

DIAMOND

IN THE RUFF

ACBL District 21 Newsletter

Vol 1, Number 11 March 2019

District 21 Board News

By Tom Pajak, District 21 President

Your District Board met in Monterey recently and covered several important topics. One of the really great things was to honor several people for the Goodwill Awards, presented by Goodwill Chairman Ginny Wailes. She and her review committee recognized D21 volunteers Kevin O'Leary, Sigrid Price, Susan Powell, Libby Silver, and Kathy Juarez for their generous contributions to bridge activities throughout the past years. The District President gave special recognition to Janelle Van Rensselaer for all her efforts towards involving younger players in the joy of duplicate bridge.



The board was introduced to McKenzie Myers, the new ACBL Area Manager who is taking the place of our friend Nancy Boyd who has relocated to Horn Lake to take on her new position. McKenzie is the point of contact for all tournament directors in the Western United States. He'll be the 'guy in charge' supervising the tournament directors for all the big tournaments in the West. Look for him next time you're roaming the lobbies in our Regionals and shake his hand. You'll find that he's friendly and open to any suggestions you care to put his way.

Your District representatives voted to elect four officers for a one-year 2019 term: Jean Barry as Treasurer, Sandi Davis as Secretary of the Board, Ray Yuenger as Vice President, and Tom Pajak as President. All electees gratefully accepted these roles and promise to conduct the business of D21

Continued on Page 3

District 21 Regionals

By Pam Hughes, Regional Tournament Manager

Hello everyone, I hope you're weathering this rainy winter. Never fear, spring is nearly here, and shortly after that: the California Capital Regional, May 27 - June 2 in Sacramento!



If you haven't made your reservations yet for this fantastic regional, better do so soon! There are still rooms available of all types (and I've ironed out the wrinkle with the king bed rooms, they will be available at the

Continued on Page 3

District 21 2019 GNTs

By Grant Vance, D21 GNT Coordinator

Congratulations to Mark Ralph, Bruce Noda, Ed Nagy, Gary Soules, Nick Bykov, and Leszek Rabięga; winners of the 2019 Open Grand National Teams. They will be representing District 21 in the National Finals in Las Vegas in July. The Flight B Championship will match teams led by Bo Xiao and Jim Liu. Both those teams have already won the right to play in Las Vegas. New ACBL rules allow the two top finishers in both Flight B and Flight C to participate in the National Finals, conditional on having 8 or more entries in those flights. The deadline for entering Flight C is March 8. There are not 8 teams entered yet, but if we reach that number, District 21 will also qualify two Flight C teams to travel to Las Vegas. So get out and play, Flight C players!



Upcoming Tournaments Sectionals

Mar 2–3, 2019

Grand National Teams Flight A District Finals

San Jose Bridge Center, San Jose CA

Mar 9–10, 2019

Unit 509 Santa Rosa/Petaluma Sectional

Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa CA

Mar 9–10, 2019

Santa Cruz Rising Stars I/N Sectional

Mid-County Senior Center, Capitola CA

Mar 16–17, 2019

Grand National Teams Flight C District Finals

East Bay Community Bridge Center, Oakland CA

Mar 27-31, 2019

March Into Spring Sectional

Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks NV

Apr 6–7, 2019

Almond Valley Sectional

Homewood Village, Modesto CA

Apr 13–14, 2019

Marin Spring Sectional

Redwood High School, Larkspur CA

Apr 27–28, 2019

Wine Valley Sectional

Vintage House Senior Center, Sonoma CA

Apr 28, 2019

2019 High School Bridge Tournament Sectional

Palo Alto Bridge Center, Burlingame CA

May 3–5, 2019

Sacramento Spring Sectional

Orangevale Community Center, Orangevale CA

May 4–5, 2019

SM Intermediate/Newcomer Spring Sectional

Fattoria e Mare, Burlingame CA

May 6–12, 2019

Western Conference Spring Fling STaC

Local clubs

May 17–19, 2019

47th Lone Cypress – Monterey Sectional

Unit 530, Monterey Bridge Center, Marina CA

Jun 8–9, 2019

San Francisco Sectional

Pomeroy Center, San Francisco CA

Jun 22–23, 2019

East Bay Summer Sectional

Masonic Center, Oakland CA

Jun 29–30, 2019

Diablo Valley Summer Sectional

Rossmoor Event Center, Walnut Creek CA

Jul 3–7, 2019

Firecracker Supersectional

Palo Alto Bridge Center, Mountain View CA

Jul 17–28, 2019

2019 Summer North American Bridge Championships

Cosmopolitan Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas NV

Aug 3–4, 2019

Wine Valley Sectional

Vintage House Senior Center, Sonoma CA

Aug 10–11, 2019

Castro Valley Sectional

Transfiguration Catholic Church, Castro Valley CA

Aug 14–17, 2019

Reno 2019 August Sectional

Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks NV

Aug 17–18, 2019

San Mateo County Summer Sectional

Cañada College Cafeteria (aka the Grove)

Redwood City CA

Aug 19–25, 2019

Western Conference Summer Fun STaC

Local clubs

Regionals

May 27–June 2, 2019

California Capital Regional

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel,
Sacramento CA

Aug 27–Sep 2, 2019

All Western Championships

Hyatt Regency Santa Clara,
Santa Clara CA

faithfully in accordance with the D21 bylaws.

An item came up about the charges that D21 passes on to units as supplies are furnished for local sectional tournaments. Perhaps you don't realize that D21 in most cases furnishes card tables, bidding boxes, convention cards, Bridge Mate scoring devices, pencils, many boxes of duplicate boards, computer paper, and all miscellaneous materials to each sectional in the district.

These supplies are paramount to running a successful sectional, and it alleviates the units from providing all this support material on their own. Calvin Harper, our loyal transporter, is the linchpin in this operation, since he stores, loads and delivers all this to and from the tournament sites. He was recognized by the district board to receive an increased stipend for his labor. Therefore, Calvin will be compensated a small increase from units for the work he provides in the charge they pay to D21.

This is fair and equitable considering units don't have to supply all the ancillary equipment on their own. The extra fees to Units are modest and warranted; the district board voted to approve this change.

An item arose about members who aren't receiving e-mail notifications of upcoming issues of "Diamond in the Ruff" since it's now distributed electronically. Executive Editor Ray Yuenger asks that he be notified if you aren't receiving monthly issues in your email in-box (rayyuenger@gmail.com) and he'll massage the distribution list to make certain that you're included.

District Director Jackie Zayac reminded representatives to advise their unit boards that there's been a flurry of e-mail phishing scams going around. The thrust of these seem to be fake e-mails from 'supposed' officers of the unit requesting treasurers to make payments or to issue gift cards to individuals. As in all cases of such schemes, anyone involved needs to personally phone the requestor to make absolutely certain that such a request is valid. Internet fraud is rampant and we don't want to be caught up in that nefarious web. One or two units were already caught unawares but managed to thwart the scam just in time. But

be assured these attacks will continue, so be on the alert!

Our loyal Tournament Chairman, Pam Hughes, reported that the Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento will charge players \$10 more than the flyer advertised price if you want to book a room with a king bed, and if you ask to be assigned to the Cal Expo wing (nearest the playing area) there'll be a surcharge of \$40 for those rooms; so be forewarned. If that's not adding insult to injury, Pam reports that the Hyatt Hotel in Santa Clara is threatening to start charging for daily parking when we hold our late summer All-Western Regional. Pam is vehemently working to get these increased fees reduced or abolished as best she can, but your board was advised that accommodations in the greater Bay Area are at a premium and the bridge crowd isn't as well received as it was in past years because players don't spend the expected amount at these venues in bar charges, restaurant revenue, and other incidental costs. Therefore the properties want to scrape together more and more extra fees to achieve their profit goals. Stick around to see how this all pans out.

Here's wishing you aces and kings in every hand you pick up. Till next time.

Hughes

From Page 1

bridge rate of \$109 (\$149 for the Cal Expo wing). There is a link on the district website where you can book directly, or you can call the Sacramento DoubleTree at (916) 929-8855. A full schedule of tournament events is available online. But just to remind you, this tournament is home to many fantastic events for players of all levels, such as the two-day California Capital Swiss, a special Gold Rush Swiss at 10:00 and 3:00 on Saturday, three days of mid-flight pairs for you players with under 3000 masterpoints, and 299er games at every 9:00, 1:00 and 7:00 session!

It's also time to make your bookings for the All Western Championships in Santa Clara. Along with the California Capital, this is another of the country's biggest and best known regionals and it's happening right in your own backyard, August 27 - September 2, at the Hyatt Regency Santa Clara. Once again, we've put up a direct

booking link on the website (www.d21acbl.com), or you can make your reservations by phone: (408) 200-12334. We're pleased to announce a special day for Intermediate/Novice players and newcomers on Friday, August 29. We'd really love to see a huge turnout! So, teachers please tell your students, and clubs, please let everyone know so they can mark their calendars. There will be special prizes, discounted entries, and many other terrific reasons to come join us!

The All Western is home to the two-day All Western Championship pairs event, and, like the California Capital, will have three days of the popular new mid-flight pair games.

Both tournaments will still offer new knockouts starting daily, three side game series, and daylight pairs! There is just no reason to stay home!

So say goodbye to cold and flu season and hello to bridge fun! Be sure to make your reservations soon (like now!) so you don't miss out. But remember to Reserve Responsibly! That means being sure of your dates (and that you're planning to come) before booking a room.

**Have great news
to share from your
unit?
Contact *Diamond in
the Ruff* Editor Rich
Luttrell at
[luttrellr@sbcglobal.
net](mailto:luttrellr@sbcglobal.net)
and tell him all
about it!**



Bridge Summer Camp



Do you know a 5th - 10th grader who likes games?



WHEN

Monday, June 24th to Friday, June 28th
1:00 to 5:00 PM instruction and play daily
Friday special pizza party and tournament with prizes!

WHERE

IFES Hall 432 Stierlin Road, Mountain View, CA

QUESTIONS

www.SIVYBridge.org

email: summercamp@siliconvalleyyouthbridge.org



Team Games, Part 3: Knock-outs

by Barbara Somervill

You're at a regional, and you get knocked out in round one. Your team plans to start a new knock-out tomorrow, but what about tonight? You could always play pairs, but to get in some extra team practice, you put Board-a-Match (BAM) is on your team schedule. The arrangement of a BAM is enough to make a director cringe, but it does give you a chance to pit your team's skills with other teams. For those who hate team games because the math when comparing gives them a headache—a BAM is for you.

At a BAM, there are two sections playing throughout the session. N/S team members are stationary in section A. E/W moves table to table in section B. An equal number of teams have the opposite arrangement, with N/S in section B and their partners playing E/W in section A. The movement is such that Team 6 plays v. Team 7 in both sections, and they play the same boards although not necessarily at the same time. Usually, each round has 2, 3, or 4 boards. Movement throughout the round is similar to the Mitchell movement used in pairs, with E/W doing all the moving.

In this game, it is not the overall score that counts. Every board is equally important since this is a win/tie/lose scoring format. Comparing takes place only at the end of the session. In scoring, you either win, tie, or lose each board. You can win a board by 10 points or 1,000 points, but a win is a win is a win... If one team scores a plus 2NT partial of 120 on board 5, and their partners score a loss of 130 on a 3D partial making 4, the team has a loss on that board. In the end, the winner is the team with the most wins. For example, after comparing, Team 6 has wins on 17 out of 24 boards. Team 8 has 19 wins out of 24 boards. It does not matter which boards or how great each win was; you can't get a top or a bottom in this scoring, and Team 8 wins the BAM.

Here's an anecdote about a quality AX team that played in the BAM. At the N/S table, bidding on hand 15 was fast and furious. In the end, N/S won the bid at 7 hearts vul, and with careful play made the contract for a fat 2210. At the E/W table, the E/W pair bid competitively for a round or two offering spades to counter the N/S heart bids and trying to keep N/S from reaching the optimal 7H bid. When the opponents finally reached 7H, E/W decided to sacrifice. After all, both sides were vulnerable, so the loss of 2210 would be dreadful, and E/W had little defense against the contract. East put down his 7S bid, South immediately doubled... Onward to the compare: Hand 13... plus 420...tie. Hand 14...plus 170...win. Hand 15... [imagine the pride instilled in this] PLUS 2210...LOSE! The explosion was heard throughout the room. HOW CAN 2210

LOSE??????? Sadly, E/W's doubled vul sacrifice at 7S went down 8 for a punishing 2300. It pays to be cautious when sacrificing.

Bracketed/Flighted/Stratified/Stratiflighted

When you read the program for a tournament, you may notice team games listed as bracketed, flighted, stratified, and so on. Knowing what these terms mean will help you find the best events for you and your team.

A **bracketed** team game divides teams into brackets of similar point range. Let's say there are 32 teams signed up to play. Each bracket will have 8 teams, and the brackets are set by the total points of all players on the team. The total points of each team are listed in descending order, and the 8-team break-off point varies by point count. The top 8 teams have high total points, and the bottom may have close to none. Suppose the weakest team has a combined point total of 468 points. They will be in the lowest bracket, which may range up to 4000 points for a team or higher. The point range in the top bracket may seem astronomical. If you are an intermediate team, you do not want to be the lowest team in the top bracket.

A **flighted** team game breaks the overall teams into sections based on master points. A typical flighted game has three flights: A (0-Meckstroth), B (0-2500) and C (0-1000). The point ranges are set by the tournament, and the designations refer to no team player having more than the points in the range. So, a B team has 4 players, none of whom has greater than 2500 points. You can play up—so a person with 750 points can play in A, but you cannot play down (no one with more than 1000 can play in C).

Stratified teams produce more than one set of winners. This is similar to a pairs session in which A, B, and C each produces a winner. C teams can place in A and B, but no A team can place lower than the A strata.

Stratiflighted teams are just like stratified teams, but there is one difference that makes those games preferable for B and C players. The top A group will not compete against you. You don't have to sit across from that ace with 24,000 points and cringe. If you see a separate AX (5,000 and up) competition being run at the same time, you won't be facing the pros or the top range players.

The Zips!

If you are a speed demon at the table, you will appreciate ZIP games. They are usually held at sectional, regional, and national tournaments between sessions or after play. The renowned Lose-and-Snooze is a Zip KO played late nights. Time for each session is strict: 5 boards in 25 minutes. There is no dawdling over the bidding, and no sitting for five minutes deciding whether to play the 5 or 4 of hearts. Five rounds are played, and if you have the stamina to play from 10:30 to midnight, this might be for you.



Now You Can Name A Game!

**AT THE 2019 NORTH AMERICAN
BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS
NOV 28 – DEC 8, 2019**

**The perfect gift for friends, family or even a bridge partner!
Great for a 2019 Birthday, Anniversary, Tribute, Memorial,
Friendship Message, Master Level Achievement...**

Why not buy **Naming "rights"** to a **regionally rated event** at the upcoming **SAN FRANCISCO NABC** in the fall of 2019? The regionally rated events that complement the NABC+ event schedule are available **NOW**. Honor someone close to you personally or someone special in your local bridge world, or promote your bridge club or business. These dollars will offset costs incurred by D21 to host the 2019 SF Nationals. (Payment must be received prior to printing deadlines noted below.)

Please act ASAP if you want your named event to be included on the four-page San Francisco NABC schedule distributed nationally by ACBL. Deadline for the 1st printing by ACBL is 2/15; 2nd printing is 8/15. This schedule with your named event will also be posted on the ACBL website and in the NABC Daily Bulletins. Event naming can occur up to the day before the event, to be published only in the NABC Daily Bulletins.

In addition, your named event will appear in the full-color "Schedule and Restaurant Guide" included in the Registration Packet received by more than 5,000 players at the San Francisco NABC. Printing deadline is 10/1.

Choose the Level of Naming Rights to Fit Your Wishes!

- ♦ \$2,500 An entire day named
- ♠ \$500 Naming rights for a Regional 4-session KO event
- ♥ \$350 Naming rights for a Regional 2-session event, including Open Pairs, Gold Rush Pairs, Swiss Teams and Compact Knockouts
- ♦ \$250 Naming rights for a 3-Session Side Game Series
- ♣ \$150 Naming rights for a 1-Session (Intermediate/Novice) event or a 1-session Open event (Pairs or Teams) or a 1-Session midnight Swiss or Knockout team game

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN NAMING AN EVENT,
PLEASE CONTACT JEAN BARRY, Finance Chair**
Email: jbarry.d21@gmail.com, Phone: 925-209-9893

California Capital Regional

May 27 - June 2, 2019

Tournament Highlights

- California Capital Open Swiss
Two qualifying sessions Saturday
Two final sessions Sunday
- New Knockouts Daily
- Four Days of 0-750 Gold Pairs
Tuesday Daylight Gold Pairs
- Three Stratified Side Game Series
- Mid Flight Pairs Wed - Friday
- Daylight Pairs
Tuesday - Saturday at 10 & 3
- 10 & 3 Gold Rush Swiss Teams Sat.
- 0-3000 Bracketed Swiss Teams Sunday
*Top 3 Places in each bracket get Gold Points!
- Celebrity Speaker Program
6:15 - 6:45 Tuesday - Saturday
- 0-5 mp's play free Saturday!

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 early partnership arrangements

Make hotel reservations

Plan your tournament events

Gather general information/directions

www.d21acbl.com

Matt Koltnow - Director in Charge

ACBL Sanction R1906041



at the **DoubleTree Hotel**
2001 Point West Way
Sacramento, CA 95815
Capital Freeway (Bus. 80) @ Arden Way

Reserve **EARLY** for the
BRIDGE RATE
\$109 single/double plus tax
\$149 for Cal Expo Wing

limited number of rooms available

916-929-8855
800-222-TREE

Intermediate/Newcomer Events

299er Pairs Every Day
(stratified based on attendance)

**Bridge Concepts Lectures
with Scott Campbell**

Tues-Sat at Noon

Free game for 0-5mp's Sat. 1:00

For information contact:

Pam Hughes: email: jmom380@yahoo.com

District 21 website: www.d21acbl.com

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

Schedule subject to change.

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

Like us on FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/d21acbl

California Capital Regional

May 27 - June 2, 2019

at the DoubleTree Hotel in Sacramento

Monday May 27

- 1:00 Folsom Mon-Wed Side Pairs, 1st of 6
299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**
AMERICAN RIVER GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
- 7:00 **AUBURN BRACKETED KOs**
Continues Tuesday 9, 1 & 7
Folsom Mon-Wed Side Pairs, 2nd of 6
299er Stratified Pairs

Tuesday May 28

- 9:00 AUBURN KOs – round 2
River Cats Morning Side Pairs 1st of 5
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**
TUESDAY DAYLIGHT GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
- 1:00 Folsom Mon-Wed Side Pairs, 3rd of 6
299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS**
EL DORADO BRACKETED KOs
rounds 1&2 Continues Wednesday 1 & 7
AUBURN KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
299er Stratified Pairs
Folsom Mon-Wed Side Pairs 4th of 6

Wednesday May 29

- 9:00 **EUREKA SWISS TEAMS** 1st of 2
River Cats Morning Side Pairs 2nd of 5
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **WEDNESDAY DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1:00 Folsom Mon-Wed Side Pairs, 5th of 6
299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+**
STRATIFIED MID-FLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000
PLACER GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
SIERRA BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2
Continues Thursday 1 & 7
EL DORADO KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
299er Stratified Pairs
Folsom Mon-Wed Side Pairs 6th of 6

Thursday May 30 GOODWILL DAY

- 9:00 EUREKA SWISS TEAMS – 2nd of 2
River Cats Morning Side Pairs 3rd of 5
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **JACKIE MATTHEWS DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1:00 Capital Thu-Sat Side Pairs, 1st of 6
299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+**
STRATIFIED MID-FLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000
PLACER GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
KINGS BRACKETED KOs rounds 1 & 2,
Continues Friday 1 & 7
SIERRA KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
299er Stratified Pairs
Capital Thu-Sat Side Pairs 2nd of 6

Friday May 31

- 9:00 **JOHN SUTTER SWISS TEAMS** 1st of 2
River Cats Morning Side Pairs 4th of 5
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **FRIDAY DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1:00 Capital Thu-Sat Side Pairs, 3rd of 6
299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+**
STRATIFIED MID-FLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000
PLACER GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
DELTA COMPACT KOs
KINGS KOs - rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
299er Stratified Pairs
Capital Thu-Sat Side Pairs 4th of 6

Saturday June 1

- 9:00 JOHN SUTTER SWISS TEAMS – 2nd of 2
River Cats Morning Side Pairs 5th of 5
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **SATURDAY OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**
GOLD RUSH SWISS 0-300/750
- 1:00 FREE GAME 0-5 mp's (attendance permitting)
Capital Thu-Sat Side Pairs 5th of 6
299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **CALIFORNIA CAPITAL OPEN SWISS TEAMS**
Two qualifying sessions Saturday
Two final sessions Sunday
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
OPEN BRACKETED TEAMS
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
Capital Thu-Sat Side Pairs 6th of 6
299er Stratified Pairs

Sunday June 2

EARLY START - 10am - PLAY THRU **with a short break**

CALIFORNIA SWISS CHAMPIONSHIP finals
STRATIFIED A/X SWISS TEAMS

Strat A 4000+ Strat X 0-4000

0-3000 mp Bracketed Swiss Teams

•No individual player over 3000 mp

•Typically brackets of eight, three gold overall places per bracket.

•Teams may not withdraw after one session.

SENIOR SWISS TEAMS(60 years+)

STRATIFIED OPEN FAST PAIRS, 1st and 2nd

10am and TBA

299er Swiss Teams & 299ers Stratified Pairs

two single sessions

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 2500+ B 1000 – 2500 C 0 - 1000

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

RANK UPGRADES

JUNIOR MASTERS

Susan Beech, Tiburon CA, 508
Randall Bolten, Glenbrook NV, 465
Ann Braden, Danville CA, 499
Tom Callahan, Fresno CA, 522
Susan Carrithers, Alameda CA, 502
Joan Clark, Clovis CA, 522
Susan Davis, Livermore CA, 501
Eileen Digiorgio, San Carlos CA, 498
William Follmer, Reno NV, 473
Susan Frank, Folsom CA, 505
Ruth Fruehauf, Mariposa CA, 522
Chip Gordet, El Dorado Hills CA, 505
Linda Gruber, Ross CA, 508
Jaime Hamilton, Oakdale CA, 529
Cheryl Harber, Auburn CA, 505
Nancy Hoeck, Burlingame CA, 498
Blair Hull, Piedmont CA, 502
Thomas Kosta, Minden NV, 465
Marie Louie, Salinas CA, 530
Albert Low, Salinas CA, 530
Linda Lyons, San Francisco CA, 506
Lisbeth Mackenzie, Reno NV, 473
Douglas Mason, Lodi CA, 510
Susie McCormick, Nicasio CA, 508
Catherine Mitchell, Danville CA, 499
Jo Morrison, Carmichael CA, 505
David Niver, Alamo CA, 499
Judy Niver, Alamo CA, 499

Elaine Oldham, Oakland CA, 502
Jonathan Osborne, Woodside CA, 498
Lorie Pelc, Los Altos CA, 503
Robin Rakusin, Reno NV, 473
Judy Seropan, San Francisco CA, 506
Laurie Slagter, Pacific Grove CA, 530
Michael Slagter, Pacific Grove CA, 530
Patrick Smith, Menlo Park CA, 498
Michele Stephens, Calistoga CA, 509
Ellen Szanto, San Mateo CA, 498
Hemant Vaidya, Santa Cruz CA, 550
R. Vrajmohan, Lafayette CA, 499
Mary Ward, Novato CA, 508
Helen Yost, Calistoga CA, 512
Brian Zhang, Dublin CA, 501

CLUB MASTERS

Kathy Anapolsky, Sacramento CA, 505
Jaleh Arbian, Menlo Park CA, 498
Min Bai, Cupertino CA, 507
Jackie Birdsong, Moraga CA, 499
Lauren Bowling, San Francisco CA, 506
Carolyn Broback, Lincoln CA, 505
Bonnie Cain, Granite Bay CA, 505
Dennis Cain, Granite Bay CA, 505
Andrew Calciano, Soquel CA, 550
Phyllis Carmichael, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Gary Effren, Saratoga CA, 507

SECTIONAL MASTERS

Lynette Erlach, Santa Rosa CA, 509
Mark Friedrich, Sloughouse CA, 505
Beatrice Fu, Los Altos Hills CA, 503
Kayden Ge, Cupertino CA, 507
Steven Green, Prunedale CA, 530
Rajeev Gupta, Sunnyvale CA, 507
Donald Harriman, S Lake Tahoe CA, 465
Marie Horn, San Mateo CA, 498
Barbara Hunt, Lincoln CA, 505
Ralph Hunt, Lincoln CA, 505
Betsy Jennings, Carmichael CA, 505
Jerry Johnson, Reno NV, 473
Glenys Kaye, Roseville CA, 505
Noah Kingdon, San Rafael CA, 508
Geoffrey Kinn, Hollister CA, 524
Bill Kornbluh, Palo Alto CA, 503
Michael Lach, Carmel CA, 530
Barbara Lewis, Foster City CA, 498
Lester Loops, Capitola CA, 550
Gretchen Mair, Saratoga CA, 507
Allan McAllister, Oakland CA, 502
Paul Melodia, San Francisco CA, 506
Vickie Renbarger, Livermore CA, 501
Mark Riley, Aptos CA, 550
Gay Roper, Los Gatos CA, 507
Karen Rose, San Francisco CA, 506
William Saul, Angels Camp CA, 510
Robert Schenker, Oakland CA, 502
Douglas Slaton, Burlingame CA, 498
Mark Smith, Clovis CA, 522
Larry Snyder, Carson City NV, 356
Susan Steer, San Francisco CA, 506
Foster Tom, Berkeley CA, 497
Helen Trop-Zell, Incline Village NV, 465
Linda Williamson, Calistoga CA, 512

Nancy Alden, San Mateo CA, 498
Thomas Bjork, Orangevale CA, 505
Scott Bonomi, Venecia CA, 512
Christopher Corpus, San Jose CA, 507
Lynne Crawford, San Francisco CA, 506
Art Evans, Alamo CA, 499
Brandon Ge, Cupertino CA, 507
Christian Goetze, San Francisco CA, 506
Xiao Gong, Rio Vista CA, 512
Jayme Goodale, San Anselmo CA, 508
Carol Gurrad, Concord CA, 499
Gloria Halliday, Foster City CA, 498
Thomas Henry, Lafayette CA, 499
Annette Horwitz, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Kathleen Hottell, Rancho Murieta CA, 505
Ann Keag, Fresno CA, 522
Henry Kingdon, Dublin CA, 501
Don Kosovac, Point Richmond CA, 497
Therese Kristensen, Los Altos CA, 503
Donald Kristofferson, San Mateo CA, 498
Jennifer Langan, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Paula Linden, San Mateo CA, 498
Pamela Mann, San Francisco CA, 506
Karl Mauzey, San Francisco CA, 506
Barton Mc Dougal, Sacramento CA, 505
Sally McNulty, San Francisco CA, 506
Nancy Mulligan, Livermore CA, 501
Kelly O'Keefe, Salinas CA, 530
Marilyn Press, Menlo Park CA, 503
Kathleen Randles, Sonoma CA, 512
Marilyn Reeve, Pleasanton CA, 501
James Roethe, Orinda CA, 499

Margaret Sheridan, Sonoma CA, 512
Sandra Solitario, Monterey CA, 530
Billie Zeisler, San Rafael CA, 508

REGIONAL MASTERS

Kathryn Barnard, Redwood City CA, 498
Charneth Belanger, San Rafael CA, 508
Carol Buchanan, Gold River CA, 505
Mike Edelstein, Gold River CA, 505
Judith Franich, Watsonville CA, 550
Patricia Haynes, Salinas CA, 530
Jane Herman, Los Altos CA, 503
Sheila Hochman, Mountain View CA, 503
Myles Johnson, Fresno CA, 522
Jakob Karstens, Oakland CA, 502
Lillemor Leichum, San Francisco CA, 506
Ken Pelowski, Atherton CA, 503
Carol Shannon, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Carla Shockley, Pleasanton CA, 499
Michelle Tai, Atherton CA, 503
Minoru Tomijima, Menlo Park CA, 503
Peggy Vellanoweth, Carmichael CA, 505
John Walker, Santa Cruz CA, 550
John Wesolowski, Santa Cruz CA, 550
Ken Wirt, Saratoga CA, 507
Shirley Womack, Manteca CA, 510
Michael Xu, Palo Alto CA, 503
Shuo Zhang, Fremont CA, 500
Songtao Zhang, San Jose CA, 507

NABC MASTERS

Patricia Barnes, Lincoln CA, 505
Jeanette Bartz, Clayton CA, 499
Donna Cleary, El Dorado Hills CA, 505
David Ehlers, Orinda CA, 499
Anjan Ghose, Palo Alto CA, 503
Keith Hedlund, Salinas CA, 530
Patrick Miller, San Jose CA, 503
William Mitchell, Lodi CA, 510
Nevena Stoimirov, Benicia CA, 512
Sandra Sullivan, Lincoln CA, 505
Annemarie Von Adelung, Monterey CA, 530
Anne Ward, Los Altos Hills CA, 503
Stephanie Youngquist, Palo Alto CA, 503

ADVANCED NABC MASTERS

Betsy Bolen, Napa CA, 512
Jung Hu, San Jose CA, 507
Miriam Kaegi, Novato CA, 508
Rita Schaulat, Novato CA, 508
Kevin Smith, Ione CA, 505
Roy Tsai, San Jose CA, 507

LIFE MASTERS

DAVID ACHTERKIRCHEN, SAN FRANCISCO CA, 506
ROBERT BARNES, CONCORD CA, 499
RENATE BIALY, SONOMA CA, 512
BILL COHEN, PEBBLE BEACH CA, 530
LINDA DUNCAN, SAN MATEO CA, 498

RICHARD HERZOG, LOS ALTOS HILLS CA, 503

ROGER JOSEPH, SUNNYVALE CA, 507

TIMOTHY MALONEY, PALO ALTO CA, 507

AKIKO MURAKAMI, FOSTER CITY CA, 498

CORALIE PERSSE, PLACERVILLE CA, 505

BART RHOADES, SAN FRANCISCO CA, 506

JACOB ROSENBERG, MORAGA CA, 499

LARRY SCHALEGER, OAKLAND CA, 502

SUE SCHMIDT, LINCOLN CA, 505

LEWIS VOILS, BERKELEY CA, 499

DAVID WONG, PALO ALTO CA, 503

BRONZE LIFE MASTERS

Julie Burnet, Oakland CA, 502

Joyce Friedman, San Francisco CA, 506

Bruce Johnsonbaugh, Lafayette CA, 499

Randy Jones, Los Altos CA, 503

Rosemarie LaFrancesca, Pleasanton CA, 501

Mark Micheli, San Francisco CA, 506

Jim O'Brien, Petaluma CA, 509

Judith Robyns, Reno NV, 473

Robert Robyns, Reno NV, 473

Jacob Rosenberg, Moraga CA, 499

Brent Xiao, Fremont CA, 500

SILVER LIFE MASTERS

Margaret Breeden, Carson City NV, 465

Susan Huber, Brentwood CA, 499

Sharon Krawetz, Sunnyvale CA, 507

Ying Liu, Palo Alto CA, 503

Barbara McKay, Alamo CA, 499

Kathy Sanders, Mill Valley CA, 508

Patricia Stone, Gilroy CA, 524

Peter Weber, Fresno CA, 522

Jacqueline Zayac, Lafayette CA, 499

William Zhu, San Francisco CA, 506

RUBY LIFE MASTERS

David Cartwright, Oakland CA, 502

Andrew Fine, Concord CA, 499

Anne Hollingsworth, Walnut Creek CA, 499

Rose Lachman, Palo Alto CA, 503

GOLD LIFE MASTERS

Irwin Lichtblau, Lafayette CA, 499

Robin Roche, San Francisco CA, 506

SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER

Janice Nakao, San Mateo CA, 498

EMERALD LIFE MASTER

Yul Inn, Cupertino CA 507

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CLICK ON THE LINK TO GO TO THAT PAGE

Area	Unit	Columnist
<u>Diablo Valley</u>	<u>499</u>	<u>Lisa Assoni</u>
<u>East Bay</u>	<u>502</u>	<u>Larry Bowerman</u>
<u>Fresno</u>	<u>522</u>	<u>Laura Da Costa</u>
<u>Livermore Valley</u>	<u>501</u>	<u>Rosemarie LaFrancesca</u>
<u>Marin</u>	<u>508</u>	<u>Gail Haar</u>
<u>Modesto/Merced/Sonora</u>	<u>529</u>	<u>Gail Vick</u>
<u>Monterey</u>	<u>530</u>	<u>Mary Block</u>
<u>Napa/Solano/Sonoma Valley</u>	<u>512</u>	<u>Tom Sheahan</u>
<u>Palo Alto</u>	<u>503</u>	<u>Carolyn Chaney</u>
<u>San Francisco</u>	<u>506</u>	<u>Kim Fanady</u>
<u>San Mateo</u>	<u>498</u>	<u>Fran Gaura</u>
<u>Santa Cruz</u>	<u>550</u>	<u>Karen Schamberg</u>
<u>Santa Rosa/Petaluma</u>	<u>509</u>	<u>Cecelia Zachar</u>
<u>Silicon Valley</u>	<u>507</u>	<u>Ray Yuenger</u>
<u>Stockton</u>	<u>510</u>	<u>Debbie DeZarn</u>

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Diablo Valley

By Lisa Assoni

I've talked about food consumption in the past, and recently discovered a super article written by Bob Levey, who's a retired columnist for the Washington Post, and also a Gold Life Master. He noted, "What you eat can affect your play." It's was posted a few years back in the Bridge Bulletin, under "Food for thought." I'm such a foodie, and encouraged by his wisdom.



Mr. Levey states that he's taken notice to how bridge players make food choices. Years past, folks would line up at smorgasbords and delis, and pile it all on. Now, the fast-food pace has slowed down a bit. Bridge players are becoming more conscious of their snacks, lunches, and dinners. Mr. Levey says that glucose is the brain's main energy source, and blood glucose needs to be kept within a certain range at all times. Eating light, three meals a days, sustains normal levels. So you all, lighten-up and you'll score better at the table. I'm taking a break from writing. All this food talk has made me hungry.

If I sing the praises of Mark Humphrey one more time, I'm going to turn into a Soprano. Yikes. Mark, you've done it again and again by hosting another Pro-Am event. Honestly, the Humphreys are so giving and sharing. Lyn takes no back seat to this duo, as they work tirelessly at helping us bridgees learn the game and have fun too! Each AM is assigned a PRO, and the game begins. You're terrific!

As most of you know, Mike Bandler, Mark Humphrey, and Bruce Johnsonbaugh were the founding fathers of C.C.B.C. It was quite a task to find a place sufficient to hold the gang, AND parking our cars. We take lots for granted, as we drive up, tables set, sign in, and play. Also our Board of Directors helps sustain our Bridge Club, as they too work diligently behind the scenes. So, there's lots of folks who keep on giving. Thanks to all the above for your dedication and service. YOU MAKE OUR DAY!

We had a unit game held at C.C.B.C. on Sunday, February 10. The winners and spinners were: Coming in first N/S, and taking the whole Enchilada, were Jim and Pat Leary. Awesome. E/W was secured by William LaMaire and Andrew Fine. Great playing. Congratulations to all who scratched.

Finally: DID YOU KNOW? Those who play bridge frequently score higher on cognitive tests. Bridge games offer intellectual and social stimulation on a routine basis. Areas of our brain used in playing stimulate the immune system. Researchers suggest that it's because players must use memory, visualization, and sequencing.

Warren Buffet and Bill Gates are considered to be two of the smartest entrepreneurs in America. Both are also very accomplished bridge players. Buffett once said that he wouldn't mind going to jail, but only if he had three cellmates who were capable bridge players. So folks, our Play and Learn Centers are for all ages.

Enjoy life, Lisa

East Bay

By Larry Bowerman

The big news this month is that Libby Silver received one of the coveted District 21 Goodwill Awards at the District Meeting in Monterey in early January! She was recognized for her work on revising the Unit 502 by-laws, her extensive and tireless work negotiating for reduced rent at our two sectional tournaments each year, and for organizing and coordinating the two sectionals in 2018. In addition, she agreed to be the Unit 502 President beginning this year. Congratulations Libby; well deserved!

The Unit 502 Board Meeting on January 20 marked a big transition for the board. After 5 years as Unit 502 Board President, Neal Mazaroff stepped down, and passed the gavel to Libby Silver after her election by the board. Neal said that he truly enjoyed his 5 years as Unit President, and he thanked current and former board members for all of their help in making his job easier. Thank you, Neal for a job well done! He will continue to serve on the board. Best of luck to Libby; we know that you'll do an excellent job.

Unfortunately, we have some sad news to report. In January we learned that Monica Deutsch's husband unexpectedly passed away. We extend our sympathies and condolences to Monica and her family.

As usual, there are a few important upcoming calendar events to note. First, there will be regularly scheduled Unit 502 games on Sunday, March 3 and Sunday, March 17 at the EBCBC. The free lunch will be served at about 12:30 pm, and the games will begin at 1:00 pm.

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On those Sundays when there are no Unit 502 games, there will be EBCBC Sunday games. In March those games will take place on March 10, March 24 and March 31. The games begin at 1:00 pm, and a light lunch will be served before the game. The March 10 game will be a club championship game (with extra award points) and the March 31 game will be “The 90th Day” on which all nonagenarians play for free.

The week of March 4 to March 10 will be club championship week with extra award points available.

Monday, March 11 is the ACBL Wide Senior Pairs Game beginning at 12:00 noon; entry fees will be \$9 for this game.

On March 16 and 17 the EBCBC will be hosting the GNT Flight C finals.

For those in search of Silver Points, there three local sectionals in March: Santa Rosa/Petaluma on March 9 and 10, Santa Cruz I/N on March 9 and 10, and Sparks, Nevada from March 27 to 31. Please visit the District 21 website for further details on sectional and regional Tournaments.

Finally, the Spring NABC Tournament will take place in Memphis, Tennessee from March 20 to March 31. Best of luck to everyone who plans to attend!

The February 3 unit game was relatively small (9 tables) due to the conflict with the Super Bowl. Arthur Mirin and Pat Leary tied with Betty Kael and Susan Boyers for first place, Ching Chao and Joye Sidoti finished third, Ravi Bhalla and David Snyder fourth, and David and Joyce Denyven fifth. All five pairs had games which ranged from 58.10% to 62.04%.

The February 17 unit game attendance was much better (15.5 tables). Bonnie Macbride and Sidney Mar took first place, Teresa Boyd and Grant Robinson second place, Allan Harris and David Snyder third place, Neal Mazaroff and Stuart Schneck fourth place, and Ching Chao and Joye Sidoti fifth place. All five pairs had games between 57.93% and 67.31%.

Welcome to new Unit 502 member Dorothy Mattingly! When you see her, please introduce yourself and welcome her to our unit.

Congratulations to Carol Warren on her recent rank advancement to Bronze Life Master. When you see her, please take the time to congratulate her. Kudos to Carol and keep on playing! There is always another goal in front of you!

Marcia Wasserman is writing the April column, so please contact her (at marciawasserman@gmail.com) if you have noteworthy results or other items to report.

Hello Everyone!

At the time I write this article, the clubhouse is just starting to deal with the loss of our dear Maggie. Margaret Mahaffey was a regular of this clubhouse for as far back as I can remember. She held many roles, among which were board member, Membership Chair (for decades), Club Owner, Director, Teacher, and excellent bridge player. She was a very good friend to me, and I will miss her advice, her supportive presence, and her humor.

On to other news, the 2019 Board of Directors convened in January. We welcomed Steve Johnson to the board; Steve will be taking over the role of Sunshine Chair. We have to say good bye to two board members Sally Stern (Membership Chair) and Gay Berry (Sunshine Chair among many other titles over the past 8 years). Thank you, ladies, for your service.

January was the beginning of EasyBridge!1 and EasyBridge!2 lessons. Mary Lou Pease and I teach these lessons each Saturday morning. I can say that neither of us had seen such large crowds; it has been amazing. Along with these students, Mary Lou also has 9 individuals taking EasyBridge!1 lessons at our clubhouse every Tuesday evening as part of the Clovis Adult School. It is great to see new blood coming into the clubhouse.

Speaking of lessons, Mun Takeda is continuing her monthly evening lessons. She has decided to emphasize important conventions all should know. Her next lesson will be Thursday, the 28th, at 6:00p.m.

We will soon be having our 10th anniversary lunch and game. Yes, it has been 10 years since we moved from the Clinton clubhouse, where bridge had been played since 1963. So, it will be a double major anniversary as not only is it the 10th year on Shaw, but, as mentioned in prior articles, it is also our 75th year anniversary of playing bridge in Fresno. We have not set a date for the anniversary game, but I should have it by next month.

January 27 was a Pro-Am pairs game with a potluck lunch. After an amazing lunch, we had 5½ tables in the game. The big winners were Richard Meffley & Judy Shuster.

As for 70% games in January, I had something that I don't believe has happened since I started writing these articles back in 2009. Only two pairs had 70% games, and they were both in the Wednesday evening game in

Madera. On 1/9, Barbara Diebert & Richard Meffley earned exactly 75%, and on 1/23, Steve Johnson & Mary Gullo earned 71.88%.

Congratulations to Pete Weber who reached the rank of Silver Life Master (1000 mps).

Welcome to new member, Bill Carroll of Mariposa.

Changes in game ownership to report. Kay Chrisman now owns and runs the Tuesday afternoon game. Mary Lou Pease now owns and runs (along with me) the Wednesday afternoon game. The Wednesday afternoon game was shut down during February, but it will be starting up in March.

Livermore Valley

By Rosemarie LaFrancesca

We had a very successful sectional at the end of January. As always, it's a bit chilly in that high ceilinged gym, but we can dress in layers! I'm happy to announce that one of our 99ers, Jacky Poulsen, had a great tournament. She and her partner had a 76% game; way to go, Jacky!

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. You will find a calendar of events there; you can also find Paul's bridge tips and publications via pfdubois.com/publish. There are links to neighboring Units if you want to travel to your next bridge game.

As Spring arrives, some of our members may be travelling to Memphis for the Nationals. I'm leaving Memphis and Graceland a day before the Nationals begin; in November I was in Hawaii for Thanksgiving but once again missed the Nationals. Maybe someday I

will get the dates of my trips to coincide with the ACBL schedule! Hey, I guess the fall Nationals will be in SF. That's closer to home and maybe more of us will be able to attend. A BART ride is easier than a plane ride!

Marin

By Gail Haar

We have several new and new to us members in our Unit this month: Kent Gershengorn, Chris & Jessica Hamman, Toni Middleton, Franklin & Jenifer Parlamis, Cynthia Peterson, Susy Vrouvas, Patricia Donovan and Jane Grusby. Be sure to greet them warmly when you meet them at the table. Congratulations to our members who have advanced in Master rank: TJ Campbell & Linda Fong (Junior); Susan Weinberg (Club); Patricia Irwin (Bronze Life); Patricia Rothenberg (Silver Life); Barbara Prior (Ruby Life); Tracey Bauer (Sapphire Life). Only 1 BIG GAME this month, Bruce Blakely & Stan Green had a 70% game at Fuldek's Wednesday evening game. Unit game champions were Anne Stein & Mark Peterson (1/27) and Laura Kenney & Gene Simpson (2/3).

Barbara Prior's Tuesday morning Belvedere game celebrated its 20th Birthday with cake and champagne



20 years and going strong for Barbara Prior's Belvedere game.

and lots of extra master points. Barbara introduced several players who have been playing since the very first game and told some fun stories (and gossip) from those early days.

Bridge can bring people together in unexpected ways. A woman named Korynn from Portland, OR contacted Barbara recently after she found some old letters in her deceased mother's possessions. They were written to her mom by Russ, a college friend from Berkeley who went on to play bridge in Belvedere for many years. Korynn tried to contact Russ' family without success but eventually found Barbara on a website and through her Russ' bridge partner of many years, Paul. Korynn sent Paul the letters along with a lovely note reminiscing about a Japanese doll Russ had given her mom that Korynn treasured. What a sweet story with a happy ending.

Be sure to mark your calendar in big red letters for the annual Marin Sectional on April 13 & 14 in the Redwood High School Gym in Larkspur. See the flyer at marinbridge.com and just click on the "sectional" link. This will be your first chance to meet Diego, the wonder card dog who will be greeting everyone on the registration desk! Encourage all your "new to bridge" friends to join in the fun; there is free Novice Game (under 5 points) on Saturday morning as well as 99'er pairs in the afternoon (0-20, 20-50, 50-100). The partnership desk is up and running. Contact Andrea Ventris at 415-699-3175 or aventris@yahoo.com.



Diego the Card Dog

With the new electronic format of the unit columns, we're able to easily add photographs. If you have a digital picture taken at a club event that you want to share, just send it along. My contact information is in the Unit Directory (available for a mere \$2 from the club directors) or send them to marinunit508@gmail.com.

com to my attention!

And finally, a funny Eddie Kantor story. This guy never leads away from a king. He was told not to, so he never did. Finally he passes away and he finds himself in a bridge game. He is on lead against 4S holding: Kx, Kxx, Kxxx, Kxxx. Right then and there he knew where he was.

Modesto/Merced/Sonora

By Gail Vick

During the latter half of January, Dee Alexander & Pam Sands took 1st in both A & B Divisions with 66.07% and also taking 1st in Cs with 56.55%. The beginning Sunday group was won by Pat Gallo & Barbara Bogart in A with 61.11%, while Marcia Eblen & Jaime Hamilton were 1st in both B, C Divisions at 55.09%. Jaime brought a delicious soup one Sunday and a great potato dish another. Marcia Eblen also brought healthy veggies and dip, and Libby brought her wonderful pinwheels as well. I know that everyone is thankful for their generosity.



Frank Frohman & Bruce Ruskin were back in the winners' circle the first half of February with a 71.76% game for 1st, which I don't believe will be beat for the remainder of the month. Pamela & John Mayne took 1st in B with 65.19, and bringing up the rear in C for 1st place were Libby Longstreth & Galen Neptune at 57.74%. In the beginner/intermediate Sunday game Libby Longstreth & Marcia Eblen took 1st in both A & B Divisions, with another food fest by Marcia Eblen, wonderful chili, and desserts from Libby and Sherrie.

At our February unit game, Sherrie Barakatt had an impressive array of treats as hostess for the event, appreciated by all. Overall winners were Pamela & John Mayne for 1st in A at 67.56%, Sharon Cole & Libby Longstreth 1st in both B & C with 58.33%.

In March we will be holding a Barometer Game at the unit game on March 10. If anyone is interested in playing, either sign up at the bridge Center, or contact Ralph Jungwirth/Libby Longstreth. Jeanne Russo will be hostess for this event, preparing her wonderful St. Patrick's Day feast!

Sad to say that Imogene Engerbretsen passed away. She always had a quick wit and a very loving feeling towards people. She will be missed greatly for her smile

and great attitude toward LIFE.

Christine Barkley will also be leaving us, as she is moving to southern California, where the bridge action is, as well as being with an important friend in her life at this time. Lots of sunshine, ocean breezes and love, along with bridge every day if she wants, seem to be beckoning her!

Just heard that Vickie MacClyment had a hip replacement, and that she is doing well, with the help of good friends and a husband, whom I am sure is helping her every inch of the way. As they say, what goes around, comes around, and Vickie has been so kind, and generous with her friends that they have all come out rallying behind her. You are truly blessed, Vickie, and deserving. Hoping to see you at the bridge tables soon!

Also heard that Raj Modi has moved to Florida to be with another son for a while. Hoping to see his return to Modesto soon! His gentlemanly behavior, along with his kindness to people will be missed; however, I am sure the bridge action in Florida is full of vim and vigor, all that he could want in the game of life, along with close family to surround him.

The beginning Sunday duplicate group had a fun early "Super Bowl Party of Bridge." Such a great turnout and a wonderful array of edible delights from many! Top winners were Judy Remmers & Joyce Rudesill 1st in A with 59.63%, Terry Sciabica & Jeff Gaudio taking 1st in both B & C at 54.81%, but closely followed by Sharon & Neil Von Tersch for 2nd in both B & C with 54.07%.

Welcome to new player Alan Beban, whom Jim Page brought to introduce to the game of duplicate bridge, even placing for the first time!

Monterey

By Mary Block

Check your calendars to make sure you have the unit game for Sunday, March 17 marked. This is the annual Brad Dow Appreciation Game. St. Patrick's Day attire is encouraged, but not required. This year, more than ever, we appreciate the many years of enjoyment the Bridge Center building has provided for our members. Details and sign-up sheet at the Bridge Center.

As you most of you are aware by now, 2019 is the last year we will have our Bridge Center Building. The development that has been hanging over our heads for almost fifteen years has finally become a certainty.

The Board of Directors and the Monterey Bridge Educational Foundation are pooling their talents to search for another location. The priority is to find a centrally located venue that can accommodate all the club games presently in the Bridge Center. We are fortunate to have knowledgeable and talented members helping with this task.

Several players in this unit have achieved notable games this month. Wally Thorpe and Maja, playing in Larry's Monday game on February 4, were first of 2209 N/S pairs in the Common Game with a 73.87% game. Marguerite Primrose and Carol Sendell earned a mention in the Bridge Bulletin with their 78.9% game on Saturday, February 9.

The unit welcomes new members Diana Howell and Doris Vail. ACBL has reported two rank advancements this month: Sam Calloway to Junior Master and John Gamble to Club Master.

The coming fiscal year for our Bridge Club will likely be the most challenging in our history. Elections for a new/continuing Board of Directors will be held this spring. Please consider being of service to the unit and to make sure that your opinions are heard. Further details will be forthcoming.

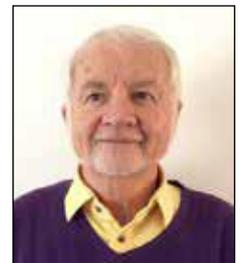
The Monterey Bridge Educational Foundation was created several years ago to provide members, or the public, the means to make tax-deductible donations via our 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization whose goals are to raise sufficient monies for a future location and to provide educational programs to bring new players to our group. Please consider adding the Monterey Bridge Educational Foundation to your estate planning.

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

Napa/Solano/Sonoma

By Tom Sheahan

We have good news in our annual state of unit address! Financially we are doing well and game attendance in Sonoma is averaging around 18 tables. We'd like to see more participation in the Napa games, but that should pick up when the weather gets better. We are in good hands with Don Powell as Unit President and Sandy Hicks as President of the Board of Directors in Sonoma. The good news is that



George Gordon's Tuesday afternoon 499er game is drawing record attendance of about 11 tables per game. It's a fun game and all are very enthusiastic about it. The bad news is that of those 40-50 players, only about a dozen participate in the Open pairs games even though they've been playing in that game for a couple of years. I think we need to do something to entice them to try our game. The big problem is the intimidation factor and it's unlikely that a pair will move up to our game. A possible solution is to have a Mentoring program where players from the Open pair games would take one player from the Tuesday game and play 6 or 8 games with a mentee. I've noticed a few gray hairs in our club so it's vital that we bring new players into the game. I'm hoping that players would be willing to give up one game a month for this cause. Does it really matter if you miss out on maybe half a Master Point for the good of the common cause? Think about it and let's put it into action.

Congratulations to Mardi Schma who won the prestigious Barbara Fox Memorial trophy for the 2018 year by compiling the most black Master Points by a non-Life master. Way to go Mardi. Well done!

The 2019 year got off to a great start as the big hitters of the Sonoma Club won all the games. Don Powell & Phil Shoemaker won twice that included a 72% game. Don also had a win with Vince Taylor. Clyde & Kathleen Smith also won twice. Other winners were Gerry Fox & Tom Jacobson, Sheila Malinowski & David Cappucini, Dan Harp & Joanne Wegsten, and Barry Samuel & Shirley Blum.

The 499er winners were Eileen Holsten & Sandy Hicks, Havard & Susan Staggs, Paul & Chris Pecknold, and Kathy Ann Wilson & Swan Day.

Alan Morris won twice in Rio Vista, once with John Shick and once with Sue Vogtlin. Joyce Vass & Chandler Stauffer and Larry Epner & Xiao Gong won the other games.

Gerry Fox & Tom Jacobson won twice in Napa and they also won the unit game. Dawne Dickenson & Britt-Marie Eldred and Al Iapicca & Mardi Schma were also winners.

The Ace of Clubs winners for 2018 in their categories were Allison Ash, Walt Whitman, Kathy Ann Wilson, Marilyn Schaeffer, Mardi Schma, Leandra Stewart, Pat McLaughlin, Richard Tebay, Barbara Lemme, Clyde Smith, Anita Pensler, Tom Jacobson, and Gerry Fox.

Kathy, Mardi, Clyde, Tom, and Gerry also won the Mini McKenney award as did Brenda Perry, Cynthia

Crawford, Eleanor Gauger, Peg Remaklus, Malcolm Scott, Steve Mercer, Sue Vogtlin, Joanne Wegsten, and Randi Montin who continued her mastery in the 10,000 and over points category.

Many thanks to Marge Sheridan & John Coulston for the wonderful job they did to make our Valentine's Day party so festive!

Palo Alto

By Carolyn Chaney

Last month I whined that we could be doing better with our composting and recycling program at our Bridge Center. And our board was very responsive to a number of ideas. We will continue to use our REAL forks, thanks to a nice donation of additional forks by Joanne Cornbleet. Now let's be careful and not accidentally throw them in the trash! And we will have some better markings on the bins, so we all can improve our sorting (food waste, tea bags, dirty paper plates, used napkins and paper towels to compost, soda cans and paper score sheets to recycling, and plastic bags & dirty plastic containers, etc. to trash). I love to talk trash. One more thing, one of our regular players asked me to tell you that scented products (even lotion) really kick up her asthma, and she asks that we restrict our use of hand sanitizer to outside the playing area (bathrooms, coffee room are OK). Let's do our best to take care of each other as well as our mother, Planet Earth.



It isn't too late to sign up for Robert Todd's special workshops, Slam Bidding and Trump Management, coming on Saturday April 27. Only \$85 if you register and pay by April 27. I've heard Robert speak at a tournament, and he is personable, patient and clear. Highly recommended for intermediate players!

In other news, Gabi's Tuesday game at the Unity Church will be moving to 11:30, beginning April 2. This is NOT an April Fool's joke, honestly. Although some folks prefer the noon start time, many of us are grateful to Gabi, John and Will for starting the Tuesday & Thursday games a bit earlier, so we can miss the heavy commute traffic in the afternoons. A Unit Swiss Teams game, including a 299er section, is scheduled for Sunday, March 10 at noon (lunch at 11:30). No worries about commute traffic on the weekends!

In our Education Department, Kathy Harper is

teaching 2/1: An Introduction on Monday evenings. If you play Standard American, trust me, 2/1 will up your game. Also on Monday evenings is Supervised Play. Don't miss our free lectures on Tuesday mornings. On March 12 Geeske Joel will will teach us "How to Improve our Game." Bruce Luttrell will address "Defensive Carding" on March 26.

Congratulations to our newest Life Masters: Phil Abrahamson, Dana Shelley, and Brenda Hatton.



Phil Abrahamson and Dana Shelley



Brenda Hatton

In SiVY news, sign-ups are open for summer camp for kids grades 5-10, coming June 24-28. Quite a few of our top youth players cite "Bridge Camp" as their doorway into the wonderful world of bridge. <http://www.siliconvalleyyouthbridge.org>

Here's your story for this month: The director was called when the bidding went: N: pass, East: pass, South: pass, West: pass, North: pass. Whoops. When the director saw the bids, he ruled: I guess you'll have to play it there.

Sacramento

By Miriam Steinberg

One of the top players at the club scolded me the other day. "Miriam, if you can't see not to play the ace, you might as well give it up." I first reacted by feeling wounded, intimidated and by questioning my future as a bridge player. My second reaction, fortunately, was to become angry and more determined.



I am a teacher. Although I realize we are all born with certain natural talents, I believe with the proper instruction and drive, most people can become competent at most skills. I taught kids to play the violin, viola, cello and voice as well as coaching kids in musical theater. There were countless students I taught who initially struggled, like the girl who was deaf in one ear who became skilled at performing (she eventually became a professional violin player). Realistically, we can not all reach the heights of Itzhak Perlman, Yo-Yo Ma or in bridge, Jeff Meckstroth. But we can improve and develop technique. The only students who weren't teachable were the ones who didn't want to learn and gave up. I am not one of those; I am driven to succeed.

When I was 37, after being assaulted, I took up tae kwon do, reaching the level under black belt, only stopping due to a back injury. When I retired at age 59, I decided to take up my secret passion for tap dancing. Never having danced, I was performing in a group in 2 years. At 40, I decided to study voice and eventually got into the ensemble of the Sacramento Opera. When my uncle, a well-known professional violinist told me I was too small to play the viola, I took it up anyway and ultimately got into the Sacramento Symphony. So, this player (whom I actually genuinely admire) suggested I give up bridge, he didn't realize who he was dealing with.

I initially gave careful thought to giving it up. But I soon acknowledged what I have accomplished in a relatively short time, from knowing nothing to obtaining more skill than more than half the players at the club. I moved over to play in the Open three years ago when I had only 150 MP, determined to take on the challenge and improve and have had days when I actually score higher than players with hundreds and thousands more MP than I have.

I do confess that I sometimes get a knot in my stomach when some top players sit down at my table, knowing full well that they may “fix” me. I admire how they can see where all the cards are, some even seeing diagrams in their head. I have not yet developed that skill. I realize my mind does not naturally work on a numbers model; I have more of the musician, writer, dancer’s brain. But I will eagerly try to absorb their advice, even when it might not sink in right away.

Anyway, I asked myself, what is the purpose of playing this game? It may be slightly different for everyone. Some people play for purely social reasons, others just for “fun.” For others “fun” is only winning. I play for fun, but also want to win. There aren’t enough years left in my life to catch up with people who have 60 years of experience. But most important of all, I will enjoy the challenge of always striving to do my personal best. In order to continue improving, I will work with my teacher, play a lot of bridge, read, play on Vubridge and take all the advice I can get from better players. The mark of a good teacher is someone who can break things down into small components and explain anything to anyone who wants to learn. The role of the student is to work hard, study, be persistent and not give up. I am both the teacher and the student.

Unit 505 gave out the 2018 Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney Awards at a Swiss Teams unit game on February 17 at the Sacramento Bridge Center. The Ace of Clubs first place winners were as follows: 0-5 MP, Thomas Bjork; 5-20 MP, Judy Orchard; 20-50 MP, Sandy Lawson; 50-100 MP, Mike Edelstein; 100-200 MP, Takwah Tsang; 200-300 MP, Joel Lesser; 300-500 MP, Jim Bowman; 500-1000 MP, Jim Coke; 2500-3500, Dorothy Mc Dermott; 3500-5000, Ann Mc Clelland; 5000-7500, Phil Schiffert; 7500-10,000, Ted Muller and over 10,000, Veronica Mc Murdie Jones. Ann Mc Clelland was the Ace of Clubs overall winner with over 246 MP.

The Mini-McKenney first place winners were as follows: 0-5 MP, Thomas Bjork; 5-20 MP, Judy Orchard; 20-50 MP, Sandy Lawson; 50-100 MP, Dana Daugherty; 100-200 MP, Kevin Smith; 200-300 MP, Joel Lesser; 300-500 MP, Jim Bowman; 500-1000 MP, Jim Coke; 1000-15000 MP, Jack Uppal; 1500-2500 MP, Jerry Nakamura; 2500-3500 MP, Teri Smoot; 3500-5000 MP, John Jefferson; 5000-75000, Dick Jones; 7500-10,000 MP, Ted Muller and over 10,000 MP, Bob Etter, Bob Etter had the most MP in the unit with over 1,083!

The NLM Winter Sectional was held February 8-10 at the Sacramento Bridge Center. Jim Chenu, Julie Chenu, Joel Lesser and Amnon Igra were the winners of the Knock Out game. The first session on Saturday, February 9, Bill Mitchell and Wendy Buchanon (N/S) and Dana Daughery and Takwah Tsang (E/W) placed first. Saturday second session winners were Jesse James and Gerre Buehler (N/S) and Don Moore and Patricia Barnes (E/W). Sunday session winners were Miriam Steinberg and Marc Grunseth (N/S) and Jack Reichel and Janet Douglas (E/W).

San Francisco

By Kimberly Fanady

March means spring will be springing soon! Turn those clocks forward, tune in to spring training baseball and March Madness basketball, hope the Giants sign Bryce Harper by Opening Day, and let’s play some bridge!



Kudos to Unit 506’s 2018 Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney winners. The Ace of Clubs champions won the most master points at club games, while the Mini-McKenney victors won the most master points overall. And they are: 0-5: Christian Goetze (both); 5-20 Lori Chang (both); 20-50 Thuy Tran (MM), Brian Wallace (AC); 50-100 Jo Streitch (both); 100-200 Chris Chen (MM), Al Cavagnaro (AC); 200-300 Chip Graves (both); 300-500 Bruce Osterweil (both); 500-1000 Will Zhu (both); 1000-1500 Rob Balas (both); 1500-2500 Anant Rathi (MM), Michael Levin (AC); 2500-3500 David Strauss (both); 3500 - 5000 Aaron Jones (MM), Don Friedman (AC); 5000-7500 Robert Ng (both); 7500 —10000 Steve Smolen (both); 10000+ Mark Ralph (MM), Vicki Lerner (AC). Well played, all!

At the clubs, QuickTricks and Chinese-American

will hold the first of their quarterly joint unit games on March 11. Lots of master points to be won! A week later, QuickTricks will honor its founder, Tadd Waggoner, at its annual memorial dinner and game. Stop by on March 18 for pizza, bridge, and good memories of Tadd.

The unit game schedule Marches on with a pairs event on March 16. The ices of March are safely past, even if the opponents have a lean and hungry look, and it's almost St. Patrick's Day, so put on something green and see if you have the luck o' the Irish at a two-way finesse! Lunch is at 11:30, game at noon, at St. Mary's Cathedral, 1100 Gough St. at Geary. Everyone is welcome.

Congrats to our newly ranked: Junior Masters Jay Cohen and Matt Colen; Club Master Lily Lee; Sectional Master Lori Chang; and Advanced NABC Master Donna Neff. Good climbing up the master point ladder, all!

Welcome to a bumper crop of new members: Daryl Babbitt, Rhian Davies, Sarah Eidelhoch, Shelley Forrest, David Glickman, Diane Hidy, Bill Lynch, Frank Maynard, Howard Miller, Jean Ninos, Mary Polo, Bill Sorenson, Kevin Yee, Trish Yee; and transfers Joan Brownstein (Marin), Michele Burton (Sonoma/Napa/Solano), Pat Hanson-Thomson (Carson/Tahoe). Be sure to say hello to them when you meet them at the table.

Good luck to everyone going to Memphis for the Spring NABC. Hope your game is rolling on the river! Your hardworking columnist is sitting this one out; to paraphrase a Nobel Prize winning poet, I'm stuck inside the office with the Memphis blues again. Bring back tales of your triumphs for next month's column.

Finally, we sadly say goodbye to Dean Wangsvick, who passed away in early February after a battle with cancer. Dean tirelessly served Unit 506 as a board member, including several terms as unit President. He was a fine bridge player and a truly good person, always ready to help out whenever and wherever needed. We'll remember him for his ponytail, his ever present hats, and his devotion to Joanne, his wife and bridge partner of many years. In 20+ years, I rarely saw Dean without Joanne, and never without a hat. Our condolences to Joanne, his family, and his many friends.

San Mateo

By Fran Gaura

By the time you receive this column, the winter sectional at Canada College will be history. The winners of the Art Weinstein Trophy will have been announced

and players will be basking in the glory of Masterpoints earned. Information about the winners will be included in the April column since the results will be available too late for this column's deadline. Our thanks to all of the intrepid players and set-up/take-down helpers who once again made this event a great success. And kudos to Bob Gleason who was coordinating this tournament for the first time. Merci!

Looking ahead to March, our unit's Ted Richmond Pro-Am game is set for March 23 at Fattoria e Mare. To accommodate anyone wishing to play in that game, the format has been modified: in addition to an Open Section in which anyone wishing to play in the traditional Pro with Am format will be seated, we will host a beginner section, and a 499er Section. Registration for the game will begin at 10:30 with lunch served at 11:00. At approximately 11:45, winners of the 2018 Mini McKenney and Ace of Clubs awards will be honored. The game will begin at noon. Mark your calendars and join us to recognize our fellow players' achievements and to play to earn Masterpoints toward this year's Mini McKenney and Ace of Clubs competitions.

Jennifer Kuhn continues to manage our unit Mentor/Mentee evening games to great response. The time spent after the game reviewing boards and encouraging analysis allows for lively interaction between Mentors and Mentees. The restaurant's pizza offering before the game has been well received. Two more games remain on the schedule: March 28 and April 25.

WOW! At Jennifer Kuhn's Wednesday evening game on January 30 our unit players Bob Gleason and Kit Morse scored an impressive 73% game. And on February 14 at Raad Bunni's Open Game, Loren Charlton and Janelle Van Rensselaer scored 71.53%. Not too shabby; any pointers for those of us experiencing achievement envy? Way to go! In future, if you know of players earning 70%+ results, let me know so we can share their achievements.

A warm welcome to new Unit 498 members: Gail Cameron, Susan Stockton, and Kent Taylor. And congratulations to players advancing over the past months: to Club Master, James Bolton and Maureen Olson; to Regional Master, Susan Papilion.

The Longest Day project is getting underway with a strong motivation to top last year's outstanding results. Auctions, raffles, prizes galore will be on hand as we approach the June 21 Longest Day Alzheimer's Association benefit. Keep your eyes open for information on this so worthy undertaking.

Be sure to check the Unit 498 website, www.unit498.com to get all up to date info on game schedules and special events.

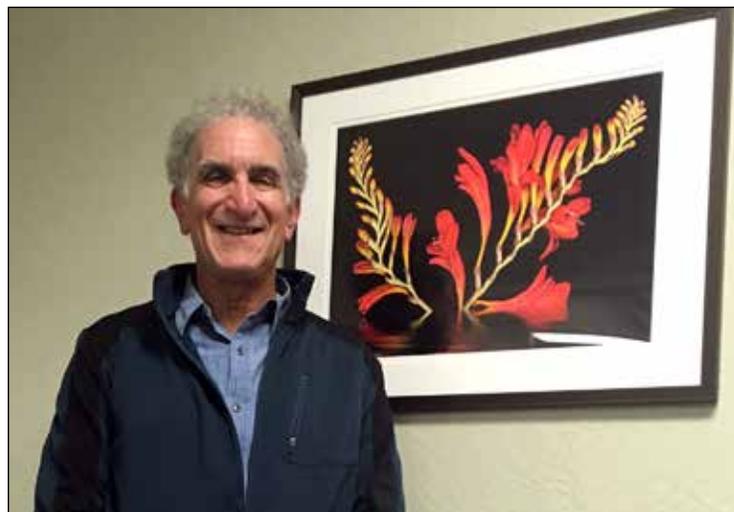
Santa Cruz

By Karen Schamberg

It's time for our Rising Stars Sectional on Saturday and Sunday, March 9 & 10, at the Mid County Senior Center in Capitola. The sectional is open to all players with fewer than 500 MPs. There are two sessions on Saturday with a free bridge lesson by Life Master, Ken Martin, between sessions. Sunday will have a single session Stratified Newcomer Pairs game (0-100 points) or you may play 2 sessions of Stratified Swiss Teams with a short lunch break. Silver points will be awarded for all events both days. For complete information, follow the link on our website and if you need a partner, contact John Wesolowski.

Jan Winham is offering a Pro-Am Swiss game on Monday evening, March 4 to help players with fewer than 500 points prepare for the sectional. Sign up at the club or contact Jan with questions.

If you haven't already visited the club, you're missing the latest show of artwork by Unit 550 member Mark Wainer. Bright, colorful and striking high resolution scans of flowers grown or purchased locally. Mark's given them an artistic treatment digitally and printed them with archival inks on paper. These are part of Mark's series, *Aquaflora*, which can be seen on his website www.markwainer.com. One of the series (*Aquaflora #2*) received an award



Mark Wainer

at the Center for Photographic Art's 2018 Juried membership show in Carmel.

High scores in club games in the past month were earned by: Jim Slinger & Ken Llacera, 73.22%; Bruce Dau & Jim Martin, 72.36%; and Christopher Pisarra & Jim Slinger, 71.73%. The last 2 scores were attained in the same game.

Unit 550 offers games most days and several evenings: Open Pairs games are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday daytimes, and Thursday evenings; beginning in March there's a Newcomer Pairs Thursday evenings (first game is free); 99er Pairs play Wednesday evenings (free lesson preceding); 199ers play Monday evenings (free lesson preceding); 749ers are Tuesday evenings and Thursday mornings (free lesson preceding, bring lunch); and Sunday afternoon is NLM/Mentor game (free lesson preceding). Robin Evenden is hosting a Pro-Am game on Tuesday evening, March 19 and our unit game is March 16. Check the website for specific game times.

Paid lessons are also available: Nancy Wainer and Bette Harken both offer Beginner Bridge lessons; Sydney Reuben has a Mentored Group for beginners; Pam Benz offers Supervised Play for Novices and Re-entry players; and Ken Gamble offers Expert at Your Elbow for Beginners and Bid/Play for low-intermediate players. Check the website for specific lesson times and contact information.

Unit 550 now has a presence on Nextdoor.com which we use to connect with prospective players. If you already use Nextdoor, please recommend us by searching for "bridge" and clicking on "Recommend" for our Bridge Center.

As a reminder, the SCBC is a fragrance-free venue. Please use unscented, non-perfumed products. To see the Unit 550 Game Calendar or to contact one of our club owners, please visit our website at www.santacruzbridge.org

Santa Rosa/Petaluma

By Cecelia Zachar

Line up your favorite partner and come to Unit 509's Spring Sectional on Saturday and Sunday, March 9 and 10, at Odd Fellows Hall in Santa Rosa. Sandwiches, including a vegetarian option, will be available for purchase each day. As always, many

people contribute to our varied and plentiful snack offerings, helping to make for a festive couple of days. After all this rain, the hills of Sonoma County will be brilliantly green. For details about the tournament, see <http://acblunit509.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/SprSect2019.pdf>. Your favorite partner in Tahiti? No problem. Give a call to our best-in-the-world partnership chairperson, Kathy Venton, at 707-591-5015 or email her at bridgegalleryca@gmail.com.

Our big event in February was the Sylvia Shi class on when to compete from the 2 level to the 3 level and from the 4 level to the 5 level. Sixty-five players of all levels packed into the Bridge Gallery for the two hour class. I was fortunate to be able to attend, and I understand now what all the gushing was about for her previous class. I must say that in the 30 years I've been studying bridge, I have not found any classes, articles, or books that helped me improve my competitive bidding until Sylvia's class. What impressed me is that Sylvia shared a method for determining whether to pass, raise, or double based on what cards you have in your hand, not just on your personality type. Even better, the method included how to compete as a partnership. For those who don't know Sylvia, she is a seven-time NABC title holder as well as a World Gold Medal winner AND she has only been playing since 2011! We look forward to more classes by Sylvia in the future.

The unit game on February 10 had 11 1/2 tables! World champion Sylvia Shi and her partner Jane McLaughlin triumphed with 71.08% for 1st in A and B to win 3.21 masterpoints. Second overall with 68.85% were Erwin Linzner and Bob Klein. Carolyn Farren and Paulette Moe won 2nd in B and first in C with 59.12%. Congratulations.

Last month I reported that one of our players and self-professed nerd, John Shribbs, would be introducing a new method for teaching beginning bridge using smartphones and computers at the Petaluma Adult School. He has 13 students and reports that with only 2 of 8 lessons completed, the Synrey app/website is working well as a teaching tool. He can assign homework as well as have all students play every hand as declarer during the class. I'll report on his progress in coming months.

There were two 70%+ game in our clubs since the last Diamond in the Ruff. At the Bridge Gallery,

Sylvia Shi and Jane McLaughlin scored 71.08 on February 10, and Kate Hill and Sara Rothmuller racked up 71.53 on February 13. Congratulations!

I look forward to seeing you in Santa Rosa March 9 and 10 for our Spring Sectional.

Silicon Valley

By Ray Yuenger

I'm still unable to announce a location or date for our spring sectional. By this time, securing a location for our fall sectional is becoming a concern. Unit board members have viewed some possibilities but are still searching for an affordable site.



In lieu of a sectional, the board will consider holding more unit games. In February, the unit held an individual unit game. If you haven't played in one, it is what it sounds like. While it's a pairs game, you don't need to bring a partner, because you are paired up with a new partner every two or three boards. I was pleasantly surprised that nine full tables of players turned out. Vilas Namjoshi was the overall winner in the A and B stratifications, with Stu Goodgold 2nd in A and Linda Nemmer 2nd in B. Tied for first in C were David Holbrook and Gerald Hewitt.

Lynn Yokel promised to run a unit game to honor the 2018 unit leaders in masterpoint races in clubs (the Ace of Clubs or "AC") and tournaments (mini-McKenney or "MM"). The following people prevailed in each of 15 masterpoint categories, some double-winners: (0-5 MPs) Monica Bacon-Proctor (AC & MM); (5-20) Jack Chen (AC), Brandon Ge (MM); (20-50) Jeff Weaver (AC), Donna Wirt (MM); (50-100) Edward Lechner (both); (100-200) Jung Hu (both); (200-300) Sandra Erickson (AC), Arthur Zhou (MM); (300-500) Wanwan Ren (both); (500-1000) Frank Xie (both); (1000-1500) Norman Marks (both); (1500-2500) Luen-Jyh Luo (AC), Jim Liu (MM); (2500-3500) Jack Clinch (AC), Stephen Tu (MM); (3500-5000) Michael Fleisher (AC), Cheryl Mandala (MM); (5000-7500) Bruce Luttrell (AC), Yul Inn (MM); (7500-10,000) Will Watson (both); (over 10,000) Ed Barlow (AC), Michael Rosenberg (MM).

Looking back at the last month's regionals, Jim Liu's team took first in its bracket in Riverside. Yul Inn's team won a knockout in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Michael Rosenberg's team won its bracket in Tarrytown, New York.

Closer to home, at the Livermore sectional, Frank Xie placed first in his strat in the two-session pairs and second overall. Stacie Bowman & George Welch were first in their strat in the same event. Lynn Bartz & Will Watson had section tops in the same event and Stephen Tu tied for a section top. In the bracketed team events, Lynn Bartz, Mindy Foos & Michael Fleiser were first in the top bracket, and Jung Hu & Michele Liu were first in their bracket.

Congratulations to our newest Masters: Irene Jacobson, Michele Liu (Club); Arif Janjua, Betty Rosa (Silver); Pat Hannah (Gold).

With any luck, we'll never need it, but there is a new smoke detector at the San Jose Bridge Center thanks to Jeff Hack's continued concern for the safety of the players. The table fees for club games increased to \$12 (not due to the smoke detector, but due to annual fixed rent increases).

Stockton

By Debbie DeZarn

The chilly wet weather has been good for attendance at the Stockton and Oak Park Bridge Centers as who wouldn't want to be playing our favorite game indoors while seeing and hearing the rain and howling wind outside. Welcome to new, returning, and visiting players Lew Thorne, Margaret and Norio Kawai, and Don Weld.

Mark your calendars for the ACBL-wide Senior Pairs game on March 11. The same hands are played across the US and extra "overall" points are awarded to the top 10 National and top 5 District places. The Stockton Club does not charge extra for games like this so still \$8.

If you played at Oak Park in February you experienced using the new BridgeMates! Thank you, Korey, for emailing the results so quickly after the end of games! Thanks again to all who contributed to the purchase of the system. If you didn't the first time, please consider donating towards additional



BridgeMates that will be needed as the number of tables increases beyond 17. Big Games at Oak Park since last newsletter: 71.84% for Bill and Ann Nutting on January 23 and 70.91% by Rose Knutsen and Marion Goldberg on February 13. Congratulations!

Intermediate and beginning duplicate games are doing well. The first 99er game of 2019 had 4-½ tables and winners were Joan Simpson and Claudia Prather. There were some "newer" people there as well who got points. Several had played at the Stockton Club before, but not during the past 3 years; so welcome back Bonnie, Carole, Mikki, Pam, Miriam and Carol. After the game several players joined the ACBL!

The 2018 Intermediate Player of the Year trophy was awarded to Jerry Baba. His usual winning partner is Jon Bearg but he says "I also like playing with the ladies because they carry me." The Intermediates had a Big Game of 71.4% by Gloria Rogin and Terry Nagode on January 24. The Valentine's Day game featured a dessert table covered with red, white, and pink cookies, cupcakes, donuts and brownies in addition to the usual bowls of candy.

As a reminder, any beginner or intermediate Tuesday or Thursday player is eligible for a FREE play (\$8 value) at their very first Monday or Friday Open game. Just tell the money-taker.

Bill Mitchell achieved the rank of NABC Master having won the needed Gold in Monterey and a few more Silver in Sacramento. He joined the ACBL and played a lot in the 1980s through early 90s but took a 27 year hiatus to advance a career in Public Health and raise a family. After retirement he resumed club and tournament play just seven months ago and we have quickly seen him achieve sectional, regional, and now NABC ranks by winning the necessary pigmented points.

Golden Age Master certificates were awarded to the following non-life masters (NLM) for their continued membership and support of ACBL: Walter Jones, Carol Hakeem, Joyce Cates, Irmgard Owen, Shirley Dozier, Marion Goldberg, Marilyn Rickard, Marilyn Minden, Jenny Lind, Cissy Hilken and Jerry Barnes. All have exceeded the 100 or 200 masterpoint level as required and are encouraged to continue pursuing the Gold and Silver needed for their next ranks. We celebrate their achievements to date and the good cheer they bring through their regular club play.

**Unit 509: Santa Rosa/Petaluma
Spring Sectional
March 9 and 10, 2019**

Odd Fellows Hall 545 Pacific Avenue Santa Rosa

**Play begins at 10:00 a.m.
Registration 9:15 – 9:55 a.m.**

Lunch with vegetarian option available for purchase each day before play begins
Table Fees/Session: Members \$12; Unpaid Members \$16
Non-members must join ACBL on a temporary basis (\$7.99 for one month + table fees)

Saturday 10:00 a.m.

(strats determined by individual MP's)

Stratified Open Pairs (1st of 2) A: 2000+ B: 750–2000 C: 0–750

Single Session Open Pairs A: 2000+ B: 750–2000 C: 0–50

Single Session 299er Pairs A: 100–300 B: 50–100 C: 0–50

Saturday 2:30 p.m.

Stratified Open Pairs (2nd of 2) A: 2000+ B: 750–2000 C: 0–750

Single Session Open Pairs A: 2000+ B: 750–2000 C: 0–50

Single Session 299er Pairs A: 100–300 B: 50–100 C: 0–50

Members with 0–20 MPs – if play in a.m., play free in p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m. and afternoon, after lunch

JACKIE ORTIZ (Strati-Flighted) Swiss Team Games

Ax: 0 - 3000, A: 3000+ (Ax and A play together)

B/C/D: 1000-2000, 500-999, 0-500

Swiss Teams E/F/G: 200-300, 100-200, 0-100

Tournament Director TBD ACBL Sanction #1903052

Tournament Co-Chairs: Jane Bender and Maxine Reagh maxinereagh@comcast.net

Kathy Venton, Partnership Chair, 707 591-5015 bridgegalleryca@gmail.com

Directions to Odd Fellows Hall 545 Pacific Avenue Santa Rosa, CA

Northbound on 101: Take exit 490, College Ave., right for 1/4 mile to turn left on Mendocino Ave. Proceed 1/2 mile to turn right on Pacific Ave. Odd Fellows is 345 feet on your left.

Southbound on 101: Exit at Steele Lane and head left 1/4 mile to Mendocino Ave. Turn right and go 1/2 mile to Pacific Ave., Turn left on Pacific Ave. Odd Fellows is 345 feet on your left.

Westbound from Hwy. 12: Take Hwy. 12 to the Farmer's Lane intersection in Santa Rosa. Continue straight through intersection and follow 4th St. for 1/2 mile. Turn right onto Bryden Lane which becomes Pacific Ave. Continue 3/4 miles to Odd Fellows Hall on your right.

ROGUE VALLEY

REGIONAL

MAY 13-19, 2019

Inn at the Commons, Medford Oregon

INN AT THE COMMONS

200 North Riverside Avenue,
Medford OR 97501.

RESERVATIONS

1-866-779-5811

541-779-5811

Room rates: \$89 single & double. Poolside room \$99; Executive suite \$105. Room block cut off date is April 12, 2019 or when block is full.

Complimentary hot breakfast buffet, hotel parking, Wifi, and discounts to Larks restaurant. (Event parking available at the public parking lot adjacent to the hotel.)

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HOSPITALITY

Jill Wolcott.

STRATIFICATIONS

♦ Indicates Intermediate/Newcomer events.

Three Strat Open Pairs:

Open/2000/1250

♦ **Gold Rush Pairs:**

750/300/100

Stratified Open Events:

Open/2000/750

Bracketed Swiss Teams

Teams play in groups of 7-9 by masterpoint range; gold points in each bracket; (20 VP). Can play up.

Eligibility for flighted events based on top player's total. Thereafter, strats determined by average of pair or team.

Side Game Series: Play any two sessions to qualify for gold points.

Table fees: ACBL members \$13;
non and unpaid \$17; under age 26, \$6.

MONDAY May 13

7:00.....Stratified Open Charity Pairs (1 session)
(part of the Grants Pass Side Game Series) (1 of 3)

7:00.....Gold Hill Stratified Charity Swiss Teams (1 session)

TUESDAY May 14

10:00.....Klamath Falls Bracketed KOs
(winners continue at 3; and 10 & 3 Wednesday)

10:00 & 3:00.....♦ Jacksonville Gold Rush Pairs (2 sessions)

10:00 & 3:00.....Yreka Three Strat Open Pairs (2 sessions)

10:00.....Rogue River Side Game Series (1 of 4)

3:00.....Rogue River Side Game Series (2 of 4)

3:00.....Ashland Stratified Swiss Teams (1 session)

7:30.....Grants Pass Side Game Series (2 of 3)

WEDNESDAY May 15

10:00 & 3:00.....♦ Central Point Gold Rush Pairs (2 sessions)

10:00 & 3:00.....Lakeview Three Strat Open Pairs (2 sessions)

10:00.....Rogue River Side Game Series (3 of 4)

3:00.....Rogue River Side Game Series (4 of 4)

7:30.....Grants Pass Side Game Series (3 of 3)

THURSDAY May 16

10:00.....Medford Bracketed KOs
(winners continue at 3; and 10 & 3 Friday)

10:00.....♦ Mount Ashland Gold Rush Pairs (2 sessions)

10:00 & 3:00.....Talent Three Strat Open Pairs (2 sessions)

10:00.....Rogue Valley Side Game Series (1 of 6)

3:00.....Rogue Valley Side Game Series (2 of 6)

3:00.....Paisley Stratified Swiss Teams (1 session)

FRIDAY May 17

10:00 & 3:00.....♦ Crater Lake Gold Rush Pairs (2 sessions)

10:00 & 3:00.....Diamond Lake Three Strat Open Pairs (2 sessions)

10:00.....Rogue Valley Side Game Series (3 of 6)

3:00.....Rogue Valley Side Game Series (4 of 6)

SATURDAY May 18

10:00 & 3:00...Chiloquin Stratified Open Swiss Teams (2 sessions)

10:00 & 3:00.....♦ Canyonville Gold Rush Pairs (2 sessions)

10:00 & 3:00.....Riddle Three Strat Open Pairs (2 sessions)

10:00.....Rogue Valley Side Game Series (5 of 6)

3:00.....Rogue Valley Side Game Series (6 of 6)

SUNDAY May 19

9:30 & TBA.....Last Chance Bracketed Swiss Teams (2 sessions)

NOTE EARLY START TIME; half hour break; on the road by 4:30 pm.



www.ACBLD20.org

Intermediate and Newcomer Players (I/N)



Please note that there are two Gold Rush Pairs sessions every day Tuesday through Saturday at 10:00 am and 3:00 pm where you will be able to win gold points. No player can have over 750 points and the stratifications will be 0-100, 100-300 and 300-750. Look for the red diamond ♦ on the schedule to find these exclusive I/N events. Single session entries welcome.

Margi Redden and Kemble Yates will host a party on Thursday between sessions. It is always fun with food, drink and discussion of bridge hands!

I/N Coordinator: **Margi Redden** d20incoord@yahoo.com; 503-805-2103.

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

There are two specially planned events for everyone to enjoy (at least the first 40 to sign up).



On **Friday, May 17**, after the second session of bridge, you will board a bus which will take you to see the hit Broadway musical HAIRSPRAY at the world famous Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Oregon. On the way you will dine on a delicious box lunch from the Café Dejeuner. Afterwards, you will board the bus to take you back to the Inn at the Commons.

Total cost per person: only \$86.25. Hold your reservation by emailing Jim Wheeler, the Tournament Manager, at jimpamw@yahoo.com by April 1st. Only the first 40 to sign up will be able to participate. Jim will collect your payment at the tournament. Checks or cash only.

You're invited to attend. . .



On **Saturday, May 18**, after the second session of bridge, you will enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres with wine pairings at *The Rogue Grape*, just a couple of blocks walk from the Inn at the Commons. Hors d'oeuvres will include a vegetable platter, roasted stuffed mushroom caps, a charcuterie board, meatballs, shrimp cocktail and crème brulee.

Total cost: \$21.25 per person. I know. Unbelievable! Again, only the first 40 lucky individuals will be able to participate. Email Jim Wheeler to secure your reservation by April 1st. Like the Ashland excursion, he will collect from you at the tournament.

Daily Lunch Specials in the Larks Restaurant at the Playing Site

Delicious salads and sandwiches for \$11 and under.

If that isn't enough, our D20 contract manager, Marilyn Vilhauer, has arranged for all bridge players at this tournament to receive 10% off their food bills (excluding lunch specials) in the restaurant at the Inn at the Commons.

Come enjoy bridge, Medford, Ashland, food and drink!!!

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