

District 21 Unitscope

BER

By the Beer Dude

Happy MMX! May we soon burn off our holiday calorie OD's sans too much physical strain & pain! Thanx to all who brought goodies to share at our Holiday Party Dec. 11, the cashers at which you'll see here in Feb. if you didn't see them on our web site.

The unit (aka El Cerrito Bridge Club) now owns the Live Oak W/F club day games; I'm the manager. Dues are history; Wed. & Fri. games now are "Live Oak Pairs." Table fees stay \$4 until our "overhead" costs force us to raise them (not likely until at least 2012). I'm not changing our website's homepage buttons; find results in the same places you're used to. We'll be serving *real* coffee all days once the instant goes away (I hate it & never served it once the unit took over Mon. games); snacks will be of the non-sticky variety (to save the cards!). Club championship days (all *Free Play!*) will be the last Mondays Jan./Apr./Jul./Oct, three Weds. Mar./Jun./Sept./Dec., & second Fridays Feb./May/Aug./Nov. Vi Kimoto's retired; please don't call/e-mail her if you need a partner! We'll give you a list of active players to contact on your own & we'll have a "sign-up" calendar at the games for days you need one. First-timers, call me 510 528-5351.

Nov unit game was a 3-table "social" Some of our regulars either played teams in Oakland or stayed home. Joyce Burks & Trudie Sinclair won overall; Joyce ("3 Wood") Demercurio & Jan Straus were 2nd. Jan. game is the 31st (no meaningful football that day!), local Charity Pairs to benefit Richmond YMCA's youth programs; table fees \$6. Helen Studabaker is 2009 LM Player of the Year; as of 12/1, Joyce Demercurio led the NLM group by a tad, but Janice Kosel, Gene Sor, & Gus Graban had a chance to catch her at our STAC game. I'll tell the tale next month.

In/out/MP ladder news: Welcome back El

Cerrito residents Carol & Jack Scott from East Bay! Add Andrew Glazer from Eastern MA & William Afong from SF, & new member Anne Foreman. Adieu to Eric Barde (FL) & Beverly Russell (Marin). Doug Heying is our newest Jr. Master, the only rank change in the last two months. Please keep your ACBL dues current; our "cut" helps keep our games cheap!

Club game stars: Doug Heying MP champ on Monday; John Begley & Larry Zeni best game @ 65.5%. "H-J" shared LO MP champ & had best Wed. game @ 64.81%; Eric Childs & Jack Shiffer had best Fri. game @ 65.92%. One MP champ effective January; I'll still be citing the best % games for each day, plus anyone else who shoots 70%+. If you hit 75%+, I'll send your result to be posted in the *ACBL Bulletin*. ACBL-wide Senior Pairs (55+) coming Mon., Feb. 22; hand records, etc. & colored points for directional tops local & national overalls. No game MLK Day Jan. 18.

Nexttime you see Vi Kimoto, give her a hug & thanx for all she's done the last 15+ yrs for Live Oak & bridge in El Cerrito & for being one helluva great lady! She got many @ the Dec. 30 Live Oak "sendoff" game, but more never can be wrong!

www.berunit497.org tells you where we're at - tweak me @ beerman49@msn.com when you wanna brag or gripe.

Carson/Tahoe

By Rich Tirissini

Donna McLeod had the most masterpoints for November at the Carson City Bridge Center with 5.42. Mary Sandhagen was second with 4.28 MPs, while Kathleen St Germain in 3rd.

At the Carson Valley Bridge Club, Mary Phillips accumulated the most masterpoints during October with 1.69. Bob Garret and Ken Grafton tied for second with 1.69 MPs. In September, Bruce Mitchner was first in September with 1.87 MPs, Sam Batdorf was runner-up with 1.50 masterpoints, and Theresa Pinney came in third with 1.46.

Game Results: Carson City Bridge Club: the unit game was held on Nov. 8, with the following results: N/S 1A, Virginia Kellermeyer & Donna McLeod; 2A, Bob & Konrad Garret; 3A/1B, Cheryl & Wayne Kinder; 4A, Marie Coffey & Rich Turissini; 5A/2B, Hank Harris & Carol Lefcourt; E/W 1A, Diane & John McCall; 2A, Paul Jorgensen & Gary Nitzberg; 3A, Paul Ringer & Ben McLeod; 4A, Beverly & Sam Batdorf; 5A/1B, Carolyn McLeod & Yuki Stevens.

An "Eight is Enough" Swiss Teams game was held on Nov. 21. The team of Rick & Vivian Betcher and Joyce Barrett & Elaine Cain won first place, while the runner-up was the team of Betty & Otis Clamp and Cheryl & Wayne Kinder

Carson Valley Bridge Club: Nov. 23: Beverly Meyer & Julie Cardinali; 2A: Thelma Nelson & Gladys Turissini; 3A, Rick & Vivian Betcher; 4, Beverly & Sam Batdorf.

Nov. 16: N/S 1A, Leona Pchelkin & Gary Nitzberg; 2A, Ken Grafton & Bob Garret; 3A, Beverly & Sam Batdorf; 4A, Nancy Palmer & Donna McLeod; E/W 1A/1B, Geoff Stokes & Theresa Pinney; 2A/2B, Roxanne Hart & Beverly Meyer; 3A/3B, Susan Carnegie & Mary Sandhagen; 4A, Bob Anderson & Rick Betcher. Nov. 9: N/S 1A, Gary Nitzberg & Bob Garret; 2A, Nick Pchelkin & Ben McLeod; 3A, Beverly Meyer & Imogene Meyer; E/W 1A, Bob Anderson & Donna McLeod; 2A/1B, Fran Coursey & Robert Allgeier; 3A, Theresa Pinney & Sam Batdorf. Nov. 2: N/S 1A/1B, Marie Coffey & Joyce Barrett; 2A, Konrad Garret & Gladys Turissini; 3A, Bob Garret & Ken Grafton; E/W 1A, Gary Nitzberg & Donna McLeod; 2A/1B, Roxanne Hart & John Guerry; 3A, Beverly & Sam Batdorf.

Diablo Valley

By Chris Pizarra

Just got home from San Diego (less than eight hours driving, but I may speed occasionally). Diablo Valley had some major winners this last week at the Nationals. First off, Manfred Michlmayr & Crispin Barrere had a staggering 77% game in the first session of the Open Pairs. They followed this up with another strong performance to win the event.

Unit 499 was the star of the under 5000 Mini-Blue Ribbon Pairs. Nancy Blaustein and partner were the leaders after the opening day, and the overall winners were Hal & Ron Huffaker! I'm completely impressed, stunned, wowed and gobsmacked.

Winning both hither and yon, Iris Libby went over 500 points to become a Bronze Life Master. The hither part was 2nd in a KO event with Cecilia Ip, Elizabeth Golanco (who is listed as living in Alamo, but we know she really lives in Hong Kong and comes over to play cards) and Hedy Wee. Yon might be taking 5th overall in Strat C of the Fast Pairs on Wednesday with Joan Whipple.

Jack Fulcher & Lisa Evans made the second day of the National Swiss Teams. We saw Jack between rounds on the first day, and he seemed slightly (?) exercised over his partners coming back down -1100. Fortunately, a double Bourbon on the rocks seemed to quiet him down and he went back to crush a top team and earn his "Q" for the next day. And all this was after they won their bracket in a KO event the day before. Pretty nice tournament they had.

There are undoubtedly more winners, but I can't find them yet and by next month we'll be on to the next tournament; Monterey. And that's one reason I'm trying something new: I've started a blog, Unit499.wordpress.com, to be precise. I wanted a place to post things as they happen, not have to wait a month.

Last month, for instance, I typed out a fairly nice article for this space, but missed deadline waiting for results from our sectional, which I didn't get anyway. So I have posted that article on the blog, Unit499.wordpress.com. I'll be able to post photos, too. Newspapers are a dying medium, or so they tell me.

Certainly, the *Chronicle* gets smaller every month; by next year it will be the size of the *Readers Digest*. Maybe my blog, Unit499.wordpress.com, is the way of the future. I sure hope so.

And that's all the exciting news for this month. I'll see if there is something inter-

esting to post on my blog, Unit499.wordpress.com. If you have something interesting, tell me at chris@pizarra.com. Merry Christmas to all, and see you in Monterey next January.

East Bay

By Sandi Davis

Happy New Year and I wish everyone a happy and healthy 2010. And, yes, there is a game on January 3 at Mosswood; it will be a charity game with fees of \$6.00 with \$1.00 from each entry going to the Alameda County Food Bank. Start the year by supporting a very good cause.

Congratulations to newly elected board members Tom Pajak, Mary Payne, Donna Rolle, Ravi Bhalla, Dave Cartwright, Sandi Davis, Dick Hart. Thanks to all who voted.

There are some changes to Unit 502's club games with the retirement of King Park. Betty Kael will now direct the Tuesday game at Mosswood. Greg Vance will direct the Thursday game at Redwood. The Friday game at Mosswood will continue to be directed by Ruth Brun. Betty will continue to direct the game at Dimond Library as well as the Easybridge! game at Piedmont Community Hall. Rich Leres will still direct the third Monday of the month game at Piedmont Community Hall. And don't forget to support Doug Handler's evening games at Piedmont Veteran's building. Plus the first & third Sunday games at Mosswood are always a treat. We are fortunate to have plenty of bridge in our area. You can now go to the unit web site to view a calendar of monthly happenings. It shows any special events such as Great Western STAC games or club championships and also will show any changes to the regular schedule. Just click on the tab called "Month at a Glance."

Welcome to new ACBL and Unit 502 members Caryl Larson, Virginia Quong and Douglas Seifert. Also welcome to new to Unit 502 members Nancy Davis, Daniel Molochko and Kay Penstone. There have been some advances in rank. Congratulations to Lori Rosenthal advancing to new Club Master, Lois Horwitz, Mary Levine, Patricia Rolandelli and Esther Rubke advancing to Sectional Master, and Glenn Boyce reaching NABC Master.

At the November 15 unit game, E/W Verlan Gabrielson & Terri Kiyota had a 59.13% game to edge out N/S Frank and Lucille Asaro's 58.89% and capture 1st o/a.

The Oakland Sectional in November was very well attended and ran smoothly aside from a few lighting problems which we are working to correct. The bridge was good and the food was terrific. Special thanks to Tom Pajak for all of his hard work to make this event a success and to all of the volunteers helping with kitchen duties as well as set-up and take down! A lot of points were won so here we go. Friday afternoon Susan Wiebe & Wen Yen Leong won 1st OA, with Nick Wiebe & Steve Kanzee 2nd; Ron Kow & Betty Kael 4th. Mary Payne & Shirley Rodenborn placed 2nd in B (They also had a good game at the Diablo Sectional the next week). In the under 300 game, Doris Weiner Gluckman & Harry Gluckman placed 1st, followed closely by Jeff & Mary Toman 2nd, and Barbara & Kirk Stumpf 4th. The Friday evening game had Nick & Steve winning 1st OA with Rich Leres & Dick Hart also finishing in the money. Doris continued her winning ways on Saturday with Joseph Kushner. Also placing high on Saturday were Ed & Teresa Seputis, Tom Pajak & Donna Rolle, Greg Reichert & Rainer Rungelder (They also had a good finish at B-E-R), Kay Andersen and Kathryn Van Dohre, Roma Rehfish & Lois Horwitz (Roma also had a great game with Marilyn Bowles at Diablo), Laura McCrea & Carrie Stolfus (Laura also won in the afternoon session with Ed Yunck), and Sue Yahng & Isabel Bradshaw. In the Barbara Harmon Memorial Swiss, Michael Sasso & Start Schneck's team fished well as did the team of Lois Flock, Ernie Scosseria, Ed Seputis & Peter Schneider.

At the B-E-R Sectional, Michel & Andrea Scneider (Mike also had a win at Diablo), Nadine Levine & Cass Hawes, Nick Wiebe, Calvin Harper & Mark Moss all scored big.

At Diablo, Dick & Joyce Hart, Simon

ACBL

SAN MATEO SPRING SECTIONAL

FEBRUARY 27 and 28, 2010

SAN MATEO COUNTY EXPO CENTER

2495 SOUTH DELAWARE ST.

SAN MATEO, CA 94403

MEETING PAVILION BUILDING

Saturday, February 27	Sunday, February 28
<p>12:30 pm - Single Session Open Stratified Pairs 0-750/2000/Unlimited</p> <p>12:30 pm - Art Weinstein Memorial 199er Champion Single Session Limited Strat. Pairs 0/20/50/100/200</p> <p>6:00 pm - Single Session Strati-Flighted Open Pairs Flight A/X 0-2000/2000+ Strats B/C/D 0-200/500/1000</p>	<p>10:00 am - Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams (4 matches, 7 boards)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Swiss Teams 2nd session Time (3 matches, 7 boards) TBA Flight A/X 0-3000/3000+ Strats B/C/D 0-500/1000/1500</p> <p>10:00 am Swiss 199'er Teams 0-50/100/200 (one session only)</p> <p>10:00 am - Single Session Stratified Pairs (0-750/2000/unlimited)</p> <p>3:00 pm - Single Session Stratified Pairs (0-750/2000/Unlimited)</p>

ACBL SANCTION # S- 1002067

TOURNAMENT CHAIR: Albert Malouf (650) 342-7193 Email: acmalouf@aol.com

PARTNERSHIP CHAIR: Mary Bates (650) 863-7575 Email: marybates@ren.com

Mid-Chart Conventions allowed for Flight A events only.

Table Fees: \$10.00 per player per session. \$11.00 for non ACBL & unpaid members

FREE PARKING

UNIT 498 HAS PAID FOR YOUR PARKING. IF THERE IS AN ATTENDANT AT THE ENTRANCE GATE, SHOW YOUR CONVENTION CARD FOR ADMITTANCE.

DIRECTIONS

From 101 take 92 West and exit on Delaware St. Turn right and go ½ mile south to Saratoga Drive, turn left to 1346 Saratoga Drive, the Event Center's main side entrance.

From 280 take 92 East and exit on Delaware St. Turn right and go ½ mile south to Saratoga Drive, turn left to 1346 Saratoga Drive, the Event Center's main side entrance.

From El Camino Real, turn East on 25th Ave. to Delaware St., turn left to Saratoga Drive., then right to 1346 Saratoga Drive, the Event Center's main side entrance.

USE SARATOGA DRIVE ENTRANCE