberts are ringleaders promoting the Cabo San Lucas Halloween cruise October 29-November 1, 2009, so be sure to chat with them if you are interested in going. This mini-bridge camp cruise will offer workshops focusing on defense, leads and play of the hand. At last count, eight members from Dana Harbor and 18 bridge players total had made their reservations. Join the fun! Pick up a flyer, or you may contact Liz Nixon from Unit 549 at 760 510-8291 or e-mail her at cruzqueen@sbcglobal.net for more info.

What's faster and more accurate than the human hand? Hopefully our new dealing machine. This device pre-makes boards and provides hand records which may help improve your game.

Dana Harbor Unit 538 is located near the ocean, marina and Doheny Beach. We have friendly games daily.

Call 949 248-1268 or visit our web site at danaharborbridgecenter.org for details.

High Desert

By Steve Klein

The big event for June was the sectional on Father's Day weekend, June 19-21, held at the Northwoods Inn in the city of Big Bear Lake. Attendance was down somewhat from recent years, but enough players showed up to make up 23-28 tables in each pairs game, about evenly divided between Open and 299ers. The Swiss Teams event on Sunday drew 17 teams for the Open, and seven teams for the 199ers.

Besides the folks from our unit, most of the players came from San Bernardino, Orange, Riverside and San Diego counties (including Marshall Miles from Redlands and Mark Itabashi from Murrieta). But there was also a sizeable contingent from the South Bay; in fact, the top masterpoint winner for the weekend was Louis Papp of Santa Monica.

A traditional feature of the Big Bear tournament not often seen elsewhere is the awarding of door prizes, too many to list here. Most were gift certificates from local restaurants, and the Northwoods provided one for a two-night stay, but other prizes included tickets to watch the High Desert Mavericks, a Seattle Mariners farm club which plays in Adelanto. Our thanks to all the businesses which donated prizes.

Thanks also to directors Peter Knee and Scott Campbell, partnership coordinator Mary Ann Wotring, and especially to head honcho and tournament organizer Christine Cook.

Unit 516 players made a strong showing at the sectional: Jim Fariss and Gary Aalfs (Helendale) finished 1st overall in the 299er Pairs on Saturday afternoon (despite masterpoint totals which put them in the lowest flight), followed by Steve Klein and Paula Smith (Big Bear). Steve Klein and Chaz Langdon (Big Bear) finished first overall in the Friday afternoon 299er Pairs, and second *North/South* (third overall) in the evening. First *North/South* in the evening game (second overall) were Paula Smith and Rolland Richenberg (Big Bear). Paula and Rolland also were fourth *East/West* (fifth overall) in the afternoon.

Paul Lasky (Big Bear), playing with Mark Itabashi, placed first *East/West* (second overall) in the Friday evening Open Pairs, and fifth *North/South* in the afternoon game. Barbara Lasky (Big Bear), playing with Subba Ravipundi, was second *East/West* (fourth overall) in the Friday afternoon Open Pairs, fifth *East/West* in the Saturday morning Open Pairs, and third *East/West* Saturday afternoon.

Mary Ann and Warren Wotring of Chino Hills, who are regular players at Big Bear, finished second *North/South* (third overall) in Flight B of the Friday afternoon Open Pairs; second overall in Flight B of the Friday evening Open Pairs; tied for fifth overall Saturday morning; and fifth overall in Flight B of the Saturday afternoon game.

Tied with them on Saturday morning were Steve Koller (Helendale) and John Ruffo (Apple Valley).

Arlene Elder and Barbara Cassity (Big Bear) were third in Flight B *East/West* in the Friday afternoon Open.

Jeanne Neighbors (Big Bear), playing with Kathy Sandstrom of Murrieta, placed third overall in Flight F of the Friday afternoon 299ers, and again in the Saturday afternoon game. Barbara and Terence Maloy of San Diego, who often play at Big Bear,

finished fifth *East/West* in the Friday afternoon event. Rolland Richenberg and R.T. Hawke (Big Bear) were fifth overall in Flight E Saturday afternoon. Morton Fletcher and Eiko Miller (Big Bear) finished third overall in Flight B of the Friday evening Open Pairs. Terry Bessey (Big Bear), playing with Yoshiko Tatsumi from Japan, finished fourth *North/South* in the Saturday morning 299ers. Brett Baker (Helendale) and Virginia Cleminson (Barstow) were sixth *North/South* in this game.

Our unit dominated Flight B of the Open Swiss Teams on Sunday. The Wotring's, Arlene Elder and Eiko Miller were first; a team including Steve Koller, John Ruffo, David Bloom (Apple Valley) and Peter Korling (Big Bear) finished second (first in C); and Morton Fletcher, Yoshiko Tatsumi, Christine Cook and Joan Thorne (formerly from Big Bear, now in Edmond, Okla.) placed third. (Before leaving the subject of Swiss Teams, I must give myself a special mention as the captain of the only team which failed to win a single match.)

The top masterpoint winners for the tournament from our unit were the Wotring's, with 9.54. Top winner among the 299ers (overall, not just from Unit 561) was Eiko Miller with 5.43.

Back at the club games, June winners at Big Bear included Paula Smith, Steve Klein, Christine Cook, David Joseph, Eiko Miller, Morton Fletcher, R.T. Hawke, Arlene Elder, and Mary Ann and Warren Wotring. Congratulations to all.

For the second month in a row, the Big Bear club had a visitor from overseas. In June we welcomed Yoshiko Tatsumi of Tokyo, who was visiting BBBC member Eiko Miller. Eiko is from Big Bear City by way of Japan. Yoshiko played at club games and also at the sectional, partnering Eiko and several other club members. We very much enjoyed her company and hope she had a good time.

Silver Lakes/Victorville welcomed two new players to the area, Babe Jaye and Da-

(Continued on page 12)

EARN YOUR SILVER POINTS PLAYING AGAINST PLAYERS AT YOUR OWN LEVEL!

Unit 549's San Marcos Silver Splash Tournament

299er SECTIONAL

SEPTEMBER 18 and 19

Now TWO days - FRIDAY and SATURDAY

MEADOWLARK COMMUNITY CHURCH

1918 RED WING STREET, SAN MARCOS

Take 78 to Exit 11A (Rancho Santa Fe Road)

South for 3.3 miles, right on Red Wing Street

10am. Stratified 299er Pairs

2:30pm. Stratified 299er Pairs

FREE LESSONS

each morning at 9:30 am before it all gets going!

FREE CHOW

before, during, inbetween and after, you will not go hungry!

FREE FROM ATTITUDE

zero tolerance means you're guaranteed a friendly group!

JUST SHOW UP AND RELAX

think about the cards - we'll take care of everything else!

\$10 card fee/player, \$1 add'l for non-ACBL or unpaid members

More information on our website at www.sbridge.com



Director-in-charge: Cedric Pang

Tournament Manager: Bill Sperry (wrsperry@gmail.com)

Partnerships: Pamela Thacker (pamelathacker@cox.net)

ACBL Unit 549 Sanction #SNO909049

"ALL THE BIDDING YOUR PARTNER CAN HANDLE"