



# District 21 Unitscope

at the J.C.C. Sherie has been a club owner for about 25 years, and this particular game has been extremely popular, largely due to Sherie's wonderful style, frequently attracting 30 tables of players, both relative novices and experienced. A party is being planned for Sherie to be held in mid-April (after the *Forum* deadline) so that everyone can thank her for so many years of warm, caring, competent directorship.

Meanwhile, John Schwartz has taken over Sherie's Bridge Club and is working hard with eyes open not to transform himself into Sherie, but rather to bring in a few welcome touches, like more heat, available food and electronic scoring pads. The players applauded John loudly at his first April game; everyone wishes him great success.

Merle Orelove, our new Mentor/Mentee chair, is looking for more mentors.

We are turning out new players, partly thanks to Lori and Frank's huge class, at a great rate but many newbies are a bit cowed by the number of masterpoints owned by many of our unit's regular attendees.

A many masterpoints mentor can be an important part of their becoming more comfortable playing in the regular unit games. Mentors are expected to play once monthly with their mentee. Merle needs at least ten more. Please consider volunteering to share your bridge knowledge with a more inexperienced person.

Our ongoing flood saga reached its first birthday this year without any clear resolution between the unit, our lessor, and the insurance company. A pipe in the ceiling burst causing considerable damage as well as extensive mold.

Keep your fingers crossed that the board representatives will very soon reach a fair settlement with the others.

## Reno

By Kathy Evans

June is here; Happy Father's Day to all the fathers and a belated Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers. The unit game will be on Sunday, June 23, at 1:15 p.m.

The Reno April Showers Sectional was held April 14-18. The top 10 masterpoint winners from Unit 473 were: Lin Goldstein, Dan Green, Pat Green, Charlotte Falk, Virginia Kellermeyer, Gilbert Ramirez, Nels Erickson, Elizabeth Jenkins, Leslie Balascoe, and Conrad Evans.

The Reno Youth Bridge Duplicate Team Match was held on Saturday during the April Showers Sectional. For this match, Alex Ford & Cassie Phillips of Shaw Middle School teamed up with Harley DeGuzman & Sonnie Knowles of High Desert Montessori Charter School to go head to head with the Sparks Middle School team of Brittany Hazen, Harley Broadhead, Jacob Krall and Dylan Zabala.

In the two session IMP event, the big swing board came when Sonnie doubled Jacob's game bid and set it four tricks to earn 10 IMPs for his team. Each member of the winning team received a fraction of a masterpoint for their efforts.

Congratulations to both teams, it was great to see you playing and hope to see down at the club soon.

The April unit game was held on Sunday, April 25. There were 14 full tables and lots of yummy food to eat. The top six finishers were equally split between the N/S and the E/W pairs. First overall went to Lin Goldstein & Sheila Wimer followed by: Paul Blumberg & Tom Howell; David Weinberg & Kathy Evans; (tie) Jinny Anderson & Reba Jo Berland and Charlotte Falk & Richard Schiveley; Mike & Pam Moreland.

The pair of Nancy Blackwell & Gloria Walker rounded out the B winners with a 5th place finish and the pair of Shirley Mazolewski & Gerry Barrett was 2nd overall in C.

I hear people complain all the time about "computer hands." I am firm believer that computer hands are no better or worse than dealt hands and now I have the proof. Kathy Lane held a club championship on Wednesday night, April 28. The game had 8 1/2 tables. It was a full moon which may

account for the strange hands. There were five boards where a single hand had 10 or more tricks. E/W had two hands with 6-6 distribution (one making 7♣ and one making 6♦). N/S had two hands where 7♣ was makeable; on one board, one hand had 3-0-0-10 distribution and on the other board, one hand had 3-0-1-9 distribution. N/S also had another board where a single hand had 0-3-7-3 distribution which made 6♦. People say that computer hands have strange distribution but that night proved than hands dealt under a full moon can be even stranger. Congratulations to the survivors of this freakish distributional evening: 1st, Dan Green & Virginia Kellermeyer; 2nd, Charlotte Falk & Lin Goldstein; 3rd, Thomas Quint & Sheila Wimer; 4th, Rene Reid & Nels Erickson; 5th, Brenda & Paul Pugsley. In B: 2nd, Cynthia Swezey & Jan Parker; 3rd, Gary Nitzberg & Paul Jorgensen; 4th, Mark Lundblad & Lloyd Rogers.

**Rank changes for this month:** Keyzad Anklesaria, Jim Bradley, Monica Brandl, Wray Brett, David Dickey, Don Logerwell, Jonathan Price and John Swanson are new Juniors Masters. Jane Schwartz is a new Club Master. David Weinberg is a new Regional Master and Catherine Johnson is a new NABC Master.

Congratulations to one and all.

Unit 473 is mourning the death of Dick Coates and Paul Beavers and our condolences to the families of both men. Both of these men were true gentlemen and they will be missed.

The Summer Picnic will be at Evie Almelh's house on Saturday, July 17. There will be a bridge game before the picnic.

Mark your calendars now as Evie throws a great party.

## Sacramento

By Dave Vidaver

Ah, the first really sunny stretch of spring, when a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of sitting in-doors, huddled over a card tables surrounded by AARP members. They wrote me two days after my 50th birthday, a brochure in my mailbox, two well-tanned senior faces smiling up at me, looking far too content and healthy for my comfort.

A favorite partner of mine gloated for two years at cocktail parties that AARP had yet to find him. His wife got so sick of hearing the story that she called them and turned over his name and address.

Dan Fong became a LM in his first session at the regional in Gatlinburg. I narrowly missed being part of a cherished memory as a partner two nights before his departure, when he told me that he needed 0.40 points to go over, requiring a third place finish in the ten-table game. Suddenly nervous, I played like a novice; we finished in the middle of the pack. But it brought back memories of my going over. I was just 15, she was 18; oh wait, different memory (but similar uninspired performance).

*My latest pet peeve:* North players whose favorite ritual is enumerating all the results on the traveling score. I thought I had grown accustomed to this until I realized that newer players, upon witnessing this, apparently assume that it is a responsibility that is codified in the ACBL Laws. "4♣ made five, it only made four twice, went down once; how do you go down? Maybe a heart lead does it. And someone played 2♦.

I wonder who that was? Let's see, pair 7 [looking around the room], oh Tristan & Isolde. That figures; well, I think we can hold them to four if you lead a club, partner, blah, blah, blah.

There is an inverse correlation between the propensity to do this and the ability to analyze a hand. "I never have more than eight tricks; who had the king of diamonds? In the bridge club in Florence, (Italy, not Henderson) they write the hands down on the traveler after the first round, so even North knows where the king of diamonds is. (and they serve a very nice Montepulciano for two Euros a glass). So civilized.

As most beginning players know, the task of learning at the table is a difficult one, especially if your partner has little or no

more experience than you do. The traveler is opened and you are the only pair going down or coughing up an overtrick (or not reaching game, or in 6♥ down four, or playing in your 4-2 club fit instead of your 5-4 spade fit; it's amazing how many different things can go wrong).

And you want to know why (the last player you should listen to is a North who is straining at the tether to tell you). If you are playing against someone whose judgment you trust (the less someone offers unsolicited comments, the more likely they are to have a well-informed opinion), politely corner them after the game and beat an explanation out of them.

One of the best ways to improve your game is to go over the hands afterwards with your partner (and, if necessary, a third party who knows what they're doing). And at our age it helps to have all the hands written down, so if your director provides hand records, give him or her a big (closed-mouth) kiss.

Play nice, play fair, and play at your local bridge club (in the unit game on June 27, for example, held simultaneously at and scored across all clubs). And if you play on-line so you can play in your bathrobe, talk to your local club owner; maybe you can work something out.

## San Francisco

By Kim Fanady

Not much news this month, but hopefully our San Francisco Summer Sectional will generate lots of Unit 506er victories to report on in another column. Join us at our usual great location, the Janet Pomeroy Center next door to the zoo, for lots of bridge, food and fun on June 12 & 13. Look for our ad elsewhere in this issue for the particulars. Volunteers to help out with setting up and

putting away are always needed and welcome; either contact a unit board member at [www.unit506.org](http://www.unit506.org), or just show up and pitch in. Be there!

Summer also brings us another round of the North American Pairs. Club qualifying games begin this month; check the club websites for details or ask at your next club game. Qualifiers move on to the unit and district level qualifying rounds, culminating in the chance to represent Unit 506 and District 21 in the national finals at the 2010 Spring NABC. It all starts at your local club; so check it out.

The QuickTricks annual Pro/Am back in mid-April was a huge success, with 25 tables (two sections) of wise Pros and eager Ams turning out. Congrats to the winners: Ron Smith & Monica Guo, Bruce Blakely & Nick Paleologos, Rona Friedman & John Winston, and Dean Wangsvick & Judy Salgado. But of course, the Pro/Am is about much more than winning; it's a great chance to meet, greet, learn, and have fun. Everyone who played did all of that!

Thanks as always to the club's volunteer pool of pros, without whom we couldn't put on such a popular event.

See you all next year.

*Welcome to our new members:* Niall J. Cardin, Goolshan Chinoy, Lee Follett, Amie Gustavson, Carl Gustavson; and transfers, Jim Phillips (Santa Fe). Be sure to say hello to these newcomers and transplants when you meet them at the table.

Finally, congrats to all those climbing up the masterpoint ladder this month: Junior Master Christopher La Chance; Club Masters Jeremy Flinders, Barnaby Grist, Michael McNulty; Sectional Masters Patty De Bono, David Rosenkrantz, Gayle Rosenkrantz, Helen Spalding; Regional Master Liliane Kirchoff; NABC Master Bob Chase; Bronze Life Master, Jeanette Shin-sako, and Emerald Life Master, Vicki Lerner. Well played all!

## BRIDGE CENTER of MONTEREY

(located at Ft. Ord)

### 299er's SECTIONAL

Saturday & Sunday, July 24 & 25, 2010

### SILVER POINTS!!!

#### Saturday, July 24

Newcomers 0-49er..... 10:30

Strat Open Pairs.....10:30  
200-300, 100-200, 0-100

Newcomers 0-49er..... 3:30

Strat Open Pairs..... 3:30  
200-300, 100-200, 0-100

*FREE "Tips for Tops" (mini-lesson)*

*30 minutes prior to each game*

**\*\*Famous Monterey Hospitality**

*Great Free Snacks - free coffee and soda*

THIS IS A NON-SMOKING TOURNAMENT  
All Events \$9 (ACBL members) \$36/team per session  
\$10 (non-members and un-paid)  
Directors: Lyde McReynolds - Jill Leach - Larry Slayton  
Sanction # SN1007068

*Directions to Bridge Center:*

**Going South on Hwy 1 towards Monterey, past Marina exits, look for Imjin exit or it could be 12<sup>th</sup> Street (same street - they are changing signs - BEFORE the main Ft.Ord Entrance). Exit at Imjin( or 12<sup>th</sup>), cross over Hwy 1 and go to the first stop light (2<sup>nd</sup> avenue) - turn left up the hill a long block until the dead end - turn left and look for the Bridge Center on the right in about a block (tel # 831-384-7800)**

#### Sunday, July 25

Newcomers 0-49er..... 10:30

Strat Swiss Teams.....10:30  
(1<sup>st</sup> session of 2)

200-300, 100-200, 0-100

Strat Open Pairs..... 10:30

200-300,100-200, 0-100

**\*\*Hot Dogs/Salads between Sessions \$4**

Newcomers 0-49er..... 3:30

Strat Swiss Teams..... 3:30

(2<sup>nd</sup> Session)

Strat Open Pairs.....3:30

200-300, 100-200, 0-100

Tournament "Chairwomen"

Jill Leach (831) 625- 4421

Lyde McReynolds (831) 626-4796

Bridge Center (831) 384-7800