San Diego

By Larry Sherman

All roads lead to Marina Village. Hard to believe, but whether they lead to a middle school in El Dorado Hills, condos on Fisher Island, Florida, a yacht harbor in the Oakland Estuary, a district of Paradise Island in the Bahamas, condos at St. Ann's Bay in Jamaica, apartments in Stockton, and Inn in Alameda, more condos in Boynton Beach, Florida, apartments in Sparks, Nevada, homes in Lauderdale by the Sea, Florida, a shopping center in Newport Beach, or low income housing in Elizabeth, New Jersey, all roads do indeed lead to a Marina Village. Let's narrow down your search engine to ONE Marina Village this March 2-4, and make sure we all take the roads that lead to Unit 539's Spring Sectional at Marina Village in Mission Bay, San Diego's water playground. Friday and Saturday's sessions at 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. will feature pairs events for Open, 1499er, and 299er fields. If you have less than 20 master points, the Unit will waive your card fees to Friday's 299er game. On Sunday there will be Swiss team events in the A/X category and the B field (limited to players with less than 2,000 master points). Both team events start at 10:00 a.m. In addition, we will have a 1 session pairs event beginning at 1:00 p.m. For more information about our Spring Sectional, find the event flyer on our website www.sandiegobridge.com. And just for the record, the Marina Village you are looking for March 2 - 4 is located on Quivira Way, just off West Mission Bay Drive.

Unit 539 showed just how flexible it can be when it needs to this year by holding its annual Holiday party, "Cheers to the New Year", in January instead of the customary December. If you were unable to join us for this fun event, you can read about it on our website www.sandiegobridge.com. Winners in the 24 table Open game in Flight A were Suzanne Lebendig-Roger Doughman, while Linda Gu-Tom Herzog finished first in the B and C strats. We attracted 9 tables to the 999er game. Flights A and B were won by Lynne Anderson-Anwar Hafeez. Tying for 1st in Flight C were Lynne Batchelor-Sandy Howland (two of our Soledad Club hosts) and Mona Deutsch-Ramey Farah.

We introduced a new board member at our January 21 meeting, welcoming Stuart Showalter to our group. We very much would entertain the addition of another energetic player to the board, particularly if you represent the interests of our newer players. We are trying to maintain a balance of experience level on the Unit board, so no one feels left out. Our Open game that day attracted 17 tables. Finishing 1st in the A strat were Maritha Pottenger-Kent Hartman, while Kathee and George Bessinger won the B and Paul Ales-Bob Broast the C. 6 tables competed in the 999er game, with Carol and Art Murphy winning, while Joanne Koscielski-Sam San-Wong finished atop both the B and C strats.

The Unit has finalized its 2018 calendar and it has been published to our website www.sandiegobridge.com by our club manager, John Boackle. There was much discussion about trying some new games out to see how you would like them. Amongst those discussed were a mixed age game, mixed skill game, mixed gender game, and nude bridge (just kidding folks). Take the opportunity to look over the 2018 calendar. Some highlights are the April 15 Ace of Clubs/Mini McKinney awards, the June 3 Membership game, the July 1 Open Pairs event, the August 2 Mixed Pairs (gender) game, the September 2 Tribute Trophy game, and the October 7 Mixed Skills game, which will be host to pairs having over/under a set master point amount, still to be determined but in the 1,000-1,100 range.

We are happy to announce that some new milestones have been reached by Unit 539 members: Club: Howard Bolotin, Martha Morris, Rita Priver, Mary Rea, and Madelyn Trainor; Sectional: Stephen Haine and Janet Murdoch; Regional: Lloyd Kelly; Bronze: Winfield Carson; Emerald: Kent Hartman. Our Awards Chairperson, Carolyn Casey, will be in contact to offer a free play at any of our unit games during a 3 month window. We would also like to welcome

new members Robert Bushman, Stephanie Clifner, Katherine Cline, James Pea, Sandra Petersen, and Bk Swenson. In addition, the Unit welcomes a transfer from outside the area, Yvonne Matta, from Maryland.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to our Unit President, Lamya Agelidis, and her family. Lamya's father, Dr. Suhayl J. Jabbur, an avid bridge player, passed away February 2 in Lebanon, leaving behind wife Amal, and daughters Lamya, Mona and Nada.

Also, Lynn Horobetz passed away in early February. Lynn's career was as a novelist with many published titles. She was the daughter of Helen Horobetz, tournament chairman in D22 in the '70's.

<u>Club News</u>: The San Diego Bridge Club (www.sandiegobridgeclub.com) offers a weekly game every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. Winners from January included Robin Rodger-Bill Allen, Bill Grant - Sam Madison-Jammal (2 times), and a tie between Gigette Caldwell-Ursula Pardo and Gary Piazzoni-Gregory Wetz. There will be a quarterly Club Championship game held on March 13 and a STaC game on March 20. The club will be closed on March 27 during the week of the Pacific Southwest Regional.

San Diego Bridge Academy (www.sandiegobridgeacademy.com) and Redwood Bridge Club (redwoodbridgeclub.org). Check out the websites for game results, descriptions of all the available games and lessons.

Adventures in Bridge (www.adventuresinbridge.com). Check out the website. Game results are posted quickly and there's a description of all the available games and lessons.

21st Century Bridge Club meets every Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. at the Redwood Bridge Club. If you need a partner or would like information on this sanctioned game, please call Betty Riedler at619-276-3476, or email her at bettyriedler@gmail.com.