

Chilly Doublette

A large field of strong players and serious competition marked the beginning of the 2007 season for the LAPC with the doublette panache held against the backdrop of a typical California winter day—almost too cold to hold the balls. The ranking for trophies by games won and total point spreads was:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Ly Nguyen (5/36) | 6. Rudy Vallee (3/19) |
| 2. Violeta Hug (4/27) | 7. Max Legrand (3/16) |
| 3. Tan Nguyen (4/24) | 8. Carol Marcus (3/15) |
| 4. Gary (4/14) | 9. Felix Legrand (3/14) |
| 5. Robert Pierre (4/18) | 10. Serge Lefranc (3/10) |



Club Members Commemorate San Pedro Tournament

By Steve Bush

Diana Jacobs, to commemorate the 2006 San Pedro Pétanque Tournament, thought it would be appropriate to show our appreciation to the Port of Los Angeles for their cooperation and support in allowing us to hold the tournament on their brand-new promenade, which they call Bridge to the Breakwater, by painting a version of what you find while walking on the promenade. She not only painted the view but adorned the image with symbolisms and encased it under glass in a handsome frame to boot!

The person responsible for generating the Harbor Department excitement for holding the tournament at the promenade was our own club member, Phylis Weatherspoon, who holds a senior real estate position with the Harbor Department.

Everyone had agreed to present Diana's masterpiece to the entire Harbor Department Council, but a last-minute conflict shifted the plan to a smaller event, with Phylis's boss accepting the gift and hanging it where all can see and appreciate it.

Thank you, Diana, for your terrific gift.



It Does Rain In Southern California: February Tourney Washed Out, But Rescheduled

As much as everyone hoped, chanted, and did whatever we do, to help chide things in life to go our way, Nature prevailed as all but two of the LAPC courts were flooded on the day of the February tournament. The style of competition would have brought a wide array of terrific players to the event but, alas, disappointment ensued, even as the sun appeared midday. In hopes of carrying forward what this event might have been, **the March 18 competition has been changed to both a panache doublette and a select doublette.** Bring your lunch and good spirit; rain is not expected.

NEW RULES

The *Fédération Internationale de Pétanque et Jeu Provençal* (FIPJP) has made some small changes to the international rules of Pétanque that, according to Federation of Pétanque USA Secretary, Frank Pipal, will not affect the typical gameas they “are concerned more with tournament play.” The changes, which affect ten of the Articles of Play, will be published and available soon from the FPUSA. In the meantime, take a look at the FPUSA web site: www.usapetanque.org.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

FOLLOWING THE POLICY ESTABLISHED LAST YEAR, **IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR LAPC DUES BY THE LAST DAY OF FEBRUARY, YOU WILL OWE AN ADDITIONAL \$10.** MANY THANKS TO THOSE OF YOU WHO PAID ON TIME.

COMMITTEE NOTES...

The LAPC committee keeps the business side of the club functioning appropriately and efficiently to ensure we continue to grow, prosper, and most of all, have fun. Recent discussions and actions include:

- Tournaments this year will again cost \$8/person when lunch is not provided and \$10/person when lunch is provided.
- Max suggested plaques to thank Elisabeth, Brian, Serge, and Sylvie for their service to the Club. The EC unanimously agreed.
- The January tournament attracted 36 players, ran five games, and was finished by about 3:00 p.m. It was a success, with a generous dessert bar.
- Bruce and Carol purchased a new refrigerator for the clubhouse during a sale at Costco.
- The date for our San Pedro tournament was changed from April 15th to April 22nd in order to avoid overlap with the Long Beach Grand Prix.

BY STEVE BUSH
LES BON MOTS

I'm the Okaro, and I have the point!



WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIERS

Two FPUSA events to bring the very best we can muster to the international *piste* will be held very soon. Now is the time to perfect your game and find compatible teammates that will help you qualify for the next world championship competition. Contact Max Legrand for more information.

WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFICATION TOURNAMENT

LOS ANGELES PÉTANQUE CLUB
LOS ANGELES, CA
MAY 27, 2007

SENIOR'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFICATION TOURNAMENT

PORTLAND PÉTANQUE CLUB
PORTLAND, OR
JULY 21–22, 2007

The usual array of national and regional competitions are scheduled throughout the year, and throughout the country. For more information, visit the FPUSA web site.

ARE YOU NOT GETTING E-MAIL NOTICES FROM THE CLUB SECRETARY? SEND YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO CAROL MARCUS AT: csmarcus@ucla.edu



The folks at FPUSA have added a new dimension to their web site—a BLOG—which is a great place to see results of competitions and peek at what other clubs are doing. Check it out at: <http://www.fpusa.blogspot.com/>



If you find yourself in Paris this spring, make a trek to the *Centre Pompidou* and check out the exhibit honoring the unusual work of great novelist and playwright, Samuel Beckett. The show and catalog include photos by our own I.C. “Chuck” Rapoport. The show runs from March 14 to June 25... still waiting for Godot.

NEW MATCH IN MAY

An additional chance for folks to hone their skill before the May National and World Qualifier tournaments has been put on the LAPC schedule. A select doublette competition will be held in Rancho Park on Sunday, May 20. Details will follow by email, and will be posted on the LAPC web site.

LAPC COMMITTEE

President	Max Legrand
Vice President	Bruce Marcus
Treasurer	Diana Jacobs
Secretary	Carol Marcus
	Violeta Hug
Tournaments	Emil Hug
	Scott Hirotsu
	Sandra Bonneville
Publications	Ben Bull
	Karen Michele Yates
New Members	Dolores Bush
	Steve Bush
Sponsorships	Chuck Rapoport
Gastronomy	Pending
President Emeritus	Robert Breidenstein

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A member club of
 Fédération de Pétanque USA and
 Fédération Internationale de Pétanque
 et Jeu Provençal

Player Spotlight

By Barbara Tawil and Rachel Tarses

Her name is Tania Cullen, she is 30 years old, telecommutes to Maryland from her home office for a Swedish software company, and lives in Santa Monica with her boyfriend, a photographer. They moved from the East Coast in November of 2005 and she is really happy to have found such a great French community in this area of the US since she is from the French part of Switzerland. She grew up and lived about 20 minutes from Geneva until she moved to the US to go to a university in Virginia. She finds that Los Angeles is a great area for French speakers to stay connected to their roots and their language. Isabelle Bell, the organizer of the *Los Angeles French Quarter* (www.french.meetup.com/63), introduced her to the pétanque courts. This is where she was able to play pétanque for the second time in her life and thought it was great! She had played once in Aix-en-Provence in 1993...she barely remembers it but does recall that she liked the game and wasn't too bad at it. After she played a second and third time she participated in the August 2006 LAPC tournament and got 6th place with the brand-new balls she bought from Max that very same day; how cool! The tournament was a lot of fun, and she even met some members that are Swiss as well. She has only played pétanque a couple of times more recently because she was quite involved in triathlons in the region. She is a member of the LA Triathlon Club and raced (in the amateur category) in about 4 Triathlons last summer and a bunch of running races until she reached her goal of finishing her very first Olympic Distance Triathlon in September 2006, the LA Triathlon. She's hiked in the Alps, continues to tutor children and adults in French, loves the theater, took CPR in case she has to save a life, and has plants and flowers all over her apartment. She now has two sets of pétanque boules, four cochonnets, and is ready to learn more about pétanque and get lots of practice. She hopes to see you all out there on the piste!



National Doublettes 2007

By Robert Pierre

(Boca Raton, Florida, February 18) Either the weather down there is highly overrated or Michel Cardon and I haven't been lucky...Low fifty's, even high forty's, high winds on Sunday which made it compulsory to mark the cochonnet all the time, and even a big storm in the morning which made us fear we wouldn't be able to play! Saturday was dedicated to a social doublettes “à la mélé.” Out of 17 doublettes, Michel teamed up with Alain Tapiero, a “local,” and finished in the third place. I was lucky enough to team-up with Hery Rakotoarivony from New York, and we won quite easily including a 13/0 in the semi-final, and a 15/0 in the final! I wish we had played that well at the National on Sunday...10 teams only showed up, one from New York, one from Sarasota, 7 locals and one from LAPC. Unfortunately, we couldn't repeat our good play of Saturday and were eliminated in quarterfinal by Gilles and Freddy Canesse by 4/13, the very same team we had pulverized in the morning 13/1. Gold went to John Rolland and Roger Arpaia, Silver to the Canesse brothers, and bronze to Yannis Devert and Marc Vedrine.

DETAILS WILL BE MAILED AND
AVAILABLE ON THE LAPC WEB SITE:
www.losangelespetanque.com

APRIL 22, 2007
SAN PEDRO

PETANQUE TOURNAMENT

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE
"BRIDGE TO BREAKWATER"
PROMENADE

WITH THE

Vincent Thomas Bridge	Above
Catalina Terminal	Alongside
Lane victory (museum)	Dockside
Catalina Heliport	Adjacent
Cruise Ships	In Full View

THE GAME

PETANQUE SELECT TRIPLETTE

Entry Fee \$30 per team
9:00am CHECK-IN
9:30am GAME STARTS

Trophies For — 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 1st Consolant

Come and Celebrate
the
ANNUAL

SAN PEDRO PETANQUE PROMENADE

LOS ANGELES PÉTANQUE CLUB UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

MARCH 18 (SUN)

Panache Doublette
and Select Doublette

APRIL 22 (SUN)

San Pedro Select Triplette

NEW ADDITION – MAY 20 (SUN)

Select Doublette

MAY 26 (SAT)

Women's National Doublette
The men will cook!

MAY 27 (SUN)

Women's World Qualification
Select Triplette

JUNE 17 (SUN)

Panache Triplette with Oakhurst
Potluck

JULY 8 (SUN)

Select Doublette+1 Mélé

AUGUST 12 (SUN)

Tête à Tête
(separate male and female)

SEPTEMBER 15 (SAT)

Belgian Club Triplette Panache

OCTOBER 6 & 7 (SAT & SUN)

Los Angeles Open Select Triplette

NOVEMBER 11 (SUN)

Mixed Triplette Mélé

DECEMBER 8 (SAT)

Triplette Panache

DECEMBER 9 (SUN)

Holiday Banquet

Registration is typically 8:30-9:00 a.m.
with play beginning at 9:30 a.m. Entry
fees and prizes vary by type of event.
Casual games all day on
non-tournament Saturdays and
Monday and Thursday evenings on the
lighted courts.

Bring a friend!



LAPC Vice President, Bruce Marcus, presents outgoing Committee member, Sylvie Rothenberg with a plaque recognizing her years of service. Behind the pair is the beautiful heater donated to the club by Vance Gerdau in memory of Marcel Metzoiian.

PLAN NOW FOR OAKHURST

Steve Bush will again preside at the annual **King of the Mountains Tournament** at the Two Rivers Pétanque Stadium in Oakhurst, California, on May 19. This event is a really fun competition where the King introduces challenges to games and keeps the players on their guard. Plan now to attend this lively adventure of frivolity and food.

The Oakhurst club will host the **FPUSA Southwest Regional Championship** with a triplette on Saturday, June 2 and a doublette on Sunday, June 3. These events are challenging and a pleasure to play in the bucolic Sierra foothills.

For more information, visit the club web site: www.oakhurstpetanque.com.

STRUT YOUR STUFF

When you get a call or e-mail from Rachel Tarses or Barbara Tawil, please share your thoughts and experiences with them. The intrepid reporters are the jovial force behind the Player Spotlight column and hope to build a collection of lighthearted tidbits on LAPC members. Do you know someone who is too shy to toot their own horn? Send us the scoop and help us get to know what a terrific group of folks we are!

A NEW ARRIVAL!

Rudy and Monique Vallee are proud grandparents of Juliette, born to their daughter, Karen, Saturday, March 3, 2007. Congratulations!