



Newsletter Volume 10/#6

July 1, 2010

Lee Mequet, Editor

President's Message

Dear Members,

As we come into the summer months, Charity games and points will be drastically reduced. The ACBL is allowing Charity games one week per month. The Board has decided that the week of Judy Elbogen's Swiss event will be designated Charity Week. July also features STAC week. Also in July and August we will be running qualifying for North American Pairs. Please closely check the calendar for all events.

To those travelling to New Orleans for the Nationals, best of luck. I know you will represent DHBC with flying colors.

The Club continues to need volunteers. Simple tasks can be so important. Put the pencils away after play. Place the used boards on the proper table. Clean up at your table. Take your jacket or sweater home with you. Help is always needed in the kitchen. Carol Armstrong would love more volunteers. So just step up and VOLUNTEER.

Special recognition to Ginnie Blitzman for running a most successful double session Swiss Team event in June. Also to the ladies who made the Unit Game so much fun. Watch for more special events on a monthly basis.

Have a wonderful month at DHBC.

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Jim Shapiro

[Margia Dean Alvarez..by Sharon Donoff](#)



DHBC Member Margia Alvarez is better known to her fans as Margia Dean, a stunning, curvaceous, and versatile actress; a true glamour girl of the silver screen.

Margia was born into a family with deep ties to the aristocracy of Greece. Her grandfather was Mayor of Athens and owner of all of the railroads in Greece. Her great-grandfather was the Regent of Greece and ruled until King Otto of Bavaria took the throne. Margia was born in Chicago and grew up in San Francisco. A professional child actress from age seven, at age 15 she won a national Shakespeare contest. Two years later she was crowned *Miss San Francisco*, *Miss California*, and went on to the *Miss America Pageant* where she came in first in the talent section, and runner up to *Miss America*. A top New York theatrical agent approached her to audition for Broadway shows, and she was offered screen tests. Margia claims that her first career blunder was to go home to finish high school and marry her high school sweetheart.

Margia and her first husband had different goals and soon divorced. She decided to pursue her theatrical interests and her husband became an All American basketball star and well-known coach.



It was a struggle to break into Hollywood but at age 22 Margia made her debut in a movie starring Joe E. Brown. She played a Burlesque Queen (with her clothes on). She went on to work at many studios including MGM, 20th Century Fox, Columbia, United Artists, and Paramount. Her first *leading* role was in the film *Shep Comes Home* (1948) co-starring Robert Lowery. Over the years she was in 60 films and in half of these she had feature, star, and/or co-star billing. While stunt people were brought in for some scenes, the actors were often asked to do dangerous things themselves such as galloping horses down steep rocky hills or climbing a wobbly ladder as a high wire artist.

For Margia, these were exciting and glamorous days; chauffeurs, expense accounts and a jet-set social life with escorts that included Prince Aly Khan. She was invited on Onassis' yacht. She knew and worked with many stars including Gary Cooper, John Barrymore, Claudette Colbert, Lucille Ball, Gene Kelly, Alfred Hitchcock, Cesar Romero, Peter Falk, Vincent Price, Richard Chamberlain, Esther Williams, Charlton Heston, Cliff Robertson, Howard Hughes and Clint Eastwood and she knew many of the political/social leaders of the time.

One of her biggest adventures was when Cuban dictator Batista invited her to a New Year's Eve party in Havana. The party was a grand gala with *Who's Who* from around the world. The morning after the party, young bearded soldiers toting machine guns awakened the guests. Castro had taken over. Batista had fled in the middle of the night aboard Dominican Republic dictator Trujillo's yacht along with Porfirio Rubirosa. The help had left, inmates had been freed from the prisons, the airport was closed down, and all were terrified. It was chaos and all the party guests were left to fend for themselves. After several long days Margia and her date escaped with Sargent Shriver (of the Kennedy clan) in his private plane. The soldiers could have shot the plane down but didn't. They were the first to escape and hit the headlines. Other guests from the party were stranded in Cuba for months.

As roles became fewer, Margia became a Real Estate Broker and was eventually Vice President of a major commercial RE firm and developer, providing leases for 24 high rise buildings. She owned a dress shop in Brentwood and a restaurant in Beverly Hills. She also bred and showed afghan hounds. King Farouk of Egypt bought one of her dogs.

Margia's sister, a Silver Life Master, got her interested in duplicate bridge. Since retirement, the game fills a void and keeps her mentally alert. Two of her regular partners are Kit Dailey and Don McRae. She should be a Life Master; she has enough points, but doesn't go to the tournaments to get the red or gold. In only six weeks after her recent hip replacement, she returned to the bridge table – and she's as sharp as ever.

Margia married Felipe Alvarez in 1965. He comes from the Spanish aristocracy; his brother is a Marques. She calls him her *Renaissance Man*. He is an Architect by trade but is also an author (published in four languages), a prize-winning painter and photographer, and a professional singer. He had his own TV show in Brazil, has sung in several movies, and is a classical guitarist. Over the years, they lived in a beautiful hilltop home above the Sunset Strip in Los Angeles. This home was designed for entertaining – a driveway to accommodate 12 cars and sweeping views. It was hard to move from there but they found *The Fountains* in Dana Point and have been happy. They will celebrate their 45th anniversary August 29th.

This article is not long enough to list all (or even most) of Margia's accomplishments – film, theater, and TV actress; entrepreneur and businesswoman; socialite and worldwide traveler. She produced three films when women weren't in the field. In spite of all this Margia will tell you that she did not quite make it big. No doubt many of her fans would disagree. She still gets fan mail and the popularity of some cult classics such as *The Quatermass Xperiment* have contributed to a fan base that spans over more than 50 years and calls upon Margia to speak at and attend events and she guests at Film Festivals even today.



Margia contributed to the mystique and glamour of the Silver Screen and will always be a part of the history of the Golden Age of Hollywood.

You can see a list of her screen credits at IMDB.com under Margia Dean

[Cruising the Sea of Cortez...](#) on a recent Eddie Kantar Bridge Cruise. Left to right are Ginnie Johnson, Loli Henderson, Barbara Schmidt, Eddie Kantar, Fausta Vitali, Ardelle Wolf, Beverly Cochran and Molly Murphy.



[Membership...by Sandy](#)
[Busby](#)

New Members

Nanette Chaplini, Stephen Rhodes and Karen Smith

Birthdays

Bob Albert, Carol Arnold, George Bartunek, Fran Blattner, Lionel Dreeben, Ann Engle, Reggie Feuille, Anne Fettel, Fran Foresta, Bart Friedberg, Dede Gansel, Marne Henstridge, Bernice Lacher, Dot Leach, Julie Lee, Janet Lee-Thorp, Roberta Ludwig, Barbara Martin, Ken McClymonds, Kathie Murtey, Janice Neary, Carol Nerwhouse, Jonae Pereira, Barbara Pierce, Jennifer Porter, Jan Reckinger, Dorothy Redwood, Ron Rudderow, Carolyn Sandore, Gale Senter, Jim Shapiro, Ken Slagle, Diane Velick, Phil White and John Winslow

Milestones

Junior Master (5 Points): Sherrie Johanson, Kurt Stewart

Club Master (20 Points): John Horvath, Harold McBee, Thomas Miller, Berit Neff, Diana Phelps

Sectional Master (100 Points): David Adams, Susan Marclay

Regional Master (200 Points) Michael Campbell, Jeffrey Rocklin

Bronze Life Master (500 Points): Bob Levine

Two Good Games...from Ginny Johnson...both are IMPS

(See Page 10 for commentary)

Here is a good aggressive auction, but an “iffy” slam:

	Q 8 7 x x		Dealer: East
	x x x		Vulnerability: Both
	10 x		Game: 6 NT in East
	J x x		Lead: 9 of Spades
A J 10 x x		K	
K J 8 7 x		A 10 x	
x		A K Q 9 8	
A x		Q 10 9 x	
	9 x		
	Q 9		
	J x x x x		
	K x x x		

There are three finesses in the following game. Which do you take?

	10 x x		Dealer: West
	K x x		Vulnerability: Both
	K J x x		Game: 4 H in East
	X x x		Lead: Jack of Clubs
x x x		K x	
J x x		A Q 9 x x x x	
A Q 10 x		9 x	
A x x		K Q	
	A Q J 9 x		
	Void		
	x x x		
	J 10 9 x x		

July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p style="color: red;">Card Fees: NAP - \$8.00 Stac - \$8.00 Charity - \$8.00</p> <p style="color: red;">Regular Games \$7.00</p>			<p>1 Sign Up for Sue Benon's Two Over One Class 9:30 AM</p> <p>Open & 299'er NAP Qualifier 12:30 PM</p>	<p>2 Open & 99'er 12:30 PM</p>	<p>3 Free Lesson 11:45 AM</p> <p>NAP Qualifier 12:30 PM</p>
<p>4 No Game</p>	<p>5 Open NAP Qualifier 12:30 PM</p> <p>EZ Bridge III+ 7:00 PM</p>	<p>6 Open & 299'er NAP Qualifier 12:30 PM</p> <p>Modern Bridge Lesson & Play 6:30 PM</p>	<p>7 EZ Bridge I 9:30 AM</p> <p>Open & 99'er 12:30 PM</p> <p>Swiss Teams 6:30 PM</p>	<p>8 Open & 299'er NAP Qualifier 12:30 PM</p>	<p>9 Open & 99'er 12:30 PM</p>	<p>10 Free Lesson 11:45 AM</p> <p>NAP Qualifier 12:30 PM</p>
<p>11 No Game</p>	<p>12 Open Charity 12:30 PM</p> <p>EZ Bridge III+ 7:00 PM</p>	<p>13 Open & 299'er Charity 12:30 PM</p> <p>Modern Bridge Lesson & Play 6:30 PM</p>	<p>14 EZ Bridge I 9:30 AM</p> <p>Open & 99'er Charity 12:30 PM</p> <p>Swiss Teams Charity 6:30 PM</p>	<p>15 Open & NLM Swiss Teams Charity 12:30 PM</p>	<p>16 Open & 99'er Charity 12:30 PM</p>	<p>17 No Game</p>
<p>18 No Game No Unit Game</p>	<p>19 Open Stac 12:30 PM</p> <p>EZ Bridge III+ 7:00 PM</p>	<p>20 Open & 299'er Stac 12:30 PM</p> <p>Modern Bridge Lesson & Play 6:30 PM</p>	<p>21 EZ Bridge I 9:30 AM</p> <p>Open & 99'er Stac 12:30 PM</p> <p>Swiss Teams Stac 6:30 PM</p>	<p>22 Open & 299'er Stac 12:30 PM</p>	<p>23 Open & 99'er Stac 12:30 PM</p>	<p>24 Free Lesson 11:45 AM</p> <p>Stac 12:30 PM</p>
<p>25 Swiss Teams Charity 1:00 PM</p>	<p>26 Open NAP Qualifier 12:30 PM</p> <p>EZ Bridge III+ 7:00 PM</p>	<p>27 Open & 299'er NAP Qualifier 12:30 PM</p> <p>Modern Bridge Lesson & Play 6:30 PM</p>	<p>28 EZ Bridge I 9:30 AM</p> <p>Open & 99'er 12:30 PM</p> <p>Swiss Teams 6:30 PM</p>	<p>29 Open & 299'er 12:30 PM</p>	<p>30 Open & 99'er 12:30 PM</p>	<p>31 Free Lesson 11:45 AM</p> <p>Charity 12:30 PM</p>

Regular Daily Schedule

(Please refer to Calendar on Page 5)

Monday	12:30 PM	Open Stratified Games
Monday Evening	7:00 PM	EZ Bridge III+
Tuesday	12:30 PM	Open & 299'er Stratified Games
Tuesday	6:30 PM	Modern Bridge Lesson & Play
Wednesday Morning	9:30 AM	EZ Bridge I
Wednesday	12:30 PM	Open & 99'er Stratified Games
Wednesday Evening	6:30 PM	Swiss Teams Charity Game***
Thursday	9:30 AM	Sue Benon's 2/1 Class (the whole series is required)
Thursday	12:30 PM	Open & 299'er Stratified Games
Thursday*	12:30 PM	Open & NLM Swiss Teams – 3 rd Thursday <i>USUALLY</i>
Friday	12:30 PM	Open & 99'er Stratified Games
Saturday**	12:30PM	Open Stratified Game 3 rd Saturday – Additional NLM Game
Sunday*	1:00 PM	3 rd Sunday <i>USUALLY</i> - Unit Game 5 th Sunday – Special Unit Game 4 th Sunday <i>USUALLY</i> – SWISS Teams Charity Game***

Notes on the Regular Daily Schedule

- * Check the website and calendar for date changes.
- ** These games are sometimes canceled for local tournaments. Check the website.
- ***Swiss Teams are handicapped when applicable.

[Mentor Program...from Ann Cressman](#)

We are heading towards the home stretch for our 2010 Mentor Program. It will conclude the end of July. Please try to plan at least one more date if you have only played a couple of times. However, if you and your Mentor want to play a few extra times that is perfectly all right. Several players have contacted me to extend due to vacations. Our program is very flexible so that everyone has a good experience.

We will have a break in the coming months and then sign ups for the 2111 Mentor Program will start in January. There will be announcements closer to the time.

Enjoy your final play with your mentor and please convey your appreciation for helpful suggestions and patience. Thank you.

Player Education...by Marshall Pearlman

Third in the Series

ALERTS- -THE BASICS



Duplicate bridge has a basic rule about the auction. Partners may not make bids only they understand without alerting the opponents. Calls are assumed to be standard and when they are not, opponents must be warned. The bidder's partner says "ALERT." That's all he can say unless the opponent asks the meaning of the call. If he doesn't ask, no further comment is allowed. The complete story on alerts is long but here are the basic things to know and practice.

- You are responsible for ensuring that your opponents hear the 'ALERT.'
- When asked, the bidder's partner must give an explanation of the agreement including private understandings. Stating the common name of the convention is insufficient.
- The opponents need not ask exactly the "right" question. Any request for information should be answered with all relevant information. It is unsportsmanlike to give cryptic, evasive or misleading answers in the hope that the opponents will err.
- Either opponent, at his turn, may ask questions if he is not clear on some points. Note that a player may ask only when it is his turn to bid.
- The ACBL Convention card that we use at our club has bids in black and red. Those in red must be alerted. Not to do this could risk a director call and score adjustment or penalty.
- There are several alerts which another word is used instead of "ALERT." These are "FORCING" (1NT forcing), "TRANSFER" (transfer to the next highest suit) and "14 TO 17" (1NT opener with a 14-17 point range). Again, say the word and no more unless asked.
- Volunteering unasked information is a common error. When you "ALERT" do not offer any further information. Do not say, for example, "ALERT, HE'S SHOWING MAJORS" or "ALERT, INVERTED MINOR." This gives unauthorized information to your partner who may have meant something else and now knows what you took his bid to mean.

Finally, Bridge is not a game of secret messages, the auction belongs to everyone at the table. Remember that the opponents are entitled to know the agreed meaning of all calls.

Random Quotes...

"If bridge is just a game...then Grand Canyon is just a hole." Unknown

"On Key Card Blackwood...many partnerships are up to six aces, plus several queens of trump...talk about inflation." Edgar Kaplan

"The real test of a bridge player isn't in keeping out of trouble, but in escaping once he's in."
Alfred Sheinwold

Lessons & Classes

New Sue Benon Classes in Two over One

Susan Benon will teach a Thursday morning class beginning July 1st thru August 19 at 9:30 AM. The eight week series will cost \$80.00 and the whole series is required. To sign up, call Susan Benon at 489-2136.

CONTENT OF CLASSES

Introduction to Two Over One
Two Over One Responses and Rebids by Opener
One No Trump Forcing (possibly two weeks)
Fast Arrival and Slow Arrival
Reverse Drury
Jordon
Bergen Raises
Bidding over a Double
Bidding over Interference

These bids are compatible with 2/1 and compliment the system.

Modern Bridge

On-going classes on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 “Covering the Convention Card” with discussions of popular bidding systems. In July the classes consist of Minor Suit openings, Responses and Rebids. We use pre-dealt hands and do analysis. We will review No Trump and Major Suit openings. Lots of lively discussions...a great group of bridge players. Classes include teaching, discussions, play of hand and analysis. Coming soon on Thursday evenings at 6:30...199'er sanctioned games. For further details contact Jane Dober or Lary Globus at Bridgmodern@yahoo.com.

New Hal Binder Class

Hal Binder will start a series of six classes beginning Thursday, September 16th from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. His topics will be various game try systems, Lebensohl and other forms of Lebensohl, slam bidding tools, understanding the differences in strategy in pair games versus team games. His material requires a good understanding of standard bridge and is intermediate level at least. Depending on the makeup of the class he will adjust the difficulty. His email address for questions and information is halbinder@cox.net.

Saturday Morning Mini-Class with Ginnie Blitzman

A mini-lesson is offered most Saturday mornings (check the calendar) with Ginnie Blitzman. The free class explores all aspects of bridge and offers practice hands and situations. The lesson begins at 11:45 AM, prior to the Saturday game.

Easybridge With Sally Pelmear

(for more information on the classes call Sally at 949-855-8953 or email sallypelmear@cox.net)

Easybridge II – Wednesday Mornings 9:30 – 11:45 AM...No Partner Required

- July 7 – Big Time Basics
- July 14 – Is That New Suit Forcing?
- July 21 – Don't Be Pushy... You Haven't Got Game
- July 28 – Weak Hand? ... Dive In With A Cannonball

Easybridge III+ – Monday Evenings 7:00 – 9:30 PM...No Partner Required

- July 5 – Yes Virginia, You Have Choices
- July 12 – Only One Way To Make That Contract...Sorry
- July 19 – Easy Hands To Bid...Tough Hands To Play
- July 26 – Sever Their Communications...So Easy

Club Teachers

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Commentary On Ginny's Hands

The bidding in the first hand:

N	E	S	W
	1D	P	1S
P	2C	P	2H
P	3NT	P	4H
P	5D	P	5NT
P	6NT		

After you see both E/W hands you might prefer being in a game contract rather than slam. After East elected to cue bid 5D in support of hearts there was no turning back. West happily accepted the slam and gave East a choice of 6H or 6NT with his 5NT bid. East properly chose 6 NT and the rest is history---luckily! At another table East passed 4H.

The bidding in the second hand:

N	E	S	W
			P
P	1H	1S	2S
P	4H		

The correct answer is ***none of them!*** There is no point taking the spade finesse (leading up to the king) as you know that won't work. You could take the other two, the diamond finesse and later the heart finesse. East decided to take ***no*** finesses and led the heart ace at trick two and when South showed out, cashed his second club winner in his hand, then led a diamond to the dummy's ace, spurning the finesse, cashed the club ace, discarding a loser and made his contract. At another table declarer cashed a second club, then took the diamond finesse and lost two spades, a diamond and a trump for down one.

Letters To The Editor...this one from Alexis Albers

Lee & Sally

I was wondering if you could help me out with the following.

After bridge on Friday, I noticed how long it took to clean up the 99'ers side of the tables. I stayed & helped the director of the day but was thinking if we get a notice out to the bridge group that if the Scorer/North could just make sure that the pencils are back in the metal box & the boards are on the back table & the garbage is cleaned up **around their table** after the last boards are played then the director could get home sooner.

What do you think & thanks for the help?

Lexie

Ed's Note: Couldn't hurt!

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