

Pomona-Covina Unit News

June 2022

Individual: June 4, 10:00, Ontario
July: NO GAME

Club Championships: June 7 and 10, La Fetra

Unit Game: Saturday June 18, 11:00 a.m., Glendora

LONGEST DAY: Friday June 24, 8:45, La Fetra

Unit Board Meeting: 10:15 a.m. before the game

The May Individual was a real squeaker. Clint Lew was first by $\frac{1}{2}$ matchpoint over Yours Truly, possibly because YT bid an optimistic grand slam that j.u.u.u.u.s.t missed coming home. Paul Chrisney was third, again by $\frac{1}{2}$ match point. Gary Atwell was fourth, Barbara Andryjowicz fifth.

Unfortunately, there won't be a July Individual. To quote a certain famous Mr. Howard, "*I'm a victim of soicumstance!*" What with the Independence Day holiday and the returning Bridge Week Regional – not to mention some family business the Director just *must* attend to – there's no good date for the durned thing. We'll return in August. Yes this is only the June issue, but I figured I'd give you some advance warning.

And, speaking of early, be aware that I've already registered us for the STaC (silver points) in July. We'll hold games on 7/26 and 7/29.

In the May Unit game, Linda Tessier – Clint Lew edged out Hanan Mogharbel – Yours Truly by $\frac{1}{2}$ matchpoint. (Do you see a trend here? *Sigh!*) Paul Chrisney – Steve Andersen were first in flight B.

However I must confess to being disappointed at the turnout for our game. Three tables only! Our worst attendance, *ever*. (Well, we had a 3-table game once before, but that was when there was a problem with the electricity at our playing site, and we had to punt on third down ...) I had thought there might have been a tournament in the area somewhere, but that was not the case. There we a lot of tournaments being held that weekend ... but the nearest was in Reno, Nevada. Not exactly local.

So were have y'all gotten to? Attendance at La Fetra has been reasonably close to pre-pandemic levels. Are we doing something wrong? YOUR Unit doesn't actually show any profit from the unit games – usually we show a small loss, but we're happy to be keeping duplicate bridge alive here in the Inland Empire. But three tables ... it's hardly worth holding the game, at that attendance level. (Yes, Glendora isn't quite "The Inland Empire." But that's where *I* live ... and where the Individual is held. So *there*.)

If there are changes you'd like made – we are OF COURSE open to suggestions from our members. But I, for one, cannot read minds. And the Elder Wand is not available ...neither is the One Ring ...

We have once again signed up for The Longest Day. We will hold a single-session fundraising game on Friday, June 24, 8:45 a.m. (our normal start time). ALL funds received are donated to the Alzheimer's Association. The entry fee for this special game – awarding extra

masterpoints – will be \$7. If you can't make the game, but wish to donate, please visit <http://act.alz.org/goto/unit551>.

Just one rank advancement this month. Patrick Finley has taken the first step upwards, to Club Master.

Topping the charts in April were Fredy and Lulu Minter, at only 71.07%. Others placing first were Clint Lew, Linda Tessier, Margie Hall, Linda Ananea, Ken Vagadia, and Glenn Hornberger.

There don't seem to have been many interesting hands over the last month. So, here's that semi-balanced hand I held back a few months ago. You are in second seat, no one vulnerable, RHO opens 1♥. You hold:

♠ A106532 ♥ A ♦ 9 ♣ AJ1098.

Michaels could be right – spades and a minor, don't you know? – but with six spades, let's see what develops after a 1♠ overcall.

LHO raises to 2♥, partner is silent (so what else is new?), and RHO goes game, 4♥. Hmmm. Your three aces look good for defense, but where do you expect to find trick 4? On the next deal, perhaps. So let's try 5♣. Pass, pass, double! All pass. Partner comes down with

♠ J8 ♥ 873 ♦ K J 10 ♣ K7532.

Making 5! RHO has a stiff club so you were *not* beating 4♥. Well done! (It's not certain where RHO found that double, holding 2=5=5=1 shape and 12 HCP, part of which was ♠Q7. Oh well, if you don't bet, you can't win, right? But not this time.)

Quote for the month: "I'm going to stop asking "How dumb can you get?" People seem to be taking it as a challenge. (seen on a T-shirt)