

District 21 Unitscope

BER

By the Beer Dude

BBQ Swiss is nigh! Get your teams ready; the ad's in here somewhere w/the details. Bring on the sun! The rainy first week of April is pushing overkill! First the usual stuff, then some tales from the Reno NABC; read on.

March unit game, against Santa Rosa Sectional, was a 4 1/2 table Howell. Wen-Chao & Bonnie Macbride won it, w/ Eric & Sandi 2nd, Helen Studabaker & Susie Wiebe 3rd, & Bill Jolly & Trudie Sinclair 4th. Besides the BBQ Swiss, we'll have a pairs game on Sunday the 23rd.

Welcome new members Cathy Swift & Vicky Chen, plus transfer-in Mary Ann Thompson from East Bay. Bill Jolly & Florence Siegel now own enough colored points to be called NABC Masters (both have 300+ MPs, but need more silver/gold for the LM card).

Thanx to all who renewed their ACBL dues Jan.-Mar.; ye who are in this quarter's billing cycle; please pay up! I've done my usual 3-yrs-at-a-time via the ACBL Website; just wish they'd start taking AmEx cards (Discover is passé!)

Mar. club game MP Champ is Doug Heying (the new Dominator!); top games: "H-J" 72.5% on Fri, Carl Lomelino & Shahla Verrall 71.25% on Mon (Shahla, you live in our turf; time to transfer back!), & Joanne Cobeen-Yumiko Reynolds 64.58% on Wed. May free play club championship day is Fri. 14; STAC games May 3/5/7; no additional table fees! 12 tables max if we still have the opera group in the back room; at least one in a partnership must be an ACBL member to guarantee a seat.

Reno; Fun bridge, but I had no luck @ the machines in my four days there. Larry Zeni, partnered w/Ron Von Der Porten & teamed w/"H-J" won his bracket of the

Senior Swiss Teams, but still needs a few silver to make LM (think STAC, Larry!). Carl Lomelino was runner-up in one of the Bracketed KOs he played in; & Eugene Sor ended up 10th overall in the Red Ribbon Pairs after leading the field going into the second day. I played only in the RR Pairs; what an adventure Bill Cubley & I had! After a crappy game Thu. afternoon, we go 57%+ in the evening, & leave w/the coveted "Q" aside our names. We show up at the entry table Fri, & we're not on the "Q" list, ? Late scoring corrections bumped us out of our group of four sections (equal #'s qual'd from each of 2 4-section brackets; the lowest qual scores in the other bracket were lower than ours). We hung out (w/ backup plan to run over to the next room & play the 2-session Open Pairs); the two pessimists who'd bumped us out never showed; we got into the final two sessions & scratched section awards in both.

www.berunit497.org is where to find the latest on us; tweak beerman49@msn.com when you wanna brag or gripe.

Carson/Tahoe

By Rich Tirissini

Players from the Carson-Tahoe area acquitted themselves well at the ACBL Nationals held at Reno's Grand Sierra. The top local gold point winners included Edwin Straver, who accumulated 39.74 gold points, and Gary Nitzberg, who received 24.78. Partners Brenda & Paul Pugsley took 19.70 gold, with 15.19 going to Jim & Midge Breeden.

Platinum points, which can be earned only at Nationals, were won by Ken Grafton (5.33), Bob Garrett (5.33), and Konrad Garrett (1.59).

Game Results: Carson Valley Bridge Club: March 29 N/S 1A, Ken Grafton & Bob Garrett; 2A/1B, Eileen Angelucci & Paul Jorgensen; 3A, Gary Nitzberg & Ben

McLeod, 4A/2B, Leona Pchelkin & Jerry Lynn; E/W 1A/B, Roxanne Hart & Bruce Mitchener; 2A/B, Mary Phillips & Paul Lockwood; 3A/B, Rick & Viv Betcher; 4A/B, Theresa Pinney & Geoff Stokes; 5A/2C, Dorothy Stewart & Rae Logan. March 22: 1A, Thelma Nelson & Donna McLeod; 2A/1B, Jony Sellers & Carole Voge; 3A/2B: Beverly Meyer & Aleeta Jones; 4A, Theresa Pinney & Imogene Meyer. March 15: 1A, Frances Coursey & Bob Allgeier; 2A, Nancy Palmer & Donna McLeod; 3A/1B, Gladys Turissini & Konrad Garret; 4A/2C, Rich Turissini & Ruth Rouse. March 8: 1A, Bob Garret & Ken Grafton; 3A, Konrad Garret & Geoff Stokes; 3A, Leona Pchelkin & Nick Pchelkin; 4A, Theresa Pinney & Donna McLeod; 5A/1B, Bruce Mitchener & Roxanne Hart. March 1: 1A, Beverly Meyer & Aleeta Jones; 2A, Ken Grafton & Bob Garret; 3A, Donna McLeod & Gary Nitzberg; 4A, Theresa Pinney & Geoffrey Stokes.

Diablo Valley

By Chris Pisarra

Trying desperately to get my column in by deadline, I'm typing as we fly home from Mexico City. American Airlines has wi-fi on some (many? most?) flights these days, heaven forbid we should be out of electronic contact. I'll just put the Internet fee on my expense account.

Last month lots of us were in Reno for the nationals. Grant Robinson and Terry Boyd won a couple of events and had their names in my blog, but I just saw that they won a KO in the Santa Rosa Sectional, too.

Grant had been trying not to win points leading up to the NABC so he would still qualify for the Red Ribbon Pairs, but now he is free to win everything in sight.

In the Red Ribbon Pairs, we should note that Blair Hoffman & Jim Kuhn were 5th overall, an impressive showing. Dennis Teifel & Reggie Williams were 34th, Susan Ledford was 41st and Patricia Perry & Shirley Rodenborn were 63rd.

Dinner at the Claim Jumper was so-so.

Jack & Lisa won a KO. Manfred Michlmayr & Jack Scott were 23rd in the Silver Ribbon Pairs. Manfred & Jack Beers were 4th in a regional pairs event, then won a KO with Jack Scott & Dan Scarola and another KO with Bob Munson & Bruce Tuttle.

Dinner at Fin Fish, in the hotel, was good but overpriced.

Jeff Polinsner & Ed Nagy placed 6th in the Silodor Open Pairs, a national event. They wouldn't want me to mention how well they did in a couple of regional events, too. Bipin Patel & Larry Cohen were 43rd in the Silodor.

Dinner at Rapsallions was decent, not great.

Jack Meng & Judy Keilin did awfully well in the KO's; they had a first, a second and a third in three outings. Ally Whiteneck & Bruce Johnsonbaugh took a second in Strat C in the Senior Swiss, along with two other good showings.

Dinner at the Italian place Mike Bandler found was very good, but the service was bizarre.

Eldonna & Joyce, with Rosemary & Peter Boss, took 3rd in a KO.

Lunch at Johnny Rockets in the hotel was dreadful.

The brothers Huffaker were the big winners overall in a Swiss Teams game. Lynn Humphrey, Pat Krock, Trisha Oconnor and Bill Barron came in 3rd in one KO and won the consol in another.

Dinner at Lulou's was spectacular.

In home news, the Bridge Center held a Swiss Teams game on Saturday, won by Grant & Greg Vance, Dmitri Shabes and Daniel Tataru. Teams are hard for a club, but they make a nice change on occasion.

I always like Jo's Sushi, next to the club.

Since we're on final approach, I guess I better mail this off to my editor.

By the time you get to read this, our sectional will be over. I hope you all had a good time. For fresher news, read my blog, unit499.wordpress.com

Remember to e-mail me at chris@pisarra.com with exciting news for the col-

umn, or really good gossip that I can't print. I love that stuff.

East Bay

By Sandi Davis

May is full of ways to have a good time at the bridge tables. On May 2 the first of two Swiss Teams games at Mosswood will be held complete with pizza, salad & desserts to give you strength for the four rounds of play. Reservations are required so contact Dave Cartwright at 925 437-0246 or dave@Cartwrightcpa.com to save your place.

May 9 is the start of Great Western STAC week and many of the clubs are running games. Check the website to see where you can rack up the most points.

Then our summer sectional is being held at Holy Redeemer Center from May 28-30. Grab a partner and come play.

On Saturday, May 29, the general membership meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. (if there is a quorum) prior to the game.

Welcome to new members of Unit 502 Anthony Hare, Ann Reynolds and Jon Reynolds. Kate Hare who became a Junior Master along with Patricia and William McNamara must have inspired Anthony to join. Suzanne Quick and Ed Yunck rose to Club Master. Mary Toman advanced to Sectional Master. Thomas Coleman achieved Life Master and Robert Berger is our newest Bronze Life Master.

Congratulations!

At the March 7 unit game, N/S Richard & Judy Timmons captured 1st and Nadine Levine & Cass Hawes 1st E/W and OA. Nadine & Cass repeated their victory on March 21 while Barry Kael & Sandi Davis came in 1st N/S. At the April 4 game, N/S Susan Wiebe & Sandi Davis came in 1st OA with E/W Dan Rubinfeld & Keith Gunn placing 1st their direction.

It can be a pain in the butt to comb through the daily results of a tournament but at the Reno Nationals held in March it yielded many names of our members' achievements! Nathan Wilmes and Thomas Coleman with various teammates (including Cathleen Otvos) won the trifecta by winning in pairs, Knockouts and Swiss Teams events. Ching Chao also won in both pairs and KOs as did Cole Powell and Geoff Hopcraft. It was great to see Hugh and Min Ross playing well. Jim Kuhn & Blair came in 5th in the Red Ribbon Pairs event. Other members with winning games were Lois Horwitz, Doris Gluckman Wiener, Doug Handler, Esther Rubke, Estelle Baum, Mits & Muriel Tamra, Hannah Marks (with Unit 502 alumna Peggy Norris), Roma Rehfish, Michel Schneider, Grant Vance, Mark Moss, Nadine Levine, Loretta Dimitruck, Gerda Janos, Susan Wiebe, Nick Wiebe, Jay Baudler, Rose Ann Kase, Eileen Thompson, Rosemary Hagman, Liz Silverman, Janis Brown, Ravi Bhalla, Jun Chen, Dick Hart, Reggie Williams, Srikanth Kodayam, Scott Gorsuch, Marion Keyworth, Catherine Molnar, Eric Leong and Ed & Teresa Seputis.

Whew! That is a lot of masterpoints.

See you all at the May events! In the meantime send me your good news, bad news or interesting stories at: sandstress@mail2sandra.com

Fresno

By Laura Da Costa

The winter sectional was another success despite a very slow start. With Thursday & Friday completed it looked as though this sectional's attendance would be well below previous winter sectionals. However an amazing Saturday and a strong Sunday gave us 163 1/2 tables, just one short of a year ago. I mentioned some former Fresno members who visited us in my article last month, but a couple more came on the weekend. It was great to see Mary Peterson and Mark Stern. Friday afternoon was the first ever Mary Jo Davila Pairs game; the big winners of that event were Anthony Toto & Byron Steinert in the open game and Judy Dodd & Diane Wolf-

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