

# CONTRACT BRIDGE

## Forum



Volume 85 Issue 2—February 2010

## Presidents Day Regional

February 9 - 15, 2010



San Francisco Airport Marriott in Burlingame, California will host the Presidents Day Regional

## Adapting to that Changing World

By Rich Luttrell  
D21 Forum Editor

There has to be a world-wide plot to deter my continued happiness. I am one

of those brand loyal persons that find something that I like and that will be the only item that I will buy in that category. Unfortunately, I suspect that I am being followed by shadowy characters that write down what I buy and where I go and then plot to get the item discontinued or the store closed, and suddenly, that product that I love is no longer available. I still miss chocolate Life Savers, Parkay Margarine, raisin bread with icing on it, and Awake orange juice; you get the picture.

The bridge world also has snuck in these changes against me. Some of those changes are for the better. Having a coven of directors entering mystic figures on a spreadsheet big enough for a GM audit and then figuring out the order of ascension to greatness has been transformed into a few keystrokes or entering the result into a Bridgepad at the table.

*Viola!* You can now get home before the bars close and the drunks hit the road.

The Zero Tolerance policy has cut down on the oratory outbursts at the table. Bidding boxes have eliminated the voice inflections, but not the facial expressions.

*But against me:* Try finding a

left-handed bidding box at a regular game. I guess I will have to buy one and carry it around; they're \$8.95 +S&H.

*Conventions cards:* just when I learn how to fill one out, they change the card and add all sorts of gibberish to add to the confusion. I still carry around the 30 year old cards that were so easy to fill out.

*Bridge conventions:* In my early days in going to the club without a partner, I would occasionally play with the director, the venerable Charles Goosen. Filling out a convention card was unnecessary as he only had two words to say, "Mama-Papa," which was basically bare bones Standard American. I grew up with the you have it, you bid it, you don't have it, you pass.

Unfortunately today, trying to play with a pick-up partner is akin to a Laurel and Hardy show.

When you mention the Rule of 2 & 3 for preempts, you either get a lost look or a query as to why you are not on stage at a comedy club. After that you don't bother to bring up making sound overcalls or shape doubles. An honor-x

(See World on page 15)

## Grand National Teams 2010

By Jackie Ortiz  
District 21 GNT Coordinator

**Flight Open:** Unlimited - Flight A: 0-5,000 - Flight B: 0-2,000 - **Flight C:** Non-Life Master with fewer than 500 MPs to August 1, 2010. Pre-registration is required - Flight A & Flight C deadline is Feb. 1, 2010.

**Flight Open deadline** is March 15, 2010

**Flight B deadline** April 15, 2010 to [jackieo@sonic.net](mailto:jackieo@sonic.net)  
Please check District 21 net pages for Conditions of Contest.

**Flight A**  
February 20, 12:00 &TBA - two sessions Burlingame Bridge Club  
February 21, 12:00 &TBA - two sessions Burlingame Bridge Club  
February 27, 12:30 &TBA - semi

-finals San Mateo Sectional  
February 10:00 &TBA - finals San Mateo Sectional

**Flight C**  
February 20, 12:00 &TBA - two sessions Burlingame Bridge Club  
February 21, 12:00 &TBA - semi & finals Burlingame Bridge Club

**Flight Open**  
April 10, 1:00 &TBA - two sessions San Jose Sectional  
April 11, 10:30 &TBA - two sessions San Jose Sectional  
May 22, 12:00 &TBA semi-final Burlingame Bridge Club  
May 23, 12:00 &TBA finals Burlingame Bridge Club

**Flight B**  
May 22, 12:00 &TBA two sessions Burlingame Bridge Club  
May 23, 12:00 &TBA semi & finals Burlingame Bridge Club



## Life Without Bridge

By Jackie Ortiz  
District 21 Past President

Playing bridge today I asked my friend Larry Borsian, "Don't you read your bridge e-mails everyday?" His answer was "I have a Life." That gave me idea about writing my column this month. My life would be empty without bridge and I have to admit that. All my friends from bridge have become very important to me over the years. Recently, at a sectional, I ran into an old friend, Maxine Seigel from San Francisco, that I haven't seen for 20 years. I received a really cute e-mail yesterday from Bob Liss from Marin and even saw his wife Carol in Santa Rosa today.

I am planning to play bridge with Norrie Cavallero in Burlingame as I met her at a fabulous party that she gave for Harvey Brody's Birthday. I hardly go a day without an e-mail from a bridge player that I met over the years. Not only seeing my local bridge players I look forward to going to the regionals to say hello to others like Rose Meltzer, who always has a moment to stop and give me a hug.

I received the cutest picture from Jill Wood, our past District 21 President, which was a treat and then I realized how much I missed seeing her recently.

On my vacation in December Richard Zalenski joined us for three days and then we went to play bridge in Arizona visiting Miranda Chatham. It is even fun riding down to Monterey with Kate Hill, she is a joy.

I could go on and on but, yes, yes, and yes ... life would be boring without bridge!

[jackieo@sonic.net](mailto:jackieo@sonic.net)

## Marion Re-Elected WC President



Marion Robertson, San Francisco, was re-elected president of the Western Conference at their annual meeting, this year held during the Monterey Clambake Regional.

The other members of the 2010 WC board include Bruce Blakely, D21 District Director, Jerry Fleming, D17 District Director, John Van Ness, president D17, Ken Monzingo, D22 District Director and Teri Atkinson, vice president D22.

Tom Shulman of Las Vegas was again elected treasurer of the Western Conference.

## Tournament Trail

Presidents Day Regional  
San Francisco Airport Marriott, Burlingame, Calif.  
February 9-15, 2010

San Mateo Spring Sectional  
County Expo Center, San Mateo, Calif.  
February 27-28, 2010

Fresno Spring Sectional  
Bridge Center, Fresno, Calif.  
March 4-7, 2010

B-E-R (Almost) Spring Sectional  
Community Center, El Cerrito, Calif.  
March 6-7, 2010

Santa Cruz 299er Sectional  
Masonic Temple, Santa Cruz, Calif.  
March 6-7, 2010

North American Bridge Championships  
Grand Sierra Resort Hotel, Reno, Nevada  
March 11-21, 2010

Santa Rosa Spring Sectional  
Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa, Calif.  
March 27-28, 2010

## SOS from Jackie Matthews

Help! We are way behind in our room count at the Airport Hilton for The Presidents Day Regional. Please give us a hand and reserve a room now:

Reservations Phone: 650-692-9100 or 800-228-9290. Thanks.

## FORUM DEADLINES

Deadlines for *Forum* copy and ads is the 5th of the month!

Rich Luttrell  
D21 Forum Editor  
6550 2nd Street,  
Rio Linda CA 95673  
Phone: 916 991-6997  
Fax: 916 992-6997  
[luttrellr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:luttrellr@sbcglobal.net)

**Change of Address**  
Send change of address to:  
[addresschange@acbl.org](mailto:addresschange@acbl.org)

Or regular mail to:  
ACBL/Address Change  
P.O. Box 161192  
Memphis TN 38136