

# Pomona-Covina Unit News

July 2018

Unit Game: Saturday, July 21, 11:00 a.m., Glendora

Individual: Saturday, July 14, 9:30 a.m., Claremont

Yes, that's right, the monthly Individual game has been postponed one week. There's some other event going on which interferes with our usual date .. you may have noticed. It's our District's Bridge Week Regional, of course.

The top finisher in the June Individual was Clint Lew, with a whopping 70.8% game. Looking up at him in the standings were Richard Patterson and Roger Boyar, tying for second, Steve Mancini, and Linda Tessier.

Speaking of the Individual, Roger Boyar wishes it noted that his score in the April game was a whopping 72.1%.

The June Unit game was captured by Penny Barbieri – Rosalie Roberts, at 63.6%. Behind them we find Joe Viola – Amr Elghamry, and a tie between Chuck Lohr – David Ochroch and Fredy and Lulu Minter.

We were able to hold three games on the longest day, raising \$895 for the Alzheimer's Association. Avice Osmundson – Kiran Kumar took the morning game; Clint Lew – Vic Sartor won in the afternoon, and Fredy and Lulu Minter took the evening game. All the results are posted on both the ACBL web site, and our Unit web site.

The top game this past month was 70.1%, by Fredy and Lulu Minter. Others topping the 60% mark this month included Vic Sartor, Joe Unis, Clint Lew, Gino Barbieri, Margie Hall, Penny Barbieri, Steve Mancini, Herb Stampfl, Roger Boyar, and Yours Truly. Others atop the leader board were Chuck Lohr, David Ochroch, Karen Olin, Mary Miller, Kurt Trieselmann, and Ken Bloomfield.

We are back in the promotion doldrums. I'm sure this will change after Bridge Week.

The theme of our Hand of the Month is once again one of those "what now?" deals. No one vulnerable, you pick up:

♠ AKJ982   ♥ 7   ♦ Q   ♣ AQ1054

Dealer, at your right, opens 1♣. You say 1♠, LHO calls 2♦, partner passes (as usual). Opener rebids 3♣. And you?

Double would be takeout, and you surely do not want to play in a 4-1 or even 5-1 heart fit. 3♠ would be unilateral. So you must pass, n'est pas?

3♣ buys the hand. You lead ♠A, and dummy comes down with

♠ Q1074   ♥ A10   ♦ KJ965   ♣ 6

Partner discards a nondescript diamond on your ♠A! Yay! You lead the ♠2, partner ruffs, and (as requested), partner returns a diamond. Only ... it's the ♦A! Your ♦Q prompts partner to play another one. Unfortunately, declarer pitches his 3<sup>rd</sup> spade while you ruff. You lead your heart, won in dummy. Declarer leads another heart, intending to win the ♥K and then ruff a heart ... but you ruff! When the dust settles, it is down 4, +200 to you and a top score.

Most other pairs were in 3 or 4 spades, down some number. Yes, yes, the temptation to bid again with this monster is almost overwhelming. Be whelmed. If partner had something, she would have said something. Other than all the missing diamonds (6 of them, if you counted), she has nothing for you. IF you can stop in 2♠, it can make. Hard to get there over 3♣, though.

Quote for the month: “There are only so many shapes into which you can carve a block of marble; once the sculptors have made the best ones, their successors face a choice between dull imitation and puerile experiment. The same applies to all the arts, the sciences, and the permutations of human relationships. (from *The Long Way Home*, by Poul Anderson)