

# Pomona-Covina Unit News

## April 2026

**La Fetra Games:** Tuesdays and Fridays, 8:45  
**Claremont Bridge Club:** Thursdays 9:30  
**Individual:** May 2, 10:00 a.m., Ontario  
**Unit Pairs Game:** May 16, 11:00 a.m., Ontario  
**Unit Board Meeting:** 10:15 a.m. before the game

In the April Individual, Art Weinstein turned in a 68.2% game to top the field. Steve Andersen took second, Sofi Kasubhai third, and we had a rare three-way tie for the final spot on the honors list: Judy Mogharbel, Kiran Kumar, and Yours Truly.

Two promotions this month. Horng Yee Chou has become a Sectional Master, and Amr Elghamry has reached the exalted heights of Emerald Life Master. Congratulations to both of you.

Thanks again to Patrick Finley, for collating the masterpoint statistics for March.

At La Fetra:

1	12.68	Patrick Finley
2	12.34	Vic Sartor
3	11.06	Caryn Mason
4	9.12	Fredy Minter
5	8.76	Mary Ann Wotring
6	8.54	Lulu Minter
7	6.71	Duane Woodman
7	6.71	Kurt Trieselmann
7	7.09	Peter Kavounas
9	5.71	Steve Mancini
10	4.70	Tom Lill

And at the Claremont Bridge Club:

1	1.18	Patrick Finley
2	1.01	Wendy Wanderman
2	1.01	Barbara McLeod
4	0.93	Patrick Rogers
5	0.72	Gary Atwell
5	0.72	Duane Woodman

At La Fetra, three pairs topped the magic 65% benchmark. Lulu and Fredy Minter had the best game, 76.04%. Caryn Mason – Patrick Finley turned in a 69.31% game, and Vic Sartor – Mary Ann Wotring scored 68.75%. Other game winners were Duane “Woody” Woodman – Kurt Triselmann, and Judy Mogharbel – Yours Truly.

Over in Claremont, only one pair made the honors list: Gary Atwell – Woody Woodman scored 66.67%. The only other winners – remember, there were only three games held in March – were Steve Andersen – Marjorie Preston.

Seven of our Unit members scored nicely at the San Diego Regional. Top honors go to Amr Elghamry, with 11.04 points. He placed 12<sup>th</sup> overall in an Open Pairs game. Next up we find Richard Parker and Peter Kavounas, who managed both a 2<sup>nd</sup> and a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in a bracketed teams, to bring home 8.56 points. Next up were Yours Truly and Judy Mogharbel, both of whom struggled at times, but

managed one 3<sup>rd</sup> place in a bracketed teams, for 7.48 points. (Considering what those cost us they really should be platinum points or maybe even iridium points.) Finally, our rising star Cici Mougharbel placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in a gold rush game, along with a 5<sup>th</sup> in B in another gold rush, to bring home 7.14 points. Not a bad haul, really. That's 50.23 points, mostly gold. (But who's keeping track? Besides us, I mean.)

Save the dates: we are resuming our team games for the summer, this time it will be one session games followed by a BBQ lunch. We'll start at 9:30 instead of 11:00, so that we finish right around ... duh ... lunch time. The dates will be June 13, July 11, and August 22.

For our Hand of the Month, we return to the Laurel and Hardy School of Bridge for a real laugh. This time it is not the deal that is hilarious, it's the auction. It's IMPs, only we are vulnerable.

I'll give you only my hand to start with:

♠ J    ♥ 10    ♦ K Q 10 x x    ♣ A Q J 10 x x

Yes, another of those semi-balanced hands I'm so fond of.

Despite being a 4-loser hand, I decided it was not quite worth a reverse, and opened 1♦. Partner bid 1♥. I rebid 2♣ of course, and partner now called 3♠, showing a good hand and a real spade suit. Oh, boy!. A nice misfit. I rebid 4♣, and partner replied 4NT. Well now! Partner must have a real moose over there. We were playing 1430 so 5♣ showed one key card for clubs. After some thought, partner said 5♦ – apparently looking for the trump Queen. Well, I had it, but 6♦ goes past our presumed trump suit, so 6♣ it is. Partner corrected to 6♦, I passed (having no alternative!), and I saw the following layout:

♠ A K x x  
♥ A x x x  
♦ A x x  
♣ x

♠ J  
♥ 10  
♦ K Q 10 x x  
♣ A Q J 10 x x

Well, I hear you thinking, that auction doesn't seem TOO outlandish. Wait! Here is the full auction, annotated:

Me	Partner
1♦ (1)	1♥
2♣	3♠ (2)
4♣ (3)	4NT (4)
5♣ (5)	5♦ (6)
6♣ (7)	6♦ (8)
pass	

The explanations:

- (1) Not quite good enough to reverse; I might be wrong! Haven't been right yet this tourney.
- (2) Good hand, a real spade suit.
- (3) Bidding my shape, more or less. But partner had a TIA and thought it was Gerber!
- (4) Showing her 3 aces, but interpreted by her hapless partner as Blackwood for clubs!
- (5) One key card for clubs, but interpreted as a King-ask!
- (6) No idea. After the auction closed, partner said she wasn't sure how to show Kings. I replied, "uhhh, I never asked about Kings," whereupon the bidding comedy of errors came to light. Of course, the correct bid to show one King is 5♥.
- (7) Signing off.

(8) Also signing off!

Truly, an auction that the Rueful Rabbit and Timothy the Toucan would be proud of.

6♦ made; the ♣K was offside but everything broke tolerably well. +1370. The other table, on a somewhat more sensible auction, played 3NT, making 4. Bridge: *such* a simple game!

And here is a late-arriving addition to our comedy act. This is one of the most awesome hands I've ever held:

♠ 8 7 6 2 ♥ 8 7 ♦ 8 7 6 ♣ 6 5 4 2

Not only a true Yarborough, but not so much as a nine in sight! If my calculations are correct, the odds of picking up an 8-high hand are roughly 1 in 50,880.

Just for the record, the opponents on this deal were cold for 13 tricks in every denomination except hearts. Alas, played in their 5-0 heart fit, they would only take 10 tricks due to the 6-2 trump split. Poor babies!

Believe it or not: I once held an even worse hand! It was back in my college days, (i.e., more than a few weeks ago), so the exact hand is lost in the mists of time. But I recall that it had ONE eight-spot and NO sevens!

Given that our publishing date is April 15, this seems like an appropriate ...

**Quote for the month:** The best way to teach your children about taxes is to eat 30% of their ice cream." (attributed to Bill Murray)