

# DIAMOND

# IN THE RUFF

ACBL District 21 Newsletter

Vol 1, Number 4 August 2018

## District 21 Regionals

*By Pam Hughes, District 21 Tournament Manager*

If you're still interested in attending the All Western Championships in Santa Clara, Aug. 28-Sep. 3, it's not too late to make your arrangements! Some room nights are still available at the Hyatt, and lots of rooms at the Biltmore. Booking info is available at the D21 website. If you need to cancel your room at the Hyatt, please check with me first in case I need it for another bridge player. Likewise, if you need a room, I may have one for you!



Just a reminder that Levi Stadium is offering us reduced rate tickets (\$20) to the pre-season game on Thu. 8/30. Consider playing the Daylight Pairs and heading over for the game and some of the best stadium food in the country! Tickets are available via the link on our website.

Plan ahead! The Reno/Sparks Regional at the Nugget! The price is right with inexpensive rooms. The Resort Tower and our playing space are newly renovated and virtually smoke free. Valet parking is free, and so is the airport shuttle. All the info you need is on our flyer, which you can view at our website.

Lastly, it's time to make your plans and reservations for Monterey. We start on New Year's Eve this year, and we're kicking the tournament off with a party. See the New Year in with your bridge friends, and planting play in the Zip KO Teams with complimentary champagne and cake (following the evening session). Full tournament schedule is on the website.

ALERT! Our new Hospitality team has only one member! Like bridge, it's a partnership effort, and Sharon desperately needs you, or someone you may know. Doesn't need to be a bridge player. Please search for someone you may know that would like the job, and email me.

## District 21 Update

*by Ray Yuenger, District 21 Vice President*

In an April column I introduced myself as the newly elected Vice-President of District 21 ("D21"). That column turned out to be part of the final edition of the Contract Bridge Forum as a joint publication of Districts 21, 22, and 17. In May, D21 pioneered its own monthly newsletter, this one, the Diamond in the Ruff. I like to refer to it as "DIR" instead of "DITR" because it reminds of "director." Coincidentally, my Unit's 507 monthly newsletter is called the DiRekTor (a name chosen before my involvement). I'm writing this column to update you on the progress of the D21 board, at least the efforts I'm involved in. I'll discuss this newsletter, the Youth Bridge Grant Program, and other topics.



**The Newsletter:** When other districts questioned the cost of continuing to publish and mail a print newsletter, a group decision was made to move to an electronic newsletter. A later decision was made by the D21 Board to create its own newsletter. The preexisting arrangement of having a columnist for each of D21's 22 units remained in place, and D21's editor, Rich Luttrell, agreed to keep performing his duties. A new publisher was located, one with a lot of experience in publishing both electronic and print newsletters for bridge groups.

At a D21 Board meeting in June, I volunteered to serve on a committee to assist with the composition and distribution of the DIR. So far I'm the only member of the committee. If you'd like to help out on this committee, please let me know. What needs to be done to get the newsletter distributed on time,

*Continued on Page 3*

# Upcoming Tournaments

## Sectionals

**Aug 11-12, 2018**

### **Fresno Non Life Master Sectional**

Fresno Bridge Center, Fresno CA

**Aug 15-18, 2018**

### **Sid & Lillian Davidson Memorial Sectional**

Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks NV

**Aug 18-19, 2018**

### **San Mateo County Summer Sectional**

Cañada College Cafeteria, Redwood City CA

**August 20-26, 2018**

### **Western Conference Summer Fun STaC XI**

Local Clubs

**Sep 7-9, 2018**

### **Sacramento Fall Sectional**

Orangevale Community Center, Orangevale CA

**Sep 15-16, 2018**

### **Earthquake Sectional**

Gilroy Senior Center, Gilroy CA

**Sep 15-16, 2018**

### **Stockton Sectional**

Ben Holt Middle School, Stockton CA

**Sep 29-30, 2018**

### **Santa Rosa Fall Sectional**

Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa CA

**Oct 4-7, 2018**

### **Carson-Tahoe Fall Sectional**

Plaza Conference Center, Carson City NV

**Oct 6-7, 2018**

### **Almond Valley Sectional**

Homewood Village Clubhouse, Modesto CA

**Oct 12-14, 2018**

### **Gold Country Sectional**

St Canice Center, Nevada City CA

**Oct 13-14, 2018**

### **SM Intermediate/Newcomer Fall Sectional**

Bayshore Bridge Center, Burlingame CA

**Oct 13-14, 2018**

### **Santa Cruz Surf's Up Sectional**

Mid-County Senior Center, Capitola CA

**Oct 26-28, 2018**

### **Unit 507 Fall Sectional**

West Valley College, Saratoga CA

**Nov 10-11, 2018**

### **Diablo Valley Fall Sectional**

San Ramon Valley High School, Danville CA

**Nov 17-18, 2018**

### **East Bay 2-Day Fall Sectional**

Oakland Masonic Center, Oakland CA

**Nov 30-Dec 2, 2018**

### **Sacramento Winter Sectional**

Orangevale Community Center, Orangevale CA

**Dec 3-9, 2018**

### **Western Conference Holiday STaC**

Local clubs

**Dec 8-9, 2018**

### **North American Pairs Flight A District Finals**

Palo Alto Bridge Center, Mountain View CA

**Dec 9, 2018**

### **North American Pairs Flight C District Finals**

Palo Alto Bridge Center, Mountain View CA

**Dec 15, 2018**

### **North American Pairs Flight B District Finals**

San Jose Bridge Center, San Jose CA

**Jan 12-13, 2019**

### **San Francisco Sectional**

Pomeroy Center, San Francisco CA

**Jan 26-27, 2019**

### **Livermore Valley Sectional**

Christensen Middle School, Livermore CA

## Regionals

**Aug 28-Sep 3, 2018**

### **All Western Regional**

Hyatt Regency

Santa Clara CA

**Oct 15-21, 2018**

### **Reno/Sparks Regional**

The Nugget

Sparks NV

**Dec 31, 2018-Jan 6, 2019**

### **Monterey Clambake Regional**

Hyatt Regency, Monterey CA

ideally on the 1st of every month, is something I'm still figuring out. For example, only after I saw the first draft of last month's newsletter did I realize that no one was responsible for listing the winners of the Sacramento Regional, so I compiled a list and the publisher added the hometowns. There may be similar discoveries in upcoming months.

Some readers have asked what happened to the Master Solvers Panel column. To my knowledge, this column is not free and the D21 Board has to decide whether the cost is worthwhile. Meanwhile, you can read it online at [D22forum.com](http://D22forum.com).

There have been some changes. D21 is making available three versions of the DIR on our website at <http://d21acbl.com/programs/newsletter>. Two are for downloading and printing, a high resolution color version and a black-and-white version. A third color version is designed for reading on a screen like a smartphone, tablet, or computer monitor. This version includes hyperlinks, allowing you to click on a link like the name of a sectional and land on a flyer for the sectional, or click on a link to a unit column and land on that column. At the suggestion of a reader, we changed the format from three columns to two, so let me know if you have other suggestions. We've also increased the size of sectional ads from a quarter-page to a full-page at no extra cost to the units.

How would you distribute a newsletter to over 5,000 email addresses? In addition to posting it on the D21 website, we use an e-mail service designed by Pianola and made available at no cost by the ACBL's Marketing Department. Authorized D21 officers can address e-mails to all active members of each of the units in D21.

What has been puzzling is that after using this e-mail service, I've been hearing from a number of D21 members that they received no notice of the newsletter. We've taken up the issue with the Marketing Department and have been assured that the Pianola database for D21 has the most current e-mail addresses that members have provided to the ACBL. In such cases, the lack of notice may be attributable to these members having intentionally or unintentionally opted out of receiving e-mails from the Marketing Department, which are often used to publicize local sectionals or regionals. Or some members may have spam blockers that block

the mass notifications of newsletter availability. If you're reading this column, you probably aren't one of the people whose newsletter distribution has been blocked, but if one of your friends or acquaintances claims a lack of notice, I'd like to hear about it. The notice puzzle remains to be solved.

It is regrettable that we may well lose some readers due to the change from a paper medium to an electronic one. We are trying to make the electronic editions as accessible as possible, but if there's a distribution method we've overlooked, please tell me about it.

**Youth Bridge Grant Program:** In last month's newsletter, D21 President Tom Pajak presented an overview of the grants awarded by D21 to young players to facilitate their attendance at this summer's Youth Nationals in Atlanta. In all we received 31 grant applications from youth bridge organizations and were able to award 16 first-time applicants \$350 each and 15 previous grantees \$295 each. We realize such an award won't quite cover an airplane ticket, but it is much better than no help. The total is slightly over \$10,000, the current program cap adopted by the D21 Board.

Two applicants each were from the Reno Youth Bridge program and Unit 508 in Marin. Eight were from San Francisco's Center for Bridge Education. The other 19 were from the Silicon Valley Youth Bridge program.

If you can suggest other ways D21 can encourage young bridge players, please let me know.

**Other Topics:** I volunteered for another committee concerned with sectional supplies. Many of you may be aware that your units may rent supplies from D21 for holding a sectional, including card tables, bidding boxes, timers, pencils, computer paper. Fewer of you may be aware that the van used to deliver these supplies had to be replaced recently. The D21 Board would like to have a better understanding of the actual costs involved in providing the supplies and how they compare to what D21 is charging to provide them.

I'm saddened to note the passing of Tom "TQ" Quinlan, a local player who became a career tournament director and ultimately a national director. He and Harvey Brody will be remembered on Saturday, August 25, during the Maye Soule Memorial game at the Bayshore Bridge Club. I'm told a reservation is required for that game.

DISTRICT 21 ACBL PRESENTS

84<sup>th</sup>

# ALL WESTERN



# CHAMPIONSHIPS

**August 28 - September 3, 2018**

## \*Tournament Highlights\*

All Western Open Pairs Championship

Saturday and Sunday

- New Knockouts Daily
- Six Days of 0-750 Gold Pairs
- Three Stratified Side Game Series
- Daylight Pairs
- Wednesday - Sunday at 10 & 3
- Celebrity Speakers
- 6:15-6:45 Wednesday-Sunday

### ENTRIES \$12

Unpaid ACBL members \$16

Non-members will be required to become members by either purchasing an annual membership, or a \$7.99 special monthly membership.

**District 21 website is your first resource  
for our Regionals:**

- Make hotel reservations
- Plan your tournament events
- Gather general information/direction
- [www.d21acbl.com](http://www.d21acbl.com)

For information contact:

Pam Hughes: email: [jmom380@yahoo.com](mailto:jmom380@yahoo.com)  
District 21 website [www.d21acbl.com](http://www.d21acbl.com)  
Please comply with D21's Pet Policy. See website for details.  
Schedule subject to change.

at the

**HYATT REGENCY**  
5101 Great American Parkway  
Santa Clara, CA 95054

**LIMITED PARKING!**  
**REMEMBER TO CARPOOL**

Reserve **EARLY** for the  
**BRIDGE RATE**  
Mon-Wed \$209  
Thurs - 2nd Mon \$134  
**Full Tournament Rate \$159**  
(must stay entire time. No early departure)  
**408-200-1234**  
**800-233-1234**

## Intermediate/Newcomer Events

*99er/299er Pairs Daily at 9, 1 & 7*

**Bridge Concepts Lectures  
with Scott Campbell**

**Wednesday thru Sunday at Noon**  
*Free Student Game(0-5mp's) Sat. 1:00*

Matt Smith, Director in Charge  
ACBL Sanction R1809084 Conventions on the General Chart allowed in all events. Mid-chart allowed in top bracket of 2 day KOs and any bracket which contain no team with an average master point holding of less than 1500 points, as well as 4 session Open Pairs/Swiss & Flight AX Events, but not AB Events.

**DISTRICT 21: Upbeat Bridge....Low Key Atmosphere!**  
Like us on FACEBOOK

# 84<sup>th</sup> All Western Championships

## August 28 - September 3, 2018

at the HYATT REGENCY, 5101 Great American Parkway, Santa Clara, CA 95054

### Tuesday, August 28

- 1pm Pony Express Side Pairs 1st of 6  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs  
Stratified Swiss Teams
- 1 & 7 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**HOE DOWN GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750**
- 7pm **KIT CARSON BRACKETED KOs**  
continues Wednesday 9, 1 & 7  
Pony Express Side Pairs 2nd of 6  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs

### Wednesday, August 29

- 9am KIT CARSON KOs – round 2  
Morning Side Pairs 1st of 5  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **WEDNESDAY DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1pm Pony Express Side Pairs 3rd of 6  
99ers/299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**GOLDEN SPIKE PAIRS 0-300/750**  
**WYATT EARP BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Thursday 1 & 7  
KIT CARSON KOs 3 & 4
- 7pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Pony Express Side Pairs 4th of 6  
99ers/299ers Stratified Pairs

### Thursday, August 30

- 9am **GOODWILL SWISS TEAMS** – 1st of 2  
Morning Side Pairs 2nd of 5  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **THURSDAY DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1pm Pony Express Side Pairs 5th of 6  
99ers/299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**CHEROKEE GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750**  
**SIERRA BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Friday 1 & 7  
WYATT EARP KOs 3 & 4
- 7pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Pony Express Side Pairs 6th of 6  
99ers/299ers Stratified Pairs

### Friday, August 31

- 9am **GOODWILL SWISS TEAMS**– round 2  
Morning Side Pairs 3rd of 5  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **FRIDAY DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1pm Stagecoach Side Pairs 1st of 6  
99ers/299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**SASPARILLA GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750**  
**APACHE BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Saturday 1 & 7  
SIERRA KOs 3 & 4
- 7pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Stagecoach Side Pairs 2nd of 6  
99ers/299ers Stratified Pairs

### Saturday, September 1

- 9am **DOC HOLIDAY SWISS TEAMS** 1st of 2  
Morning Side Pairs 4th of 5  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**ANNIE OAKLEY GOLD RUSH PAIRS 0-300/750**
- 1pm Free Student Game 0-5 masterpoints  
Stagecoach Side Pairs 3rd of 6  
99ers/299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **ALL WESTERN OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP**  
2 qualifying sessions Saturday  
2 final sessions Sunday  
**O.K. CORRAL BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Sunday at 1 & 7  
APACHE KOs 3 & 4
- 7pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Stagecoach Side Pairs 4th of 6  
99ers/299ers Stratified Pairs

### Sunday, September 2

- 9am **DOC HOLIDAY SWISS TEAMS**– round 2  
Morning Side Pairs 5th of 5  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **SUNDAY DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1pm Stagecoach Side Pairs 5th of 6  
99ers/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **ALL WESTERN OPEN PAIRS** - finals  
O.K. CORRAL KOs 3 & 4  
**OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**WILD BILL GOLD RUSH PAIRS 0-300/750**
- 7pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Stagecoach Side Pairs 6th of 6  
99ers/299ers Stratified Pairs

### Monday, September 3

- \*\*\*EARLY START - All games at 10am\*\*\***  
**STRAT A/X TEAMS 0-3000/+3000+**  
**0-2000 mp ROUND ROBIN TEAMS**
- 10am •No individual player over 2000 mp  
& •Typically brackets of eight, three gold overall  
TBA places per bracket.  
•Teams may not withdraw after one session.
- SENIOR SWISS TEAMS(60 years+)**  
**FAST STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS**  
10am and TBA with a short break  
99/299ers Stratified Pairs 10am and TBA

Events in **BOLD FACE** are two or more sessions and award **gold points**. Single session events award **red points**.

**Stratified Events Key Unless otherwise posted.**

**A 2000+ B 750 – 2000 C 0-750**  
Eligibility is based on masterpoint total of top player.  
Stratification is determined by average of pair/team

KO Events with only one Bracket may be Handicapped

DISTRICT 21 ACBL PRESENTS

# Reno Regional

Generously Co-Sponsored by District 7

October 15-21, 2018

## \*Tournament Highlights\*

- New Knockouts Daily
- FIVE Days of Gold Rush Pairs
- Three Stratified Side Game Series
- DAYLIGHT PAIRS

Tuesday - Saturday at 10 & 3

- Free Bridge Concepts Lectures  
Tuesday - Saturday at Noon
- Celebrity Speaker Program
- Side Games at every 9, 1 & 7 session

## Intermediate/Newcomer Events

99er/299er Pairs Daily at 9, 1 & 7

**Bridge Concepts Lectures  
with Scott Campbell**

**Tuesday through Saturday at Noon**

Free Student Game(0-5mp's) Sat. 1:00

### ENTRIES \$12

Unpaid ACBL members \$16

Non-members will be required to become members by either purchasing an annual membership, or a \$7.99 special monthly membership.

**District 21 website is your first resource  
for our Regionals:**

Make hotel reservations  
Plan your tournament events  
Gather general information/direction  
[www.d21acbl.com](http://www.d21acbl.com)

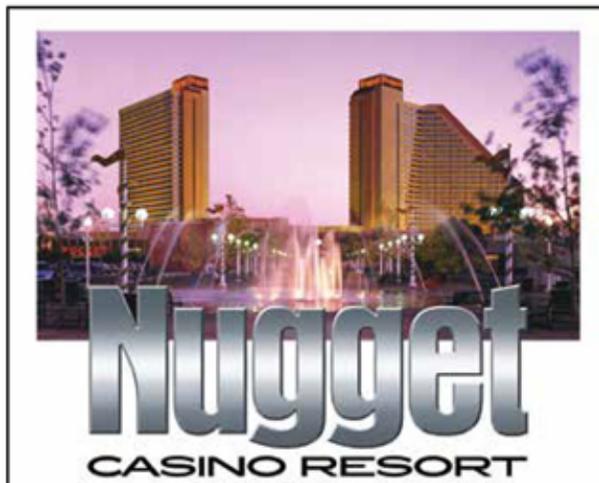
For information contact:

Pam Hughes: email: [jmom380@yahoo.com](mailto:jmom380@yahoo.com)

District 21 website [www.d21acbl.com](http://www.d21acbl.com)

Please comply with D21's Pet Policy. See website for details.

Schedule subject to change.



1100 Nugget Avenue, Sparks, NV 89431

- Resort Tower Rooms and Meeting Spaces are Brand New Renovated!  
(Casino Tower Rooms renovated 7 years ago)
- Free shuttle to and from airport 5am - midnight
- Best Pool in Reno!  
Long enough to swim laps, and multiple hot tubs. If you like water, bring your suit!
- Fully appointed fitness center
- Complimentary valet and self parking
- Welcome reception with full bar
- Victorian Square with dozens of restaurants and shops adjacent to hotel

## Book bridge rate and Resort Fee is waived!

\*Non-Smokers should book the Resort Tower\*

- Resort Tower (stay here if you want to avoid the casino smoke)  
\$69+tax Sunday - Thursday  
\$99+tax Friday & Saturday
- Casino Tower  
\$59+tax Sunday - Thursday  
\$89+tax Friday - Saturday

For Reservations:  
800-648-1177

or book on our D21 website link

Nancy Boyd, Director in Charge  
ACBL Sanction R1810140 Conventions on the General Chart allowed in all events. Mid-chart allowed in top bracket of 2 day KOs and any bracket which contain no team with an average master point holding of less than 1500 points, as well as 4 session Open Pairs/Swiss & Flight AX Events, but not AB Events.

**DISTRICT 21: Upbeat Bridge....Low Key Atmosphere!**

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# Reno Regional October 15-21, 2018

at the Nugget Casino & Resort 800-648-1177  
Generously Co-Sponsored by District 7

## Monday, October 15

- 1pm Sparks Side Pairs 1 of 6  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs  
Great Pumpkin Swiss Teams
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED ELY OPEN PAIRS**
- 7pm **NUGGET BRACKETED KOs**  
continues Tuesday 9, 1 & 7  
Sparks Side Pairs 2 of 6  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs

## Tuesday, October 16

- 9am NUGGET KOs – round 2  
Morning Side Pairs 1st of 5  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1pm Sparks Side Pairs 3 of 6  
99ers/299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+  
PROSPECTOR GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750  
NORTHSTAR KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Wednesday 1 & 7  
NUGGET KOs 3 & 4
- 7pm Stratified Side Swiss Teams  
Sparks Side Pairs 4 of 6  
99ers/299ers Stratified Pairs

## Wednesday, October 17

- 9am **GOODWILL SWISS TEAMS** – 1st of 2  
Morning Side Pairs 2nd of 5  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+  
EUREKA! GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750**
- 1pm Sparks Side Pairs 5 of 6  
99ers/299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS  
TAHOE BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Thursday 1 & 7  
NORTHSTAR KOs 3 & 4
- 7pm Stratified Side Swiss Teams  
Sparks Side Pairs 6 of 6  
99ers/299ers Stratified Pairs

## Thursday, October, 18 GOODWILL DAY

- 9am **GOODWILL SWISS TEAMS**– round 2  
Morning Side Pairs 3rd of 5  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1pm Sierra Side Pairs 1 of 6  
99ers/299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+  
LOVELOCK GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750  
ALPINE BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Friday 1 & 7  
TAHOE KOs 3 & 4
- 7pm Stratified Side Swiss Teams  
Sierra Side Pairs 2nd of 6  
99ers/299ers Stratified Pairs

## Friday, October 19

- 9am **VIRGINIA CITY SWISS TEAMS** 1st of 2  
Morning Side Pairs 4th of 5  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **DAYLIGHT OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+  
BLACKJACK GOLD RUSH PAIRS 0-300/750**
- 1pm Sierra Side Pairs 3rd of 6  
99ers/299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS  
BONANZA BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Saturday at 1 & 7  
ALPINE KOs 3 & 4
- 7pm Stratified Side Swiss Teams  
Sierra Side Pairs 4th of 6  
99ers/299ers Stratified Pairs

## Saturday, October 20

- 9am **VIRGINIA CITY SWISS TEAMS**– round 2  
Morning Side Pairs 5th of 5  
99er/299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **PONDEROSA COMPACT KOs  
STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 3 Stratified Side Swiss Teams
- 1pm Free Student Game 0-5 masterpoints  
Sierra Side Pairs 5th of 6  
99ers/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+  
HEAVENLY GOLD PAIRS  
BONANZA BRACKETED KOs 3 & 4**
- 7pm Stratified Side Swiss Teams  
Sierra Side Pairs 6th of 6  
99ers/299ers Stratified Pairs

## Sunday, October 21

- \*\*\*EARLY START - All games at 10am\*\*\***
- STRAT AX TEAMS 0-3000/+3000+  
0-2000 ROUND ROBIN TEAMS**
- 10am •No individual player over 2000 mp  
& •Typically brackets of eight, three gold overall  
TBA places per bracket.  
•Teams may not withdraw after one session.
- SENIOR SWISS TEAMS(60 years+)  
FAST STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS**  
10am and TBA with a short break  
299ers Swiss Teams (10am and TBA with a short break)  
99/299ers Stratified Pairs 10am only  
Pairs interested in playing second session  
may form teams and join 299er Swiss 2nd session

Events in **BOLD FACE** are two or more sessions and award **gold points**. Single session events award **red points**.

**Stratified Events Key Unless otherwise posted.**

**A 2000+ B 750 – 2000 C 0-750**  
Eligibility is based on masterpoint total of top player.  
Stratification is determined by average of pair/team

KO Events with only one Bracket may be Handicapped

# Monterey Clambake Regional



**December 31 - January 6, 2019**

## **\*Tournament Highlights\***

- *New Knockouts Daily*
- *SIX Days of 0-750  
Gold Rush Pairs*
- *Friday Open Pairs Qualifies  
to a BAROMETER final*
- *Three Stratified Side Game Series*
- *DAYLIGHT PAIRS  
Tuesday - Saturday at 10 & 3*
- *MID-FLIGHT PAIRS Wed-Thurs*
- *Free bridge concepts lectures  
Tuesday-Saturday at Noon*
- *Celebrity Speaker Program*
- *Side Games at every 9, 1 & 7:00  
session*

## **HYATT REGENCY MONTEREY**

1 Old Golf Course Road, Monterey, CA 93940

Reserve EARLY for the Bridge Rate

single/double \$119 plus tax  
no resort fee

Includes parking

831-372-1234 or 800-233-1234

### **ENTRIES \$12**

Unpaid ACBL Members \$16

Non-members will be required to become members by either purchasing an annual membership, or a \$7.99 special monthly membership.

### **District 21 website is your first resource for our Regionals:**

Make hotel reservations  
View tournament schedule  
Plan your tournament events  
Gather general information/directions  
**www.d21acbl.com**

#### **For information contact:**

Pam Hughes: [jmom380@yahoo.com](mailto:jmom380@yahoo.com)  
District 21 website: [www.d21acbl.com](http://www.d21acbl.com)  
On site tournament info: 408-810-2273  
Please comply with D21's Pet Policy. See website for details.  
Schedule subject to change.

### **Intermediate/Newcomer Events**

*299er Pairs at every session  
(stratified based on attendance)*

**Bridge Concepts Lectures  
with Scott Campbell**

**Tuesday thru Saturday at Noon**

**Free Student Game on Saturday at 1:00  
(0-5mp's)**

Nancy Boyd, Director in Charge

ACBL Sanction R1901035

**DISTRICT 21: Upbeat Bridge....Low Key Atmosphere!**  
Like us on FACEBOOK

# Monterey Clambake Regional

## December 31 - January 6, 2019

at the Hyatt Regency Monterey, 1 Old Golf Course Road, Monterey, CA 93940

### Monday, December 31

- 1:00 Stratified Swiss Teams  
Cannery Row Stratified Side Pairs 1 of 6  
299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+  
MONTEREY GOLD PAIRS 0-300/300-750**
- 7:00 **BING CROSBY BRACKETED KOs**  
Round 1, Continues Tuesday 9, 1 & 730  
Cannery Row Stratified Side Pairs 2 of 6  
299ers Stratified Pairs

### 11:00 ZIP KOs - Champagne and Refreshments

### Tuesday, January 1

- 9:00 BING CROSBY KOs – round 2  
Clambake Morning Side Pairs 1st of 5  
299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1:00 Cannery Row Strat Side Pairs 3 of 6  
299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+  
BIG SUR GOLD PAIRS 0-300/300-750  
JACK LEMMON BRACKETED KOs**  
Rds 1 & 2 Continues Wednesday 1 & 7
- BING CROSBY KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams  
299ers Stratified Pairs  
Cannery Row Strat Side Pairs 4 of 6

### Wednesday, January 2

- 9:00 **MONTEREY SWISS TEAMS**, 1st of 2  
Continues Thursday at 9am  
Clambake Morning Side Pairs 2nd of 5  
299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1:00 Cannery Row Strat Side Pairs 5 of 6  
299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+  
STRATIFIED MIDFLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000  
BLUE WHALE GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750  
RORY MCILROY BRACKETED KOs**  
Rds 1 & 2 Continues Thursday 1 & 7
- JACK LEMMON KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams  
299ers Stratified Pairs  
Cannery Row Strat Side Pairs 6 of 6

### Thursday, January 3 GOODWILL DAY

- 9:00 **MONTEREY SWISS TEAMS** 2nd of 2  
Clambake Morning Side Pairs 3rd of 5  
299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1:00 Tom Watson Strat Side Pairs 1st of 6  
299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+  
STRATIFIED MIDFLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000  
CARMEL GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750  
STEINBECK BRACKETED KOs**  
Rds 1 & 2 Continues Friday 1 & 7
- RORY MCILROY KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams  
299ers Stratified Pairs  
Tom Watson Strat Side Pairs 2nd of 6

### Friday, January 4

- 9:00 **MICHELLE WIE SWISS TEAMS**  
1st of 2 - Continues Saturday at 9  
Clambake Morning Side Pairs 4th of 5  
299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **STRATIFIED DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1:00 Tom Watson Stratified Side Pairs 3rd of 6  
299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **OPEN PAIRS Qualifies to a  
BAROMETER FINAL**  
NQs enter 7:00 Swiss or Side Pairs
- SPANISH BAY GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750  
ERNIE ELS BRACKETED KOs**,  
Rds 1 & 2 Continues Saturday 1 & 7
- JOHN STEINBECK KOs** – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams  
299ers Stratified Pairs  
Tom Watson Stratified Side Pairs 4th of 6

### Saturday, January 5

- 9:00 **MICHELLE WIE SWISS TEAMS** 2nd  
Clambake Morning Side Pairs 5th of 5  
299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+  
DAYLIGHT GOLD RUSH PAIRS 0-300/750**
- 1:00 Tom Watson Stratified Side Pairs 5th of 6  
299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1:00 **FREE Student Game 0 – 5 masterpoints**
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS  
CYPRESS BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS  
ERNIE ELS KOs** – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams  
299ers Stratified Pairs  
Tom Watson Stratified Side Pairs 6th of 6

### Sunday, January 6

- EARLY START - 10am - PLAY THRU**  
with a short break
- STRATIFIED A/X SWISS TEAMS**  
Strat A 4000+ Strat X -0-4000
- 0-2500 ROUND ROBIN TEAMS**
- ◆ No individual player over 2500 mp
  - ◆ Typically brackets of eight, three gold overall places per bracket.
  - ◆ Teams may not withdraw after one session.
- CLINT EASTWOOD FAST STRAT OPEN PAIRS**  
2 fast sessions with a short break

Events in **BOLD FACE** are two or more sessions and award **gold points**. Single session events award **red points**.

KO Events with only one Bracket may be Handicapped

**Stratified Events Key Unless otherwise posted.**

**A 2000+ B 750 – 2000 C 0 - 750**  
Eligibility for Flighted Events based on top player.  
Thereafter, stratification based on average of pair/team

# HEART OF THE DISTRICT

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## Berkeley/El Cerrito/Richmond

*By The Beer Dude*

Welcome to the Dog Days of August, assuming you live in the hotter areas of D21 – we who live close to the Bay/Pacific get ours next month. STaC time again 20th-27th – chase silver points @ your local clubs. Ours are the 22nd & 24th; table fees \$7. Addendum to my July 4 trivia last month: Our 5th President, James Monroe, died 7/4/1831. Never had heard/read about that, but a crossword puzzle clue I saw recently read: “One of 3 Presidents to die on July 4th” (answer was Adams), so I had to Google it.

Only 1 unit game (we had other special games – Longest Day; Club Championship; NAP Qualifier). Fri 6/8, we drew 6.5 tables, which Marcia Mattoon-Sarla topped (barely). I played my usual 6.5 table 1-winner movement that reduces sit-out to 2 boards. Chasers: Jack Beers-Barb Lanier 2A, Prez Joyce-Roger Edelson 3A/2B, Jan Straus-Jeanne Sutter 4A/3B, Eric & Sandi 5A, & Dexter-Gordon 5B. Aug game is Fri 3rd BBQ Swiss results next month. BBQ Swiss #2 is Sat 9/15 – reservations open when you see this (e-mail me!). Welcome new member John Hankey; up the rank ladder go Peg Bogle to Jr & Don Kososvac to Club.

At da club, Eric was June MP champ; Jan Kosel the top NLM). Aug Club Championship game is Wed 8th. Eric & I will be off to South (our annual Del Mar gig) 12th-18th; Larry will be filling in for me. Just found out that long-time club denizen Grace Uyeno died last year – she hadn’t played in 5-6 yrs because of declining health. We thank her grandson for donating her bridge books to the club – we offer them to loan; to keep if we have duplicates.

RIP long-time BER member Tom Quinlan (“TQ”), who was a long-time Regional & National Tournament Director before retiring about 10 years ago. Eric & I played against him & his partner Janice Nakao numerous times in our BBQ Swisses; he once played the 1st round in a 1980’s SF Sectional Fri nite pairs game w/me (@ Ft Mason) when my partner showed up late.

Tom was a raconteur par excellence – players from all around the country could overrun Facebook w/Tom stories – both ones he told & ones of being around him as player/dining company/drinking company. He was a fun gent whom a lot of folks will miss for years. May he & Harvey Brody be going

head-head at some bridge table in the great beyond, & not as the “from Hell” partnership & may there be good red wine in copious quantities.

Tweak beerman1949@gmail.com to brag/gripe/suggest; Unit info & game results available 24/7 @ www.berunit497.org.

## Diablo Valley

*By Lisa Assoni*

August is unique to its own transitional span of time. It’s considered that last month of summer and it has a special flavor. For some, it’s supposed to symbolize fun, beach balls, water, picnics, and travel. For most of us, the sun isn’t always fun! We’re hot, tired, and too pooped to engage in lots of outdoor activities. What’s left folks? It’s bridge-indoors. What better activity to play every day. So keep your cool, and come on down to your local bridge center.

Well, have you ever eaten Humble Pie? It can happen at the bridge table, and it tastes very bitter. You try to recover from bidding something outrageous, but when you lose the deal, it makes me want to eat ice cream. Ok, it makes me want to scream—outloud. I know it’s just a game, really. Do any of you want to lose? Of course not, as we all want to be winners; and truly if you look at the total pie, you’ve played the game, showed up, and did your darnest.

Grateful is a word that we don’t use often, but we should. You drove there, sat at your table, and played the game. You did it! I was fortunate enough to play with Andy Fine on a Wednesday afternoon. I ate the whole pie, and my partner was very gracious. I was grateful.

Again this year, Mark Humphrey is the man of the hour. He’s been diligent and faithful is hosting our Pro-Am event for many years.

It’s when the LMs take on NLMs. It’s fun, furious and fascinating, and being dished up on September 29. Game begins at 9:30 a.m.

There’s also a regular bridge game that’s hosted by Winnie and Jerry, and is one of the best bridge games in town. The Lamorinda Bridge Club is located at their home in Moraga, at 183 Corliss Drive. There’s a monthly Swiss Teams game held on the third Saturday of each month. It begins at 10:00 a.m. sharp. I’ve



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Valerie Petersen  
(Rossmoor Resident)

been enticed to attend, as I hear the food is yummy. A potluck light lunch is served outside in their lovely garden, accompanied by snack and drinks. Such a deal!

This bridge twosome host an open-duplicate game every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. Reservations are required. On Mondays, Winnie and Jerry also teach bridge lessons from the ACBL bridge series. Reservations are required for all games and classes. Please contact: Winnie: [Winnie@wjasper.com](mailto:Winnie@wjasper.com) or 925.376.1125 (Home) or Jerry's cell: 925.766.5228.

A menu change. –Join us at CCBC for The Good Will game/luncheon honoring Anne Hollingsworth on Sunday, August 19 with lunch 12:00, and the unit game following at 1:00. Flyer can be found on our website [DiabloValleybridge.com](http://DiabloValleybridge.com). Make your plans now to attend, and give a round of applause to Anne and prior Good Will winners.

North American Pairs (NAP) – The North American Pairs Unit Final (all flights) will be held on Saturday, September 22, at 1:00. There are several opportunities to qualify coming up in July and August. If you qualify at a local club (strat A, B or C), you may then play in a unit final. Top players in

each strat earn a stipend to attend the Spring ACBL Nationals.

We're bridge players; let's be friends. Partnerships can be made, so if you're seeking a partner, Pattie Kogan is the gal to contact. at [herikan@comcast.net](mailto:herikan@comcast.net) She is now in charge of managing this Google Group. Don't forget to read the e-Declarer on line. It's on our website. Judy Keilin is the Editor of the e-Declarer, and Mary Krouse, the Publisher. These girls work hard for no money, but they're happy to hear you're enjoying their efforts. Also don't forget the unit 499 Online Directory, is up and running! Hey, it's on our website-[diablovalleybridge.com](http://diablovalleybridge.com)--just for you.

Ciao Bella

## **East Bay**

*By Sandi Davis*

Unit 502 is holding one more NAP qualifier on Sunday, August 5, leading up to the unit final on September 9. Also, the Center is running qualifying games in August so check the monthly calendar. You need to qualify at the unit or club level to play in the final so get out there and qualify!

We welcome two new members to our unit - Jolanda Heijnen and Jason Leith. Also, welcome Isaac Whitebook transferring in from Marin. Harry Dewey is now a Junior Master. Julie Burnet has reached Life Master status and my partner Roseanne Smith became a Silver Life Master recently. Stephen Kennedy became our 13th Gold Life Master in Unit 502. Congratulations to you all!

On the Tournament trail at the Oakland Sectional in June Grant Vance and Jessica were the King and Queen of masterpoint winners. Other Overall winners in Pairs games were Joseph Held & Libby Silver, Betty Kael & Mark Kornmann, Charlie Tonelli, James Bond, Carin Caroe & Mike Warner, Lois Horwitz & Tina Heldman, Stephen Kennedy & Eric Leong, Nick Wiebe, Jim Kuhn, Norm Marks, Cris Barrere, Glen Boyce & Ed Seputis, Arnita Callaway & Elaine Fripp, Frank Silver & Cathy Smith, Don Levine & Richard Springer, Kathleen Clancy & Marilyn Bookbinder, Karen & Bob Cabrera, and new 502 member Jason Leith. In Swiss teams Hank Sigal & Kerry Abbott, Julie Burnett won Bracket 4 with Libby Silver, Susan Bailey, Herbert and Suzie Chung and Joseph Held rounding out that group, Donna Wasser, Steven Drucker, and Russ Kirschenbaum finished

well in Bracket 3, In Bracket 2 David Snyder, Susan Boyers, Glen Boyce and Ed Seputis took 2nd with Joyce Hart & Ching Chao taking 3rd. In Bracket 1 Peter Bonfanti's team took 1st over Jessica Lai, Grant and Greg Vance, while Cole Powell's team also won. At the July 1st Membership Appreciation picnic, N/S Otto Edor and Gunnar Niemi won the OA while Vicki Lerner and Robin Roche won E/W.

Top in B were N/S Charlie Tonelli & Jean Wood and E/W Betty Kael & Susan Boyers. Top in C were N/S Karen & Bob Cabrera and E/W Jeri Ram & Sylvia Victoria. The picnic provided by the unit was great as always and thanks to all who helped make this happen including the master of the grill Mark Kornmann, and a huge shout-out to Karen and Bob Cabrera for organizing everything. At the July 15 unit game, E/W Pat Leary and Bill Rudman, Jr won 1st OA and N/S Bonnie Macbride and Sidney Mar won N/S. Well done all.

Remember that if you have something interesting or have some good results to let Tom Pajak [tompajak999@gmail.com](mailto:tompajak999@gmail.com) or Larry Bowerman [lmjtbow@pacbell.net](mailto:lmjtbow@pacbell.net) or me [sandi.davisd21@gmail.com](mailto:sandi.davisd21@gmail.com) know so that we can get it into the column.

## Fresno

*By Laura Da Costa*

The Fresno Non-Life Master Sectional is coming, August 11 & 12. This tournament is for non-life masters with fewer than 500 masterpoints. It is a great first tournament for our newer players, and a nice place for our more advanced non-life masters to get their last silver points. Beginners with fewer than 10 points and an ACBL membership even play free on Saturday morning.

We have free lunches with lessons on both Saturday and Sunday. Two changes from last year's event: 1) we are going to try to have a separate 99er game on Saturday morning, and 2) we will have the return of the Swiss Teams event on Sunday afternoon. If you hadn't taken part in a team event before, you need to get a four-person team, and we will help guide you through the rest. Flyers are in the clubhouse and on our website. Our director for the event will be Richard Meffley.

Our next Open sectional, is the Fresno Fall Sectional on September 28-30.

Friday, June 22, was the day of our 6th annual ACBL's Longest Day fund raising drive to support the Alzheimer's Association. For the first time in a few years, we had the full sunrise to sunset experience with 5 games. What a wild, tiring, and yet still fun event. We had 3 members who played all five games: Don Austin, Mary Lou Pease, & Anthony Toto.

This year, the Visalia clubhouse also promoted our Longest Day marathon, and since their clubhouse was closed, we had many Visalia tables at our games. Overall, our attendance was the best ever. For the 6am Individual game, we had 7 people—yes, we made that work--(Winners: a tie between Laura Da Costa, Mary Lou Pease, & Anthony Toto).

In our 9am Open Pairs game, we had 11 ½ tables (Winners N/S: a tie between Margaret Mahaffey & Patrick Carroll and Byron Steinert & Anthony Toto and E/W: Wally Wallace & Barbara Thacker—Wally & Barbara won the Overall). In our 12:30pm Open Pairs game, we had 12 tables (Winners N/S: Belva Quattrin & Patricia Delamontanya and E/W: Suzanne & Warren Cederborg; the Cederborgs won the Overall).

In our 12:30pm 299er Pairs game, we had 4 ½ tables (Winners: JoAnn Huebner & Marilyn Kendall). In our 4:30pm Fast Pairs game, we had 5

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tables (Winners: a tie between Jason Mcalexander & Richard Meffley and Suzanne & Warren Cederborg). Finally, we had 3 tables in the 6:30pm Open Pairs Barometer game (Winners: Anthony Toto & Jackie Finn).

The overall masterpoints winner for the day was Anthony Toto! The three directors for the day were Kay Chrisman, Laura Da Costa, & Richard Meffley. The event raised over \$2800.

With so many results to report from the Longest Day, it is rather a relief that I have only two pairs to report that earned 70% games in June. One in Madera and the other Fresno, and both occurred on the same Wednesday evening, the 13th. In Madera, Carol Kaufman & Richard Meffley a 71.88. In Fresno, Lowell Gist & Gerard Laquerriere a 73.15%.

## Livermore Valley

*By Rosemarie LaFrancesca*

Must be time for a vacation! Temperatures in the 100's and many different players in and out of the club for the summer. A good vacation spot for the end of July and early August would be Atlanta for the Nationals. Yes, it is hot and humid in the south, but you can enjoy the A/C and the bridge. Nationals are something else if you've never experienced one. You will see people you recognize from the Bridge Bulletin, and you may even play against them! You will definitely see people from other countries; I always like to find the Italians so I can practice a bit. Bellissimo!

We hope you will join us weekly for bridge at the Livermore Bridge Club. We meet Mondays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. in the IOOF Building, 2160 First Street, in Livermore. Parking and entrance are in the rear; an elevator is available. Most games, including extra point games, are only \$6. STAC games are \$8; educational fund games are \$7. Reservations are suggested for the Monday STAC. Players bring food to share; the club provides coffee/tea; a good time is had by all.

Novice Games (0-99 points) are held the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, and you don't even need a partner. Every "novice" Thursday we will guarantee a partner to any player with fewer than 100 masterpoints. Encourage your bridge-playing friends to give Duplicate Bridge a try! We are happy to see some of our 99ers play on Mondays as well.

Keep up the good work, 99ers! The Livermore Bridge Club website is [livermorebridge.com](http://livermorebridge.com). You will find a calendar of events there; you can also find Paul's bridge tips and publications via [pfdubois.com/publish](http://pfdubois.com/publish). There are links to neighboring units if you want to travel to your next bridge game.

"If you focus on playing good bridge then good results will come. If you focus on trying to get good results then you won't play good bridge." — Robert S. Todd

## Marin

*By Gail Haar*

We have several new members including Linda Fong, Bhagya Reddy, Vicki Samo, Jovan Shapiro and Vicki Stotz. Transferring into our unit is Starr Taber. Be sure to greet them all with our famed Marin hospitality.

Congratulations to our members who have advanced in Master rank - Keith Merron (Club); Barbara Smith (Regional); Andrea Ventris (Life); Martha England (Bronze Life); Linda Danzig, Cindy Kirk and Hannah Kishi (Ruby Life).

Big games this month included Azita Mujica & Beverly Bloss (75.21%); Golda Bocek & Rebecca Peterson (73.33%); Diane Williams & Warren Wertheimer (72.31%); Rich Nielsen & Vicki Stotz (70.45%); and Barbara Walsh & Bruce Nissim (70.24%). Hilde Meislin & Renee Goff won the July 8 unit game and Anne Stein & Peterson tied with Diane Williams & Penny Berman on July 15.

The Annual Election and Awards Party at the end of June was a rousing success. Martha England and Miriam Kaegi were unanimously elected to the Board as Special Events Co-chairs. President Gail Haar honored the new Life Masters and the winners of the Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs awards from the ACBL.

Peter Sager entertained the group with an encore performance of his rousing "Bridge Team Fight Song." Many thanks to Hannah Kishi (and her able assistants) who stepped in at the last minute to organize the food and to Melanie Haddad and Terry Kee for their professional bartending. What's a party without wonderful food and drink? We did settle down to play cards and the winners of the unit game were Loarn Thoeleke and Diane Williams who had an outstanding 67.20% game.

The board recently purchased a new portable sound system which had its first outing at the game and performed with flying colors.



Unit 508 Board: Hilde Meislin, Martha England, Bob Thomson, Gail Haar, Melanie Haddad, Tracey Bauer, Miriam Kaegi (missing is Bill Yeast who was circumnavigating Mont Blanc!)

Two friends were at a concert. Said she, a bridge addict, "What's that book the conductor keeps looking at?" "That's the score," answered her companion. "Oh. Who's vulnerable?"

## Modesto/Merced/Sonora

By Gail Vick

Casey O'Mara & Cindy Thompson won 1st across the board on Sunday, the 24th of June, in the beginning Sunday group! A wonderful achievement for just beginning the game of duplicate in a short time. Congratulations are certainly in order!



In July, Connie Arnold & Barbara Page had a 61.57% game to take 1st in A the first half of July, with Joan Fee & Libby Longstreth taking 1st in B at 60.94%, and Roger Hanlon & Kevin Smith taking 1st in C with 58.85%, from Sonora!

The latter part of June, Trelle Uhl & Ralph Jungwirth took top honors at 68.75%, Betty Brown & Dave Terry finished 1st in B, with Sheela Wani & Raj Modi winning 1st in C.

Carol Whiteside & Casey O'Mara scored 69.05% at the beginning open invitational Tuesday game, Highest score for the latter part of June, all levels! Wendy Summers & Joan Clendenin won 1st with 68.75%, high score for July.

Sheela Wani is back at the bridge tables after an extended time off. She suffered horrific life threatening

injuries in a car accident years ago, but with God's grace survived, and is back in perfect form, mind & body with the bridge expertise she never lost, along with her winning smile and beautiful spirit of life! Wonderful to have you back again!

Welcome to new duplicate players Joan Fee, Paul Eyer, Jaime Hamilton & Garrad Marsh of Modesto, along with the Edingtons, father and daughter. Wayne relocated from Woodland Hills to be near Nicole and grandchildren!

Beginning to midway in July, Lee Maddocks & Robert Frohman won high overall in A with 69.26%. Kathy High & Dee Alexander won in B at 59.38%. and Sheela Wani & Raj Modi finished 1st in C with 56.25%

The July unit game prevailed with Traudi Kaufler & Gary Capwell winning 1st overall in both A & B at 69.94%, and Sherrie Barakatt & Gail Vick finished 1st overall in C. Sherrie decorated the table below with the four food groups of chocolate, cake, fruits, and vegetables.



Unit game refreshments

Appears that a \$1 per cell phone ring is not working. When cell phones go off, hardly anyone is contributing. As I see it, a failure. And unfair to those who do contribute.

Judy Remmers and Joyce Rudesill are back at the bridge tables, after a lengthy trip with their husbands Wes & John to see the Northern Lights of Iceland, along with lakes and mountains.

## *From The Foothills:*

This month we celebrate Lydia and Bob Solomon as they have each reached the level of Silver Life Master.



*Bob and Lydia Solomon*

Our players of the month are: Monday, Rich Banks; Tuesday, Bonnie Landis; Wednesday, Susan and Alan Hamilton; for the Friday Games it's Vicky and Duane Oneto.

The Hamiltons also had the big game of June with 66.67 % on June 20.

## **Monterey**

*By Mary Block*

The winner of the raffle to benefit the Alzheimer's Association was our beloved benefactor, Brad Dow. Rumor is that he purchased more than one ticket, good for him. \$1,700 was raised for a cause we should all be supporting.

Once again, it is with sadness that the passing of another long time member of the unit, Bill Shreve, is reported. Bill was a long time member, a fine gentleman with a dry sense of humor. Although he

accumulated a sizeable number of master points, he was happy to continue playing in the NLM games. We will miss him. His bridge friends are planning a remembrance event on Sunday, August 5 from 2-4 p.m. at the Bridge Center.

The election of officers for the Unit Board of Directors was held at the July meeting. Susan Mazzei is the new President. Scott Hanham remains as Vice-President, as Susan Mehra remains as Secretary and Mary Quenette as Treasurer. New member Fran Soskins is the Membership Chair. Laura Gherman was appointed to fill the vacant position on the board. Laura and fellow new member, Bill Cohen, have volunteered to co-chair the sectional tournament next May.

Please again consider volunteering for service to the unit outside of Board Membership. The board would like to schedule more events, but help is needed for the ones already on the schedule.

Not that he can easily be replaced, but our wonderful Building Manager, Kurt Schnebele is looking to pass on the torch (and the tool belt that goes with it). Contact anyone on the board of directors if you are interested in this salaried position.

Scott Hanham has done another masterful job publishing the unit quarterly newsletter. There are a few hard copies available at the Bridge Center, but it is best viewed on-line at the Unit Website.

The next event for your calendar is the popular annual Pro-Am Unit game scheduled for Sunday, September 9. Larry Slayton will direct. Partners must not have played together before. Lyde will be matchmaking if you don't make your own arrangements. There will be a potluck lunch.

Lyde is teaching her Simplified 2/1 classes again starting on Wednesday afternoons in August. Sign up at the Bridge Center.

We have two new members who have transferred into our unit: Shelley Sweet, and Lynn Weatherman. The following promotions in rank are reported this month: Mary Lou Donnegan to Club Master; Barbara Callaway, Wolf Sommer, and Fran Soskins to Sectional Master; Glenn Chee, Ray Mok, and Charles Rauch to Regional Master.

Though it was reported anticipatorily last month, Laura Gherman and Jeannette Stern are now officially Life Masters.

Nancy Borucki and Wally Thorpe have now reached the status of Gold Life Master. Congratulations to all

and keep on doing whatever you have been doing in order to succeed.

We are [www.montereybridgeclub.com](http://www.montereybridgeclub.com) (831)384-7800. I am [maru0407@comcast.net](mailto:maru0407@comcast.net). The Foundation is <http://montereybridgeeducation.org>.

## Napa/Solano/Sonoma

*By Tom Sheahan*

We rose to the occasion once again in June for the annual Longest Day Alzheimer's benefit event under the leadership of Barbara Lemme. Our unit is almost more of a community that comes together for these special occasions than it is a bridge club and we've had a lot of success in these events because of the many volunteers that work tirelessly for the good of the unit.

It's hard to believe that when the final total comes in, it will exceed \$18,000.00 from some very generous players in our club. Given the average age of our group, Alzheimer's is a disease that might affect some of us down the road so raising funds for research will be a real benefit for some of us.

Thank you Barbara for all the effort you put into it throughout the year. There are many people to thank and here are a few of them: Adrienne Varin for her biscotti class, Bonnie Walner for her succulent class, Dawne Dickerson, Sue Vogtlin, Gretchen Filer, Carol Fraser, Arlene Holt, and of course John Colsten, Marge Sheridan, and Sandy Hicks for all the great decorations.

I know I missed a few people that helped and I'm sorry for that. George Gordon also did a great job as director on that day as there were 31 tables in play and it wasn't easy keeping track of everything. Thanks also to Clyde Smith for helping George with the directing.

Congratulations to Tom Jacobson! He recently scored his 5000th point to become a Diamond Life Master. Tom and his partner Gerry Fox are both in that high altitude category now and you won't find two players at that level who are such good guys and are willing to help people learn this game.

In addition, kudos to Adrienne Varin who became a Silver Life Master when she collected her 1000th point!

There were several double winners in the Sonoma game in June. Jim & Frances O'Brien won twice as did Gerry Fox, once with Tom Jacobson and once

with Sigrid Price. Sigrid also recorded another win with Evelyn Holtz.

Other winners included Steve Mercer & Theila Smith, Clyde & Kathleen Smith, and Dawne Dickenson & Leandra Stewart.

First place in Napa went to Barbara Lemme & Susan Cook, Wayne Miller & Laurie Hailey, Dawne Dickenson & Britt-Marie Eldred, Gerry Fox & Tom Jacobson, and Marilu Donnici & Leandra Stewart. Vicky Chang & Don Steedman won both of the Unit games.

Sue Vogtlin & Bob Lohse won twice in Rio Vista. John Shick & Alan Morris and John Miller & Marilyn Schuyler won the other games. The 499er games went to Dennis Sturdevant & Brooke Farkas, Lois Lourie & Carole Terry, Dick Hale & Willa Mundell, and Jean Behse & Claudia Sims.

Get well soon to Curt Jeschke who had a knee replaced and to Michele Burton.

The Sonoma club will have its annual election in September and there are three openings for the Board of Directors. See Sandy Hicks or Rick Davis if you are interested in serving.

## Palo Alto

*By Carolyn Chaney*

The 2018 Firecracker Sectional was another big holiday success, according to Jim Hulseman. From June 28 to July 1 we hosted 887 tables, and a total of 3884.31 Silver Points were awarded. Putting on an event like this takes hundreds of hours from many volunteers. It is truly a reflection of the family spirit of Unit 503. Special thanks to all of the volunteers, the excellent directors, and to the IFES for offering such a delicious variety of lunches and baked goodies.



Here's a cute story from Firecracker Director Matt: "At a Regional event I saw this T-shirt: I wasn't trying to push your buttons; I was just trying to find mute." I bet Matt would like to mute some of the director calls he has had.

Once again participants donated generously to Second Harvest Food Bank, and we raised \$14,135 (28,270 meals) to feed hungry people. Thank you!!! I had the great pleasure of taking our offering to Second Harvest.



*The success of the Firecracker Sectional allowed Unit 503 to give the Second Harvest Food Bank a really big check!*

Summer is a bit quiet, after our July 4 fun. But in August we will have two unit games: Pairs on Saturday 8/11 and Swiss Teams on Sunday, 8/12. Games start at noon with lunch at 11:30 am. Please sign up at our web site or at the Bridge Center.

Also in August many of our Palo Alto clubs are offering North American Pairs (NAP) qualifying games, so be prepared to pay a few bucks extra. Qualifiers in NAP club games may go on to play in District NAP games, and the district winners receive an award for participation in the spring Memphis NABC.

Do you know why I said Palo Alto clubs, plural? Our Palo Alto Bridge Center, Unit 503, is actually made up of individually owned clubs. We think of the various games as belonging to different directors, but those games are technically individual bridge clubs. That's why Palo Alto Bridge never shows up in the Bridge Bulletin as one of the largest clubs in North America, because our games are counted as separate clubs. The Wednesday night Doubleton Club reflects this factoid in its name.

Next time you see Valerie Baldwin, be sure to thank her for the amazing offerings she has brought to bridge education at our Center. We have learned so much, from the Saturday lectures on bridge conventions to the amazing Celebrity series that brought us Barbara Seagram, Larry Cohen, Jerry Helms and Eddie

Kantar. Val is stepping down from bridge education, but no worries, new co-chairs are stepping up. If you are yearning to have a particular celebrity teacher, drop a note to Agnes Lee: sanym12012@gmail.com

Congrats to our newest Life Masters, Eric Byler, Qing Lu, Carol Schwerer and Cornelius Duffie, who is one of our SiVY youth and Carol's grandson.



*Carol Schwerer and her grandson, Cornelius Duffie*

Carol and Cornelius became life masters two weeks apart. Special birthday greetings to Ed Barlow, who recently turned 85 years young. And good luck to to our 19 SiVY kids who are off to the 2018 Youth NABC in Atlanta in August.

## Reno

*By Sandy Powell*

Reminder: The Reno August Sectional (August 15-18) will be held at the Nugget Casino Resort. To reserve rooms at discounted rates (69\$ Wednesday/ Thursday & \$109 Friday & Saturday) use the code GACBL2 by August 1st.

Tournament Chair Ruth Swain can be texted at 701-261-4272. For Partnership information call Rich Scoggin at 775-972-3962.

To follow up on a point I made last month: Our board is committed to transparency and democratic processes. Diane has been posting the Agenda on the white board a week prior to the meeting along with a reminder that all club members are welcome to attend board meetings. Additionally, this month, the Agenda will be sent to all those with e-mail addresses.

Last month, in this column, I made a clarion call for people to get involved and take responsibility for letting board members know their opinions on important matters under consideration by the board either by attending board meetings or, at least, conveying their thoughts to board members. Only 2 non-board members attended the July meeting.

I had requested that we place on the Agenda continued funding for the Xmas party. The board unanimously voted to discontinue subsidizing it. Simply, we felt there were better uses for \$1400. Anyone could have checked the posted Agenda to know that item was up for consideration, come to the meeting, and made their views known.

Several people had a lot to say about discontinuing the funding after the decision was made. Well, maybe we would not have made that decision had opposition voices attended and made convincing counter arguments. We are not clairvoyant, so hope to see more of you next month. There will be more resource allocation measures to consider.

Congrats to those who have advanced in Rank: Regional Master: Stella Marino Russell and Alice Olson; Sectional Master: Ann Hiller Brumbach; Club Master: John Eastman.

Top Score: 70.14%, Lin Goldstein & Satish Gupta.

## Sacramento

*By Miriam Steinberg*

Have you ever wondered if your bidding system is optimal or you are on the right track? To satisfy my curiosity, I asked some of Unit 505's top players about their bidding systems and their favorite tips.

Albert Chow plays Standard American with "a lot of gadgets." "We're pretty complicated, we've spent years on it: it's all written down," he explained, referring to the system he and partner Ted Muller have used for over 40 years. And I may add, if you are ever their opponents, be prepared



to get confused! Albert continued, "Any well-oiled partnership will have nuances the opponents don't know and has an advantage." He continued, "We know the risks we take and assess our situations pretty good; I learn from certain odds. And we have knowledge of the opponents and assess them as well." "Sometimes you are really on top and zoom right into the analysis; it's really difficult to quantify. And there is a guessing element involved. I also know there are certain hands Ted isn't good at evaluating and I take a risk. And I don't just bid on point count; I bid on where the cards are."

Albert also cautioned about describing your hand too much because the opponents are listening and it could help their defense. Generally, he advises to stick with your philosophy and your comfort level or you will confuse your partner. Ted and Albert also clearly know which bids are forcing or non-forcing and if a bid comes up where there has been no agreement, it is forcing, intended to get partner to describe his hand further. "You are up to something and waiting for you or your partner to show a certain card."

They play INT forcing by a non-passed hand and change their bidding according to vulnerability or position such as strong or weak NT. And although they don't play a lot of conventions, they play a lot of description. He expounded, "All pairs make adjustments in their conversation of bidding and have their own twists. The main thing is to play with the same person."

He and Ted are especially solid in Swiss teams (and knock outs) winning 50-60% of games in Sacramento, 75% in Nevada City and 80% in Chico!

Ted started out his first 1½ years playing the Neapolitan club because his brother bought a book by Edgar Kaplan on the three Italian bidding systems when they decided to take up bridge. He was happy to switch over to Standard American. "I liked bidding what I had for a change!" he explained. He feels 1NT forcing is best for most people. "You need a lot of stuff that is non-standard if you don't use it," he added. He pointed out that 2/1 is a misnomer because every auction is not actually game-force. Ted advised on choosing your system, "You should not be playing beyond your comfort level; you're not having fun if you're stressed out over your game!"

Chip Martel, one of two Grand Life Masters in our unit plays 2/1, also with "a lot of gadgets". The biggest variation is that he opens 1C on all balanced

hands (11 ½-14 and 18-19), so a 1D bid is always an unbalanced hand with diamonds. Also, the transfer responses to 1C are: D=H, H=S, S= no major. He feels that the best system for a partnership is the one they know the best and are comfortable playing. “What the system is matters less,” explained Chip. “I think players often play more than they really know well and have discussed fully.”

He also thinks players spend too much time on constructive agreements and not enough on competitive auctions. For example, he pointed out, if you play Michael’s do you know what your bid means if the next player doubles? Or do you know what responder’s bid means over 1S (2S) 3C—is it forcing? He added, “These days, your opponents will rarely just pass all day!”

Gary Soules plays a Polish club system because a few years ago some locals wanted to try it with “some of its unique gadgets.” Because it’s a regimented system, he and his partners are mostly on the same playing field.

Gary commented that all systems can be successful if played with discipline. And “remember that the best information you receive from partner and opponents is not what they do but what they do not do; it’s what partner did not bid that helps you the most!” A bidding tip from Gary is to never open a minor with a bad hand and certainly not a bad suit. Pass with a lot of minimum bids unless you have an accurate re-bid.

Bob Burgdorf suggests using the system that requires the least effort. “2/1 gives you the most bang for your buck,” he stated. The big club like Precision he feels is actually superior, but more labor intensive.

Ronnie Mc Murdie, with her 22,000+ MP still prefers Standard American. “I’m a match-point player. I like getting top boards by playing in 1NT; it’s different from a team game,” she explained. She does however, currently play 2/1 with a lot of her partners “The majority of people are very happy with 2/1,” she commented. “The pros play 2/1, especially in team games.” She added, “But if you have good card sense and intuition, you don’t need 2/1.”

Ronnie started out her bridge career playing Schenken, which is similar to Precision, then moved on to ACOL, 2/1, then Standard. “Every system has its good or its bad,” she concluded.

And now for some old news but good news: Ted Muller, Albert Chow, Bill Sanford and John Jefferson

scored 110/120 or a 92% game in the Swiss team event at the May sectional in Sacramento. According to Ted, “None of us has ever seen a score like that before!” Pretty darn impressive!

## San Francisco

*By Kimberly Fanady*

Welcome to the dog days of Fogust, when a swirling white blanket of fog greets us every morning, retreats (if we’re lucky) during the day, and cascades through the Golden Gate and over Twin Peaks every evening. That Sandburg guy got it all wrong. The fog doesn’t creep in on little cat feet. It comes roaring in on a cold, damp blast of wind. Better take shelter at the bridge table!



Fogust also brings us the annual Summer STaC. Grope your way through the fog to your favorite club during the week of Fogust 20-26, and the glittering pile of silver points you win will light your way home. The North American Pairs qualifying games wrap up this month, so if you don’t have your Q yet, go get one. Our unit game schedule continues, with the very popular format of pregame lesson, lunch, and three sections in play, on Fogust 11. Lesson at 10:45, lunch at 11:15, game at noon, at St. Mary’s Cathedral, 1100 Gough St. at Geary. All are welcome.

Congratulations as always to those advancing to a higher rank: new Junior Masters Maureen Buick and Margaret Wu; Club Master Lucy Breslow; Sectional Masters Kevin Babcock and Bill Caldwell; Regional Masters Jesse Levy and John Winston; NABC Master Chris Chen; and Life Master Daphne Bransten. Well played, all! And welcome to our new members Peter Choi and Eliza Wiraatmadja and transfer Liz Koh (New Jersey). Be sure to say hello to these fresh faces when you meet them at the table.

Congrats also to Will Zhu and Rob Balas, who posted a crazy high score at Pips on July 19: 75.55%. Way to go, guys! This win should get Will in practice for the world teams competition in Shanghai this month where he will play on USA II. Good luck Will! We sadly say goodbye this month to George Carter, a long time Unit 506 member who played often at QuickTricks. George learned the game at the Bay Area Bridge School, and graced our tables for many

years. Always pleasant and friendly, he was a very well liked asset to our bridge community. We will miss him. Our condolences to his family and friends.

As you can probably tell from the intro to this column, I like it warm and sunny. So I'm looking forward to the big Santa Clara regional at the end of the month. Get me out of the fog! See you there — at the table and by the pool!

## San Mateo

By Fran Gaura

First, a quick look back to June 21, 2018, to give huge kudos to folks involved in The Longest Day fund raising efforts. Fred Chasalow started Team Peninsula, a fund raising chapter for The Longest Day, five years ago. He coordinated the Bayshore Club with clubs QuickTricks and Mountain View to charge increased player fees to benefit the charity.

This year, Unit 498 created a committee, consisting of Fred Chasalow, Bob Johnson, Donna Pellegrini, Jackie Lowenberg, Janelle Van Rensselaer, Jenny Kuhn, Loren Charlton, Marge Pacchetti, Marie Pattie, Raad Bunni, Sandra Tilch,

and Sue Papilion, to join Fred's effort. With a Silent Auction, Raffle ticket sales, player fees, and cash donations, Unit 498 raised \$15,000! We were the fifth highest participant in the Alzheimer's Association/ACBL national fund raiser!

Early August sees the opportunity to let your friends in on the fun that is duplicate bridge. Jennifer Kuhn's Peninsula Bridge Club is again offering Easybridge. This is the chance for four free lessons! Your friends, spouses, and relatives will enjoy a wonderful pastime. They can learn in just a few weeks, while meeting new friends, learning bridge the Easybridge! way. Participants play in a game on the very first lesson.

One may bring a partner or come alone and meet new and interesting people while improving their minds. The speed with which your brain processes information slows down with age. However, engaging in stimulating activities like bridge can help.

According to retired Professor Marian Diamond of Lawrence Hall of Science at Berkeley, learning to play bridge is the kind of stimulation that can help the brain continue to develop at any age. Games will

**The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual (and Final)  
Maye Soules Game**

*With a Special Remembrance to  
Harvey Brody and Thomas Quinlan*

**Saturday | August 25, 2018**

Bayshore Bridge Club in Burlingame  
Game Directed by Robert Ng

Lunch at 11:45 a.m. | Game at 1:00 p.m.  
Price: \$30/pair

RSVP to Bayshore Bridge Club  
650.344.4919  
or  
David Hoffman  
650.574.0460  
eyedoc243@comcast.net

**RSVP by August 16<sup>th</sup> as seating is limited**

**BAROMETER**

Club Championship    Separate I/N Section

Hand Records    Stratified    Trophies

**Easybridge Starts August 30**  
Fattoria E Mare Restaurant, Burlingame

**Want to Learn Bridge In  
An Easy Fun Way?  
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**FIRST FOUR WEEKS  
ABSOLUTELY  
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Register by August  
15 to Receive a  
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No Experience  
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Free Parking  
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**EasyBridge™ at PDBC**  
Thursdays 9am – 11:30 am  
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Register at [www.PeninsulaDBC.com](http://www.PeninsulaDBC.com)  
or email [jkuhn@peninsuladbc.com](mailto:jkuhn@peninsuladbc.com)  
or 650 690 2582 (CLUB)

**PDBC**  
Peninsula  
Duplicate  
Bridge Club

be held Thursdays from 9am to 11:30 am at Fattoria E Mare Restaurant, 1095 Rollins Road, Burlingame. Free Parking and Free Refreshments. Register by August 15 to receive a free book. Register at [www.peninsuladbc.com/easybridge](http://www.peninsuladbc.com/easybridge) or by email to [jkuhn@peninsuladbc.com](mailto:jkuhn@peninsuladbc.com).

August 18 and 19 is our Sectional at the Grove at Canada College. As usual our sectional planner, Marc Renson, has proceedings well in hand and again promises a lively two day tournament in the lovely foothills of the peninsula.

Those who have participated in this tournament in the past have commented on the beautiful setting, easy parking and the variety of healthy choices provided by the college's cafe which is open during the event.

Look for additional details and the flyer announcing specific events. Players of all levels can spend a lovely summer day in comfort and be mentally challenged!

On Saturday, August 25, the last Saturday before the Santa Clara Regional, the Bayshore Bridge Club will once again hold the Annual Maye Soules Memorial Game. It has had a very successful run over the last 14 years. The 15th anniversary will be a little different. There will still be a Club Championship, Barometer, Hand Records, a separate section for I/N players, Stratified Seeding and Trophies for overall winners, plus a fantastic meal.

However, this year, we will not only toast Maye, but we will also honor the memories of Harvey Brody and Tom Quinlan, who we unfortunately lost earlier this year. They were not just great friends of Maye, but also very dear to many in the bridge community.

Please plan to celebrate their lives and share some great memories as this will be the final tribute game. Lunch begins at 11:45 a.m. and the game starts at 1:00 p.m. RSVP by August 16 to Bayshore Bridge Club at 650-344-4919 or to David Hoffman at [eyedoc243@comcast.net](mailto:eyedoc243@comcast.net).

Over the last few weeks all of our Unit 498 clubs have participated in the NAP competition by hosting NAP qualifying games. There are still games in August in which you can play and qualify for the Unit Qualifier on September 15 at Fattoria e Mare at 10:00.

With so many players qualifying in our club games, the turnout should be great. The winners in

that game will advance to represent our unit in the next stage of the annual competition.

A warm welcome to new members joining our unit recently: Ruth Chait, Deihleen Claffey, Myrl Dunker, Susan Lazarus, Bill Leckonby, Judy Leckonby, William Nicolet, Rolf Timp, Katherine Whittman.

And congratulations to players advancing over the past months: to Club Master, William Bakun and Marilyn Press; to Sectional Master, Vivien Moyer, Susan Papilion, Penelope Sibun; to Regional Master, Aaron Mayerson; to Life Master, Carole Anne Gennaro and Daniel Sonner; to Bronze Life Master, Mark Sorenson.

## Santa Cruz

*By Karen Schamberg*

Thank you and good wishes go out to Linda Hanson who has resigned from our board to move to Arizona. Linda will be missed but we hope to see her back at the SCBC during the summer months. Joining the board is Robert Johnson. Welcome Bob, and thank you for stepping up.



We have some milestones to recognize this month. Congratulations go to: Jeff Belden, Silver Life Master; Rich Hill, Bronze Master; David Harken, NABC Master; Harold Wasserstrom, Jacci Sterling and Judith Ford, Regional Master; Mary Dean, Gina Brown and Steven Nelson, Sectional Master; Leslie Davidson and Daniel Marchegiani, Club Master; and Mary Dean, Junior Master. Congratulations to all.

High scores in club games were earned by: John Oppenheimer & Mark Hasey, 71.22%; Josh Karter & Rick Zinman, 71.13%; Ann Ottenberg & Robin Evenden, 70.83%; Jim Slinger & Peter Gelfand, 70.49%; and Malcolm Sprott & Rich Hill, 70.41%. High scores in newcomer games went to: Richard & Susan Pearce, 71.67%; and John Walker & Nancy Ficarrotta, 70.83%.

Unit 550 members on the road garnered some firsts in June and July. Laura McCabe, John Walker and Peter Gelfand took firsts at the Firecracker Sectional in Mountain View.

This month I'd like to highlight a few of the opportunities available to newer, beginning players at the SCBC.

There is a Beginners Duplicate Game the 1st & 3rd Friday mornings. Free lesson at 10, game begins at 10:30. Not only do you get a lesson and a game, but this one comes with a free pizza and salad lunch. Beginning September 10, Sydney Reuben will be offering Beginners Bridge #2, a series of 10 classes held on Monday evenings at 6:30. It includes a review of Beginners Bridge #1 plus additional Bidding, Playing and Defending strategies. To find out more about these classes or to register, contact Sydney J. Reuben [sydneyjane210@gmail.com](mailto:sydneyjane210@gmail.com)

Robin Evenden is offering some special Tuesday night games. On August 7 she hosts the ACBL Wide Junior Fund game and on September 25 will be another of her very popular Pro-Am games. This one includes a potluck dinner provided by the "Ams" with dinner at 6 and the game starting at 6:30.

Our unit game will be on Saturday, August 11. Be sure to bring a lunch.

It's not too soon to start planning for the Surf's Up Sectional. This year, it will be on October 13 & 14 at the Mid County Senior Center in Capitola. Follow the link from our website and get your partner/s lined up.

As a reminder, the SCBC is a fragrance-free venue. Please use unscented, non-perfumed products. To see the Unit 550 schedule and calendar, to get information on our Mentor Program, or to contact one of our club owners, please visit our website at [www.santacruzbridge.org](http://www.santacruzbridge.org).

## **Santa Rosa/Petaluma**

*By Cecelia Zachar*

It would be hard to decide what is more beautiful, Sonoma County in the spring or in the fall. Our fall sectional is in Santa Rosa September 29 & 30. In wine country that's Crush Time, the busiest time of year. Come join us for bridge and come a day early or stay a day late to enjoy some wine tasting and a picnic. The event will be held at Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa. Saturday we will have Open and 299er Pairs at 10 and 2:30. If you have fewer than 20 points and play Saturday morning, your afternoon game is free. Sunday teams are Strati-Flighted. Delicious restaurant sandwiches, with a vegetarian option, will be available for purchase each day. For more information, see <http://acblunit509.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/1809104-1.jpg>.

Many of our players competed in the Sonoma Sectional July 7 & 8. Placing in the overalls were Bob Klein, Nancy Gunn, Mark Hersko, Mary Omodt, Wayne Kaneko, Barbara Simon, Cathy Wagener, Maxine Reagh, Paula Cornyn, Winifred Whooley, Erwin Linzner, Jennifer Jones, Shelly Dunietz, Lynn Blumenthal, Barry Samuel, Paul Scheinberg, Larry Wyner, Patty Hertz, Nancy Johnson, Joanne Pransky, Debbie Tesler, Lee Grams, Jill Cantor, Lynn Dondero, Karen Rocco, Cathy Netz, Karen Weissberg, and Lynda McGuire. Congratulations all!

At the time I am writing this, it's July 20. The Atlanta Nationals have not yet started, and we do not know who will win the Flight A Grand National Teams Championship which runs from July 25 through July 29. Our own Erwin Linzner will be representing District 21 along with teammates Jessica Lai, Dmitri Shabes, Gregory Vance, Andrew Hoskins, and Len Vishnevsky. We're rooting for you, Erwin.

We would like to thank the fabulous Cris Barrere for his classes on Balancing June 24 and July 22. We can't say enough about how wonderful a teacher he is! The class is free to all, paid for by Unit 509 and the District 21 Education Program.

The winners of our June unit game were Conrad Larkin and Nan Halberg North/South and Cynthia Ketelsen and Larry Wyner East/West.

The Bridge Gallery will be offering Double Trouble with Kate!, a 6 week series about a variety of doubles including but not limited to: take-out, balancing, support, lead directing, and Lightner doubles. The class will be taught by Kate Hill on Tuesday mornings from August 14 through Septembers 25, skipping August 28. The cost is \$95 including text. The Bridge Gallery will also be offering its Beginning Bridge Class starting late September. See their website for details of their classes. <http://santarosabridge.com/classes/>

There was only one 70%+ game between June 22 and July 20. At the PBC, Jim and Frances O'Brien racked up 70.9% on July 12.

We had 7 Unit 509 players fly up to a new rank in June! Wow! Even more amazing is that 4 of them earned the very special ranks of Life Master and Diamond Life Master. We had 2 new Club Masters, Stephen Burdick and Steve Carey. Terry Welsh earned the rank of Sectional Master. Our 3 new Life Masters are Donald Baze, Roy Redlich, and Kathy

Juarez. Kathy concurrently became a Bronze Life Master. Finally, Jackie Ortiz attained the Diamond Life Master rank. Congratulations all!

## Silicon Valley

By Ray Yuenger

In July, Unit 507 held its annual membership meeting, potluck dinner, and member appreciation pairs game. Attendance was up for the first time in about four years. We had 28 tables, a quorum for the meeting, and a majority approved an amendment of the Unit's bylaws authorizing the Unit Board to also amend the bylaws after proper procedures. In the unit game, Marcia & Bob Dean were first overall in the open game, with Ken Imboden & Lynn Bartz first in the B stratification and Susuma & Amar Chunder first in C. First in the limited section were Matthew Rode & Ferial Hurst with Mike Wyman & Sandra Erickson first in the other direction.

One day after the membership meeting was a unit game celebrating the 100th birthday of a still active player, Loreta Flynn, shown photo below.



At the Oakland sectional, K-P Cheng placed first in an open pairs event. Frank Xie was first in a limited pairs event.

At the five-day Firecracker sectional, stratification tops in open pairs events were earned by Kathy Jasper & Jory Segal, Olivier Chapelle, Donghui Lu, Bud Biswas & Stu Goodgold, and Pangjie Xu (twice). Section tops went to Ken Imboden, Jim Liu, Stu Goodgold & Ray Yuenger, Will Watson, Lynn Shannon, Mansoor Gowani & Ray Yuenger, Arif Janjua & Clark Millikan, and K-P Cheng.

Earning strat tops in limited pairs events were Joan Schlinkert & Jackie Hiatt, Steven & Irene Jacobson, Kathy Vita, Pamela Meckenstock & Judy Macarthur, Rochelle & Barry Alhadef and Ed Becker, with section tops to Bharat Kamdar, Jack Chen, Ann Blach, and Susan Dietz.

Strat tops in open Swiss events went to Will Watson (twice); Lynn Shannon & Han-Yu Chang; Bob Ritz, Bill Langlois, Don Nemiro & Fran Dickman; Arthur Zhou & Jim Liu; Stacie Bowman, George Welch & Terry Ahern; Jung Hu; and Jiang Chen & Jim Liu.

Earning strat tops in limited Swiss events were Brenna Wundram, Laura Walters, Mary Steele, & Fern Herman; Pat Wong; and Elenalani Lam & Pradeep Verma.

Placing first in their knockout strats were Andy Scott, Colin Hemsley & Anne Dudman; Lynn Shannon; and Dee Ann Hansen, Miwako Wong & Peggy Sprague.

At the Castro Valley sectional, Roy Tsai & Ed Logg had a strat top in an open pairs game. Section tops went to Ray Yuenger (twice) and Richard Reitman. Prevailing in their Swiss strats were Kevin Rosenberg; Lynn Bartz, Jory Segal & Terry Ahern; and Elenalani Lam.

Congratulations to our newest Masters: Bimal Gupta, Mary Lehner, Shailesh Naik, Hendry Zhang (Junior); Lea Pavlovich (Sectional); Gerald Hewitt (Regional); Jennifer Duval (Advanced NABC); Vilas Namjoshi, Linda Rocha (Bronze); Frank Xie (Silver); Erin Gove (Sapphire).

The Unit Board added Bob Dean to fill a vacant position on the Board. The usual suspects were elected by the Board to continue in their offices: President Ray Yuenger, Vice-President Mich Ravera, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, and Secretary Anne Bossange.

## Stockton

By Debbie DeZarn

First, I want to thank Wendy Buchanan for writing this column for the past two plus years. Her style and wit will be missed as she spends more time recruiting new players and assisting with classes as well as traveling the world with her patient husband, Don.



Speaking of newcomers, classes began in the Spring to urge “advanced beginners” and longtime social bridge players to learn some modern playing styles and participate in duplicate bridge. A few have started playing in the twice a month non-life master game. All class participants and regular NLM game players who have never been to an “open” game on Monday or Friday are being offered a one time “free-play” to try it out.

Like the rest of the San Joaquin Valley, Stockton has had a pretty hot summer. Playing at the air conditioned club provides a respite from the 100+ temps but now it is even better. A big thank you to Ken Hillman for installing fans near the ceiling where they circulate the air better.

Now it is uniformly 72-75 degrees rather than having hot and freezing spots and the floors are more clear of hazards. For those who still think the

Stockton Club is too warm, the Oak Park game has A/C so good that players have learned to bring a sweater even if it is 110 outside.

We are proud to announce some major milestones have been reached by Stockton members. Howard Parker, III passed 10,000 points in May becoming our club’s first Platinum Life Master. Doris Ashcroft reached Gold Life Master. She is one of the mentors who play with the newer players and crossed the 2500 point mark playing with one of those NLMs.

Pam Kitto achieved Silver Life Master by being a regular winner after returning to regular play earlier this year. Other advancements are Jenny Lind, Regional, Paula Monroe, Club, and Peter Gannon, Junior.

Elections for board members were held in May with Ken Hillman elected President. Mary Sievers, long time President, will remain very involved as VP, and thanks go to Cissy Hilken and Rose Knutsen for agreeing to continue as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. Cissy also makes sure there is a nice lunch at each Monday and Friday game and Rose manages the money so well that we can afford to include lunch in the entry fee.

Plan to attend the Stockton Sectional for silver points on September 15-16. More info is available elsewhere in this issue. No ferry boat this year but lunch and snacks will still be included in the entry fees both days.

**Guess whose sectionals will  
have more tables this year?  
All of them who placed ads in  
*Diamond in the Ruff*. Check  
out the next few pages and find  
out who thought ahead...**

# Sacramento Unit 505 2018 Fall Sectional

**Orangevale Community Center**  
**6826 Hazel Avenue**  
**Orangevale, CA 95662**

**Friday, Saturday & Sunday**  
**September 7th, 8th & 9th**

Suggested Hotels:

Hawthorn Inn, Rancho Cordova

Tel: 916-351-9512

Hwy 50 and Hazel Avenue

Lake Natoma Inn, Old Town Folsom

Tel: 916-351-1500

**Friday, September 7th**

**9:30 am**

Non Life Master Seminar

Presenter: Jim Bowman

**Master point awards are silver**

**Sanction # S1809088**

**Friday and Saturday**

**10:30 am and 3:00 pm**

**2 Session Open Pairs**

Strats: 2500+ / 1000-2500 / 0-1000

Single Session Available

**2 Single Session**

**499er Pairs:**

Strats: 200-500 / 100-200 / 0-100

No one over 500 MPs may play

**Sunday Swiss Teams**

**10:30 am Play Through**

(mid-game break for lunch)

Game over around 6:00 pm

**2 Session A/X Swiss Teams:**

Strats: 4000+/0-4000

**2 Session B/C/D Swiss Teams:**

1000-2500 / 500-1000 / 0-500

No one over 2500 MPs may play

**Entries \$12 per Session**

**Unpaid ACBL Members \$16**

Non Members will be required to pay a 1 month membership fee of \$7.99 which can be applied toward a yearly membership

**Partnerships**

Miriam Steinberg

Cell: 916-607-4947

[mirsteinbergsac@gmail.com](mailto:mirsteinbergsac@gmail.com)

Marc Grunseth

916-971-3988

[mrgrunseth@aol.com](mailto:mrgrunseth@aol.com)

All Events Use Pair/Team Averages

All Strats may be adjusted

by the Director

Based upon attendance

Director in Charge

Dianne Barton Paine

**Tournament Chair**

Dave Willmott

916-709-8958

[dwillmott@yahoo.com](mailto:dwillmott@yahoo.com)

**Tournament Co-Chair**

Sam Sandusky

916-705-5557

[samelayne@gmail.com](mailto:samelayne@gmail.com)

A Zero Tolerance Event  
Please avoid wearing per-  
fumes and fragrances that  
may cause allergic reactions

**Hospitality Chair**

**Sharon Neff**

**Unit 505** welcomes you  
with coffee, tea and snacks  
Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Lunch available Daily

**Results Daily at**  
**[Playbridgesacramento.org](http://Playbridgesacramento.org)**  
**And at ACBL Live**

**American Contract Bridge League, District 21**





# Stockton Fall Sectional

**Ben Holt Middle School Gymnasium**

**September 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018**



**3201 E. Morada Lane Stockton, California**

Free coffee, water, soda,  
snacks and lunch both days

Open games Stratified  
A = 1500+, B = 500-1500, C = 0-500

## Schedule

Saturday-15<sup>th</sup> 10 AM

Stratified Open Pairs (Single Session)  
Stratified 199er Pairs (Single Session)

Saturday-15<sup>th</sup> 2:30 PM

Stratified Open Pairs (Single Session)  
Stratified 199er Pairs (Single Session)

### Tournament Chair

Ken Hillman (209) 952-2890

### Partnership

Mary Sievers (209) 478-7622  
Rose Knutson (209) 969-2414

Sunday-16<sup>th</sup> 10AM & TBD

Stratified Swiss Teams

**Game Fees \$12 per person  
per session (lunch included)  
\$4 additional per person, per  
session for unpaid members**

### Suggested Accommodations

Hilton Hotel-hilton.com  
Courtyard Marriot-marriot.com

### Directions

**Exit Morada Lane west off 99**

**Go ¾ mile, look for balloons on the north**

# Gold Country Sectional

## October 12-14, 2018

St. Canice Center  
236 Reward St.  
Nevada City, CA 95959

Unit 461



### Friday, Oct. 12

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

- 10 a.m. 299er pairs - single session
  - Stratified Open Pairs - 2 single sessions
- 3 p.m. NLM Pairs <500 MP - single session

### Saturday, Oct. 13

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

- 10 a.m. 299er pairs - single session
  - Stratified Open Pairs - 2 single sessions
- 3 p.m. NLM Pairs <500 MP - single session

### Pairs stratifications based on pair average:

A: 2000+; B: 750-2000;  
C: 0-750 (NLM)

### Sunday, Oct. 14

10 a.m. & 2:15 p.m.

- Sunday Swiss Teams
  - 20 Victory point scale - afternoon session; short lunch on your own, sandwiches available for purchase
  - A: 1500+; B: 500-1500; C: 0-500 based on average MP per team
    - Single session teams allowed
- Strats for all events may be adjusted by the director based on the masterpoints of players in the event*

### Card fees per session

- \$10 ACBL members
- \$14 for lapsed ACBL members
- \$2 under 18

### General information

Jim Hook  
(530) 432-5593  
[Hook13253@comcast.net](mailto:Hook13253@comcast.net)

Barbara Langdon  
(530) 265-8030  
[jonbar@att.net](mailto:jonbar@att.net)

### Partnerships

Bruce Lester  
(530) 477-9586  
[bvlester@att.net](mailto:bvlester@att.net)

### Directions

*Note: for locals, Reward St. is off Zion St. and within 1 block of SPD in Nevada City.*

From Grass Valley, take Hwy CA 20 E/49 N toward Nevada City. Exit at Ridge Rd./Gold Flat Rd. Exit 185A. Turn left.

Drive .2 miles to roundabout. Turn right onto Zion St.

Drive 0.5 miles on Zion St. to Reward St. Turn left on Reward St.

Drive 0.2 miles on Reward St. to St. Canice Center parking lot at end of Reward St.

*Snacks, coffee and tea will be available throughout the tournament.*

**Sanction #1810142**

## ***District 21 Board of Directors***

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