

B-E-R  
BEER DUDE

Greetings to an overcrowded December, what with the usual holiday shopping/traveling, plus the SF NABC's & the impeachment circus in DC. Hope you're doing OK sorting it out (& my sympathies to the D21ers who still may be dealing w/power outages). Once the NABC's end, silver point chasers will have STaC's at which to get them the following week. I was gone mid-Oct & didn't have a lot to write anyway, so what follows is an up-to-date recap, starting with 4 Unit Games:

Wed 9/25, 7.5 tables: Dexter-Gordon topped it; chasers being Roger-George 2A/1B, Barb Lanier-Lamar 3A, Jack-Chet 4A, Esther Schroeder-Jan Straus 5A/2B, & Eric Brondfield-Charlotte Goode 3B. Fri 10/4, 8 tables: RoJo (Roseanne Smith-Joanne Cobeen) were boss; chasers: Steven Drucker-Andy Wasserman 2A, Eric-Don Steedman 3A, Roger-Meg 4A/1B, & Jean & Tom Berringer 5A/2B. Wed 10/30, 7.5 tables: Eric & Dick topped it w/53.82%! Boards were all over the yard; lowest % score of the day was 43.06%. Behind my trusty relief directors: Roger-George 2A/1B, Vicky Chen-Inja Hwang 3A/2B, Barb-Trudie 4A, Sandi-Roseanne 5A, & Kerstin Barnett-Catherine Warren 3B. Fri 11/1, again 7.5 tables: Jack Shiffer-Miye Takeuchi (glad to have her back after a few years' hiatus) bossed it; chasers: Dexter-Gordon 2A, Eric-Sandi 3A, RoJo 4A, John Love-Bob Post 1B, Tamms 2B, & Vernita Davidson-Peggy Simmons 3B. We end 2019 & start 2020 w/Unit games: Wed 12/18; Fri 12/20 & 1/3. Unit Holiday Party is Sat 12/14 STaC - \$2 if you bring food to share, \$7 otherwise. Food 12:15; game starts at 1.

Nobody died/moved away; we welcome new members Elaine Binger & Howard Hickman, plus transfer-in Will Starr from San Diego. Ace of Clubs & Mini-Mckenney rankings always are available on ACBL website – just click Unit 497 from the dropdown menu/type in 497 (I pay no attention to that stuff, as I direct games far more than I play) – whatever works.

At da club: Chet Young was Sept LM MP champ; Roger Edelson & Bob Post tied for NLM spot. In Oct, Eric regained his top spot; Meg Gallaway (to whom we send our best wishes for a speedy recovery from a recent medical issue) topped the NLM's. No Dec Club Championship game due to NABC's/STaC/& Unit games – 12/20 is the last game of the year – we reopen 1/3. I got a special upgrade club championship game sanction for posting our results to ACBL Live Clubs portal – so if you're having trouble seeing them on U497 site, go there – but you won't get the BridgePad matrix to see what was bid on a hand or the outcome. STaC games Wed & Fri 12/11 & 13 – come chase the silver. We'll be open 12/4 & 6 – regular games (we can't run specials during NABC's). However, we have only 11 BridgePads, so 11 tables is the limit, & if you're not a regular, you need to call/e-mail me at least 12 hrs before game time to be guaranteed a seat

I played a standing gig w/long-time amiga Betty Kael @ U502 Sectional recently – our score in the A/X was exactly average, something I don't think I've ever had. But there was a bidding sequence on one board that drew a laugh from the table: I opened 1♣, LHO bid 1♠, Betty 2♥, RHO 3♦. I asked my LHO, "4<sup>th</sup> suit forcing?" & it went on after the comments & giggles. I've been in auctions where all 4 suits got bid up the rank around the table, but never all 4 bid over 2-3 levels.

So eat, drink, be merry, & stay safe amongst the idiots on the freeways. I'll be in LA area hanging out w/dad-side cousins & their extended families – now I have to talk the Xmas dinner hostess into serving latkes as one of the sides, given that her son-in law is Jewish & Hanukah & Xmas coincide this year – I'll volunteer for the chore, as I've made them a few times.

Tweak [beerman1949@gmail.com](mailto:beerman1949@gmail.com) to brag/gripe/suggest; Unit info & game results available 24/7 @ [www.berunit497.org](http://www.berunit497.org).