



DIAMOND IN THE RUFF

ACBL District 21 Newsletter Vol 1, Number 5 September 2018

Atlanta NABC Board Meeting

by Jackie Zayac

I was delighted to visit Atlanta, Georgia and represent District 21 on the ACBL Board of Directors in July for the first time. I had never been to Atlanta and I found it a charming city with great Southern food and hospitality. I am now a fan of collard greens! Here is a view of the city at sunset:



The big news for District 21 is that we have been awarded the 2022 Spring NABC in Reno, Nevada from March 10 – 20, 2022. It will be held at the ROW which is the former Circus Circus, El Dorado and Silver Legacy. A \$50,000,000 renovation will begin in 2019 and be complete before our arrival in 2022. With the San Francisco NABC scheduled for November 28 – December 8, 2019, we can look forward to two NABC's in District 21 in the next 3+ years! The vote was 22-2-1. I voted YES!

When I took office in January, 2018, I asked the
Continued on Page 3

North American Pairs Continues

by Stu Goodgold

If you have qualified in an NAP (North American Pairs) club qualifying game, you can now play in a NAP Unit final. If you qualify in any of the A, B, or C strats, you are eligible to play in the corresponding event at the D21 NAP District finals in December. While you can play in any number of NAP club qualifiers, note that you can play in one and only one NAP Unit final.



The top 3 pairs in the A event and 4 pairs in the B and C events at the NAP District finals are eligible to play in the Spring 2019 NAP national finals in Memphis. Cash stipends are awarded to the top 3 pairs that attend.

We have lots of NAP Unit finals scheduled for the months of September, October, and November. Most unit finals are one session. Units 503 and 507 are having 2 session finals.

You can play in any one of these unit finals; it does not have to be the unit you belong to or your qualifying club is part of. You can also play with any partner who qualified for that strat in any club in District 21; it does not have to be the same partner you qualified with at a club.

For the list of NAP Unit finals, see: <http://www.d21acbl.com/tournaments/nap/2019/nap2019.htm>

***The District 21 Flight A team
made it to the semifinals of
the GNT at the Atlanta NABC.
See page 6.***

Upcoming Tournaments

Sectionals

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

Feb 9–10, 2019

Grand National Teams

Championship Flight District Finals

East Bay Community Bridge Center, Oakland CA

(continues Feb 16–17 in Burlingame)

Feb 15–18, 2019

Fresno Winter Sectional

Fresno Bridge Center, Fresno CA

Feb 16–17, 2019

Grand National Teams

Flight B District Finals

Bayshore Bridge Club, Burlingame CA

Feb 23–24, 2019

San Mateo County Winter Sectional

Cañada College Cafeteria (aka the Grove)

Redwood City CA

Regionals

Oct 15–21, 2018

Reno/Sparks

Regional

The Nugget

Sparks NV

Dec 31, 2018–Jan 6, 2019

Monterey Clambake Regional

Hyatt Regency, Monterey CA

District 21 Board of Directors for their opinion on whether or not there should be term limits for the District 21 Director position. The D21 Board of Directors indicated their support for term limits for this position. A motion to limit District Directors to four (4) three-year terms was introduced in Philadelphia. The second reading and vote was taken in Atlanta. The vote was 20 – 5. I voted yes and it is effective January 1, 2019.

In May, I was contacted by Alan Cummings of the Palo Alto Unit to submit a motion asking for an increase in the number of one day NLM Sectionals above the three (3) currently allowed per year. One of my Canadian counterparts also wanted more than three (3) one day NLM Sectionals per year. Along with the Bridge Committee Chair and one other District Director, we submitted a motion to increase the number of one day NLM Sectionals from three (3) to six (6) per year. Our motion was passed on the consent calendar. There were several other motions that passed on the consent calendar also.

For the first time, the ACBL Board of Directors voted electronically at the meetings. It went well with only a few glitches which were fixed quickly. These are the motions the ACBL Board voted on at the meeting:

Updated Whistleblower Policy – the policy was updated to fill gaps to become compliant with New York Non-Profit Corporation Law. Our previous policy did not (1) cover volunteers, (2) define violations with enough specificity, (3) specifically provide for directors, officers and volunteers to report directly to the Compliance Officer and (4) provide that accused persons do not participate in any hearing on the matter. The vote was 25-0. It became effective immediately.

Masterpoint awards at Sectionals with Concurrent NLM Regionals – An open sectional held concurrently at the same location with a masterpoint restricted regional shall receive credit for simultaneous tables in the NLM Regional. The unrestricted event shall be credited with 65% of any pair or Swiss tables in the NLM Regional held during the same session for the purpose of calculating overall awards. This was the second reading and it became effective immediately. The vote was 23-2. I voted yes.

Increase awards NAP/GNT – A motion was submitted to increase the District Stage Awards for NAP and GNT.

The changes in the District Stage Awards for the NAP are:

Flight A: 2 sessions – ~~24.00~~ 32.00 masterpoints
3 sessions – ~~30.50~~ 40.00 masterpoints
4 sessions – ~~36.00~~ 48.00 masterpoints
(Overalls 100% Gold, Section tops Gold, session awards Red at 100% of regional rating)

Flight B: 2 sessions – ~~16.00~~ 22.50 masterpoints
3 sessions – ~~20.00~~ 28.00 masterpoints
4 sessions – ~~24.00~~ 33.50 masterpoints
(Overalls 100% Gold, Section tops Gold, session awards Red at 70% of regional rating)

Flight C: 2 sessions – ~~10.00~~ 15.00 masterpoints
3 sessions – ~~12.50~~ 17.50 masterpoints
4 sessions – ~~15.00~~ 20.00 masterpoints
(Overall awards and Section Tops 50% Gold, 50% Red, Session awards Red, 50% of regional rating)

Changes in the District Stage Awards for GNT are:

Champ: 2 sessions – ~~24.00~~ 32.00 masterpoints
3 sessions – ~~30.00~~ 40.00 masterpoints
4 session or longer event – ~~36.00~~ 48.00 masterpoints
(Overall awards are Gold. Match awards are 100% regional rated Red)

Flight A: 2 sessions – ~~20.00~~ 27.00 masterpoints
3 sessions – ~~25.00~~ 33.00 masterpoints
4 sessions or longer event – ~~30.00~~ 40.00 masterpoints
(Overall awards are Gold. Match awards are Red and 90% of regional rating)

Flight B: 2 sessions – ~~18.00~~ 22.50 masterpoints
3 sessions – ~~22.00~~ 28.00 masterpoints
4 sessions or longer event – ~~26.00~~ 33.50 masterpoints
(Overall awards are Gold. Match awards are Red and 70% of regional rating)

Flight C: 2 sessions – ~~10.00~~ 15.00 masterpoints
3 sessions – ~~12.50~~ 17.50 masterpoints
4 sessions or longer event – ~~15.00~~ 20.00 masterpoints
(Overall awards are 50% Gold and 50% Red. Match awards are Red and 50% of regional rating)

The vote was 23 – 2. I voted yes and it became effective on August 6, 2018.

U26 Teams Qualified for International Competition – Solely for purposes of bracketing in KOs, Compact KOs and Bracketed Swiss Teams, a player who has qualified to represent Zone 2 in the Under 26 bracket will be deemed to have an additional 5,000 temporary “eligibility points” from the date of the player’s qualification through the commencement of the junior championships for which such player has qualified. A U26 team was recently not allowed to play in a top bracket in a knockout event where they would have been competitive because of their masterpoint holdings. The vote was 18 - 7. I voted yes. It was effective immediately.

Spring 0-10,000 KO – This event will become a fixed 3-day event. Half-day 28 board matches will be played in place of the current full-day 56 board matches until such time as the field can play 56-board matches and complete the event in 3 days. The vote was 25 – 0 and it becomes effective January 1, 2019.

Expand Zero Tolerance Policy – The Zero Tolerance Policy is expanded to include any event at which an ACBL Tournament Director is required to officiate onsite. This will include sectionals and regionals where ACBL Tournament Directors officiate. The vote was 25 – 0. The effective date is October 1, 2018.

Inter-club championship games - ACBL management is authorized to sanction and conduct or sublet the administration of inter-club championships, which are administered online but played “live.” Overall awards will be based on the entire field and the same hands are to be used by participating clubs. In addition to a club’s regular club championships, the club may participate in inter-club championships administered online during a time it has a sanctioned game. The vote was 25 – 0.

Daylong Robot Tournaments – Two sanctioned daylong online robot games (1 IMP and 1 match point) may be held daily per approved online club. The sanction fees will be reduced from \$2.00 per table to \$1.00 per table for 18 boards and from \$1.00 per table to \$.55 per table for 12 boards. The vote was 20 – 5. I voted yes.

Regional Charity Games - All single-session events, except Side Series Pairs, Pro-Am Events or

any event restricted to Non-Life Masters on the first day of a full seven-day regional, must be charity games. The first session must benefit the ACBL Charity Foundation, ACBL Educational Foundation, ACBL Junior Fund, ACBL International Fund, the Grassroots Fund, or the Canadian equivalent of these charities. Subsequent single-session events on the first day may be run for the benefit of one of the above charities or an approved charity selected by the sponsor.

If a regional tournament runs two-session gold point events on the first day of a full seven-day regional tournament or schedules the first two sessions of a KO event on the first day, the first session of all these two-session, gold point events must be run for the benefit of one of the above listed charities. The second session may be run for the benefit of one of the above listed funds or an approved charity selected by the sponsor.

For all regionals other than full seven-day tournaments, the sponsor may choose to hold a Charity Game on any day. The first game held for charity must be run for the benefit of one of the above listed charities. Any subsequent Charity Games may be run for the benefit of one of the above listed funds or an approved charity selected by the sponsor.

The vote was 23-2. I voted yes. It is effective immediately for all tournaments whose schedules have not already been approved.

GNT Special Conditions of Contest – If there are at least eight (8) teams competing in the B or C Flight in the District Final, a second team would be considered eligible to compete in the National Final of their respective category. The vote was 12-13. I voted yes because 94% of our District 21 ACBL Members have fewer than 2500 masterpoints and I would like to see a second team competing for District 21 in Flight B and Flight C!

Simplify Handicap Game – Clubs may establish handicaps by considering the player’s masterpoint holdings. The vote was 22-2-1. I voted yes. It will be effective January 1, 2019.

Depth of Awards of the Masterpoint – For more than ten (10) tables, the depth of the award will be 25% of the number of pairs in the field. Similar references for teams and individual games will be amended to 25% of the field. The vote was 25 – 0. It will be effective January 1, 2020.

ACBL Bylaws – There was a second reading of

the amendments to the ACBL Bylaws. The vote was 25 – 0 to amend the ACBL Bylaws. The effective date was July 30, 2018.

ACBL Temporary Membership – The Board of Governors submitted a motion to change the temporary membership from one month to three months for \$7.99. The vote was 3 – 22. I voted no in support of the Finance Committee recommendation that we examine this issue after it has been implemented for one year. The Finance Committee also recommended that changes in membership fees should not be made more frequently than once a year. I concurred.

ACBL Tournament Directors – The Board of Governors submitted a motion to have Management ensure that all charges to tournament sponsors, including but not limited to director’s fees, equipment charges and supply fees shall reflect the actual services and supplies provided to the sponsor and be used specifically for the benefit of the sponsor’s tournament.

When there is time, work is done on upcoming tournaments and the motion would have required time and materials charges be separated for future tournaments and billed to them. The vote was 1 – 23 – 0 – 1. I voted no because it would be difficult to keep accurate records and this practice occurs at all tournaments. All tournaments have a small amount of work done on future tournaments if there is time available.

Fees and Changes – Sectional tournaments are charged a surcharge in lieu of the transportation cost of the nearest director of highest rank. The sanction fee for sectional tournaments will be the same for an open sectional and a NLM Sectional. The vote was 24 – 0 – 0 – 1. I voted yes. The effective date was August 1, 2018.

Chapter IV – Board Procedures, B. Expenses, Section 5 – Other Expense Reimbursement – A motion was introduced to delete Section 5 – Other Expense Reimbursement which states that first-term members of the Board of Directors will be invited to the meeting prior to joining the Board. The vote was 21 – 3 – 1. I voted yes. It is effective immediately. New District Directors will attend their first meeting after their term begins.

NABC Allowable Expense – The following services and materials will be provided by the ACBL:

- A welcome party on the first Friday of the NABC.
- A snack for players on the first Thursday and from Saturday to Saturday after the evening session.
- A \$2.00 coupon to be used at concessions for each player at the 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. session throughout the tournament.
- Order and pay for the welcome gifts and prizes selected by the local committee.
- Order and pay for the welcome gifts for the I/N players chosen by the local committee.
- Printing to include the souvenir program book, restaurant guide, flyers and other promotional materials.
- Arrange for and compensate all novice program speakers.
- Provide promotional material to clubs and to players with fewer than 100 masterpoints within the area of dominant influence of the tournament.
- Provide signs, bulletin boards, registration cards, partnership cards, etc.
- Produce and fund the vu-graph program for major team event finals.
- Host a dinner prior to the tournament for key local volunteers or provide the local committee with \$5,000 to be used in lieu of a local volunteer dinner.
- Provide 350 \$10 coupons to be applied against entry fees for local volunteers.
- The local committee is responsible for any other expenditure such as bands or other entertainment, additional player hospitality or gifts.

The vote was 25 – 0. It will be effective January 1, 2019.

Executive Director Title – Replace all references to CEO or Chief Executive Officer in the Codification with Executive Director. The vote was 25 – 0. It was effective immediately.

Executive Director Candidates – Have the Search Committee present at least two candidates to the Board of Directors along with its recommendation(s). The vote was 13 – 12. I voted yes. It was effective immediately.

Executive Director Contractual Arrangements – The Board of Directors shall approve the terms of employment, including the final terms of any employment contract. The vote was 11 – 14. I voted yes, but the motion was defeated.

Revise Conflict of Interest Policy – No member of the Board of Directors may participate in the selection, award or administration of a contract or

other transaction in which he or his immediate family has a direct or indirect financial interest or with whom he is negotiating or has any arrangement concerning prospective employment. Immediate family was expanded to include family members by marriage. The vote was 25 – 0. It was effective immediately.

Board cost savings – Board members will be reimbursed at the ACBL host hotel negotiated room rate incurred beginning with the night before their first officially scheduled meeting and continuing through the night the board meetings conclude rather than the first Saturday night of the NABC. Per diem will be paid beginning with the day before the first officially scheduled meeting through the travel day after the board meetings conclude rather than either the day of departure or the Sunday of the Board of Governors meeting, whichever is earlier. The vote was 11 – 14. I voted no because there are discussions underway to reduce the number of board members, have the board members elected at large and/or give the Board of Governors a greater role in governance of the ACBL. I want to see a complete, big picture proposal and not approve pieces of various parts of proposals which may not be in the best interests of the ACBL or District 21 with a final reorganization plan.

Fragrance Policy – The Board of Governors submitted a motion to have the ACBL implement an ACBL-wide fragrance-free policy. It would include scented soaps, shampoo, conditioner, and lotions as well as perfume. The Board of Directors sent this motion as an action item to ACBL Management to develop a fragrance policy that will encourage/require members to be sensitive (medically or by preference) to strong scents.

Women’s BAM Teams – Remove the Marsha May Sternberg Women’s BAM Teams from the Fall NABC schedule because the event has not met the attendance goals over the past five years. The vote was 23 – 2. I voted yes. It is effective January 1, 2019.

Baze Senior KO – Remove the Baze Senior KO from the Fall NABC schedule because the event has not met attendance goals over the past five years. The vote was 19 – 6. It is effective January 1, 2019.

Limited and Individual Games at STaCs – Change the effective date of the following three paragraphs from January 1, 2019 to January 1, 2021:

- Each Sponsor must develop a schedule of games

and Conditions of Contest. Open and limited Stratified Pair and Swiss team events may be scheduled. All pair events are single-session events. Team games shall be standalone events at the site played.

- All masterpoints awarded are silver and STaC rated. While there is no combining results of team events across sites, the overall awards for Open Swiss events do receive credit for limited event tables at the same site. Individual clubs determine their section awards for all Pair events based solely upon the entry at each individual site. The final overall awards for Pair events for each session of the STaC are determined by across the field matchpointing of all Pair events within their respective pools (Open, Limited, Invitational, and non-duplicated games) held during that session as part of the STaC.

- The use of designated duplicated hands is required for all Pair events during the STaC to participate in the Open, Limited, and Invitational pool for STaC overall awards. Games at sites not using the designated duplicated hands will be entered in a separate pool for ranking and masterpoint awards (65% of STaC rating).

The vote was 13 – 9 – 2. I voted yes.

If you have any comments or questions, please email me at jackiezayac@gmail.com. I hope to see you at a bridge event soon.

District 21 2018/19 GNTs

By Grant Vance, District 21 GNT Coordinator

Our Flight A team of Greg Vance, Drew Hoskins, Erwin Linzner, and Mark McCarthy reached the semi-finals of the National Final. Good job, and congratulations. The ACBL is invoking new Convention Charts to replace Super Chart, MidChart, and General Chart, starting at the Nationals in Hawaii, 11/22/18. Our D21 2019 GNT event will also use the new charts. Open Flight and Flight A will use the new Open+ convention chart, while Flight B will be governed by the Open Chart. Flight C players must use the Basic+ Chart. The ACBL website has all four new charts printed at <http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/about/181AttachmentD.pdf>.



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

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.



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
District 21 website: 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!

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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

RANK UPGRADES

JUNIOR

MASTERS

Robin Baker, Berkeley CA, 497
Patrick Campbell, Reno NV, 473
Peter Evans, Mill Valley CA, 508
Nancy Geschke, Los Altos CA, 503
Carolyn Hardwick, Folsom CA, 505
David Jones, Minden NV, 465
Susan Maki, Los Gatos CA, 507
Gail Moberg, Los Alto CA, 503
David Nakamura, Fremont CA, 500
Jean Peers, Millbrae CA, 498
Brenda Perry, Napa CA, 512
Stephen Perry, Napa CA, 512
Karen Pettengill, Reno NV, 473
Rebecca Simmons, Moss Beach CA, 498
Lipika Sur, Cupertino CA, 503
Ama Torrance, Oakland CA, 502
Cathie Vail, Folsom CA, 505
Jenny Zhang, Hayward CA, 500
Alex Zheng, San Jose CA, 507

CLUB

MASTERS

Michael Breslow, San Francisco CA, 506
David Chen, San Jose CA, 507
Sandra Crinnion, Walnut Creek CA, 499
F William Dorband, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Robert Ellery, El Dorado Hills CA, 505
Laura Gamble, Carmel CA, 530

Marilyn Gschwind, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Judy Huckabay, Fremont CA, 503
David King, San Francisco CA, 506
Meiling Lai, Antioch CA, 499
Linda Loveland, Reno NV, 473
Peter Malkovich, Pleasanton CA, 501
Edward Marlovits, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Bertha Messina, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Paula Monroe, Stockton CA, 510
Ramona Nelson, Carmichael CA, 505
Terrence Nelson, Carmichael CA, 505
Kathy Nusser, Moraga CA, 499
Mary Pulvermann, San Francisco CA, 506
Richard Rockwell, San Francisco CA, 506
Judith Ruble, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Michael Smith, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Karen St Sure, Greenbrae CA, 508
Jean Tepper, San Francisco CA, 506
Manoj Thawani San Jose CA 507
Charles Yinger, Petaluma CA, 509

SECTIONAL

MASTERS

Rochelle Alhadeff, Saratoga CA, 507
Robin Alioto, Hillsborough CA, 498
Carol Cowen, Capitola CA, 550
Velma Leavitt, Walnut Creek CA, 499
Ann Mahoney, Carmel CA, 530
Gloria Mullen, Menlo Park CA, 503
Brigitte Sandquist, San Francisco CA, 506
Marina Seppius, Palo Alto CA, 503
Betty Souch, Woodacre CA, 509

John Walker, Santa Cruz CA, 550

Michael Xu, Palo Alto CA, 503

REGIONAL MASTERS

Rosemary Foley, Reno NV, 473

Eleanor Gauger, Benicia CA, 512

Bruce Innes, Greenbrae CA, 508

Jackie Lowenberg, Hillsborough CA, 498

David Merenbach, Belmont CA, 503

Mardi Schma, Napa CA, 512

Diane Strategos, Davis CA, 505

Harry Struthers, Carmichael CA, 505

Cathy Wagener, Petaluma CA, 509

LIFE

MASTERS

JOCELYN STARTZ, SAN FRANCISCO CA, 506

ANDREA VENTRIS, TIBURON CA, 508

BRONZE LIFE MASTERS

Jefri Donovan, Reno NV, 473

Kate Hare, Alameda CA, 500

Kathy Jasper, San Jose CA, 507

Dorothy Lloyd, Discovery Bay CA, 499

Jocelyn Startz, San Francisco CA, 506

Janet Tainty, Santa Cruz CA, 550

SILVER LIFE MASTERS

Pamela Ann Kitto, Stockton CA, 510

Adrienne Varin, Sonoma CA, 512

RUBY LIFE MASTERS

Judy Beck, Lincoln CA, 505

Joanne Brown, Santa Cruz CA, 550

Richard Leres, Oakland CA, 502

Jane McLaughlin, San Francisco CA, 506

Valerie Petersen, Walnut Creek CA, 499

Paul Scheinberg, Santa Rosa CA, 509

Robert Shiner, Orangevale CA, 505

Raja Smadi, Saratoga CA, 507

Ruth Swain, Reno NV, 473

GOLD LIFE MASTERS

Evan Evans, Sacramento CA, 505

Darrell Fung, San Ramon CA, 500

John Kozero, Santa Rosa CA, 509

Kathryn Von Dohre, Concord CA, 499

DIAMOND LIFE MASTER

Atam Lalchandani, Incline Village NV, 473

EMERALD LIFE MASTERS

Charlotte Falk, Reno NV, 473

Carole Liss, San Rafael CA, 508

HEART OF THE DISTRICT

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<u>Carson/Tahoe</u>	<u>444</u>	<u>Carole Sill</u>
<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>
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Berkeley/El Cerrito/Richmond

By The Beer Dude

A's are riding high; Giants are struggling; Raiders & 49ers are looking on the improve; it will be a fun September for you sports fans like me. The one team we don't have to worry about is the Warriors. Fall equinox & start of fall occur 2 days after deadline; our 2nd BBQ Swiss is 5 days ahead – Sat 15th – sign up now – there are at least 5 of 12 spots still available as I write – deadline is Mon 10th. Game is @ Arlington Clubhouse @ 11 AM; 6 8-board rounds; BBQ dinner btwn 3rd & 4th rounds. \$80/team; U497 members dine FREE; others pay \$7. E-mail me to reserve your spot (past supporters & unit members have priority).

BBQ Swiss drew 10 teams, which divided equally into A & B based on average masterpoints. Vicki Chang, Don Steedman, Lewis, & Nancy Voils went 6-0 & won it. 2nd A was Ed Seputis team (Glenn Boyce, Sue Eltringham, David Geary), who lost their 1st 2 matches, then nailed us (me, Eric, Sandi, & Roseanne) in the last round, knocking us down to 4th (overalls based on total VP's). Ed & Glenn found the only makeable game (3NT) on a horrid misfit, which Glenn played perfectly, despite a couple side suits having bad splits – our partners went down in 4 of a major. Len Vishnevsky's crew (Jo Ginsberg, Michel Schneider, Grant Vance) won only 3 matches, but 2 were 20-0 blitzes, & their losses were close, so even tho we beat them (by 1 or 2 IMPS) & won 4, they ended up with more VP's. Such is the way of VP scoring. On the B side, Veda Mason, Carol Scott, Ben Grubel, Jan Kosel got the prize; Shahla Verrall, Carin Caroe, Carrie Stoltzfus, Libby Silver were 2nd. Thanks to all who helped with setup & teardown (we had a hired cook; it'll be 100% "in house" henceforth). Fri unit game is the 7th; many special games coming in October

At da club, Dexter & Gordon (AKA "Saxman") were co-MP champs; recent new board member Roger Edelson was best of the NLM's. Club champ game is Fri 21st. Jack Shiffer had a good week while I was gone, winning N/S both days w/different partners & 60%+ games (6 tables both times). October, we'll have Jane Johnson Club Appreciation month games, plus an ACBL-wide Instant Matchpoint game on Halloween.

May you have better success @ the upcoming

Santa Clara Regional than Eric & I did @ Del Mar. I cashed no tickets on Fri 2 on Sat; he did a little better, but still on the minus side. No matter – we had a good time hanging out with a couple we met 6-7 yrs ago in the owners' lounge, including 2 nights for dinner. Before E got down there, I did my usual beer hunt, but with a twist – craft booze. Met a long-time former co-worker & her hubby/So for lunch @ Cutwater distillery & restaurant, then did whiskey & gin tastings afterward & bought 3 bottles to go. Google them if you're into such stuff & planning a trip to the San Diego area.

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

Carson/Tahoe

By Carole Sill

This month's column is devoted to a very special amazing lady. We are proud to have her in our bridge unit.

Thelma Nelson was born in October 1916 in the town of Bremerton, Washington. Her father was an ensign in the Navy and her mother was a housewife. Thelma married Henry in 1939 and they were married for 64 years before Henry passed away in 2003. During Thelma's youth they moved around a lot even living in Samoa. Thelma has three children, two daughters Terry and Betty and a son named Bill.

Thelma was first exposed to bridge when she was 15. She would come home from school to find her stepmother and three friends playing bridge. Thelma was fascinated with the game and she enlisted her two brothers and a friend named Jane to come to her bedroom and the four of them would play bridge after school. She would occasionally fill in at her stepmother's game when a fourth was needed.

Thelma quit bridge for a while to raise a family. She didn't get back to playing bridge until about eleven years after she was married. It was when her family moved to Claremont, California in 1950 that she went to the local bridge club and played in a newcomers' game. With her first partner, Ida and Thelma came in second in the first duplicate game she played. Thelma was hooked. She didn't play many bridge conventions, but she had a thirst for learning. She quickly left the newcomers' game to play with and against more experienced players. She persuaded a friend to go with

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her to the duplicate game in Pomona, California where she played several times always coming in first, second or third.

As time went by Thelma decided she wanted to start a duplicate bridge club in Claremont. She got a rule book and started the game which she ran for 46 years. She later ran a game in San Dimas, California. She also played bridge in Lancaster, California.

Later in life Thelma moved to Minden, Nevada to be near her kids. She still plays regularly and is a gold life master having accumulated more masterpoints than 90% of the American Contract Bridge League members. Her favorite partners are Nick Pchelkin and Nick's wife Leona Pchelkin who she describes as part of her family.

I'd like to close encouraging all level of players to enter as many competitions as you can. How many Masterpoints you have really doesn't matter. Example One foursome from Carson City played in 8 is enough. Between the four of them they had 4 of the 8 points. Much to their surprise and excitement they came in 1st in C, 2nd in B and 3rd in A.

They are all anxious to play in the October 4 thru 7 Carson Tahoe Unit 465 Sectional, especially the Swiss teams.

Diablo Valley

By Lisa Assoni

Hope you're keeping your cool, and that encumbrances all aspects of your lives.

Anyway, our tempers can flare like a sunburst, and spoil your day and others. At the bridge table, sour apples go to the following folks who are no shows and no phone calls telling your partner you can't play that day. Unless you've experienced an emergency, you're causing temperatures to rise from the waiting bridge players, and delay the start of the game. I'm writing this as a reminder for me. I just sneak in just as the games begin. My bad. So next time you're going to be late, call your partner and give them a break.

We're thriving at the Contra Costa Bridge Center. Attendance has been like a fine wine: Smooth, mature, and ageless. Time marches on, but with bridge it seems to come to a standstill. We're in the moment, present and sometimes knocking our heads and saying, "I should have had a V-8. I mean, and should have bid 5 NT."

This game of constantly reformulating contracts, bids and more, and it's a lot like making dinner. If you like to cook, you experiment, try new recipes, and reap the benefits of eating good, healthy food. And so it goes for bridge. The more we learn, the better players we become, we devour every morsel of a point, and relish every play of the hand.

Kids can really benefit by learning bridge at a young age. So many skills can be developed. How about counting, adding, memorization, learning how to play well with others, and that's just a brief synopsis of this life-long game of learning. Free Youth Bridge Classes are held at CCBC on Tuesday nights at 7:00pm every other week (2nd & 4th Tuesdays). Contact Bruce Johnsonbaugh at 925-766-7586 for more info.

Bruce has dedicated years of his time and talent to our upcoming bridge players. I remember when I brought my granddaughter for lessons in Walnut Creek. She was nine. Now she's a sophomore in college. Yikes thank you for your continued effort to promote the game of bridge for the youth in our unit!

Kudos goes the Andy Fine, our mentoring wise man. Besides holding up the signs directing traffic to our fall sectional coming in November, as you recall,



he worked at Round Table Pizza, and tackled the job well. You're an OK guy Andy, and a smart one too. If anyone reading this would like to contact Andy, the info can be found in our e-declarer at Diablowalleybridge.com. There's lots of breaking news, so click on, read on.
Ciao Bella

East Bay

By Larry Bowerman

For your long-term planning calendar, please note that the Unit 502 Fall Sectional will take place on November 17 & 18 at the Oakland Masonic Center (third floor), 3903 Broadway, Oakland, CA. This is always a great event, so please plan to attend. More details to follow in October.

Sandi Davis is continuing to promote and encourage new players with her mentoring program for new players with fewer than 100 masterpoints. The mentee should be interested in improving their skills and willing to pay the mentor's entry fee. Mentors should be Life Masters and have good knowledge of Standard American. They should also be kind, patient,

and willing to answer questions and provide positive/constructive comments to the mentee after the game. If you are interested in participating as a mentor or mentee, please contact Sandi Davis at: sandi.david21@gmail.com.

As usual, there are a few important calendar events to note. First, there will be regularly scheduled Unit 502 Games on Sunday, September 2 and Sunday, September 16 beginning at 1:00 pm; the free lunch will be served in the East Bay Community Bridge Center (EBCBC) kitchen at about 12:30 pm.

The Unit 502 NAP Final Game at the EBCBC will take place on Sunday, September 9.

EBCBC Club Championship games will take place during the week of September 17 to 22.

The upcoming Saturday games at the EBCBC at 12:00 noon will be on September 22 & 29. If you want to play, please contact Betty Kael to sign-up for these games. After September 30 the Saturday games will be discontinued and replaced by Sunday games on those Sundays when there are no 502 unit games. In October these new games will take place on Sundays, October 14 & 28.

The Sunday game on October 28 will mark the fifth anniversary of the opening of the East Bay Community Bridge Center (EBCBC). The game will begin at 1:00 pm with catered appetizers being served before the game. Reservations are required for this game, so please contact Betty Kael if you want to play. The EBCBC plans to show highlights of the first 5 years, so if you have any good photos from the opening celebration or other significant events, please forward them to Sandi Davis at: sandi.david21@gmail.com.

Congratulations to Crispin Barrere, William Harker, Bruce Noda, and Mark Ralph who won the Truscott USPC Senior Swiss Teams event at the Atlanta NABC. Barrere and Noda also finished fourth in the Wernher Open Pairs. Nice job!

In the August 5 unit game, Pat Leary and Nick Wiebe took first place, Allan Harris and Cathleen Otvos second place, Jack Beers and Manfred Michlmayr third, and Teresa Boyd and Grant Robinson fourth. All four pairs played N/S and all had games above 60.6%. Ravi Bhalla and David Snyder placed first E/W, and Glenn Boyce and David Geary placed second E/W.

Welcome to new member Andrew Beretvas! When you see him, please take the time to welcome him to our unit.

Congratulations to the following players on their

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recent Master rank advancements: Helen Wren - Junior; Barbara Barton - Club; David Fenton, Gay Schrag and Bonnie Walsh – Sectional; Mary Toman – Bronze Life; and Susan Boyers – Silver Life. Kudos to each of you, and keep on playing! There is always another goal in front of you! When you see them, please take the time to congratulate them on their advancements.

I'm writing the October column, so please contact me if you have noteworthy results or other items to report.

Fresno

By Laura Da Costa

Hello everyone.

The "First Annual Poker Night Tournament" was on Friday, July 20; it was such a popular event that we may be having them more often than annually. We raised over \$1000 between the poker tickets sold, raffle (TV donated by Deb Petersen), and donations given. We didn't keep track of number of tickets sold, but we did have 3 full tables going at the same time (with some other players moving in as a few of the beginning players lost their chips), probably around 28 players. Winners were: first place Bill Glass, second place Angie Heisdorf, third place Lowell Gist, and fourth, Don Austin. Our raffle winner was Don Myers!

Our appreciation goes to the whole committee who organized the event: Jackie Finn, Don Myers, Mary Lou Pease, Deb Petersen, and Anthony Toto. We had three great dealers: Don Myers, Mark Stern, and Anthony Toto. Also, we had an abundance of pizza and wine; Jackie made sure everyone had their fill of both.

The Fresno Fall Sectional will be at the end of this month, September 28-30. For the second year in a row, it will be a 3-day sectional (Friday thru Sunday). Flyers are available at the clubhouse and at the ACBL Tournament website. Make a point to join us for one or more sessions by grabbing a flyer and starting to arrange your partnerships.

We had a lot of 70% games in July; quite a few of them were over 75%. In Oakhurst, Dana Brown & Wally Wallace, 73.34%; Karen McCartin & Claire Molnar a huge 77.09%; In Madera, Gary Nelson & June Oeser another huge 77.78%. The rest were in Fresno. Richard Meffley & Ray April, 70.37%; Lowell Gist & Avis Morse, 71.88%; Pamela Pigg & Ann Keag, 72.38%; Walt Kelso & Fred Schellack, a big

75%; Richard Meffley & Robert Durbrow, 77.78%; Mun Takeda & Lowell Gist, 70.83%.

It is always a nice sign to see new members joining Unit 522, and in the last couple of months, we have gained quite a few. So, a big welcome to Ruth Fruehauf (Mariposa), Nikki Gram (Fresno), Patricia Heckathorn (Clovis), Lynda Moller (Fowler), Sandra Petrie (Fresno), Robert Simpson (Oakhurst), Jackie Sterios (Fresno), & Ruth Townsend (Fresno). Many of these new members played in our Non Life Master Sectional this year (more on that tournament in next month's report).

That is all for this month. Remember to start planning your fall sectional partnerships, and I will see you then.

Livermore Valley

By Rosemarie LaFrancesca

With summer over and the kids back to school, we can focus on some serious bridge.

First there is the STAC week, then the regional of Santa Clara. Many of our players go to Santa Clara to play bridge and look at Levi Stadium. The club will be closed on Labor Day so we can all participate. Good luck to all who plan to play in the Santa Clara Regional!

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.

“Bridge is such a sensational game that I wouldn’t mind being in prison if I had three cellmates!”

–Anonymous

Marin

By Gail Haar

We have several new members including Catherine Gonzalex, Natasha Khandheria, Christina Mohn and Mary Ries. Let’s be sure to greet them with a smile. Congratulations to our members who have advanced in Master rank – Sarah Calvani & Jayme Goodale (Club); Peter Sager (Silver Life); Deborah Levine (Ruby Life).

There were a number of big games this month, led by Judy Leedy & Suzanne Johnson (76.82%); Ellen Weingart & Joan Ehmann (72.62%); Ellen Weingart & Ellen Schiller (72.22%). Marsha & Bob Sampson won the unit game on August 5 and the team of Jim & Patricia Griffin, Richard Riezman and Anne Stein won the Unit Swiss Teams on August 12.

A number of Unit 508’ers attended the NABC in Atlanta. James and Ivan Marchant, 17-year-old twins who have about 6 points, won the regular 49ers pairs twice, with over 60% games. They have now moved on to play in their 6th Youth NABC.

James & Ivan were recommended by the unit to receive a stipend from District 21 and did us proud! A strong final match propelled Bruce Noda and his teammates into the winner’s circle in the Truscott/USPC Senior Swiss Teams. This is the second time he has won the Senior Swiss; he won in 2004, and it is his third NABC title. Arti Bhargava, Bill Bailey, Aaron Jones and teammate tied for third-fourth in the semi-finals of the 0-6000 Mini Spingold.

Our unit’s Mentoring program has been given a spiffy new look and is off to an excellent start. If you are looking for a mentor or would be interested in being a mentor (all skill levels welcome) you’ll find lots of information on the unit webpage marinbridge.org under “Learning” or call Bill Yeast at 415 381 9632 or e-mail him at marinunit508@gmail.com

Be sure to remember the Rule of 160. If the ages of your opponents add up to 160, don’t underestimate their ability!

Modesto/Merced/Sonora

By Gail Vick

During the second half of July, overall high scores were Ralph Jungwirth & Mary Sue Moore in A with 66.96%, John & Pamela Mayne in B at 63.33%, and Judy Remmers & Gail Vick in C with 57.74%.



Ray Adams & Dave Terry were high overall for the first half of August with 68.98%, 1st overall in A Division, as were Sheela Wani & Raj Modi who won 1st overall across the board on Thursday, the 16th at 65.18%, A, B, C Divisions. Roland Wilson also had high games, which captured many firsts with several partners, during the first half of August.

Overall winners at the unit game were Trelle Uhl & Ralph Jungwirth for 1st in A with 65.18%, Kathy High & Dee Alexander took 1st in B and Libby Longstreth & Sharon Cole were 1st overall in C. The unit also celebrated Ralph Jungwirth reaching Sapphire Life Master status with 3500 Points!

Welcome to Ram Prakash Gupta, a new player to the Modesto Bridge Center.

Christine Barkley & Lorraine Bock were 1st overall in both A & B Divisions with 58.93%, and Terry Sciabica & Jeff Gaudio took 1st overall in C at 49.54%, during the last half of July in the Sunday beginning/intermediate group. The first half of August, Barbara Page & Connie Arnold took 1st with 66.41% in A, Christine Barkley & Lorraine Bocks taking 1st in B at 58.33%.

Friday night fun bridge continued in July. Winning 1st overall were Ray Adams & Libby Longstreth in A as well as B with 70.09%, followed by Judy & Wes Remmers in A with 62.05% and Connie Arnold & Jeanne Russo in B, with Sandra Dieker & Mike Saeler along with Carolyn DiPiero & Marria Dusi all taking 1st in C.

It is with much sadness that I report that Mickey Holt passed away on July 28, after a car accident on the 27th of July. Mickey grew up near Ann Arbor, Michigan and was married to Jack for more than 60 years. After military service in Europe, they moved to Florida before moving to Modesto. Mickey graduated from Rush University in Chicago, Illinois and was a recovery room RN at Doctor’s Hospital, until her back injury and retirement. Mickey had a wonderful

spirit, beautiful, inside and out, and always was kind and considerate to all, with compassion in her heart for those going through tough times. She had a great smile and cheerful attitude about bridge and life. She will truly be missed, and always remembered. Our hearts and prayers go out to her husband Jack and their children Steven, Lee, and granddaughter Grace. A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, September 29 at 1 P.M., Centenary Methodist Church, 1911 Toyon Avenue at McHenry, north of Briggsmore. A reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall, following the service.

Modesto is getting ready for its "Bridge Sectional" to be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 6 & 7, being held at Homewood Village, the same site as last year, 2000 Mable Avenue, Modesto, CA., west of Oakdale Road, East of Coffee Road, north of Sylvan Avenue, or South of Kiernan Avenue. Games will begin at 10 on Saturday morning, with stratified pair games, along with a 99er game for those under 100 points. Swiss Teams will be played on Sunday. Barbara Page is in charge of the event.

From the Foothills:

While visiting one of our Friday games, Wilson Wallace and Dana Brown scored the top game of July with 67.86%.

The Wednesday "Player of the Month" was Bonnie Landis with 4.39 master points.

The rest of July was dominated by one of our directors, Alan Hamilton, winning a total of 7.83 master points. Alan and his wife Susan were "Players of the month" for the Monday and Friday games. Then Alan joined another partner that put him over the top for all of the Tuesdays.

Monterey

By Mary Block

It isn't too late to sign up for the Annual Pro-Am Unit Game, Sunday, September 9. Potluck lunch at noon, game at 1:00. Pro is over 300 and the pro and am must not have played together before. Sign up at the Bridge Center. Lyde is matching up partnerships if you need assistance.

The new Building/Facilities Manager for the unit is Maja. She will transition into the position by October 15. Your reporter is at a loss for words to express the unit's gratitude to Kurt Schnebele for his ten plus

years of service, always aided above and beyond by his wife, Arlene Seckel.

Lyde is starting an Intermediate class on Wednesday, September 5 for six weeks. Sign up at the Bridge Center.

The unit welcomes one new member this month, James Vorhes. There were two rank changes this month: Lary Lynn Muller is a Junior Life Master, and John Mahoney is now a Sectional Life Master.

Doug Halleen reports: The Monterey Bridge Education Foundation has good news and bad news to announce: First, the bad news: after many years of hard work and outstanding effort, Barbara Genovese, one of our founding Board members, has presented her letter of resignation at our recent board meeting. We appreciate everything she has done to help make the Foundation a reality for the club members to donate money for the eventual future home for the club, provide bridge education for new players through Easybridge! classes and development of potential members and be able to deduct the donations on your taxes because of our IRS 501 (c) 3 status. We will miss her cheerful face at our future meetings and we wish her nothing but the best. The good news is that the Foundation just received a \$5,000 donation from a club member who has chosen to remain anonymous. We very much appreciate this considerable donation! Please think about adding the Monterey Bridge Education Foundation, Inc. to your will or estate.

Speaking about Easybridge! classes, Doug will be starting a new series of 8-lessons on Thursday, September 13 from 4:30-6:30. They are only a \$50.00 donation to the Foundation for all 8 lessons. Please contact Doug if you think of any friends or relatives who might want to learn this great game of ours.

Also, while we're thinking about raising money for our future, get your costumes ready for our annual Halloween Fundraiser unit game. This year it will be held on Sunday October 28 with lunch at 12:00 and a stratified game at 1:00. We'll have lots of fun, food and plenty of raffle gifts! Costumes are optional but the fun isn't. We look forward to seeing you there.

Alan Hedegard reports from the Tuesday evening game that there was a full table of visitors from New Jersey recently. One of the two pairs placed first that evening. Reminder to all that Tuesday evening is the only evening game offered in the unit. Reservations are necessary. Call Alan at 512-7870 or Janet Hedlund at 422-6607.

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

Palo Alto

By Carolyn Chaney

Our new web site, paloaltobridge.org, has a completely new look! The print is larger, and everything is easy to find. Thank you, Jody Williams and Alan Templeton. Everyone, check it out!



You may enjoy reading “A Brief History of our Website,” which traces its growth since 2001.

And yes, “Game Results” is the most visited area. You can find this Diamond in the Ruff column each month in UNIT News (if I can figure out how to post it, now that many of us are “helping” Alan).

Are you ready for the 84th All Western Regional August 28-September 3? It is a really fun tournament, with games for everyone: a free student 0-5 masterpoints game on Saturday, Gold Rush Pairs for those with 0-750 mps, Open Pairs and Knockouts for everyone, including the experts.

My personal faves are the 9am Swiss Teams and the afternoon side games. This is true, in spite of my very first experience with the side game, where a pro and his student holding 8 masterpoints crushed us neophytes (and most of the competition) by having the pro play all the hands. If he could’ve done the bidding on his own, he would’ve. Grrr. Be aware that all our club games (except Gabi’s) will be closed from Wednesday through Monday for the All Western.

In education news, fall classes for all levels are starting in September; see: <https://paloaltobridge.org/classes/#class-list>. Kathy Harper will offer: Supervised Play, Four EZ Conventions, Conventions You Need to Play, and DIAMOND IN THE RUFF



Kathy Harper



Frank Smoot (shown left with Sivy Life Master Michael Hu) is teaching Mastering the Fine Points with advice on what to do when the #\$\$# opponents interfere in your auctions.

Beginning Bridge.

Attention, Youth: Kathy offers half-price for students 25 and under.

Our Tuesday 9:30 am lecture series is starting up again after the summer break, beginning September 18. Our first treat will be “What’s Your Problem? Maybe Bidding the Opponent’s Suit Will Help” by Tony Glynne. Lectures are free and open to everyone, so bring a friend.

If you were worried that our famous celebrity series would end when Val Baldwin retired as Education Coordinator, fear not. Agnes Lee has already lined up Robert Todd for April 27, on Slam Bidding and Trump Management. I’ve heard him speak at a NABC and liked him a lot. Sign up on our website; early bird of \$85 before April 17.

We will have Unit pairs games on September 8 and Swiss Teams on the 16th. Lunch at 11:30 with the games at noon. Please sign up on our website.

Now for news of the 21 SiVY kids who went to the youth NABC in Atlanta, August 2-4. All of the SiVY players brought home masterpoints, by qualifying in championship events or winning in a consolation event. Many went on to play in the regular NABC, dominating in the Midnight Pairs (while we older folks snoozed).



SiVY players at YNABC in Atlanta

For lots of pictures, go to <http://siliconvalleyyouthbridge.org/programs/youthnabc/2018/recap.html>.

Reno

By Sandy Powell

Once again, many thanks to Barbara and John Chism for hosting on August 12 in their huge and most beautiful yard our annual summer picnic. Attended by approximately 65 people, the food was delicious and the company even better. The burgers, grilled by Judy & Bob Robyns, were accompanied by an array of scrumptious side dishes. Added fun came from door prizes and raffles. Everyone had a great time.

YACBL: Sara MacHarg and Matt Oakley, who learned to play bridge with our RYB program, were winners of our two \$1,000 scholarships which enabled them to attend the Youth NACBL. They did themselves (and us) proud. They qualified for the second round of both the pair and team events and ended up placing 5th in the teams, earning 3.49 gold points. They played a total of 16 sessions picking up some red points in the process. Matt is starting his sophomore year at the University of Oklahoma and Sara just graduated from the Davidson Academy in Reno. She has been accepted to Stanford University but plans to study in China next year to learn Mandarin. Both were National Merit Finalists.

Sectional: We held our sectional at the Nugget August 16-19. All went smoothly thanks to Ruth Swain, Tournament Director, and Rich Scoggin, Partnership Chair. 175 people played. Tables in the stratified games totaled 92. Overall winners were: Martin Blain 21.66 pts; Daniel Green 21.25 pts; and, Paul Kushner 19.93 pts. Best boards of the tournament went to Martin Blain & Paul Kushner (71.03%) and Jill Wallace and Sandy Powell (70.42%)

Stratified game winners: Martin Blaine & Paul Kushner; Mary Jane & Charles Chittenden; Lin Goldstein & Daniel Green; Kats Cannell & Catherine Johnson; Anil Lakhawa & Stella Russell; Wayne Gordon & Russell Quinnell; Jim & Joyce Martin; Jill Wallace & Sandy Powell; Loretta Bromberg & Rich Scoggin; and, Nicholas & Leona Pchelkin

Eight is Enough winners (23 tables): Sara Macharg, Matt Oakley, Charlott Falk, Daniel Green.

Swiss Team A/X winners: (9 tables): Daniel Green, Lin Goldstein, Quentin Wilmot, Pat Green.

Swiss Team B/C/D winners: (13 tables): Don Parsons, Susan Powell, Paul Ferber, Joanne Onstein.

At the Reno Bridge Club this past month: Overall High Scores: Rich Scoggin & Bob Robbins (75.5%) and Dan Green & Joyce Remsen (72.7%); 299er High Scores: 66%: Brad Stone & Marie Ernst; 63%: Elaine Simkins & Marie Ernst; and 61%: Patty Kleckner & Steve Merrit.

And, finally, congratulations to Larry Jackson & Eleanor Walden who advanced in rank to Regional Master.

Sacramento

By Miriam Steinberg

Most of us would relish that perfect partner whom we genuinely like, respect, trust and with whom we have impeccable communication. Sounds a lot like a good marriage. Unfortunately, like in real life, these partnerships often end up in divorce. I explored this issue recently with members of our bridge community. Some details in this story may have been changed.



Many partnerships break up with a lack of honest direct communication. Partner 1 recounts her story. "I played with my partner 1-1/2 years and all of a sudden he stopped returning my phone calls. I didn't see him for a while and the next time I saw him, he was playing with someone else." "I guess I should have called you," Partner 2 admitted sheepishly. "It was hurtful," stated Player 1. "If you're just honest with people." She explained that she would have preferred being taken out for coffee and told that her partner needed a change, that it just wasn't working for him.

Partner 3 stopped talking to Partner 4 after years of playing together. Partner 4 died 6 months later broken-hearted at not knowing why Partner 3 dumped her.

Partner 5 was fed up that Partner 6 wouldn't learn conventions and, wanting to avoid confrontations, he told him he could no longer play on Mondays. Player 6 caught Player 5 playing with someone else and there was a big blow up.

Partner 7 wrote his partners one fine December that he was re-doing his bridge schedule for the new year and none of them (except for one player) were on it!

Partner 8 shared his story: "I was playing with a

partner who taught me a lot. One day he decided to play with someone else on a day he was supposed to play with me, so we broke up. Partner 9 came up to Partner 8 at a tournament and spoke very sarcastically to which Partner 8 responded by calling him a nasty name. A player at a nearby table came over and suggested that Player 8 needed to see a counselor. Player 8 apologized to Player 9, Player 9 apologized to Player 8 and they played together another 5 years until the death of Player 9. A happy ending.

Then there are unusual excuses for break ups. Partner 10 was the dummy when Partner 11 called for a card from the dummy when he was supposed to be in his hand. Partner 10 brought it to his attention and got raked over the coals by Partner 11 after the game, claiming it was the opponents' job to point that out and playing from the dummy was essential because it was the only way he could have won a trick! They broke up over their concepts of "bridge etiquette."

Partner 12 told Partner 13 that she wanted to terminate the partnership because Partner 13 took playing bridge too seriously and their friendship was more important than a game.

Partner 14 had a Partner 15 who had this malicious habit of swaying side to side when he was declarer so he could peak at the opponents' cards. Partner 14 was concerned that they would be kicked out of the club for cheating and when Partner 15 refused to desist, Partner 14 terminated the relationship.

Partner 16 broke up with Partner 17, because he didn't like the way Partner 17 was chewing his food! Partner 18, a top player, became enamored with a new man at her club and unkindly dumped all of her other partners so she could play exclusively with her new love interest. An ugly break up later ensued and club members sided with the guy; the new president of their club. Now she can only find one partner who will consent to play with her and only once monthly.

Partner 19 had a unique story. "I didn't lead partner's suit after he doubled 3 NT. Instead, I led the opponent's suit and he ran 9 tricks sloughing partner's suit. I never asked my partner to play again with me, essentially breaking up with myself!"

Some partners react angrily to their partners' games. Partner 20 was playing with his wife. The contract was at the 5 level and she had 3 aces, playing two and then ducking the third ace twice, resulting in the opponents making their contract. Partner 20 walked out in anger and never played with his wife

again. In retaliation, she always managed when she was his future opponent to give him zero boards!

Partner 21 criticized Partner 22's bid over a pre-emptive bid. "You should know better," he declared. "If you are going to play like that, I'm done." Partner 22 apologized and agreed, but they never played together again.

Partner 23 held AQ3. Partner 24 sloughed his Jack, holding KJ10. Partner 23 didn't lead the suit back, resulting in Partner 24 strongly suggesting that he go read a bridge book. They didn't play together for a long time...

Unabating criticism led the way for the most frequent break-ups. I will share some examples. Partners 25 and 26 were winning a lot and she invited him to play in a regional as the fifth on her team. He was all over her "like snot" with his criticisms while he was second guessing everything. Even the director questioned why she was playing with such a jerk. She wrote him a letter that life was too short and that she refused to take abuse at the table. He apologized in a letter, but it was over for her.

Partner 28 shares her story: "At a sectional, my Partner 27 kept criticizing me. The more criticisms he gave me, the worse I got. At the end of the game I just walked away."

Partner 29 underled his ace of hearts in a suit contract at a tournament and was all over Partner 30 for not leading it back. After the game, Partner 30 asked him, "Can you control your emotions and stop being critical at the table?" He responded in the negative, so he went to his room, packed up and drove home leaving the tournament and his partner in the dust.

The bottom line here is we can all benefit from better communication. We all have a right to demand respect and there are some lines that can never be crossed. We have rules in the ACBL and you should speak up if there is a question. And bridge should be fun. If you are not having a good time playing with your partner, find someone else. Bridge divorces are inevitable, but be kind, polite and direct. And always consider your partner's feelings before doing anything rash.

Some special games will be held in September. A unit-rated game will be held Saturday, September 22 at the Sacramento Bridge Center. The fall sectional will be held September 7-9 at the Orangevale Community Center (see flyer for details) and a Non-Life Master Sectional (sanction pending as of this publication)

will be held September 28-30 at the Sacramento Bridge Center. Knock-outs will begin on Friday and go through Sunday. Pairs games will be held on Saturday and Swiss teams will be held on Sunday. Please contact the Sacramento Bridge Center at 916-925-6322 for further information.

San Francisco

By Kimberly Fanady

September: summer in SF at last! Hope everyone is enjoying some fog-free days to play bridge! Not much news this month, as my deadline is too early to brag about the triumphs of San Franciscans at the big Santa Clara Regional. So here are some tidbits.

The unit game schedule rolls on with the very popular format of pregame lesson, lunch, and three sections in play, on September 15. Lecture at 10:45, lunch at 11:15, game at noon, at St. Mary's Cathedral, 1100 Gough St. at Geary. All are welcome of course.

Want to try something different? QuickTricks will hold its annual Board-a-Match on September 24. This might be one of your few chances outside of the Reisinger to check out this rarely played format. Come on by and play in the BAM. The Sunset Club and the Bridge Center (Stan's game) will also be holding club championship and unit championship games this month. Lots of fun bridge to be had and master points to be earned. Check out the club websites for all the info.

The San Mateo sectional last month was good to Unit 506ers. Kudos to Laura Storto and Charles Michapoulos, winners of the Art Weinstein Trophy 99er Pairs, and Dan Kroll and Rob Balas, winners of the 2 session open pairs. Well played!

Congratulations as always to this month's masterpoint Master ladder climbers: new Junior, Yuenyee Cheng and Edward Nicolaus; Club, Christian Goetze; and Regional, Sallie Robbins and Jo Streich. Good going all!

Welcome to our new members Julie Briden, Mark Schreiber, Charles Schwamlein, Carol St. John; and transfers Edie Block (North San Diego) and Elinor Rosenthal (Pittsburgh). Say hi and welcome to these newcomers when you meet them at the table.

Finally, we sadly say goodbye to Ebe Sapone-

Cavagnaro, who passed away a few months ago. In her real life, Ebe was a distinguished professor of Italian with a lengthy and impressive resume. In the bridge world, as her husband Al lovingly remembered, she played at every bridge club in San Francisco and had been thrown out of most of them! She will be missed. Our condolences to Al and all her family and friends.

San Mateo

By Fran Gaura

For some folks, certain calendar dates have a very auspicious aura. Weddings and special events are often planned to occur on such dates. So it is no surprise that the unusual date 08/18/2018 proved to be particularly noteworthy for some players at our Unit 498 Summer Sectional. While winning Masterpoints of the silver variety, these folks racked up especially significant games: Laura Storto & Charles Michalopoulos 77.78% and Sharon Sloan & Kit Morse 72.92%.

The summer sectional was well attended, especially for an event set in the dead days of August when so many players are on vacation out of the area. Thanks are due to the intrepid Marc Renson for his coordination of the event with his merry team of helpers Mike and Gloria Halliday (purveyors of those yummy calorie-free [ha!] snacks), Jackie Lowenberg, Loren Charlton and Cathy Johnson (if anyone was overlooked, my apologies!). Kudos to Greg Vance whose calm, professional direction kept the games moving.

Particularly gratifying was the sight of two very young players, (under 10 years of age perhaps), holding their own in competition on Saturday afternoon in the 299er section. After bemoaning the statistics that say bridge is an undertaking whose demographic skews older, it was great to see these two boys playing, independent of adult supervision, as they made the circuit of tables.

Their energy was boundless and their enthusiasm unconstrained as they left the room, skipping along happily because they didn't come in last! Oh, the boundless energy and elastic minds of the young! Keep those youthful players coming!

In a similar vein, looking to newer players joining the game, the Art Weinstein Trophy was awarded to the winners of the newcomer 99er pair at the Sectional. Congratulations to Laura Storto & Charles Michalopoulos.

Overall first place winners at the Sectional were: 299ers AM, Don Levy & Robert Silver; 299ers PM, Jo Streich & Cheryl DeGolia; Open Single Session Saturday, June White & Kris Tejwani; Open Single Session Sunday AM, Helene & George Drake; Sunday PM, a tie, Jennifer & Philip Kuhn and Mindy Foos & Michael Fleisher; Swiss Teams Bracket #1, Crispin Barrere, Anant Rathi, Edmund Wu & Daniel Sonner; Bracket 2, Mark Hersko, Larry Spanier, Mary Omdt & Patricia Hertz; Bracket 3, Youfeng Wu, Guoliang Yu, Wei Chen & Yin Lin.

Finally to close out news of the past, another fine tribute to the efforts of the Longest Day committee whose work merited the following comments from Chip Dombrowski, Associate Editor of the Bridge Bulletin: "When looking for clubs to include The Longest Day coverage, I always look for ones that had big increases from the previous year. I don't think anyone's ever had a 786% increase before. "Wow, wow, and wow!"

Upcoming games for our unit include the NAP Qualifier Event on Saturday, September 15 at 10:00 AM at Fattoria. Under the direction of Raad Bunni, players who have qualified in previous NAP games at clubs in the area will play to determine who advances to the District 21 finals in December. Ultimate winners will then play at the championships in Memphis, TN, in March 2019. Quite a few Unit 498 players met the requirements to play in this event, so the competition should be lively. If you did qualify to play, note your calendars and come to what should be a stimulating game.

Next up for calendar notation is the Unit 498 game for fall on September 22. Appropriately Autumn themed, the game will be held at Fattoria. Currently the September 22 game is scheduled to host an open and a limited (499er) section. Plan to welcome Autumn's russet colors and her shorter days by playing at this event. Look for your e-mail invite coming soon.

If you are a newer player with 0-20 Masterpoints and are interested in playing at a unit game in a section devoted to players with similar standing, please let one of Unit 498 Board of Director members know. If adequate interest is shown, we may be able to add such a section in the near future.

A warm welcome to new Unit 498 members: Joan Cole, Cree Edwards, Daniel Hardie, Judith Prothro, and King Prothro. And congratulations to players advancing over the past months: to Junior Master,

Susan Crosetti; to Sectional Master, Madhukar Mehta; to Regional Master, Joy Venosa.

Santa Cruz

By Karen Schamberg

It's time! Get your partner lined up for the Santa Cruz Surf's Up Sectional on October 13 & 14. On Saturday, there will be 2 sessions with a free bridge lesson in between. Both morning and afternoon sessions offer Stratified Open Pairs and I/N pairs. Sunday offers two sessions of Stratified Swiss Teams. As always, there will be sandwiches available for purchase as well as free snacks throughout the day.



We've moved to a different venue this year, one familiar to a lot of us in the Santa Cruz area, the Mid County Senior Center on Bay Avenue in beautiful Capitola. There's easy access from Hwy 1 and plenty of parking. Tom Burke is Chair this year with Sydney Reuben Co-chairing. If you need assistance finding a partner, contact Laura McCabe. Follow the link from our website and I'll see you there.

The Dolores Abrams Memorial Unit Game is 10 am, Saturday, September 8 with Open and 299er sections.

There's new artwork adorning our walls beginning in September. Take a few moments to enjoy offerings from Pam Benz, Janet Tainty, Nancy Wainer and Susan Benich. Thank you to Joanne Brown, Shirley Llacera and Kris Smith for organizing shows for the room.

Congratulations on Master Point achievements for Laura McCabe, Sectional Master, and Nancy Ficarrotta, Club Master. Well done.

High scores in club games were earned by: Jonni Faircrest & Neil Joseph Smyth, 74.07%. And in newcomer games for: Ceil Cirillo & Katherine Beiers, 71.67%.

In the Santa Cruz Bridge Center ongoing efforts to encourage new players, following are a few of the opportunities available for them.

Beginning September 10, Sydney Reuben is offering Beginners Bridge #2, a series of 10 classes held on Monday evenings at 6:30. To find out more about these classes or to register, contact Sydney at sydneyjane210@gmail.com

There is a Newcomer Pairs game the 1st & 3rd Friday mornings. Free lesson at 10, game begins at

10:30. Not only do you get the lesson and game, but there's also a pizza and salad lunch included.

Nancy Wainer offers a Newcomer Pairs game for players with fewer than 5 MPs. Her games are at 6:30 pm the 2nd & 4th Thursday evenings with a mini lesson and a reduced table fee.

The Wednesday 6:30 pm 99er game offers a free lesson at 6:00 pm. In addition, the Monday evening 199er game also offers a free lesson at 6:00 pm.

For our more advanced players, The 10 am Wednesday 749er game offers a free lesson the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays in September (bring your own lunch).

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

Santa Rosa/Petaluma

By Cecelia Zachar

Grapes are ripening on the vines, and our unit is preparing for its fall sectional. What a beautiful place to be in the autumn! Come join us for bridge and come a day early or stay a day late to enjoy some wine tasting and a picnic. Our fall sectional is September 29 & 30 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, including 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>.

Unit 509 was well represented at the Atlanta Nationals. Many of us were following Erwin Linzner, our player on District 21s GNT team in the Goldman Grand National Teams, Flight A. His team fought valiantly winning the Swiss Team game on Day 1, winning the full day head to head matches on Days 2 and 3, and finally succumbing to the eventual champions in the Semi-Finals on Day 4, tying for the 3/4 position. That's a lot of bridge! Our big masterpoint winner of the tournament was Bob Klein with 50.34 points, followed by Erwin Linzner, Sara Rothmuller, Kate Hill, Nancy Gunn, and Jane De Briyn.

By the time you read this article, Sylvia Shi will have taught class titled Defensive Signaling: Attitude, Count and Suit Preference at the Bridge Gallery on August 26. Sylvia Shi is an up and coming world champion, only 30 years old, who started playing bridge in 2011. Her wins include Grand National Teams Flight C 2012, Flight A 2016, Lebhar IMP Pairs 2015, NABC+ Mixed Swiss Teams 2015, Sternberg Women's Board-a-Match Teams 2016, 10K Mixed Swiss Teams 2016, Torlontano Trophy 2016, and Smith Life Master Women's Pairs 2017. Wow! She must have talent! We will let you know how the class went in the next issue.

We look forward to another stimulating class with National Champion Cris Barrere on Sunday, September 16. Cris won big in the Atlanta Nationals, coming in 1st in the Truscott Senior Swiss Teams and 4th in the Wernher Open Pairs. In total, he won over 175 masterpoints in 10 days! Cris's class is titled Doubles and Redoubles. It starts at 10:30 a.m. followed by an Open Stratified Pairs unit game at 1 p.m. We can't say enough about how wonderful a teacher Cris is! The class is free to all, paid for by Unit 509 and the District 21 Education Program. Unit game table fees are \$10.

The winners of our July 22 unit game were Cris Barrere and Jane McLaughlin (N/S) and Bob Goetzeinger and Gail Whooley (E/W).

The Bridge Gallery will be offering Bridge Basics I, the beginner bridge class at the end of September. This class covers opening bids, responses, and how to plan to play a hand in no trump and a suit contract. It is a perfect review of the basics for those who played years ago. Each class is seven weeks. Kathy Venton will be teaching the Tuesday evening class from 6:30 to 8:30 starting September 25. Tony Jackson will teach the Thursday morning class from 9:30 to 11:30. The first class is free. If you wish to join after attending the first class, the cost is \$95 including text. Single sessions are \$15. Repeats are \$5 per session. Graduates of John Shribbs and Kathy Juarez's Learn Bridge in a Day class will receive a \$12 discount, the cost of the text book. See <http://santarosabridge.com/classes/> for details.

There was only one 70%+ game between July 20 & August 19. Hugh Kellogg and Fikry Galal, 70% on July 27 at the Oakmont club.

We had 7 Unit 509 players fly up to a new rank in July! Wow! Four players advanced to Sectional Master: Grace Boyle, Peter Boyle, Laurie Vree, and

Madeline Welsh. Two made Regional Master: Lynn Dondero and Karen Weissberg. Our new Ruby Life Master is Larry Wyner. Congratulations all!

Silicon Valley

By Ray Yuenger

By the time you see this column, there will be a couple of days left in the All-Western Regional, after which the San Jose Bridge Center will reopen for business. Check the website, sjbridge.org, for details.

It's not too early to make plans to play in our fall sectional. Friday October 26 evening pairs games will be held at the San Jose Bridge Center while Saturday October 27 pair games and Sunday October 28 team games will be held at West Valley College. A flyer elsewhere in this newsletter provides the details. Our unit holiday party will be held on Sunday, November 18, so save the date. More details will appear on the website.

Several unit 507 members were successful at the recent Nationals in Atlanta. In national events, the team with Jim Liu and Tsao-Tung Tsai won the 0-2,500 mini-Spangold. The team with Steve & Sarah Chen was 2nd in the 0-10,000 Mixed Swiss. Luen-Jyh Luo & Frank Xie were 8th in the under 6,000 Life Master pairs after having a section top. Tsao-Tung Tsai was 10th in the under 2,500 Life Master pairs after having two section tops. Bud Biswas had a section top during the Werner Open Pairs.

The UC Berkeley team with Kevin Rosenberg won the Collegiate Bowl.

In regional events at the nationals, in two-session open pairs games, Jiang Chen, Frank Xie & Luen-Jyh Luo, and Laura de Vesine had stratification tops. In limited pairs games, Benjamin Darnell and Min Bai had strat tops and Jung Hu had a section top.

Sadik Arf's team won its knockout. Prevailing in their respective Swiss team strats were Jim Liu, Jung Hu, and Jonathan Yue.

Unit members also did well in side games, but it would consume too much space for me to regularly record success in side games and single session Swiss events. It wouldn't be fair to record such successes only when the column was otherwise short.

At the San Mateo sectional, Anoop Singhal & Mirarka Dayal had a strat top in a pairs game as did



Mindy Foos & Michael Fleisher. Rohit & Shalini Dubey had a section top in an open pairs game, as did Pradeep Verma & Meena Oza in a limited pairs game. Guoliang Yu, Wei Chen & Yin Lin placed first in their team bracket.

At the Sparks sectional, Subramania Krishnamurthi had a strat top in an open pairs game.

Congratulations are due our newest Masters: Sandra Bonnet, Howard Levitan (Junior); Jim Blum, Dianne Clark (Club); Jung Hu (NABC); Olivier Chappelle (Life); Colin Hemsley (Bronze); Marcia Dean (Gold).

The unit board is considering having a large computer monitor installed over the new cabinets at the San Jose Bridge Center to display game results and a count-down timer. If you have any opinion about this idea, let me or another unit board member know.

Stockton

By Debbie DeZarn

The past month just flew by and as I write this STaC week has begun. The only new rank achievement to announce is Ralph Prevo who has reached Club Master. Many others are so close and need just a few more silver.



We haven't seen many super high games recently but Bill and Ann N. had a 73.69% game at Oak Park in August. Wendy B. and Debbie D. were over 69% at the late July Intermediate game and Ray A. and Chris B. were also over 69% in August.

The Stockton Club now has a lending library for bridge books which can be checked out through Lorna Crooks. A variety of educational CDs for intermediate level by such authors as Eddie Kantar, Mike Lawrence, and Audrey Grant were donated by Korey Baumbach and can be checked out from Debbie DeZarn for practice at home.

Welcome back to Darlene B, Marion G. and Bill M. who were away for some medical repairs and returned with their masterpoint earning skills fully intact. Also welcomed is Nadine Westermann, a new player in the Stockton area.

Upcoming events are the Stockton Sectional on September 15 & 16, lunch and snacks included, and a special trial game for Newcomers with 0-99 masterpoints to be held at the Stockton Club on October 16.

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

Marc Grunseth

916-971-3988

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

Tournament Co-Chair

Sam Sandusky

916-705-5557

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
And at ACBL Live

American Contract Bridge League, District 21



Stockton Fall Sectional

Ben Holt Middle School Gymnasium

September 15th and 16th, 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-15th 10 AM

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

Saturday-15th 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-16th 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

Harvesting Master Points!

**Saturday and Sunday,
September 29th and 30th, 2018**

Santa Rosa/Petaluma Fall Sectional

Odd Fellows Hall-545 Pacific Avenue-Santa Rosa

Saturday 10:00 a.m.

(strats determined by individual MP)

Stratified Open Pairs (1st of two) :2000+, B:750 –2000, C:0-750

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

299er Pairs (1st of two) A: 299-100 B: 49-100 C: 0-50

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

*NOTE: Members with 0-20 MP
playing the morning session,
play free in the afternoon session!!*

Saturday: 2:30 p.m.

Stratified Open Pairs & 299er Pairs (second game of two)

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

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

Lynn Yokel – Tournament Director
Jane Bender, Maxine Reagh, Tournament Chairs
maxinereagh@comcast.net
Kathy Venton, Partnership Chair 707-591-5015
bridgegalleryca@gmail.com
ACBL Sanction # 1809104

**PLEASE NOTE:
PLAY BEGINS PROMPTLY AT
10:00 AM**

**Registration and Lunch Ticket Sales
9:15 to 9:55 am**

**Table Fees
Members \$12**

*To play, non members must join ACBL
on temporary basis; lapsed members will
pay \$4 extra per session.*

*Lunch available for purchase each day
with vegetarian option*

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

**JACKIE ORTIZ
(Strati-Flighted) Swiss Team Game**

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

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

199er Swiss Teams f/e 0-50, 50-200

*299ers - Single Sessions - 4 rounds
a.m. and p.m.!*

*(If enough teams sign up for each bracket, strats
to be determined by average of combined MPs)*

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

Northbound on 101: Take exit 490, College Avenue right for 1/4 mile to turn left on Mendocino Avenue.

Proceed 1/2 mile to turn right on Pacific Avenue. Odd Fellows is 345 feet on your left.

Southbound on 101: Exit at Steele Lane and head left 1/4 mile to Mendocino Avenue. Turn right and go 1/2 mile to Pacific Avenue.

Turn left on to Pacific Avenue. Odd Fellows is 345 feet on your left.

Westbound from Highway 12: Take Highway 12 to the Farmer's Lane intersection in Santa Rosa. Continue straight through intersection and follow 4th Street for 1/2 mile. Turn right onto Bryden Lane which becomes Pacific Avenue after Montecito avenue.

Continue 3/4 mile to Odd Fellows Hall on your right.

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

Barbara Langdon
(530) 265-8030
jonbar@att.net

Partnerships

Bruce Lester
(530) 477-9586
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



SILICON VALLEY UNIT 507

2018 FALL SECTIONAL - TWO VENUES!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26

#1

SAN JOSE BRIDGE CLUB

1190 S. Bascom Ave., Unit 105, San Jose

Park and enter behind building

Friday pairs 7:00 PM (single session) OPEN and 499er - Unlimited/2000/750 and 500/300/100

SAT- SUN, OCTOBER 27-28

#2

WEST VALLEY COLLEGE CAMPUS CENTER

14000 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga

Saturday Pairs (double session)

10:30 AM and 3:00 PM

Stratified open: Unlimited/3000/1000

"Silver Rush" Pairs: 750/300

Saturday Pairs (single sessions)

10:30 AM or 3:00 PM

Stratified Open: Unlimited/2000/750

Limited: Under 300

SAT 3:00 PM Newcomer Pairs: 0-20 ONLY \$5



Sunday Swiss Teams (7 rounds)

10:30 AM and TBA

Top bracket open/5,000; lower brackets under 4,000



LUNCHES: Saturday - Event Center Grill open between sessions

Sunday - \$10 lunch includes chips, cookie & drink, and either sandwich, spinach salad or Caesar salad

ENTRY FEES: \$12.00/session for current ACBL members;

\$16.00 for lapsed members; \$6.00 for members 25 & under

Events will be stratified by pair and team averages. Turnout may determine strat limits.

Mid-chart conventions are allowed in two-session events with unlimited masterpoints.

Tournament Director: Lynn Yokel, (408) 499-2011

Tournament Chair: Mischel Postas, mischelpostas@att.net, (408) 379-6780

Partnership Chair: Ray Yuenger, rayyuenger@gmail.com, (408) 887-0642

DIRECTIONS TO WVC: Exit 85 north or south onto Saratoga Avenue; go west about .7 mile. Turn L on Fruitvale Avenue, then L onto Admissions Way. Use Parking Lot 5. FREE parking.



web site: www.eastbayunit-502.com



East Bay 2-Day Fall Sectional

OAKLAND MASONIC CENTER
3903 Broadway, 3rd Floor, Oakland 94611

Saturday November 17

at 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. (single sessions)

Strati-flighted Pairs A/X 3000+

Strats B/C/D 1000-1500/500-1000/0-500

Stratified 299er Pairs 0-75/75-150/150-300 (Attendance Permitting)

Sunday November 18

at 10:00 a.m. and approx. 2:30 p.m.

"BARBARA HARMON Bracketed Swiss" -- 20VP scale

The top bracket will consist of the highest ranked teams
plus any teams that opt to be in the top bracket.

Teams must play both sessions.

All brackets except the bottom will play 7 rounds, 7 boards;
Bottom bracket plays 7 rounds, 6 boards.

Lunch provided each day for \$5

Table fees \$12.00 per Session
(unpaid ACBL members - \$16.00)

Mid-chart allowed in Flight A/X and top bracket of Swiss Teams.

DIRECTIONS:

Located on Broadway between 38th and 40th streets, 1½ blocks east of MacArthur Blvd.
Entrance is under the blue awning. Located seven blocks from MacArthur BART.

Partnerships / Information: call Shirley Rodenborn (510) 459-6286



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