

# Pomona-Covina Unit News

## March 2026

**La Fetra Games:** Tuesdays and Fridays, 8:45  
**Claremont Bridge Club:** Thursdays 9:30  
**Individual:** April 4, 10:00 a.m., Ontario  
**Unit Pairs Game:** April 18, 11:00 a.m., Ontario  
**Unit Board Meeting:** 10:15 a.m. before the game  
**UNIT 551 Sectional:** March 20-22 at the Upland Women's Club

In the February Unit Game, the winners once again were Mary Ann Wotring – Vic Sartor, with 58.33%. Second were Caryn Mason – Patrick Finley, followed by Clint Lew – Linda Tessier, then Peter Kavounas – Richard Parker. There was a rare three-way tie for the final spot (no, not last place, the last place paying masterpoints!): Vaughan Inman – Maria Marvosh, Stephen Andersen – Kitty Moon, and Tim and Eileen Finlay.

Due to the vagaries of the calendar, we are able to report the results of the March unit game, also. Fredy and Lulu Minter. Mary Ann Wotring – Vic Sartor dropped to second this month, followed by Steve Mancini – Patrick Finley, Ramona Hernandez – Nona Stokes, Karen Olin – Karen McCarthy, Margie Hall – Linda Ananea, and Richard Parker – Peter Kavounas.

In the March Individual, top honors went to ahem – Yours Truly, who sneaked home with a 72.92% game. I must admit, my birthday came way early this year or something, because I got a lot of gifts during the game! I cannot claim skill for that result. In second was Ramona Hernandez, then Daniel Robinson, Eileen Finlay, and Art Weinstein.

We had one promotion last month. Wendy Wanderman is now a Regional Master. Congratulations, Wendy!

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

### At La Fetra:

1	13.55	Caryn Mason
2	11.99	Lulu Minter
3	11.90	Patrick Finley
4	11.42	Vic Sartor
5	8.89	Mary Ann Wotring
6	7.28	Fredy Minter
7	7.09	Peter Kavounas
8	6.55	Richard Parker
9	4.65	David Raymond
10	4.35	Clint Lew

### And at the Claremont Bridge Club:

1	1.86	Patrick Finley
2	1.27	David Ochroch
3	1.16	Dan Robinson
3	1.16	Carl Silsbee
5	1.14	Kitty Moon
5	1.14	Patrick Rogers

At La Fetra, no fewer than five pairs topped the magic 65% benchmark: Caryn Mason – Patrick Finley led all the rest with a whopping 73.63% game. Fredy and Lulu Minter posted 69.63, Gary Atwell – Lulu Minter chimed in with 66.67%, Caryn Mason – Vic Sartor scored 66.15%, and Duane “Woody” Woodman – Kurt Triselmann had a 65.28%-er. The only other winner was Amr Elghamry.

Over in Claremont, only one pair made the honors list: Caryn Mason – Patrick Finley scored 69.79%. Other winners were Patrick Rogers, David Ochroch, Joan Ochroch, Carl Silsbee, and Dan Robinson.

For our Hand of the Month, we return to the Laurel and Hardy School of Bridge. It’s IMPs, only the opponents are vulnerable. My partner dealt and opened 2♥, weak, and next hand doubled. My hand:

♠ A ♥ 5 ♦ A K 10 7 6 3 ♣ Q J 7 5 4.

Hmmm. Seems like my LHO may have a real heart stack, so I’ll try 3♦. Pass, pass, pass, and here is the whole deal:

North (me)	
♠ A	
♥ 5	
♦ A K 10 7 6 3	
♣ Q J 7 5 4	
West	East
♠ Q 10 9 7	♠ J 6 5 4
♥ 9 7 6 3	♥ Q J 2
♦ Q 2	♦ 9 5
♣ A K J	♣ 9 8 6 3
South (partner)	
♠ K 8 3 2	
♥ A K 10 8 4	
♦ J 8 4	
♣ 2	

The opening lead was the ♣A; making six. WAIT, I hear you cry: South does *not* have a weak 2♥ hand! Ah, but I didn’t give you *all* the data! Heh-heh-heh. Important fact #1: this was played on BBO, where of course we self-Alert. Important fact #2: partner likes to play both Flannery (2♥) and mini-Roman (2♦) openings. While I dislike Flannery (“Flannery will get you nowhere”), I *will* play it. But I hate, loathe, despise, abhor, and Just Plain Do Not Like the mini-Roman. Partner forgot! While the opponents knew partner had this type of hand, I of course was out at sea, lost in the fog.

So here’s the Big Question: if you know partner’s 2♥ is Flannery ... what on Earth do you bid with that North hand?? Here are the choices I see:

- 3♦; at least this shows where you live. Is it forcing? Beats me since most forcing auctions involving Flannery start with 2NT from responder.
- 3NT; oh, yeah, being 1-1 in partner’s suits you will have a jolly time with *that*.

- XX. If you have any agreement with your partners as to what this can mean in this auction, my hat is off to you! Seems like pouring gasoline on a roaring fire.
- 2NT, which asks partner for his exact shape and strength. And *then* what do you do, Buckwheat?
- Pass. East will no doubt try 3♣ and will not be a happy camper. This might be your best bet!

Maybe the biggest laugh comes from the final result of the deal. NO SWING! Yes, It was one of those rare hands that no one else played. (It was a friendly match.) So we'll never know what the other inhabitants of BBO would have done!

**Quote for the month:** People will accept your ideas much more readily if you tell them Benjamin Franklin said it first." (David H. Comins)