

Pomona-Covina Unit News

July 2019

Unit Game: Saturday July 20, 11:00 a.m., Glendora

Individual: Saturday, July 13, 9:30 a.m., Claremont

Yes, the Individual game is delayed a week this month. There's some sort of tournament going on in Long Beach that week ...

Because July 4 falls on a Thursday this year, the La Fetra center will be closed on that day, so there won't be a game that evening. Why not consider trucking down to Long Beach to play in the Bridge Week Regional, instead?

The top finisher in the June Individual was Clint Lew, breaking Linda Tessier's win streak. Gino Barbieri was second, Linda Stuart third, and Don Logsdon tied with Yours Truly for fourth.

The June Unit game was something of a runaway, with Richard Patterson – Roger Boyar outdistancing the field with a 66.2% game. It seems the rest of the field insisted on knocking each other out of contention – there was a log jam around the 55% mark. In second we find Bill Papa – Vic Sartor tied with Kiran Kumar – Avice Osmundson and Gerard Geremia – Amr Elghamry. Rounding out the top finishers we find Hanan Mogharbel – Linda Stuart.

Our Longest Day event was modestly successful. Turnout was perhaps a bit low, but the attendees seemed to have a good time. Bill Papa – Vic Sartor outdistanced the field in the morning session, while Penny and Gino Barbieri squeaked by in the afternoon; that event was still a tie at the top with ONE score to post! Kurt Trieselmann won the split-the-pot raffle. Special thanks to all the contributors to this worthy cause.

Get well wishes are in order. You will have noted that Clint Lew is out of rehab from his Mardi Gras adventure and follow up; but these things come in threes. Linda Tessier suffered a bad fall (wait, there's such a thing as a *good* fall?) and broke her right arm. Not to be outdone, and proving once again that no good deed goes unpunished, Penny Barbieri tripped over the dog she was dog-sitting, and broke a toe.

We are both happy and sad for Richard Patterson. He had to be taken to the hospital during a regular club game – no, not for bad play. After all the test results were in, it seems Richard is suffering from a brain tumor. He's out of the hospital and back to bridge, but the long term prognosis is uncertain. However, we *do* know he will be moving away – all the way to Olympia, Washington – on or about the 10th of this month. So come on down to the club and give Richard your best wishes.

HELP WANTED: both your Unit, and the La Fetra club, would like to have an alternate Director / Club Manager. While the incumbent (ahem) does an adequate job, he sometimes must be away. Both jobs pay – a bit, you won't get rich though. Anyone interested? We offer on-the-job training, and all the complaints you can eat. Contact any Unit board member for more information.

This month, the games were quite competitive. No huge scores to report, and only two pairs managed to reach the magic 65% mark. Fredy and Lulu Minter topped the list at 66.67%, and Chuck Lohr – David Ochroch were just behind at 66.0%. Others who found themselves looking back at the rest of the field: Roger Boyar, Herb Stampfl, Bill Papa, Vic Sartor, Richard Patterson, Jane Carrigan, Linda Stuart, Steve Mancini, Joe Unis, Clint Lew, Penny Barbieri, Gino Barbieri, Don Logsdon, and Yours Truly.

39 players won a total of 78.9 masterpoints in games within the Unit. The top 5 masterpoint earners in June were Vic Sartor (6.54), Bill Papa (5.01), Clint Lew (4.98), Linda Stuart (4.91), and Hanan Mogharbel (4.88).

No promotions to report *again* this month. Well, a lot of our members don't go to tournaments much. Wait until next month! We should have some Bridge week results to report, not to mention the nearby (well, relatively) NABC.

For our hand of the month, we switch from the Laurel & Hardy School of Bridge, to Nightmare on Elm Street. It's matchpoints, both vulnerable. South deals and passes, and you, West, find yourself holding

♠ K8 ♥ K ♦ KQ1087652 ♣ 93.

Well? It's too good for 4♦ (you don't want to miss out on a possible 3NT), and not really good enough for 1♦.

At one other table, this hand opened 3♦. North called 3♠ (no surprise), and East came with 4♣! Well, you are fairly disciplined, are you not? You preempted so you don't bid again unless forced. It goes all pass, and partner, holding ♣ AQJT764 and ♦A, goes two down, -200. A disaster? Not at all! North-South are stone cold for 5♠, and will make 6♠ if declarer peeks and drops your ♥K offside. South took a rather timid view of his hand, holding 9 HCP and 4 spades. At the other tables, N-S recorded 650 in their spade contract, or 800 when E-W sacrificed in one minor or the other.

Quote for the month: "An optimist sees the glass as half full. A pessimist sees it as half empty. I see it as too large.." (George Carlin)