

Pomona-Covina Unit News

Nevember 2019

Unit Game: Saturday November 16,

11:00 a.m., Glendora

Individual: No game this month

SPECIAL NOTE: We *strongly* urge you to make a reservation for the Unit game this month, if you plan to play. Why? Our District is holding a Board-of-Directors' meeting after the game ... and we've invited potential attendees to come and play. However, those of you familiar with our playing site know that we can only fit in so many tables. 11 tables will fit in comfortably, and maybe, just maybe, one more. That's the limit, however, even if we set up some tables on the back patio. Again, why? Simple: we only have 12 Bridge Mates. Yes, we could go back to using travelers. I'm sure *that* would be popular.

As an added attraction, we will be supplying hand records for this game. AFTER the game, I mean.

Gino Barbieri tied with Clint Lew for first place in the October Individual game, scoring 57.29%. Hanan Mogharbel tied with Penny Barbieri for third; Art Weinstein was fifth, and Steve Mancini took the sixth and final spot on the leader board.

The October Unit game was captured by Al Lax – Kurt Trieselmann, with a 62.04% game. Fredy and Lulu Minter took second, Roger Boyar – Yours Truly were third, Bill Papa – Vic Sartor fourth.

The games were very competitive in October, with no one reaching 70%. Quite a few people did crack 65%, most of them seemingly Roger Boyar! Topping the list was Roger Boyar – Steve Mancini, with 68.23%. Next best effort was Hanan Mogharbel – Claudia Cochran, 65.83%. Fredy and Lulu Minter scored 65.74%. Roger hit 65.10% playing with Fredy Minter; Bill Papa – Vic Sartor also scored 65.10%; and Roger hit 65% on the nose playing with Herb Stampfl.

Other winners: Marjorie Preston, Kathy Malovos, Sofi Kasubhai, Linda Stuart, Ho Ming Yim, Chris Clauticeand Your Correspondent.

I'm going to hold off reporting the masterpoint leaders this month, because there are still two games to play as we go to press. Sorry! (Well, not really!) I'll report in full next month.

In the promotion department, we find that Marjorie Preston is now a Sectional Master, and Harish Singh has climbed up to Silver Life Master. Congratulations to you both!

La Fetra will be hosting STaC games at the regularly scheduled times on Tuesday, November 12, Thursday, November 14, and Friday, November 15. Entry fee for these games is \$8 – a bargain!

Once again, our hand of the month is a wild freak. Appropriate, just before Halloween, no? Sitting in third seat, both vulnerable, you find yourself looking at this semi-balanced hand:

♠ 6 ♥ QJ973 ♦ AKJ10972 ♣ none.

7-5 in the red suits, 1-0 in the blacks; that's semi-balanced, isn't it? Anyway, what's your opening bid, after two passes? 1♥ might be right; 1♦, then planning to reverse into 2♥ after partner's expected 1♣ response, maybe? Only 11HCP, Walter, but enormous playing strength if you can find a red-suit fit. Whatever you decide to do, you will be off to the races soon, as partner has

♠ Q8 ♥ AK1042 ♦ 743 ♣ 1084.

6♥ is cold, and so is 6♦ (the ♦Q drops doubleton). Amazingly, in a five table game, *no one* got to either slam! Results were +680 in 4♥, +620 in 6♦, +500 (the opponents sacrificing in 5♣) ... and two –

count 'em – TWO +170 scores. Apparently two people regarded that 7-5 hand as worthy of a preemptive diamond bid, which silences partner. Go figure!

Quote for the month: "During an election campaign the air is full of speeches and vice versa." (Henry Adams)