

What's New in District 22

(Continued from page 10)

Marcia and Pat, and they richly deserved the congratulations of all who participated.

Our first two games of the month were directed by Paul Foster and Donna Wood who, as always, did a super job. In all we had a large contingent of winners for the four games held during the month including a first place finish for Sandy Kucha - Kay Childs, Terry Maloy - Don Cleveland, Irene Howard - Richard Plattner, Sandy and Leon Parish, Ed Koch - Berny Goott, Lane Campbell - Wayne Holm, Jan Buffo - Dave Kimball, and Penne Duncan - Barbara Kantz. Sandy Kucha also was a multiple first place winner, this time playing with Jeanette Bentley. It was a great month with 67 masterpoint winners split almost perfectly between the three strats (0-99, 100-299 and 300+) and best of all everyone had a fun morning which is what it is all about!

Solana Beach Esplanade Bridge Club, Donna Wood

During January the Esplanade Bridge Club awarded over 640 (!) masterpoints. Our top winners were Marilyn Kalabsa, Ruth Aronsohn, Dianne Sullivan, Wootsie Stockton, Sandy Kucha, Jeanette Bentley, Jon Wright, Sharon Kamberstad, Diana Marquardt and Judy Gruenberger. A special hats-off and congratulations to Linda Atkinson and Claire Steuernagel for their 73.26% game Jan. 8!

The six lucky charities to receive proceeds from charity games during the designated months of 2010 are Lung Cancer Research Foundation, Assistance League of Inland North County, Casa de los Pobres, Rancho Coastal Humane Society, Doctors without Borders, and The Rotary Foundation.

Please go to the website for more details about games.

Solana Beach Bridge by the Sea, Donna Wood

During January North County Bridge by the Sea held two Invitational games. Top winners were Joan Kroener, Jeff Leach, Judy Gruenberger, John and Marcia Trombold, Pat Astier, Ray Gogolewski, Dave Goldfarb, Jeanette Bentley and Diana Glimm. Games are played each second and fourth Sunday of the month at Esplanade Bridge Club.

There is a short lesson at noon and bridge begins at 12:30. Please e-mail Lee Erickson at LEricks@adelphia.net or Marlene Hall rmmhall@earthlink.net if you'll be coming to the game.

Look on the website for game results.

San Diego North Inland

By Liz Nixon

March Madness is upon us! Unit 549 is holding its annual Non-Life Master Silver Splash Saturday, March 20 at North County Bridge Center, Escondido. This is a great opportunity for Non-Life Masters with up to 499 masterpoints to get your silver! This is a pairs event and will include a 0-99 section for beginning duplicate players.

Don't miss the silver! North County Bridge Center is located at 2427 South Centre City Parkway, Escondido.

Calling all Grand National Teams Wannabees! Unit 549 is holding the last chance to qualify game on March 27 at North County Bridge Center. Get your team together and sign up. Call Lee or Amy at NCBC, 760 747-6092.

Upcoming unit games are April 24, May 22, and June 26. All are held at NCBC.

Members reaching new levels of achievement in Unit 549 in January are: Club Masters - Ken Cragoe, Eva Neu, and Dorothea Williams. Sectional Masters - Charlotte Bluestein and Bill Key. Regional Masters - Richard Boettcher and Herman Lin.

NABC Master - Pete Kaufmann. Life Masters - Carolyn Scerni, Janice Joerger, and Beverly Larson. Bronze Life Master - Carolyn Scerni and Cheryl Fosdick. Gold Life Masters - Marilyn Florin and Rima Sharron. Wow! What a field of accomplishment! Congratulations to all!

Overall winners at the Jan. 23 game were: Strat A: Fred Flam - Jim Martin, followed by Betsy Iles - Leslie Beaver; Kent Hartman - Bettie Heldring. Strat B: Ralph and Mary Jo Andersen, followed by Carolyn Moran - Nancy O'Laughlin, Kay Haralson - Magdalene Krish, Ray Curtiss - Terry Badger. Strat C: Lowell and Pam Klosky, followed by Matt Belau - Lynn Pyka, Dean Altschuler - Val McWhorter. In the 299ers

#1 were Linda Iredale - Dan Howard, followed by David and Elaine Gifford, Pam Thacker - Al Van Sinden, and Jacey and Bonnie Humes. Congrats to all!

John and Rima Sharron had a 72.22% game Dec. 29. Over at North County Bridge At Lake San Marcos, Jean Holt - Scott Nelson had a 71.63% game Dec. 23, plus Bettie Heldring - Sheila Latus had a 72.79% game Dec. 21.

Congrats to all: is it something you drank?

Next unit game is at NCBC March 27. Go to www.sbridge.com for unit events.

Unit 549 Club Reports: North County Bridge Center will have its Perfect Swiss March 13. Call Lee or Amy to sign up your team. Looking for a game on Tuesday morning? NCBC is offering a game starting at 9:00 a.m. for only \$6.00! Get your partner and come on down! The game is open and stratified. All 299ers looking for megapoints should try the Monday afternoon game at NCBC. The game is stratified 0-299 and open. Here's a great chance to get megapoints in your own stratification. And bridge lessons abound at NCBC.

Ken Vavra is teaching a class every Wednesday morning from 9:00-11:30 a.m. Don't miss your chance to learn from Ken.

Players of the month at NCBC: Open - Tim Flaherty; 0-1500 - Howard Katz; 0-750 - Pete Watt; 0-300 - Suzanna McDowell; 0-100 - Angela Jaroicic; and Future Master Ralph Anderson. Call NCBC at 760 747-6092 for upcoming events and the monthly calendar.

The club announces a Fall 2010 Bridge Cruise to support the Elizabeth Hospice, with Emerald Life Masters Alan and Debbie Gailfus. Date is September 19-30, 2010 on board Holland America's Statendam.

For more information and reservations call Liz Nixon at 888 400-2789. Pick up a flyer at NCBC or e-mail Liz Nixon at:

cruzqueen@sbcglobal.net

At Lake San Marcos DBC charity games supported in January were Casa de Amparo and Doctors Without Borders for the Haitian relief, and San Marcos Senior Center. Top five MP winners for Jan. were Dennis Cleary, Jean Holt, Rita Sorgi, Carolyn Kish, and Pete Kaufman.

Way to go, top five!

LSMDBC will host STAC games on Tuesday, March 23, Wednesday, March 24 and Friday, March 26. The Friday event will be a monthly potluck. Another chance for silver points and good food.

The Lake San Marcos DBC hosts open games on Tuesday night at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday at 12:30 p.m., and once a month potluck on Friday night at 6:30 p.m. For information call Jean at 760 734-4518 or Nina at 760 736-9386.

Top achievers at BobMar Bridge Center in January were Toshi Yasutake, Josephine Smith, Ted and Joja Applegate, Herb Schaeffer and Marcia Handelman.

BobMar continues its games on Sunday at 1:00 p.m. at Grandon Senior Center, San Marcos. If you are interested in playing, call Marcia Handelman at 760 918-2424 to sign up. Get all of the latest Unit 549 news at www.sbridge.com, including the Unit 549 calendar of events, unit newsletter and game results.

San Luis Obispo

By Torre Houlgate-West

See that shining in the west? No, it's not the setting sun - it's our gilded players trooping home from the Monterey Clambake Regional. We Unit 540 players usually have to travel a fair piece to get gold and red points, so a three-hour car trip seems a relative snap.

Bill Ringbom, Ron Schwarzer, Kandi Osborne, and Lyle Supp breezed up the coast and came home bearing honors from winning two knockouts.

(Okay, Lyle doesn't have to travel so far, but he earns his road creds by coming down to play in our sectionals.)

George Sheffield, Bud Zeuschner, Charles Davis and Carol Moss beat the above team in the first round of a Knockout, and then finished a satisfying second. Those Monterey folks were truly hospitable, and let our people take home the virtual candy.

Other locals who did well were Bob and Marilyn Bullock from the Arroyo Grande club, and Mike Shipsey of San Luis Obispo. Almost everyone mentioned so far contributes greatly to the smooth running of our local clubs, and it is fit that their fine

work is being rewarded.

Good news about novices Gina Kirk and Louise Abbott, who picked up more than seven points in the San Diego tournament, and then almost another seven in the Monterey Regional.

Enough about our traveling champs! We'll have a good list of local winners, winning locally, when we report about our Unit 540 sectional, Feb. 26-28, in Arroyo Grande. We are eagerly awaiting the new Compact KO. (Ah, team games! Yet one more occasion to have to say "sorry" to three teammates instead of just one partner.)

Lessons by your reporter in Arroyo Grande have produced a promising bunch of learners. Beginning sessions have been extended at the request of the future competitors, and new students with some bridge experience will be joining the group soon.

And Paso Robles will see lessons on Mondays, following the regular afternoon game. Fred Strong is the man to call for info.

What to do on a rainy day besides dwelling on weather-related aches? As we continue to be blessed with needed rain and cursed with unwanted pain, let's visit one of our ten club games and drown those sorrows in a fresh deck. Bridge is the best aesthetic known that requires no oral consumption, inhalation, or injection.

What a deal!

Santa Ana

By Marcella Lane

Hi everyone! Just to get you up to date, I am delighted to report that the "Bridge on the Go" Club is back in business. Little by little our players are returning to find a club that is pleasant and friendly while at the same time serious about the game itself. We want to provide a place where those who really want to improve their play can do so.

So if you want to know more, e-mail us at bridgeonthego@hotmail.com

As you know, in the past both Joe Chaikin and I have reported the winners of their sections or bracket at the various sectionals, regionals, and the nationals. Always there were many of our players winning the gold. But something happened at this tournament, and I have been asked by many to "Button up the lip and make no inquiries." Their response (and mine by the way) is, "I don't want to talk about it." To them and to myself I say that there's always tomorrow! One thing about bridge players is that they are resilient (and hopeful). And remember that the sectional in Palm Desert is not far away. I hope you will be there, as will I.

There is something I personally wish to say, and that is, many people I talked with, whom I know and many whom I just met in Riverside, told me that the tournament was really well executed. We all had fun in spite of our scores because people like Jody Pedri and Ann Cressman made us feel at home. No matter what questions we asked or how often they had to repeat themselves, they never lost their patience.

And even more importantly they opened up hospitality rooms to the speakers and their audience. As a former teacher, I must say they deserve an A+. Even though I came away without winning any gold, I do believe that that tournament was one of the best. When one comes away without a win, he or she remembers other aspects of the time spent there. And I would speculate that many came away feeling they had a good time, played against nice people, and thoroughly enjoyed all the freebies that were generously passed out. (Don't forget about the free coffee and tea.)

The people who ran that tournament made us feel that they really cared about the players. *I salute them.*

Remember to keep counting.

Santa Barbara

By George Sturman

As reported last month our director, Larry Klimko, suddenly passed away in late December after a brief illness. Despite the loss of his primary leadership, the Santa Barbara Bridge Club has been able to carry on with manageable efficiency thanks to the efforts of our new board under our president Candace Dauphinot, and our several directors and teachers who have taken on extra responsibilities.

The special Larry Klimko Memorial Game

- held Sunday, February 21 - will be reported on in the next issue of the *Forum*.

We are proud to announce the outstanding showing of our member Paul Mershon in the recent NABC national tournament held in San Diego. Paul garnered an amazing 14 masterpoints in 12 sessions competing as a C player ... primarily in 299er games.

More amazing is the fact that Paul entered the competition as a "loner," accomplishing his feat with pickup partners.

Paul modestly claims that he was lucky in his selection of good partners, whereas his performance indicates just the opposite ... rather his random pickups were lucky to team up with Paul!

While on the subject of tournament excellence, we also acknowledge the partnership success of Tom McCrackin and Kalon Kelly in qualifying for the NA Pairs in Flight B. We wish them luck in Reno.

At home, congratulations are in order for: Bruce & Sue Dodds for their 71.88% 99ers game Jan. 12, and Bill Todd - Joann Jackson for their 70.60% open result Jan. 20.

Also congratulations in the club championship held Jan. 13 go to 1st place N/S winners Etty Yenni - Laura Smith. 2nd place N/S went to Mickey Rosenzweig - Muriel Shockley. The 1st place E/W winners were Ralph Mocker - Carl Michelet, 2nd place going to Ozzie and Shirley Isfeld.

Our first Pro-Am of the year was Jan. 24. First place was won by Bob Murr and his partner Sheila Van der Sleen, with 2nd going to Bill Todd - Mike Gritz, followed by Beverly Iles - Bette Easton in 3rd and Norma Zuchowicz - Jean de Muller 4th.

Returning with "color" from the Monterey Regional were Don Schroeder, Mike Gritz, Judy and Jim Edmondson, Jack Yeasley and Gail and John Kahan.

Upcoming events for March include the club championship Wednesday, March 10, and the all-important Mini-McKenney/Ace of Clubs Awards. The Mini-McKenney winners are the top masterpoint earners in all 12 ACBL categories, and reflect points garnered both at the club and at higher tournament level. The Ace of Clubs points reflect those earned only at the club level. There will be medals awarded to the unit's Mini-McKenney winners at the game Sunday, Mar. 28, starting with a pot luck lunch at 12:30 p.m. The unit's Ace of Clubs winners will also be announced at this game.

The Sunday games are now unit games, and will no longer be held each week. Special games will be substituted once a month, with advance notice given in the *Forum*.

Unfortunately we have to close on the sad note of Paul Splittergerber's recent death. Paul lived a full rich life that touched many in the Santa Barbara area. We extend our sincere sympathy to Paul's wife, our dear friend, Margaret.

Santa Maria

By Joe Cohan

Well, Robert and Jean got us off to a good start for the year with a 70.03% game. That's the good news. The bad news is that the Tuesday night free ride is over. Still, thank you, board of directors, for your kindness and generosity. Also, let's thank all those who bring goodies which I seem unable to stay away from.

The other good news is we are getting the Bridgemate II system in March, which - (after both parties have verified each board result - will automatically send the scores directly to the computer, and everything will be printed out without any waiting - except for the rare laggards.

Our wonderful directors strike again!

And the winners are *TaDa!*: Margaret Arbogast, CarolAnne Edie, Robert and Jean Faust (3), John Arbogast, Sue Barrett, Barbara Basila (2), Gerhart Stoll, Judy English, Bonnie Hales, Al Goldwyn, Jan Pattis, Marilyn Bullock, Vi Dallessandro, Irene Schlekau, Rich Ristine, Me, (1).

High C's: Geret Fonenga, William Topay (2), Cecil and Pauline Ward, Barbara Lohman, Karen Bogard, Ervin Poteat, Susan Barrett, (2) Yolinda Medina, Howard Pray, James Petrella, Dave Hickey, Pat Aldred, and Jan Scott.

Sad news. Shirley Boeinga (she played at Foxenwoods several years ago) passed away last month.

(Continued on page 16)