



# District 21 Unitscope

Yes, that's a weird area code in New Jersey, but he says it works for him.

And now I'm running out the door to go play more. Remember, winners make sure to tell me so I can put them in the paper.

chris@pisarra.com

## Fresno

By Laura Da Costa

Hello Everyone! At the time I write this article the Non-Life Master Sectional has not yet taken place. I will save comments on that tournament until the October issue of the *Forum*. In the meantime, it is time to start focusing on our next sectional. Our Fall Sectional will once again be during Halloween (October 29 to November 1). I hope all of our friends who live outside of Fresno will make a point of coming this year to see our new clubhouse.

On July 12, the unit had the popular Am-Pro Teams event. Our winning team this time was Dave Shuster, Larry Miller, Mary Jo Davila, and Bud Thompson. They won 3 1/2 of their 4 matches.

If you missed this game (as Mom and I did because we were cruising in Alaska), we will be having a second am-pro team this month. This Swiss Teams event will be on Sunday, September 20. As always with these special games, there will be potluck lunch before the game.

Also, on Wednesday evening, September 9, both the Fresno and Madera clubhouses will be participating in the ACBL-wide Instant Match Point Game. If you have not played in this game before, you really do receive your match point score upon completing each hand. The scores given are based on the results of play in a tournament several years ago. Section top winners in each club receive one gold point, with remaining points being red and black. There will also be a booklet with complete analyses of the hands by national champion Larry Cohen. It should be a fun evening.

Congratulations go out to the following pairs that cracked 70% in July; there were not many this month. Andrew & Kathleen Graves made up two thirds of the pairs marking this achievement as they had a 75% game on 7/21, then just four days later (7/25) they had a 72.22% game. The only other pair to achieve this level was Michael Molinari & Sandra Zovod, who had an astounding 78.25% game on 7/22.

Congratulations to new Life Master, Juanita Mason. It didn't take going off to a conference to finish off Nita's points. She received the last bit of red points she needed at the clubhouse when she & John Simpson placed in the North American Pairs qualifying game on July 19.

Great job!

As I mentioned a couple of months ago, the requirements for Life Master will become more stringent for anyone who joins after this December. I don't know if this upcoming rule change was the motivation, but we did acquire four new members in the past couple of months. Welcome to new members Betty Marousek, John Jonassen, Deb Peterson, and Bonnie Reed!

## Gilroy/Hollister/ Morgan Hill

By Dian Wood Picone

Along with bridge, summer sends many of our members off in pursuit of distant climes. Ron & Diana Dragt are on their annual pilgrimage to Minnesota visiting relatives. Patty & Win Stone will be missed at the table while on their three-week road trip. The question is whether these two intrepid bridge players will find two more hands at their destinations, Mt. Rushmore and Yellowstone National Park. Smoky the Bear and a friend, maybe? Pat Kraut is off on a cruise and Katie & Gale Dimmick will journey to the Sectional in Portland, Oregon. Good to

hear that Jonna Robertson is well and visiting Denmark this summer. Bill Smith is back from a trip to the "Land Down Under." Mitsi Tani, Carol Yamane and some girl friends went wine tasting with a little gambling thrown in in Calistoga. I hear they had a good time and won some quarters, too. Here at home, Rosemary Erwin had the best kind of visitors from Alaska, her son and grandson. Everyone has enjoyed the company of Marlene Bogard. Marlene has been visiting from Palm Beach Florida and taking her chances at the bridge tables in Morgan Hill. I was interested to hear that Gary "Cooper" Jones is a dog lover. His four standard poodles are so well trained that the rumour is he's teaching them to play bridge. Fair warning, Gary. The day a poodle gets better boards than I, I'm giving up the game and you will have to take up writing! Correction! Last month, I said that Rosemary Erwin and Mike Slattery substituted for Linda King while she was on vacation. It was our newest Director, Patty Stone who took over from Linda with a little help from Rosemary.

*Morgan Hill/Gilroy unit game 7/19:* Burt Malech & Rosemary Erwin. Open Pairs Monday, 7/6: 1st, Dan Brown & William Smith; 2nd, Dick Tani & Mitsi Tani. 7/13: Mike & Margot Kakalec. 7/20: Rosemary Erwin & Rashmi Beman. 7/27: Don Nemiro & Betty De Paola. Open Pairs Thursday, 7/2: Liega Arnett & Lucy Grisetti. 7/9: N/S 1st, Ron Dragt & Win Stone; 2nd, Mike Slattery & Bob Frohman; E/W 1st, Rosemary Erwin & Diana Dragt. 7/16: Marilyn Ribardo & Gloriana Garma. 7/23: Win Stone & Jonna Robinson. 7/30: 1st, Patrick Arnett & Bob Williams; 2nd, Rosemary Erwin & Mitsi Tani.

*Hollister:* Linda's Tuesday afternoon pairs, 7/7: N/S 1st, Linda King & Luisa Velasco; E/W 1st, Bob George & Win Stone. 7/14: Patricia Stone & Connie Coyne. 7/21: N/S 1st, Chiong Yuan Han & Doug Stauffer; E/W 1st, Bob George & Bill Millar. Mike's Wednesday Bridge Club: 7/1: Bill Millar & Bob Williams; 2nd, Dee Bugge & Mary Calderone; 3rd, Patty Stone & Betty McKenzie. 7/8: Bob Frohman & Don Bugge. 7/15: Dee & Don Bugge. 7/22: 1st, Betty McKenzie & Bob Williams; 2nd, Mike Slattery & Robert Frohman. 7/29: Bob Frohman & Don Nemiro.

We were sorry to hear of the death of Ardyce Miller's husband. Our condolences to Ardyce and her family.

## Livermore Valley

By Paul Dubois

The Great Western STAC games are the last week of August so be sure to correct your partner's faults before then. Inexpensive tasers are available for training purposes. Pepper spray works too. Either that or you'll have to learn that prayer that goes something like, "God grant me the serenity to accept the partner I cannot change."

The annual barbeque will be held at the Pleasanton Club on September 11 before the game, starting at 5:30. Please sign up before September 8 at any unit game or by letting Carmen know. September 18 will be an International Fund Game and on September 25 we will have a unit level qualifying game for this area.

The big event for July is always the Santa Clara Firecracker Sectional, and many members from Unit 501 participated again this year. While Jean Barry racked up the most points, almost 15, the LLNL team of Rick Wilson, Dan Bergmann, Art Mirin, and John Engstrom also stood out with two victories in 299'er Swiss tournaments. Rick has done a great job with the LLNL club and has given a successful class to convert Labbie lunchtime bridge players to duplicate sharks.

Harvey Rosenberg & D. Lynn Schaeffer won in a 199'er. Kathi Nelson & Jim Ostrowski got a second in a Compact Knockout. Also scoring some silver were Nancy & Gary Oehrle, Katherine Love, Donald Smith, Wayne Vondera, Sharon Wulferdingen, Darlene Mayhew, Janice Batchellor, Teresa Duerwer, Gilbert Reeser, Gary Minig, Edward So, Paul Dubois, and David Silberman.

This is the month I got to be average, or to

be median, to be more precise. About half the ACBL membership has more points than I do, and half less. Curiously, this happens at the relatively low level of about 175 points. I think this means that in the Pleasanton club, like Lake Woebegone, all the children are now above average.

## Marin

By Bob Sampson

July had two local sectionals. In Palo Alto, Alice & Thomas Wright took first in Compact KO 4; Fred Stout was second in Open Pairs as was Linda Danzig in the Compact KO 2; also second were Molly Anderson in 199'er Pairs and Spencer Sun in C Swiss Teams. Gene Simpson was 4th in Open Pairs and Irene Lam was 6th in B 199'er Pairs. In Sonoma: Loretta Bromberg got a first in A/X Swiss Teams; Michael Hartnett was second in BCD Swiss with Susan Bowser fourth in B Open Pairs. Susan also got a 5th in 0-300 Pairs. Jaclin Hughes was third in B Open Pairs. Lynn Blankfort & Stephen Pardys were third in 0-300 Pairs and tied for third in 299'er Swiss Teams. Irene Lam & Lynn Redding were third in 0-300 Pairs.

In July club games there were many games over 70 percent led by Jerry Meislin & Ken Tishgart who had 75.93%. Two had 74% games: Gene Puddberry & Tom Orr and Martie Gilweit & Rose Nieda. Next were Loretta Stan Chow 73%, Bob Liss & Ellen Schiller 72%, Barbara & Clark Smith 71%, Deborah & Gerald Levine 71% and four at 70%: Don & Phyllis Kreider, Bobbie Crossley & Joanne Green, Gary Kirk & Jim Washburn and Hilde Meislin & Lucian Wernick.

A rare event occurred July 30 at Terra Linda. In a 14 table game four pairs tied for second E/W with a score of 172.00 (55.12%). Steve Stein, who was in that game, marveled at this coincidence and estimated the probability at one in 15,000. That would be about once every 41 years for a daily game. There were 28 boards in play but the four pairs played only 20 hands in common and had identical scores on only one. On five hands, three of the four had identical scores. So a "gazillion" bidding and play decisions made by eight players and their competitors and opponents led to many different contracts and results; yet ended in a 4-way tie.

Don't you love this game? Send e-mail to [mbsampson247@comcast.net](mailto:mbsampson247@comcast.net)

## Modesto

By Lee Striplin

Last month's unit game brought out thirteen tables for lunch and bridge. Overall A winners were Faye Salmon & Dick Uhrhammer, followed by Elena Franzia & Pat Martin and Doris Ashcroft & Roy Carnahan. N/S A winners were Leigh Tibbetts & Glenn Van Denburg, who were also first in B. Second in A/B were Frank Frohman & Joan Miller, followed by Mike Gutowski & Mary Zak, who were also third in B and first in C. In E/W, Franzia & Martin led B, second were Jeanne Russo & Gail Vick, and third were Gary Capwell & Charlotte Martin.

Alan Strauss led the July masterpoint race in A, followed by Pieter Mastenbroek. First in B was Gary Capwell, and Doris Ashcroft was second, and Sharon Cole led C, followed by Lloyd Rotherham. Elena Franzia was delighted to win in A/B & C with partner Glenn Van Denburg in a recent game. Kathy Bulgheroni & Joyce Rudesill had a 70% result in a 299'er game.

Jeanne Russo is on a three-week trip to the Scandinavian countries and a Baltic Sea cruise. Pat Gallo is recuperating after a nasty fall outside the bridge studio. She suffered a broken wrist, and she said that the worst part is that she can't write or drive. We wish her well and hope to see her back to bridge soon.

Charlotte would like to remind you of the Sunday 299'er games. Lunch is served at 12:30 p.m. and the game starts at 1:00 p.m.

The next unit event is a two-session Tri Unit North American Pairs Finals. It will take place on Sunday, September 13, and

[\(Continued on page 9\)](#)



# October 3 - 4, 2009



## The Santa Rosa Fall Sectional

<b>Sat., October 3</b>	
<p><b>10:30 AM</b></p> <p>Open Stratified Pairs - 2 Sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 1500+</li> <li>• B 500 - 1500</li> <li>• C 0 - 500</li> </ul> <p>299er - Single Session Single Session Side Game</p>	<p><b>3:30 pm</b></p> <p>Open Stratified Pairs Continued 299er Single Session Single Session Side Game</p>



<b>Sun., October 4, 10:30 am</b>	
<p>Bracketed Swiss Teams* - Continuous Play</p> <p>Brackets determined by average team masterpoints</p> <p>Play through 6 Rounds, 8 Boards per round</p> <p>Lunch included at no charge</p> <p>* Pending sufficient attendance</p>	



**Table Fees include Sunday Lunch**

\$10.00 per session ACBL members

\$11.00 per session non or unpaid ACBL members

**Santa Rosa Odd Fellows Hall**

545 Pacific Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA

**Directions:** From Highway 101, Northbound Exit College Ave. (past 'Downtown')

And turn right, Southbound Exit College (past Steele Ln.) and turn Left.

Turn Left on Mendocino and Right on Pacific.

From Highway 12, (Sonoma) continue onto Fourth Street at Farmers Lane.

Turn Right on Mendocino and Right on Pacific.

Director in Charge: Nancy Boyd

Tournament Chair: Mark Hersko (707) 837-8045

Partnership: Kathy Venton (707) 591-5015