

August Tourney Triggers Change

The August 10th *select doublette + 1 méléé* was well attended. There is still some confusion about the words “select,” “panache,” “méléé,” etc. in the minds of some players, so the description will be published elsewhere in this newsletter. Due to the fact that some players came to play at the last minute and expected to be included in the tournament, thereby requiring that the whole game plan be redone, the Committee decided to set a time limit for registration in future tournaments. Registration will now begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 9:00 a.m. Play will begin at 9:30 a.m. Players who get caught in traffic

and are afraid that they will miss the 9:00 a.m. deadline should call a Committee member on their cell phone and tell us they are on their way.

SELECT DOUBLETTE PLUS ONE MÉLÉE

FIRST PLACE

Vance Gerdaud, Rudi Vallee, Marie-Thérèse LeFranc

SECOND PLACE

Thuan Nguyen, Tom from Palm Desert, George Kulkin

THIRD PLACE

Georges Rouveyrol, Gerard Cohen, Hoa Nguyen



By Diana Jacobs

The excitement is building as the National Women's Pétanque team warms up for a weekend in Samsun, Turkey. Sandra Bonneville (LAPC), Antonia Chavez (VOMPC), Diana Jacobs (LAPC) and Erin McTaggart (VOMPC) will be representing the United States in the World Championship. Our own Sandra will be competing in the shooting competition as well. Mary Albright is the Chief of the Delegation. There will be streaming video and updates on the event web site (<http://www.wwpc2008samsun.com/tr/>). We hope to get a glimpse of our ladies doing their all out best in the beautiful port city of Samsun on the Black Sea.

The Men's National Pétanque team; Christian Triay (LAPC), Thuan Nguyen (LAPC), Pascal Corchia (LBDD) and Mai Nguyen will be representing the United States in Dakar, Senegal in November. Robert Pierre (LAPC) is the Chief of the Delegation accompanying them to the World Championship (http://www.fipjp.com/~senegal/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1). Look for more information and photos in the next *L.A. Pétanque Reporter*.



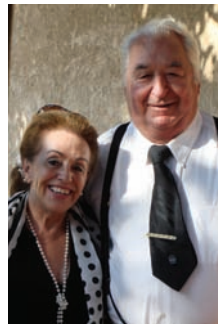
Small But Sweet

The September 14 *Panache Doublette* was a successful and enjoyable tournament with a small turnout (20 people) due partly to Victor's funeral that day. Some members called Carol in the morning to say they would be slightly late but would be there in time for the tournament. This action showed that our new call-in system for those running late could work.

A barbecue lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, and soft drinks, along with potluck desserts made for some sluggish afternoon play. Emil made sure there was gas for the hamburger and hot dog barbecue. Max provided hamburgers, hot dogs, and buns. Carol contributed sliced tomatoes, lettuce, red onions, pickles, and sliced cheese, and filled in what is missing at the clubhouse. Diana and David brought delicious cole slaw and baked beans. A yummy potato salad came from Sandra. Max was not at the tournament, so Emil and Sandra handled all the competition details.

Besides one set of Ricard boules, Diana bought prizes for the ten winners. The day began with a tribute to Dolores and remembrance of her and Victor. A relaxed but challenging competition resulted in this ranking of prize winners:

- 1st – Ly Nguyen
- 2nd – Sandra Bonneville
- 3rd – Lucy Nguyen
- 4th – Scott Hirotsu
- 5th – John Tschirky
- 6th – Karen Michele Yates
- 7th – Carol Marcus
- 8th – Gerard Cohen
- 9th – Vance Gerdau
- 10th – Diana Jacobs



TRANSITIONS



L.C. Rapoport

Condolences and best wishes go to the families of **Dolores Bush** and **Victor Clafin**. Dolores, a member of the Committee, teacher of many LAPC members, and general bright spirit, passed away on September 8. A longtime club member, Victor passed away on September 10, after a long battle with illness.

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	Steve Bush
Sponsorships	Chuck Rapoport
President Emeritus	Robert Breidenstein

www.losangelespetanque.com
news@losangelespetanque.com

The *L.A. Pétanque Reporter* is published irregularly by the Los Angeles Pétanque Club. Contents and opinions are those of each article author. We regret but will not be held liable for omissions or errors contained within this publication. Please submit comments, photos, and articles to the editor at news@losangelespetanque.com or in person at the Rancho Park pétanque courts.

Editor: Ben Bull
 Photojournalist: Karen Michele Yates
 Contributing Editor: Chuck Rapoport
 Sage Advice: Steve Bush



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

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

Bruce David Marcus – In His Own Words

I was eight years old when WWII ended. That was old enough to be aware of the war – but not old enough to really understand it. What I did understand was that many items, such as gasoline, coffee and, most importantly – bubble gum – were rationed or unavailable until after it ended. Born in New York City, I grew up with my Mom, Dad and older sister Celeste in a Bronx tenement. Early schooling was benign in New York's public school system and, although more interested in playing ball with my friends than my studies, I managed to graduate Christopher Columbus High School and enter the City College of New York (CCNY) as a mechanical engineering student at age 16½.

CCNY presented a more serious challenge and I found that I really liked engineering (I had chosen this field primarily because it did not require studying a foreign language). Early success at CCNY, pressure from rising gang activity in the Bronx, and the pull of the Ivy League motivated me to transfer to Cornell University where I completed my Bachelor (1958), Master (1959) and Ph.D. (1963) degrees.

It was during my senior year that I tagged along with my roommate Harry to meet his cousin Carol Silber as she arrived at the Ithaca train station as a new freshman. The chemistry was right and I became Carol's first date at Cornell. We were married in December 1958 and will soon celebrate our 50th anniversary.

Carol and I took a break from our studies and drove across the country in 1961 for summer jobs with the Northrop Corporation. We loved Southern California and decided to make it our home some day. However, that day was still a few years away because, after completing our work at Cornell, we decided to broaden our horizons a bit before settling down. We arranged post-doctoral fellowships at two institutions near Delft, The Netherlands. It was a marvelous year (9/63 – 11/64). We immersed ourselves in Dutch society and made many friends. We traveled widely and often, and in the last few months toured with our VW bug all over Western Europe.

We got back to the U.S. in November, settling in West Los Angeles in time for me to start work at TRW Space Technology Laboratories in January 1965. Carol soon found a job at UCLA in radiation biology and we were now rooted. Our children, Craig and Romy soon followed. Both are grown, married and have families of their own, for a total of six grandchildren – all in L.A.

At TRW, I initially worked as a research scientist. After a few years one of my research projects evolved into an engineering effort to develop “heat pipe” technology for application to spacecraft thermal control. Success in this endeavor led to a world class heat pipe development team. This is when I first met and befriended our fellow petanquer Moe Tawil, who was my opposite number at Grumman Corp, a very worthy competitor.

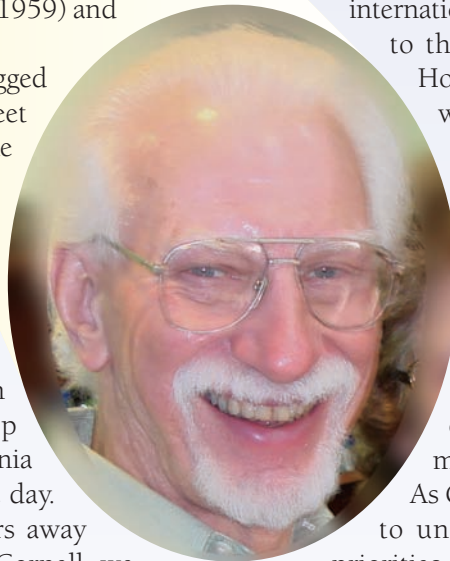
In the mid-seventies, in search of new challenges, I decided to parley my experience managing heat pipe projects into a career as a “large project” manager. Over the next twenty years I had the fun and grief of managing projects involving solar electric propulsion, air pollution measurements, high energy lasers, large optical telescopes, etc.

The 90s brought about more career evolution and I moved from project management to new business development. Of particular interest, because of the international travel involved, were sales of satellites to the Republic of China and South Korea.

However, the biggest and most important wins were the Earth Observing System, the James Webb Space Telescope and the National Polar Orbiting Environmental Observation Satellites, multi-billion dollar programs that continue to this day.

New business development in observing systems brought me into frequent contact with the science community, and this led into the final and most delicious phase of my career at TRW. As Chief Scientist of my division, my job was to understand, support, and influence the priorities of the science communities relevant to TRW. Through these efforts I gained membership on numerous committees, workshops, boards and study groups of the National Research Council under the National Academy of Sciences. I have continued in this national policy advisory role through my retirement from TRW in 1999 to the present.

I have turned the page. Aside from my advisory work with the government I now play all the time. In addition to petanque I love skiing (alpine and cross-country), tennis and hiking (proudest accomplishments were summiting Mt. Whitney and Mt. Fuji). Museums, lectures, theatre, film, reading, world-wide travel and time with friends and family fill in the rest of what is a very satisfying retirement.



Tournament Types Explained

By Bruce Marcus

The LAPC sponsors monthly tournaments for the enjoyment of its members and guests. While planning the tournament schedule, the Committee specifies the tournament types, in an effort to satisfy the wishes of its members as ascertained in periodic surveys. The types of tournaments considered are as follows.

Tête-à-tête: One against one. Usually, separate competitions for men and women held simultaneously.

Select Doublette: Two person teams. Players generally enter as a prearranged team. Individuals wishing to participate can be paired up at the time of play by the tournament organizers. Teams can be two men, two women, or mixed. Teams stay together for the entire tournament.

Mélée Doublette: Two person teams. Teams are formed at the start of the tournament by lottery, drawing a player from the list of “pointers” to match with a player from a list of “shooters.” In a “mixed” doublet *mélée*, teams consist of one man and one woman. If not specified, teams can be two men, two women, or mixed. Teams stay together for the entire tournament.

Panache Doublette: Two person teams. Individuals are placed in groups of pointers and shooters and assigned numbers by lottery. Teams are formed at the start of each game according to an officially sanctioned number sequence, pairing a shooter with a pointer.” In a “mixed” panache doublette, teams consist of one man and one woman. If not specified, teams can be two men, two women, or mixed. Each player plays with a different partner for each game. Individual scores are maintained to establish tournament winners.

Doublette Select + One Mélée Triplette: Three person teams. Two players enter as a prearranged team, and a third player is added at the start of the tournament by lottery. Teams stay together for the entire tournament.

Select Doublette + One Panache Triplette: Three person teams. Two players enter as a prearranged doublette team, and a different third player is added at the start of each game by lottery from a group of panache players according to an officially sanctioned number sequence. Panache and select winners are determined independently. Individual score cards are maintained for the group of panache players whereas the doublette select players are scored as a team. First, second, and third place winners are determined for both the individual panache players and the doublette select teams.

Select Triplette: Three person teams. Players generally enter as a prearranged team. Individuals wishing to participate can be teamed up at the time of play by the tournament organizers. Teams can be any combination of men and women. Teams stay together for the entire tournament.

Mélée Triplette: Three person teams. Teams are formed at the start of the tournament by lottery, drawing players from lists of “pointers,” “shooters” and “intermediates.” Teams can be any combination of men and women. Teams stay together for the entire tournament.

Panache Triplette: Three person teams. Individuals are placed in groups of “pointers,” “shooters,” and “intermediates,” and are assigned numbers by lottery. Teams are formed at the start of each game according to an officially sanctioned number sequence, each containing a shooter, pointer and intermediate. Each player plays with different partners for each game. Individual scores are maintained to establish tournament winners.

LOS ANGELES DÉTANQUE CLUB
UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 12 (SUN)
L.A. Open Select Triplette

NOVEMBER 9 (SUN)
Mixed Triplette *Mélée*

DECEMBER 6 (SAT)
Triplette Panache

DECEMBER 7 (SUN)
Holiday Dinner

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!



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:

- **Teaching:** With the sad passing of Dolores Bush, we no longer have a member of the Executive Committee who is responsible for teaching newcomers. Chuck and Violeta volunteered to help. Additional folks will be recruited.
- **Schedule for 2009:** Max asked the Executive Committee members to draft ideas for next year's program, including the possibility of hosting regional and/or national tournaments. We will finalize a plan at our next meeting, on November 1.
- **Newsletter:** Ben and Karen are seeking help in generating content for the newsletter. Chuck has offered to assist. Additional LAPC members are encouraged to contribute their stories and photos.