

B-E-R
BEER DUDE

Baseball season's here – the A's look pretty good & I've made futures bets on them to win the AL & World Series; did the same with Atlanta in the NL. COVID-19 has wreaked havoc on sports since I wrote most of this Mar 8-9; now finishing up on Mar 13, as I got word that day that the clubhouse we rent from El Cerrito will be closed at least thru Mar 29. Our 1st scheduled game after is April Fools' Day, & I doubt seriously we'll be allowed to reopen then, given that the local schools won't be reopening until at least the 7th.

Unit games: Wed 2/26 drew 5.5 tables, which Gerda Janos-Marcia Mattoon topped. Behind them: Jan Kosel-John Love 2A/B; Eric-Richard 3A; Sandi-Roseanne 4A; Dexter-Gordon 3B. Fri 3/6 also drew just 5.5, with Shahla-Aki topping the field, Lamar-Richard 2A, & Dexter-Gordon & Eric-Sandi 3/4A. April games are Fri 3rd & Wed 29th (assuming we're open). I'll find another Wed later in the year to replace it – we're allowed 24 sessions/yr.

We gained a net 2 to our Unit roster: new members Marion Chabot (who's been an off/on regular for 4-5 yrs) & Janice Torbet, plus transfer-in Michael Engel from East Bay. We lost Doug Hannah to SF – he moved.

At da club: Richard was Feb MP champ; John Love, our setter-upper, took NLM honors, scoring well in both Unit games. For truncated March, Shahla-Aki shared the top spot; Jan Kosel was the top NLM. Annette Goldberg & Dolores Mackinnon were among those trapped on the cruise ship – it'll be awhile before we know more. I'll run the 3/20 Fri Club Champ game that we were forced to cancel on Fri 17th this month, assuming I can get a "special dispensation" waiver from ACBL, as we're only allowed to 1 CC per game each quarter. Also, "Life Overtakes Me" (John Haptas' documentary) is available on Netflix if you have it (thanx, Joanne Cobeen for that info!). A final note to ye who flunked Spatial Perception 101: When I close up, I put the printer atop the bidding boxes, which are stacked in 4 layers of 16 – long side L-R, short side front-back. So please put them back that way!

Happy Passover/Easter – may your seders have better wine than Manishevitz; try not to OD on ham/chocolate eggs & bunnies. Make potato salad or deviled eggs w/the dyed hard-boiled ones – does anyone even do that ritual any more (I have no clue)? Remember PAAS, the dye tablets you had to mix w/stinky cheap white vinegar? Dipping the eggs was fun, but I had to hold my nose.

Stay safe & sanitary – who knows when this monster will dissipate? Get tested ASAP if you've had known contact w/someone who's tested positive; once we reopen, stay home if you're not medically cleared or are (cough/sneez)ing a lot from other than seasonal allergies. We'll update you on reopening via e-mail (we'll phone the Luddites who have no internet/cell phone to text) & on our website.

Tweak beerman1949@gmail.com to brag/gripe/suggest; Unit info & game results available 24/7 @ www.berunit497.org. Game results (no BridgePad matrix) also on ACBL Live for Clubs (click the link on ACBL website). When I'm in town, I post results when I get home from where I go afterward, sometimes very late at night. When I'm traveling, I post after I get them when I'm back at my lodging. There's no wi-fi @ our game site, so I/my relief directors can't post immediately after the game.