

Pomona-Covina Unit  
by Tom Lill

Unit Game: Saturday, April 21, 11:00 a.m., Glendora  
Individual: Saturday, April 7, 9:30 a.m., Chino

The March Individual was captured by Al Lax. Roger Boyar was second, Margie Hall third, with Clint Lew tying Dale Quasny for the fourth spot.

The March Unit game was basically a two horse race. Bill Papa – Vic Sartor (first) and Fredy Minter – Lulu Minter easily outdistanced the field. Gerard Geremia – Amr Elghamry took third, Penny Barbieri – Rosalie Roberts fourth, and Eileen Finlay – Timothy Finlay took fifth.

There are fewer winners than usual this month ... not because of poor attendance, but because Fredy and Lulu Minter insist on steam-rolling everyone else. They had FOUR 70%+ game this month, with the best being 75.58% As far as the rest of us go: Karen Olin, Mary Miller, Joe Unis, Clint Lew, Roger Boyar, Ken Bloomfield, Kurt Trieselmann, Karen McCarthy, Suzanne Wojick, Herb Stampfl, Richard Patterson, Sofi Kasubhai, Claudia Cochran, Penny Barbieri, Hanan Mogharbel, and Yours Truly all found themselves atop the leader board at least once.

No promotions to report this month. Better news next month, perhaps.

Our Hand of the Month is another exercise in judgment – and frustration. As South, with only the opponents vulnerable, you pick up this uninspiring collection:

♠ Q9   ♥ 43   ♦ Q2   ♣ J975432

Some junky high cards and terrible shape. Partner deals, but it goes pass – pass – pass (you don't preempt on rubbish like that, do you? Even in third seat? Well, ....) 1♦. Partner comes to life ... with 2♣!!! RHO bids 2♥. Not quite believing your eyes, you venture 4♣. Well, maybe 5♣ would be better, but let's go just 4. The opponents keep bidding hearts and you keep competing in clubs. How high ya gonna go, sport?

This turns out to be the full deal:

♠ J2	
♥ 105	
♦ 743	
♣ AKQ876	
♠ A865	♠ KJ743
♥ K986	♥ AQJ72
♦ KJ1098	♦ A65
♣ none	♣ none
♠ Q9	
♥ 43	
♦ Q2	
♣ J975432	

Yeah, just another 13-card fit. Unfortunately, the N-S hands fit together like shoes on a snake, and the opponents are cold for 7 of either major, thanks to the 2-2 spade break and the

fortunate diamond position. (Of course, as they say, regarding the diamond position: “one peek is worth two finesses.”) At one table, N-S bid all the way to 6♣: -1100. At most tables, E-W played 5♥ or 5♠, making most if not all of the tricks. And at one table, North opened 3♣, and South had to check to see that everyone had pulled cards from the same board. (Quietly, of course! Ethics!)

Quote for the month: “When a politician changes his position it’s sometimes hard to tell whether he has seen the light or felt the heat.” (Robert Fuoss)