

B-E-R
BEER DUDE

Happy Holiday! I was having too much fun in Myrtle Beach & didn't have much to yak about, anyway, so I zonked out on Nov column – I have more to talk about this time, starting with winning a pre-season bet I made on the Bosox to win the World Series (at 11-1; the profit from which buys a lot of beer). As I write, rain's on the way to rid us of the horrid smoke we've put up with Nov 7-20. May it have been slow & steady for 3 days.

Last STaC of the year runs Dec 3-9; we have Club games on 5th & 7th (table fees \$7); Unit Xmas party on the 8th (potluck food 12:15, game starts @ 1 - \$2 if you bring food to share, \$7 otherwise). Onward to the last unreported Unit Games: Fri 10/5 we drew 6 tables. Prez Joyce & Trudie Sinclair tied for 1/2A w/Eric & Sandi; Lamar & Dick were 3A; Bob Post – Ercan Turken 4A/1B; Dexter-Gordon 2B. Fri 11/2 drew 5.5 tables. Lamar & Dick topped it; Dolores Mackinnon-Chet Young 2A/1B; “H”-Carol Scott 3A; Ray Barber-Inja Hwang 4A/2B; & Jan Kosel-Veda Mason & Joyce Demercurio-Annette Goldberg 3/4B. Last Unit games of the year are Fri 14th & Wed 19th.

Welcome newbie Al Abraham, plus transfers-in Tom Foster from Vancouver (most likely WA rather than BC), Florence Siegel (by way of East Bay & LA; she was in 497 after moving to Berkeley from NYC), & Ann Lundstedt from FL; adios Karen Aldridge to East Bay. Anna Mantell moved up to Club Master (20+).

At da club, Joanne Cobeen was Sept MP champ; Dick Walker topped Oct. On the NLM side, Jan Kosel topped Sept, Ercan Turken Oct. Last club game of the year is Fri 12/21 (Club Championship). We reopen Jan 2; game times will not change from the current 1215.

The Halloween Instant Matchpoint game produced a lot of freaky hands &, because of the way the game is scored, a freaky result in the standings. I had 8.5 tables & played 9 rounds with EW sitout. 7 of the 8 NS pairs (which “H”-Larry Zeni topped) scored 50+%, but only ONE of the 9 EW pairs did (Eric & Dick, w/a tad over 69%). Best mask award to Gerda Janos; best costume to Carrie Stoltzfus, who dressed as 60's Bob Dylan – her partner (Joe Held) dressed as a female I couldn't identify. Both had great wigs; Carrie's was tinted purple, Joe's shoulder-length curly dirty blonde. There won't be any pix on D21 website, as I didn't bring my digital camera – I don't use my smartphone for anything but phone, text, & web searches; all else is from my home computer.

There've been a flurry of e-mail scams lately, aimed at Unit/District officers (primarily treasurers). Ours got one a few weeks ago. What she got was a demand for payment for “supplies” for an event we never held. She forgot to check it out w/me before responding, but we got lucky & didn't lose any \$\$, thanks to the scammers' carelessness (& I was able to find out enough to be able to file a report w/the FBI, as did our bank). ACBL sent out an alert warning to Unit contacts & presidents (why they didn't include treasurers baffles me) a few days after our treasurer fell victim, so I hope all the \$\$-responsible people are getting the info & performing due diligence. Jackie Zayac (D21 Rep to ACBL BOD) .will (at my suggestion) address the issue at the Monterey D21 meeting on Jan 5.

Stay safe, don't blow your diets too much, & may 2019 be free of devastating wildfires! Have fun in Monterey if you go – I'll be there for the D21 meeting, whether I play on Fri/Sat is up in the air.

Tweak beerman1949@gmail.com to brag/gripe/suggest; Unit info & game results available 24/7 @ www.berunit497.org.