

B-E-R
BEER DUDE

Hope ya got yer taxes in & are getting \$\$ back from the Uncles. I filed before I went to HI & had refunds before I took off (the wonder of electronix vs. snail mail!). BBQ Swiss coming 5/18 – as I write, I have 4-6 spots open, so call/e-mail me ASAP if you wanna play – cutoff date is May 15. Off to the rest I go ...

2 Unit games, both on the small side. Wed 3/27 drew 6 tables; Fri 4/5 drew 6.5. Sandi Davis-Carol Scott topped 3/27 by 0.5 matchpoint over upstarts Roger Edelson & George Proper (2A/1B); Jack Shiffer & Aki 3/4A along w/Prez Joyce & Ercan. 9 days later, Carol Scott & “H” topped it; Tamms 2A/1B, Esther Schroeder 3-4A/2B; Joyce & Trudie 3/4A; Dolores Mackinnon & Chet Young 5A/3B/5A-2B, Lamar & Dick 4/5A, & Dolores Mackinnon-Chet Young 3B. May games are Fri 3rd & the aforementioned BBQ Swiss. STaC Games Wed/Fri 8/10 – come on in to chase the silver you lack to hit LM! If you need Gold, head for Sacramento Regional 5/28-6/2 (Check D21 Website for game schedules, which ran in a previous issue of DITR).

Welcome new member Patricia Anderson, plus transfer-in Michael Gerson from La Jolla Beach; adieu to Mingyang Zhou, who moved to Taiwan & into U 999 (International). No rank advancers, but a lot of you need to get your dues renewals in – the Unit gets a kickback from those, which helps us subsidize the games you play in so to keep prices low. Save \$\$ if you renew for 3 yrs, which I have to do soon (been doing that for at least 20 yrs)

At da club, Sandi was the March LM champ; George Proper topped the NLM’s (I hope he doesn’t shout it out @ a club game – his voice could wake up a cemetery!) (George, I can’t resist - & I know you won’t take offense). Club championship game is Wed 5/15 (moved back from normal 2nd Wed due to STaC). Longest Day Wed Jun 19 (all the “gate” goes to ALZ charity; table fees \$7; I take no director fee – contribute extra if you so desire). Our best to Larry Zeni, Board member & one of my relief directors for a speedy recovery from his recent blood/circulatory system issues, which took his docs a long time to diagnose. Hoist a glass of wine or a beer to him – his current meds preclude his ingestion thereof for awhile.

Before I go: 1NT forcing – the best “what the hell to do?” bid as an unpassed hand (regardless of strength) to have in your arsenal (whether you play 2/1 or not is irrelevant!) after pard opens 1-major (1NT is semi-forcing after 3rd-seat opener). The idea is to find out what pard has. ACBL Learn has lots of info for FREE on this – my advice to newbies is to learn that convention BEFORE tackling 2/1, which 1NT forcing is a major component of. That some places are teaching 2/1 to newbies appalls me – ya gotta learn the basics before you up your game unless you’re a math-whiz <25-30. I could fill up a lot of pages w/tales of my HS bridge club 1966-7 (spawned from the Math Club) – you may see one here occasionally – from the luddite analog days (TMI was not an option!)

Have a good time in Sacto if you go - & may the Warriors survive losing Cousins, plus getting “black & tanned” (NBA refs no longer wear “zebra” shirts) far too often (especially Curry) to get a 3-peat! May the Sharks still be around by the time this hits your inbox.

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