



What's New in District 22

Lohr and Sheehan 2nd, Hadelier -Greer 3rd.
A wonderful exciting time is at hand with the Holiday Season. I hope that it will be special to each and every one.

Coronado

By Jean Seager

The Coronado / Chula Vista Unit has a new Life Master. Congratulations to Howard Crabtree who earned this designation at the San Diego NABC. He joins his wife and bridge partner Carolyn, who is also a new Life Master.

And somewhere in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, Marian Sullivan and daughter Christine Hoagland achieved the highest percentage game in recent memory. On a cruise to the Hawaiian Islands, this dynamic duo scored 78 percent in a game on the ship. According to Marian, this was one of the most memorable parts of their trip.

November's unit sectional was a huge success. Thanks to yeoman work by co-chairs Carol Brager and Marty Roth, the event ran smoothly and deliciously. If you saw either one of them before, during, or after the matches, you know how much time and care they put into their work. Thank you also to those who brought food.

Sectional winners were Bill and Jean Seager with a first overall in an Open Pairs game, in addition to a first in C (twice) and a third in C. Betty Thompson and partner Marcia Trombold scored a second in C in the Open Pairs game. They also earned a third in C and a fifth in B. Jan and Lynne Erikson were sixth in C in the Open Pairs. In the Non-Life Master Pairs, Ross and Barbara White were second in D.

At the club games this month, Eastlake Bridge Club's Trish Lane and Gerard Allier scored an impressive 75.24 percent. Other Eastlake winners were Archa Glass - Hiroko Kitamura, Kathleen Hennessy - Greg Wetz, Richard Keplinger - Donna Rafenstein, Kathie Angione - Kathleen Hennessy, and Robert Shapley - Lois Richards.

In Coronado, congratulations are in order for John Malskis, who scored his first bridge victory ever. John Pizzatto was his

partner. Phil Akre won three times, once with Marty Roth and twice with Al Schuster. Other winners were Jean and Bill Seager, Marty Roth and Marian Sullivan, Jan and Lynne Erikson, and Fred Nimtz and Carol Brager.

Now that the San Diego's NABC is history, please let me know if you did well at the tournament. There are so many results that I'm not willing to go through them all myself. I'll publish the results I get from everyone in next month's column.

Happy Holidays to all!

Dana Harbor

By Jennifer Porter

What better way to launch into November than on a Bridge Cruise. Seventeen club members went to sea, cruising from San Diego to Cabo San Lucas, and I gather from Sandy Busby that bridge was secondary to their overall enjoyment.

The Long Beach Sectional was one of the few tournaments attended by members this month. Mark Itabashi prevailed once again as the overall point winner with 22.95 masterpoints. He and Steve Love were 1st in Open Pairs and tied for 1st in the Experimental Pairs. Also, Mark was on a team that placed 1st in Swiss Teams.

In the 299er Pairs, Alan Dirkin and partner were 1st in their strat.

John and Susan Kissinger traveled far afield to a regional tournament in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. They placed 1st in two KO's and came away with 37.32 points.

At the November unit game, Jacob Weisberg - LaVerne Marano were 1st in A and Paul Chung - Xiaoxue Walker, John Winslow - Marion Stark were 1st in B and C.

The dealing machine and the hand records are working out very well. This benefit is not without effort and Mike Shapiro is the young man behind the scenes, sometimes assisted by his Dad, Jim. Thank you Mike and Jim for your hard work.

The club received sad news from Montana of George Winter's death. George was well known and respected throughout this area

as a director, teacher and player of bridge. He was also quite a presence at the club.

For those of us novices in the game, we remember wanting to disappear under the table when he was called to adjudicate on one of our infractions. He would rule in his big booming voice, but always with a twinkle in his eye. We send our heartfelt condolences to his family.

For those members who have fewer than 500 MPs, including Life Masters, the club has started a new 499er game on Monday afternoons. Hopefully this will encourage those players who seek opportunities to play more often in a less competitive arena.

Instead of paying for a bridge class, how about getting paid to take one? The Saturday classes in January and February will culminate with a test which will be rewarded with free plays for the top scorers. This offer is open to all, and classes will be geared to all levels of play. There will be conventions, play of the hand, leads, and, yes, procedures/laws. You must attend 5 of the 7 classes (plus the test) to be eligible for a free play. The class dates are: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; February 6, 20 - test on February 27. Contact Ginnie Blitzman at 949 395-2402 for more information.

Congratulations to the following members who have achieved new rankings. Junior Master: Kenneth Hill, Diana Schmitz, Bertrand Weidberg, and Sharon Weidberg; Club Master: Trudi Hanscom, Jeffrey Hecht, Janet Lee-Thorpe, Emely Moeller, and Jeanne Takahashi; Sectional Master: Judie Adams and Tom Snooks; NABC Master: Dae Leckie; Bronze Life Master: Joe Fiorica and Calvin Hecht; Silver Life Master: Faye Smith and John Winslow.

Welcome to Al and Judy Bongarzone and Edward Reyno who have transferred into our unit.

The masterpoint race was very close this month; Jim Senter edged out Jacob Weisberg by .23 MPs for first place and Larry Sharp was third. The top 299ers were Tom Snooks, Judy Alvord and Dae Leckie.

Happy Holidays!

Desert Cities

By Nancy Erickson

Congratulations to Jim Darvey and Neil Stern overall winners at the December unit game sitting E/W. Noel Hanford and Dave Kane placed 1st playing N/S. Terry Strand and Cindy Selberg reigned supreme in the 299er section with a 70.37%. Richard Cameron and Donna Miller were 1st N/S. We had a season high 36 tables. Thank yous go out to Tom McCormick (he always directs with class and personality), Jane Patchett, (one very special person) and Bill Dani unit game chair, Louise Rhea and Chris Hudson. All of their efforts made a truly fun day. The unit was especially appreciative of the donated door prizes by club managers Woody McHarg, Tom McCormick and Mick Riccio. Their generosity made several players very happy!

Speaking of generous club managers and first rate club directors no one can hold a candle to Unit 533's own Laura Tilton. Laura returned to Iowa to be with her family in late November. Laura's contribution to duplicate bridge in the Coachella Valley has been immeasurable. She mentored with

an infectious enthusiasm and her agenda was always her players - just the players. It is an enviable 20 year record. Take care of you, Laura. We miss you.

Our next unit game will immediately follow the unit's annual meeting on Sunday, January 10, 2010.

The nominating committee has reported that there are four candidates seeking election to the unit's board of directors. Three individuals will be elected to serve three year terms expiring December 21, 2012.

Sharon Polley, Rube Kaplan, Sandra Hertz and Nancy Erickson will appear on the ballot. No petitions were received with the requisite 25 signatures. Members should note nominations maybe made from the floor at the annual meeting if the nominee has agreed in advance to his name being placed in nomination.

Members unable to attend the unit's annual meeting may request a ballot by contacting the unit secretary, Bev Hartin at 760 318-4266 or 818 652-8629. Your ballot must be post-marked by Thursday, January 8, 2010 to be counted.

Past president Karen Michael, Roger Sielicky and Stuart Fletcher have agreed to serve on the election committee. The unit thanks them for volunteering.

Mark your calendars: Annual Meeting January 10, 2010, 12:00 noon at the Mizell Senior Center, Palm Springs. Palm Springs Sectional - February 19-21, 2010 at the Pavilion, Palm Springs.

Note: There will be no unit games in February and March. April's unit game will be the Awards Program on April 4, 2010, at Mizell Senior Center, Palm Springs.

We welcome our new members to the Unit 533 family: Donna Becker Marcy Blumstein, Grace Boyle, Peter Boyle, Jerry Conn, Susan Gerson, Stanley Hack Beverly Hatch, Queta Laisure, Eve Silverman, H. Joseph Trautman, Jim Turner, Jerry Wadley, Judith Wagenaar and Ted Wagenaar.

Congratulations to the following members who have earned Junior, Club, Sectional and Regional promotions: Janet Beaty, Joanne Cheyenne, Ruth Eubank, Lewis Forbes, Kwanshing Hui, Mark Marontate, Duane Martin, Michael McAuliffe. James McEachern, Joann Redd, Katheryn Sari, Shirley Stringer Mary Curley, Lisa Figus, Rosemary Hertz, Dona Merritt, Susan Moore, Thomas Wiggins, Elsie Marsh and Lois Sweet.

Unit 533 also salutes new Bronze Life Master Jim Muirhead and Diamond Life Master Dorothy Shenkan.

Remember to check our web site at www.coachellavalleybridge.com
A Very Healthy and Happy 2010!

High Desert

Steve Klein

The snowbirds have flown, and bridge in Big Bear is down to its hard core of winter players. Winter has arrived early here; there's snow on the ground and the ski slopes are open. We expect more snow shortly, and just hope it doesn't (actually "didn't" by the time you read this) ruin the Dec. 9 Christmas Party.

If you're planning a ski weekend at Snow Summit or Bear Mountain, come a day early and play in our Friday afternoon game. For information or to arrange for a



SADDLEBACK 525 SECTIONAL

February 13 & 14, 2010

ACBL Sanction S 1002097

Laguna Woods Village
Clubhouse 7
24111 Moulton Parkway
Laguna Woods, California

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0-20 mps ACBL members will receive a
Free Play at One Saturday Session

Saturday February 13, 2010

299ers always play separately

10:00 am Stratified Pairs (single session)

Compact Knockouts (round 1)

3:00 pm Stratified Pairs (single session)

Compact Knockouts (round 2)

Pairs Strats A = 2500+

B = 1000+

C = 0 - 999

Sunday February 14, 2010

10:00 am Swiss Teams

Dinner break tba

Swiss Stratified A = 5000+

A/X = 0-5000-

B = 1500 - 2500

C = 750 - 1500

D = 0 - 750

Peter Knee, Director

\$10 per person/session ACBL Members
\$11 Non or unpaid ACBL Members

Tournament Manager 949-855-4326
Fran Schwartz

Assistant Manager 949-536-9488
Bob Destino

Partnerships 949-599-5990
Audrey Wicks

SO YOU THINK YOU ARE THE BEST PLAYER IN CALIFORNIA?

Every Fri. night at 7:15 starting Jan. 15th there will be a top level game at the Anaheim/Santa Ana Club for the best in the area.

Each pair must have at least one player with a minimum of 2,000 points.

\$10.00 per table (with a minimum of \$100.00) will be given to the first place pair.

The more tables, the more money and places paid.

The top money winner for each month will get special mention in our newsletters and advertising.

Contact Patricia @ 949-347-1357 or
Marlyse @ 714-397-0341

