

San Diego

By Larry Sherman

San Diegans witnessed a plethora of pedestrians walking around downtown carrying bridge convention cards a few weeks ago. Confidential inside sources have shared with me exclusive information that there was some sort of tournament held at the Manchester Grand Hyatt just after Thanksgiving. Waiters at nearby eateries served dinner plates between hand records while customers discussed the merits of one contract versus the other. Similar exchanges took place aboard San Diego Trolley cars transporting players back home. Additional information has been gathered showing that Unit 539 members Martha Woodsworth and Ron Kay (along with his partner Bill Grant from the La Jolla Unit), won NABC rated events. Unit 539 President Lamya Agelidis served as liaison and spear headed the volunteer efforts that evidently contributed to the event proceeding smoothly. I am told by unnamed sources that if the Welcome desk was open, that is where you count find her. Many Unit 539 members stepped forward, I am told, to assist at the welcome and partnership desks. Did any of you hear about this tournament?

Unit 539 will be celebrating the holidays and welcoming in the new year at its Holiday party, Sunday, January 7, beginning at 11:30 a.m. For all of the details and to find out whether you have qualified to eat and play for free at the Soledad Club, visit our website at www.sandiegobridge.com to review the flyer and the attendance list of players at our 2017 Unit games.

As the New Year approaches, visit www.sandiegobridge.com to read about Bridge New Year's Resolutions for 2018. One sample of what you will find comes from John Evans: "Other than excessive pre-game drinking, aggressive and arrogant behavior towards opponents, insulting the director and then lecturing beginners with a class on ethics I really can't think of anything right now..."

We like to listen to comments from our members so that we can improve your experience playing with us. One recent observation was a need to include newer/non-Life Master players on the Unit board. Towards that end, if you are such a player and have a passion for volunteering (the pay is not great and don't ask the boss for a raise, but there are benefits), feel free to approach any of our board members.

The 1st Sunday unit event was a Charity game dedicated to Meals on Wheels. Winners in the 17 table open game in Flights A and B were Linda Gu - Tom Herzog. Chris Hastie - Dan Koppenhafer won the C strat. We attracted 6 tables to the 999er game, which was won by Deepak Vora - Vinod Kapila. Finishing 1st in Flight B were Ken Ridler - Steve Haine, while Dorothy Purcell - Joan Segal won C.

The 2nd Sunday open game attracted 22 tables. Winners in Flights A and B were Lamya Agelidis - Larry Sherman. Barbara Augustine and Brian Castle won the C strat. We attracted 5 tables to the 999er game, which was won by Lois Hausman - Patrick Chen. Finishing in a tie for 1st in Flight B were Nira Levy - Harry Arora and Paul Dubois - Richard Hseih, while Vicki Mogilner - Sally Thomas won C. 76% of our Unit membership qualify to play in our 999er games. We truly would like you to come play, and in order to encourage attendance at the 999er games, we offer a special deal; for \$30 you can purchase four Unit game entries (\$40 value) plus a \$5 discount at our next Sectional tournament game. Come on, 999ers, that's \$45 of value for \$30.

We are happy to announce that some new milestones have been reached by Unit 539 members: Junior: Joy Brown, Liliane Chalom, Jerome Parmer, and Jonathan Stein; Club: Brian Castle, Mary Hall, and Mary Hartley; Sectional: Martha Berner, Jeanne Hurwitz, and Art

Thompson; Regional: Roberta Vanwart; Bronze: Lynn Hull; Gold: John Boackle, jr., Michael Mezin, and Linda Willingham. Our Awards Chairperson, Carolyn Casey, will be in contact to offer a free play at any of our unit games during a 3 month window.

Club News: Adventures in Bridge (www.adventuresinbridge.com). Check out the website. Game results are posted quickly and there's a description of all the available games and lessons.

The San Diego Bridge Club (www.sandiegobridgeclub.com) offers a weekly game every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. On Oct 31, they will feature a Jane Johnson Club Appreciation game and on Nov 14 a STaC game. Winners from November included Ursala Pardo - Gigette Caldwell, Bob Walters - Bob Shapley, and Florence Seltzer - Marty Bloomberg. The club's improved lighting and repainted walls should be completed by mid December. The club will feature a quarterly Club Championship game on December 26.

San Diego Bridge Academy (www.sandiegobridgeacademy.com) and Redwood Bridge Club redwoodbridgeclub.org. Check out the websites for game results, descriptions of all the available games and lessons.

21st Century Bridge Club meets every Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. at the Redwood Bridge Club. This sanctioned game is run by Betty Riedler, who can be reached at 619 276-3476 or bettyriedler@gmail.com with any questions or partnership requests.