



District 21 Unitscope

Davila and Dora Gostanian (organizers), helper Peggy Francis, and all of the members who donated food.

Congratulations to our 70% winners in October. John Jonassen & Karen Laws had a 77.78% game on Oct. 6. Linda Garrett & Barbara Kelley had a 70.83% game on Oct. 13 only to come in second to Jackie Finn & Jason McAlexander who had a 79.17% game! Paul Messner & Delia Green had 71% game on Oct. 22.

Richard Meffley had a 76.19% in his individual game on Oct. 23. In Madera, Morgan Johnson & Denslow Green just made it with a 70% on Oct. 28.

Congratulations also go out to our two newest Life Masters: John Renna and John Simpson.

New Members: A BIG welcome to new members Jason McAlexander, Doris Rahn, and Barbara Wiedel!

Christmas Party, end of the year unit meeting, and luncheon will be held on Sunday, December 13. This party will also be a Great Western Holiday STAC game, as will many (though not all) of the games between the 7th & 13th.

Have a great Holiday Season!

Gilroy/Hollister/ Morgan Hill

By Dian Wood Picone

Unit 524 was well represented at the Santa Cruz Surf's Up Sectional: not only did Don Nemiro, Jerry Pelletier, Barbara Earley, Katie & Gale Dimmick, Suzanne Gere, Dottie Malone and Carol Yamane attend, but many came home with points.

Congratulations to Ron Dragt & Win Stone and Diana Dragt, & Rosemary Erwin who came in second in the Stratified Open Swiss with a score of 100.

Linda King's Tuesday Club Appreciation Pizza-fest and Bridge was followed by

Mike Slattery's luncheon for his Wednesday bridge game. Everyone had two days of good lunches, good bridge and we all enjoyed each other's festive Halloween garb.

Many of our unit's members escaped a few frigid October days by joining directors Linda King and Rosemary Erwin cruising the Mexican Riviera. A total of twenty-eight unit members traveled together.

The directors tell us that Dianne Farotte, Kelly Gutierrez, Marty Schwabacher, Terri Swan, Pat Kraut, Ron King, Rosemary Erwin, Sheila Hill, and Janet Bernhardt enjoyed perfect weather and a fabulous Mariner of the Seas cruise.

Joanne Wicker will compete in the One-half Iron Man tournament in Florida. We'll be rooting for you Joanne!

Wishing you all a happy Thanksgiving. And, don't forget to sign up for the unit Christmas Party, December 13, 12:00, Ridgemark Tennis Club, if you haven't already. Linda King is the coordinator (call her if you need a partner 831 637-7254 or lrking@hughes.net). Barbara Earley is the master of ceremonies. Patty Stone, who has prevailed on our more extroverted members to once again perform for us, is in charge of entertainment. I hear it's going to be spectacular! Win Stone and Ron Dragt are our directors. There will be a section just for beginning bridge players, so be sure to join us for your first unit Christmas Party!

Hollister: Mike's Wednesday afternoon game: Oct. 7: 1st, Donald Bugge & Bob Frohman; 2nd, Diana & Ron Dragt. Oct. 14: 1st, Bob Frohman & Don Bugge; 2nd, Diana & Ron Dragt. Oct. 7: 1st, Marilyn Martin & Don Bugge; 2nd, Bob Williams & Bill Millar. Oct. 21: 1st, Bob Frohman & Chris Boncich. Oct. 28: 1st, Don Nemiro & Win Stone; 2nd, Betty McKenzie & Bob Williams. Linda's Tuesday pairs: Oct. 6: *N/S* 1st, Dianne Farotte & Armeda Dooling; *E/W* 1st, Linda King & Mary Schwabacher. Tuesday game: 1st, Joy & Ray Jean. Oct. 13: *N/S* 1st, Gale & Katie Dimmick; *E/W*

1st, Gertrude Edvenson & Luisa Velasco. Oct. 27: 1st, Suzanne Gere & Win Stone.

Gilroy: Open Pairs Thursday: Oct. 1: 1st, Win & Patty Stone. Oct. 8: *N/S* 1st, Ron Dragt & Win Stone; *E/W* 1st, Marilyn Martin & Dick Tani; 2nd, Rosemary Erwin & Diana Dragt. Oct. 15: 1st, Ron Dragt & Win Stone; 2nd, Marilyn Ribardo & Gloria Gama; 3rd, Dick Tani & Donald Bugge. Oct. 22: 1st, Ron Dragt & Don Nemiro; 2nd, Jerry Pelletier & Margot Kakalec. Oct. 29: 1st, Win Stone & Ron Dragt.

Morgan Hill: Open Pairs Monday, Oct. 5: 1st, Helen Lindsey & Pat Kraut; 2nd, Jonna Robinson & Vincent McLoughlin. Oct. 12: 1st, Mike & Margot Kakalec. Oct. 19: 1st Pat Kraut & Teri Swan; 2nd, Jonna Robinson & Vincent McLoughlin. Oct. 26: 1st, Ron Dragt & Win Stone; 2nd, Liega & Patrick Arnett.

Unit game, Sunday: Oct. 18, 1st, Don Nemiro & Betty De Paola; 2nd, Bob Williams & Ken Imboden.

We were so sorry to hear of the death of Bill Smith's wife. Our condolences to Bill and his family.

Livermore Valley

By Paul Dubois

December 12 is our annual Christmas party and game at the Veterans Hall on Main Street in Pleasanton. The fun starts with dinner at about 4:00 p.m., and bridge about an hour later.

The cost is \$15.00 a person, and players should sign up at the clubs or e-mail Carmen.

Every October the Bay Area scene turns clubbish. This is our chance to play special club games, and hold the annual meeting with a potluck and Swiss. A good time was certainly had by all. For Halloween, Larry replaced the deck where the eight of clubs had a notch in it with one of those big print decks. The first time I opened my hand I threw my head back to get it in focus and almost went over backwards.

The annual meeting Swiss was won by the team of Teresa Duewer, Gary Minnig, Ameen Paul, and Gilbert Reeser. Ally Whiteneck, Trish O'conner, Lynne Humphrey, and Bin Barrow cruised down 680 from Unit 499 and grabbed first in C.

The Livermore Club Appreciation Swiss went to the team of Neysa and Don De Fremery with Pat & Jim Leary. Paul Wegfahrt, Sukumar Mukherji, Jim Solomon, and Dennis Tretheway took first in B. At the Pleasanton Club Appreciation Swiss, victory went to Dudley Alexander,

Carlton Furnburg, Verlan Gabrielson, and Terri Kiyota, with first in B going to the pesky Wegfahrt & Mukherji teamed this time with Jo Ellen Praklet & Jim Heiner.

The Laws of Bridge Are Weird Department: Your left-hand opponent opens 1NT and his partner on your right bids 2♥. The opener doesn't say anything. You think the opener just forgot to say "transfer" and assume his partner has spades. Later on it turns out 2♥ was natural. Don't bother calling the director; that bid does not need to be alerted. In fact, it is how bridge used to be played, and is still a part of some systems, such as a weak notrump system.

However, if 2♥ was a transfer and the opener just forgot to say so, you technically can't ask if they forgot to say transfer. That might tell your partner something. So you go ahead and bid spades and then beg the director to do something about that -1400 you got. I find that people ask, "Was that a transfer?" all the time. I tried to envision my calling Larry when he is playing, and complaining about someone asking me if that was a transfer, but I can't picture it. I will just have to suffer.

You can improve your odds against breaking laws, however, by remembering the National Security Principle:

Don't ask about something if you don't have a Need To Know.

If you're sitting there with a 4-4-3-2 hand and five points, you don't need to understand the auction right now. Repress your curiosity and ask after the auction is over.

Plans are afoot for our sectional on Jan. 23-24. Please volunteer to help out; we can't let just a few people carry the load. Kathi Nelson is the tournament chairperson.

Marin

By Bob Sampson

We hope you attended the unit party Sunday, December 6. Don't forget Great Western Holiday STAC week in the clubs, December 7-13 and the Monterey Regional January 4-10. One could describe December as "the darker month" at least in the Northern Hemisphere because not only is there a dearth of sectionals but, as any Wiccan can tell you, the winter solstice occurs on the 21st. That may be why candle lighting is a prominent feature of the 12 Days of Christmas, the eight days of Hanukkah and the seven days of Kwanzaa. But for "lighter" holidays, December has its share; we refer of course to Festivus on the 23rd (you have to be a fan of the TV show Seinfeld) and Woolseymas on the 6th (seriously).

The latter commemorates the day in 1933 that Federal Judge John Woolsey ruled that James Joyce's novel *Ulysses* is not pornographic and therefore not obscene. Maybe English majors still toast the event.

Let us return to prosaic (English majors love this adjective) October that *did* have a lot of sectionals, beginning with Santa Rosa at which a baker's dozen Marinites were in the overalls. Jean Marchant & Elizabeth Sather won a 299er Pairs and were 6th in another. In Side Pairs, Carl Meyer won in B and Ellen Schiller & Bob Liss placed 4th in A. Bob Roman & Lenore Cavallero took 4th in C in Open Pairs. Lynn Redding and Irene Lam were 4th in 299ers Pairs. In Swiss Teams, Lynn Blankfort and Michael Hartnett won Bracket 3, Susan Bowser and Ron Mulcare won Bracket 4 and Tom Belshie was 2nd in Bracket 5.

There were five more sectionals in our district in October but only three players from Mount Tam country made the winner's circle. Bob Roman (with *yk*) scored twice in Santa Cruz by placing 4th in B, Stratified Pairs and 4th in A Open Swiss Teams. In Carson City's four-day sectional, Loretta Bromberg tied for first in A pairs and had four 2nd place finishes: three in A pairs and one in A Swiss Teams. In Santa Clara, Spencer Sun was 5th in B Swiss Teams. Apparently Fresno is bridge too far as no Unit 508 name was found in the winners list. In club games in October, most of the action was at Crossley's where on a Wednesday Bob Roman & Fred Stout had 69.7% and at "Monday Night Bridge Lite" on the 19th Charles Molosky & John Noren soared to 78% *N/S* while Helen & Richard Spalding cruised at 71% *E/W*.

At Terra Linda, Dee Cumberland & Barbara Simon had a prosaic 70% (still keeping English majors happy).

Speaking of joy, Happy New Year all! We get to play more bridge in 2010.

Yippee!

Modesto

By Lee Striplin

The Sonora Sectional was a big success, and many thanks go to Dave Jenkins, Ann Sturm, Alan and Susan Hamilton, and the Sonora volunteers. A special thanks goes to Duane Oneto for saving the day with bidding boxes and table markers. Chris Brown & Barbara Price were first overall in the morning session, and second were Crispin Barrere & Jean Barry. Yosh & Zeke Mataga were first in B followed by Duane Oneto & Janet Van Kessel. In the afternoon session John & Joyce Ielmini were first overall in A & B, and Nick & Susan Wiebe were second. Michael Hankin & Dave Jenkins were first overall in the 299er pairs morning session. Margie Erardi & Elizabeth Youngman led the afternoon session, and Connie Arnold & Judy Remmers were second. The Sunday Swiss Teams winners were Christopher Bell, David Jenkins, and Lydia & Robert Solomon. Second went to Gary Capwell, Donna & Hal DeRoos, & Charlotte Martin, and the third to Jinsoon Chan, Elena Franzia, Juanita Kaufman & Pat Martin.

Players of the month for October were A, Fred Herman, followed by Alan Strauss. B were led by Glenn Van Denburg (also first in C), followed by Jackie Wilson. Ralph



Livermore Valley Sectional

Saturday, January 23 &
Sunday, January 24, 2010

Hart Middle School
4433 Willow Road, Pleasanton, CA



Saturday, January 23

Sessions are at 10:30 AM and 4:00 PM

Stratified Open Pairs – Two Sessions – Single Sessions will be accommodated

Strat A	1500 +
Strat B	500 – 1499
Strat C	0 - 499

Stratified Novice Pairs – Two Single Sessions

Strat D	50 - 99
Strat E	0 – 49



Sunday, January 24

Sessions are at 10:30 AM and 4:00 PM

Bracketed Swiss Teams

(Brackets determined by summing masterpoints of the four highest players)

Double Sessions – 8 Boards – 7 Matches – 20 VP Scale

Entry fees: \$10.00 per session for ACBL members; \$11.00 per session for non-ACBL members. Sanction ID: S1001071

Tournament Director:	Nancy Boyd
Tournament Chair:	Kathi Nelson (925) 485-1557
Partnerships:	Carmen Meuter (510) 851-2869

Absolutely NO Smoking on School Premises
Free Refreshments / Restaurant Listings

Directions From 580 East: Take Hacienda Drive exit. Turn right onto Hacienda Drive. Right onto West Las Positas. Take the next right onto Willow Road. Multipurpose room on the right, free parking. From 580 West, take Hacienda Drive exit. Turn left onto Hacienda, proceed to West Las Positas as above.