

East Bay Unit By Sandi Davis

On Saturday, November 3rd the EBCBC will be holding a Pro-Am event for the opportunity for newer players to play in an 18 board game with a more experienced player. They will have an opportunity to discuss the hands and possible ways to help improve their game. There will be a catered lunch and the event is fun and has proven very popular so contact Susan Boyers smboyers@comcast.net if you are interested in participating.

The Unit game on Sunday November 4th will **not** be held as it is the date for Unit 499 and Unit 502 to go head to head in the Sixth Annual Tunnel Tournament. This is a two session event beginning at 10:30 AM with lunch included for a bargain price of \$15/person. Players must be members of these two units and pairs must be from the same unit. You must pre-register so contact Carol Warren at (510) 653-8733 or carolwarren036@gmail.com. There will also be **no** Unit game at the Center on November 18th because the Unit 502 Fall Sectional will be held on November 17 and 18 at the Oakland Masonic Center at 3903 Broadway. Saturday has single session stratified Pairs games while Sunday will be the Barbara Harmon 2-session bracketed Swiss teams. Game times are 10 AM and 2:30 PM each day with a nice \$5 lunch between sessions. For partnerships or information, contact Shirley Rodenborn at (510) 459-6286. Table fees are \$12 per session. Bring your favorite partner and come have a good time at the tables.

At the October 7th Unit game, N/S Carol Warren and Norm Marks placed 1st OA with Kathryn Van Dohre and Robert Ipswitch placing 1st E/W. This was a charity game with donations going to the Alameda County Food Bank so thanks to everyone for supporting this good cause.

On the Tournament trail, Lili Bassett and Jeff Fountain finished in the overalls of the pairs game while Tom McGuire's Swiss team also placed in the overalls at the Santa Rosa Sectional.

We welcome new members Bob Kurtz and Sandra Maker. Transferring to our unit, welcome to Robert Joerger, Don Maker, and Andrew Weisenfelder. In addition we have many rank advancements. Sue Burish and Jolanda Heijnen are now Junior Masters, Marilyn Chilcote is a Club Master, Pam Davison and George Proper have reached Sectional Master, Ken Rice and Margaret Timm are our newest Regional Masters, and Russ Kirschenbaum and Jeff Toman reached Bronze Life Master. I am so happy Jeff achieved that here with us as he and his lovely wife Mary will be leaving us to relocate to Nashville. We all wish them the best. At the Santa Clara Regional Herbert Chung and Susie Chung each won enough gold points to reach milestones. Herbert is now a Life Master and Susie became both a Life Master and a Bronze Life Master on the same day! Cris Barrere, our Monday teacher extraordinaire, reached a major milestone with the rank of Grand Life Master having earned over 10,000 masterpoints. He is the only GLM in our unit. Well done, one and all!

As you know, the EBCBC has stopped its Saturday games but will now hold club games on the 2nd, 4th and 5th (when there is one) Sundays of the month at 1 P.M. In November the dates are the 11th and 25th. There will be a lunch prepared mostly by me but several people kindly offer to help with this task. If you would like to help, let me know. Also, I would love to help any newer players partner with a more experienced player for this game. If you are interested in either mentoring OR being mentored, please contact me at sandi.davisd21@gmail.com or call me at (510) 524-6925. The only qualifications for a mentor are a good knowledge of Standard American, patience and kindness. For mentees, the requirement is a willingness to listen, learn and apply it to your game. It is a good experience for both.

I also want to remind everyone that Doug Handler runs a Monday evening game at 7:30 P.M. each week for both Open and Limited MP players. It is a good competition and could use your support. Doug is also interested in hearing from anyone who might be interested in supporting a Swiss team game on Wednesday evening so if this appeals contact Doug at dough0918@aol.com.

We are lucky that we have so many good options to enjoy our favorite game so get out there and have some fun!

There are lots of Sectionals and Regionals coming up so get out there and play. It is a fun experience to play against players from other units and it improves your game! Let us know how you do!

If you have any news & you'd like to see your name in print, Tom Pajak is writing next month's column and he would love to hear about anything you have done. Email him at tompajak999@gmail.com.