

# DIAMOND

# IN THE RUFF

ACBL District 21 Newsletter Vol 1, Number 7 November 2018

## District 21 Regionals

*By Pam Hughes, Regional Tournament Manager*

Hello everyone! I hope that when this reaches you, you have fond memories of our second Regional in Reno/Sparks. This tournament venue is excellent, as is the price! I believe it to be the least expensive room rate in the country, for excellent quality rooms in the newly renovated Resort Tower. It's great value for money, so if you missed it this year, plan to attend next year.



Next up is Monterey, which is going to be a really fun one this year. We start on New Year's Eve, and if you haven't got any other plans (or even if you do!), you should join us for our party on December 31! We are even holding a zip knock out. This event was very popular in years past and it is still a big draw at NABCs. The entire knock out finishes up in the space of a couple of hours. Only five minutes per board are allowed, and the matches are only 6 boards each (and you pay as you go, \$3 per player per round). To make it even more fun, we'll be serving champagne and cake! The last time we had one of these it was a huge success, and the more the merrier so please come and play with us if you can.

Other than that, the Hyatt room block has sold incredibly well and there are no rooms left at this point. That being said, if you didn't get in, keep trying! When people cancel prior to our cut-off date, December 7, the room goes back into our block. Lots of people actually get in through sheer determination and calling frequently. Failing that, we do have our excellent overflow hotel, the Hilton Garden Inn, about a third of a mile away. Their phone number is (831) 373-6141. They are offering the bridge rate and free parking. They

have an excellent restaurant for breakfast, and virtually everyone who has stayed there in the past has been very happy.

Since the room block is sold out, it is extremely important that you contact me (NOT the Hyatt) if you are unable to attend. My waiting list was started in late September and will be very long by the time the tournament comes around. Think of it this way, if you didn't have a room, you would be very grateful to be able to get in because someone canceling was thoughtful enough to give their room to the wait list. So, if you are unable to attend, please email me: [jmom380@yahoo.com](mailto:jmom380@yahoo.com). Do not use my ACBL e-mail (for any D21 business), since most of the time I am not able to access it and you will not get a reply. Thank you so much if you do offer your room or if you have done so in the past. Many people are made happy when they are able to get in and your contribution is very much appreciated.

That's about all I have to say for now, except have a wonderful holiday season! I wish each of you the very best as you spend time with your families and loved ones. See you soon!

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

# Upcoming Tournaments

## Sectionals

Nov 10–11, 2018

### Diablo Valley Fall Sectional

Dougherty Valley High School, San Ramon 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

Mar 2–3, 2019

### Grand National Teams Flight A District Finals

San Jose Bridge Center, San Jose CA

Mar 9–10, 2019

### Unit 509 Santa Rosa/Petaluma Sectional

Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa CA

Mar 16–17, 2019

### Grand National Teams Flight C District Finals

East Bay Community Bridge Center, Oakland CA

Mar 27–31, 2019

### March Into Spring Sectional

Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks NV

Apr 6–7, 2019

### Almond Valley Sectional

Homewood Village, Modesto CA

Apr 13–14, 2019

### Marin Spring Sectional

Redwood High School, Larkspur CA

Apr 27–28, 2019

### Wine Valley Sectional

Vintage House Senior Center, Sonoma CA

Apr 28, 2019

### 2018 High School Bridge Tournament Sectional

Bayshore Bridge Center, Burlingame CA

## Regionals

Dec 31, 2018–Jan 6, 2019

### Monterey Clambake Regional

Hyatt Regency, Monterey CA

# RENO REGIONAL WINNERS

## Pairs

### Mon Aft Side (14.5 Tables)

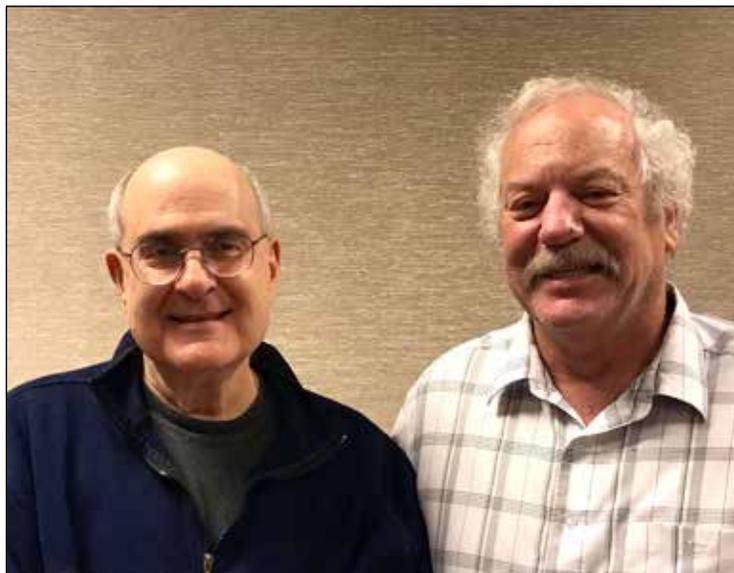
- 1A: Veronica McMurdie, Sacramento - Howard Parker III, Clements  
 1B: Joanne Onstine-Dill, Sparks NV - Donald Parsons, Reno NV  
 1C: William Rawlings, Broomfield CO - Jean Ingram, Wellington CO

### Mon Aft 299er (8 Tables)

- 1D: Robert Langson, Carson City NV - Judith Sarris Edson, Incline Village NV  
 1E, 1F (tie): Patricia Owens - Jane Maloney, Incline Village NV  
 John Eastman, Reno NV - Diane Balter, Sacramento

### Mon Open (14 Tables)

- 1A: David Strauss, San Francisco - Paul Kushner, So Lake Tahoe  
 1B: Edward So, Pleasanton - Jack Uppal, Lincoln  
 1C: Lois Lourie, Sonoma - J Kardach, Vacaville



*David Strauss and Paul Kushner*

### Mon Eve Side (14 Tables)

- 1A: Aaron Jones, San Francisco - William Bailey, Mill Valley  
 1B: Kenneth Johnson - Joanne Wicker, Morgan Hill  
 1C: William Mann, San Carlos - Ron Terry, San Jose

### Tues Morn Side (5 Tables)

- 1A: Sherman Gao, Brea - Linda Harrison, Calgary AB  
 1B: William Seager - Jean Seager, Coronado  
 1C: Judith Ritchie, Pebble Beach - Marion Keyworth, Carmel

### Tues Morn 299ers (7 Tables)

- 1D, 1E: William Mann, San Carlos - Ron Terry, San Jose  
 1F: Helen Trop-Zell, Incline Village NV - Jane Martin, Reno NV

### Tues Daylight (25 Tables)

- 1A: Len Goldstein - Quentin Wilmot, Reno NV  
 1B: Paul Sitz, Ramsey MN - Bert Sheldon, Houston TX  
 1C: Vard Nelson - Frances Nelson, Evergreen CO



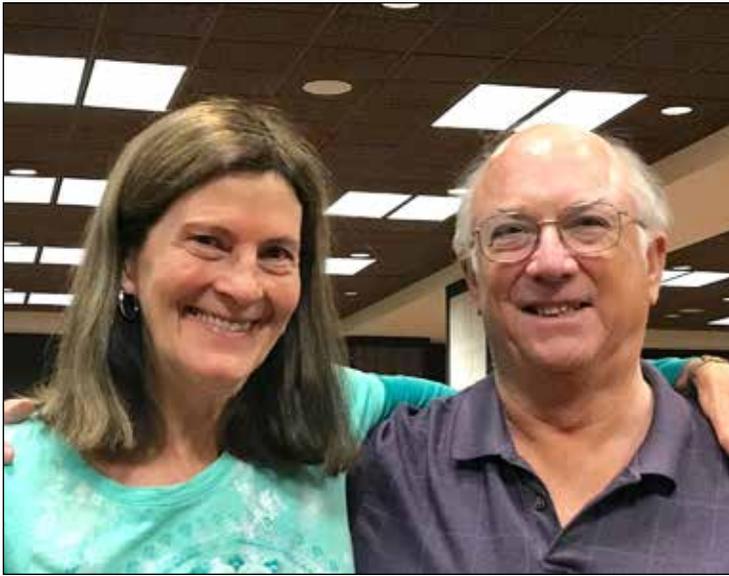
*Quentin Wilmot and Len Goldstein*

### Tues Aft Side (7 Tables)

- 1A: Paul Darin, San Diego - Marilyn Kalabsa, Ramona  
 1B: Ian Kirk - Deanna Birch, Portland OR  
 1C: Robert Crosby, San Mateo - Raymond Yue, Reno NV

### **Tues Open (14 Tables)**

- 1A: Bob Klein, Santa Rosa - Sara Rothmuller, Occidental
- 1B: Norman Marks - Joye Sidoti, Oakland
- 1C: Susan Foley, Sidney BC - Andrea Miller, Victoria BC



*Sara Rothmuller and Bob Klein*

### **Tues Prospector Gold (14 Tables)**

- 1D: John Shribbs - Patricia Shribbs, Petaluma
- 1E: William Mann, San Carlos - Ron Terry, San Jose



*Patricia and John Shribbs*

### **Tues Aft 299er (7 Tables)**

- 1D: Judith Sarris Edson, Incline Village NV - Robert Langson, Carson City NV
- 1E, 1F: Elizabeth Smith - Betty Dugan, Davis

### **Tues Eve Side (7 Tables)**

- 1A: Ray Boehne, Oceanside - Betty Jackson, Pebble Beach
- 1B: William Rawlings, Broomfield CO - Jean Ingram, Wellington CO
- 1C: Scott Maa, Belmont - Akiko Murakami, Foster City

### **Tues Eve 299er (3 Tables)**

- 1D: Marion Keyworth, Carmel - Judith Ritchie, Pebble Beach

### **Wed Morn Side (10 Tables)**

- 1A: Sherman Gao, Brea - Linda Harrison, Calgary AB
- 1B: Terence Degan - Jerry Nakamura, El Dorado Hills
- 1C: Brenda Hatton, San Jose - Shirley Chang, Milpitas

### **Wed Daylight (24 Tables)**

- 1A: Aaron Jones, San Francisco - William Bailey, Mill Valley
- 1B, 1C: Bruce Emmons - Lee Grams, Santa Rosa



*William Bailey and Aaron Jones*

### **Wed Eureka! Gold (29 Tables)**

- 1D: Greg Foss - Jeannene Levitre, Reno NV
- 1E: James Collart - Steven Anderson, Lincoln

### **Wed Aft Side (14 Tables)**

- 1A: Ian Kirk - Deanna Birch, Portland OR
- 1B: Anne Hollingsworth, Walnut Creek - Mark Marty, Clayton
- 1C: Peter Peca Jr - Liz Ashby, El Paso TX

### Wed Open (12 Tables)

- 1A: Jean Barry, Livermore - Jim Leuker, San Francisco
- 1B: Susan Foley, Sidney BC - Andrea Miller, Victoria BC
- 1C: Enid Rubin, Tiburon - Gwen Toso, Corte Madera



*Jim Leuker and Jean Barry*

### Wed Aft 299er (6 Tables)

- 1D: Miki Paskett - Sid Paskett, Orem UT
- 1D, 1E (tie): Patricia Owens - Jane Maloney, Incline Village NV
- Carla Shockley - Andy Shockley, Pleasanton

### Wed Eve Side (13 Tables)

- 1A: Sherman Gao, Brea - Linda Harrison, Calgary
- 1B: Thomas Howell - James Paschal, Reno NV
- 1C: Phyllis Rader - Jock Rader, Windsor

### Thurs Morn Side (9 Tables)

- 1A, 1B: Terence Degan - Jerry Nakamura, El Dorado Hills
- 1C: Barry Orchard, Winter Garden FL - Sarah Simmerman, San Leandro

### Thurs Morn 299er (6 Tables)

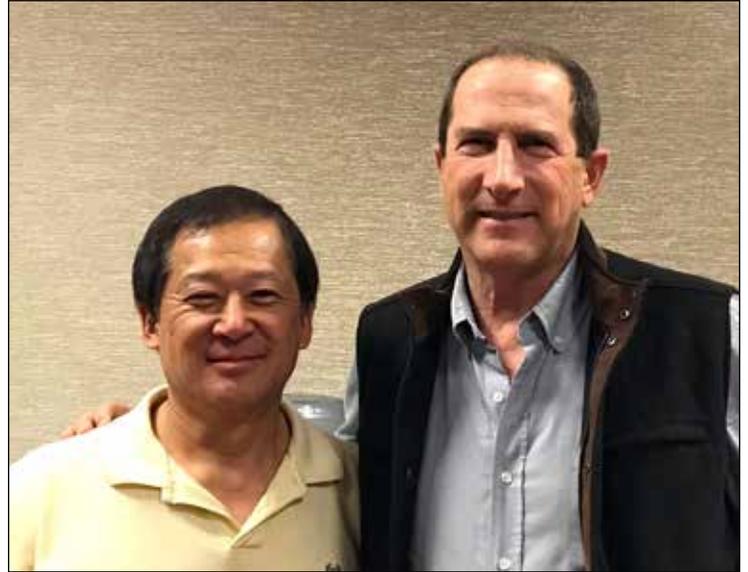
- 1D, 1E, 1F: Terry Wassmann, Walnut Creek - Barbara Promessi, Concord

### Thurs Daylight (26 Tables)

- 1A: Vicki Lerner - Steven Smolen, San Francisco
- 1B: Jack Uppal, Lincoln - Edward So, Pleasanton
- 1C: Takwah Tsang, Elk Grove - Dana Daugherty, El Dorado Hills

### Thurs Open (16 Tables)

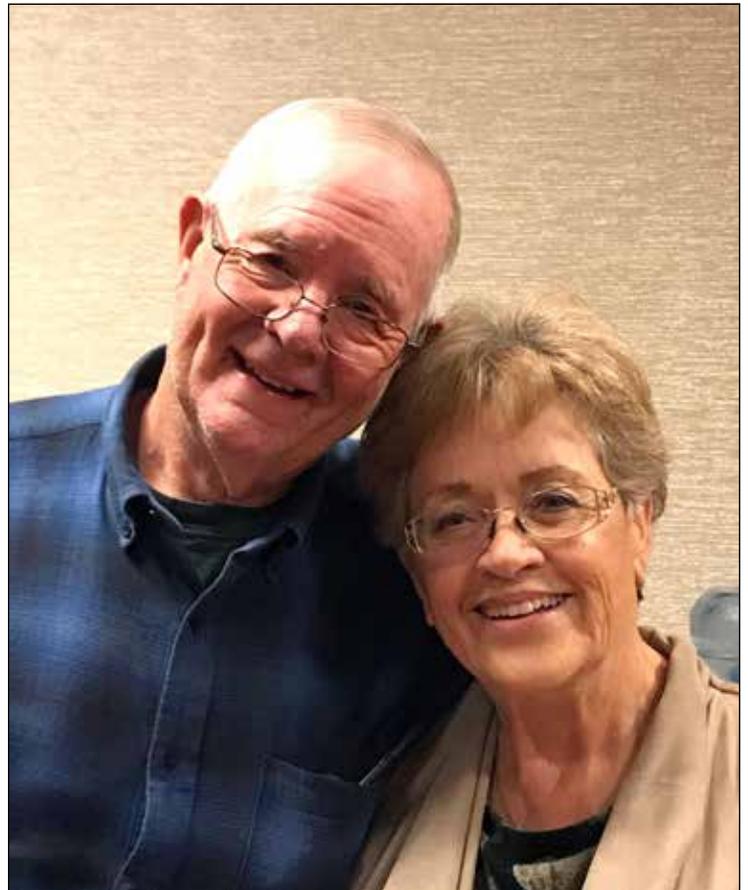
- 1A: Mark Itabashi, Murrieta - Mitch Dunitz, Sherman Oaks
- 1B, 1C: Susan Foley, Sidney BC - Andrea Miller, Victoria BC



*Mark Itabashi and Mitch Dunitz*

### Thurs Lovelock Gold (24 Tables)

- 1D: Greg Foss - Jeannene Levitre, Reno NV
- 1E: William Mann, San Carlos - Ron Terry, San Jose



*Greg Foss and Jeannine Levitre won Gold Rush Wednesday AND Thursday!*

### **Thurs Aft Side (12 Tables)**

1A, 1B: Thomas Howell - Sandy Powell, Reno NV  
1C: Iris Appleby, Garden Valley - Judy Orchard,  
Placerville

### **Thurs Aft 299er (6 Tables)**

1D, 1E, 1F: Marcie Jacikas - Art Jacikas, S Lake  
Tahoe

### **Thurs Eve Side (10 Tables)**

1A: Katherine Ewing - Edwin Ewing, Sacramento  
1B: Frank Xie, Sunnyvale - Ying Liu, Palo Alto  
1C: Theresa Choma, Hailey ID - Sandra Flattery,  
Ketchum ID

### **Fri Morn Side (7.5 Tables)**

1A: Paul Darin, San Diego - Marilyn Kalabsa,  
Ramona  
1B: Carol Kemper, Portola Valley - Stephanie  
Singer, Belmont  
1C: Jennifer Steelquist, Rescue - Mariann Kessler,  
Walnut Creek

### **Fri Morn 299er (4 Tables)**

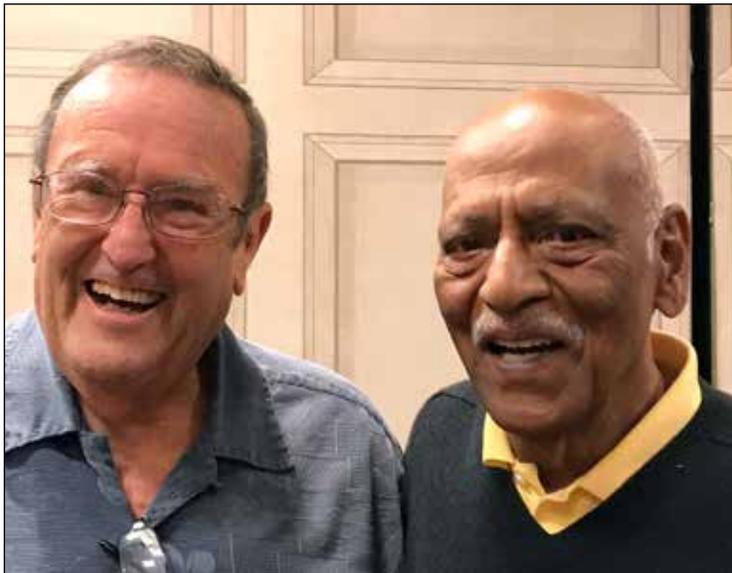
1D, 1E: Terry Wassmann, Walnut Creek - Barbara  
Promessi, Concord

### **Fri Daylight (31.5 Tables)**

1A: Michael Mikyska, Los Angeles - Iftikhar Baqai,  
Irvine  
1B, 1C: Frank Xie, Sunnyvale - Ying Liu, Palo Alto

### **Fri Blackjack Gold (25 Tables)**

1D: Muthiah Ramanathan, Santa Rosa - Mike  
Warner, Oakland  
1E: Carolyn Loe - Gretchen Filer, Benicia



*Mike Warner and Muthiah Ramanathan*

### **Friday Open (9 Tables)**

1A: Jim Leuker, San Francisco - Gerard Laquerriere,  
Clovis C  
1B: Pam Moreland - Michael Moreland, Penn Valley  
1C: Robert Underwood - Elizabeth Underwood,  
Incline Village NV

### **Fri Aft Side (10 Tables)**

1A: Sherman Gao, Brea - Linda Harrison, Calgary  
AB  
1B: Regina Houston, Reno NV - Joyce Remsen,  
Sparks NV  
1C: Richard Eddy - Patricia Eddy, Reno NV

### **Fri Aft 299er (6 Tables)**

1D: Sal Bulkley - Dana Davis, Reno NV  
1E: Eleanor Waldren - Pam Freeman, Reno NV

### **Fri Eve Side (11 Tables)**

1A: Mark Itabashi, Murrieta - July Ratley, Redding  
1B: Roger Smith - Michael Saeler, Modesto  
1C: William Rawlings, Broomfield CO - Jean  
Ingram, Wellington CO

### **Sat Morn Side (8 Tables)**

1A: Tony Glynne, Gilroy - Mac Geschwind, Reno  
NV  
1B: Jim Martin - Joyce Martin, Gilroy  
1C: Dan Stockwell - Susan Hjalmquist, El Paso TX

### **Sat Morn 299er (4 Tables)**

1D, 1E, 1F: Jean Milner, Grass Valley - Penny Bess,  
Lincoln

### **Sat Daylight (16 Tables)**

1A: Steve Print, Reno NV - Martin Blain, Rancho  
Mirage  
1B: Jacques Printz, Vancouver BC - Milton  
Kalikman, Azusa  
1C: Michael Hollins - Susan Haas, Redding

### **Sat Heavenly Gold (6 Tables)**

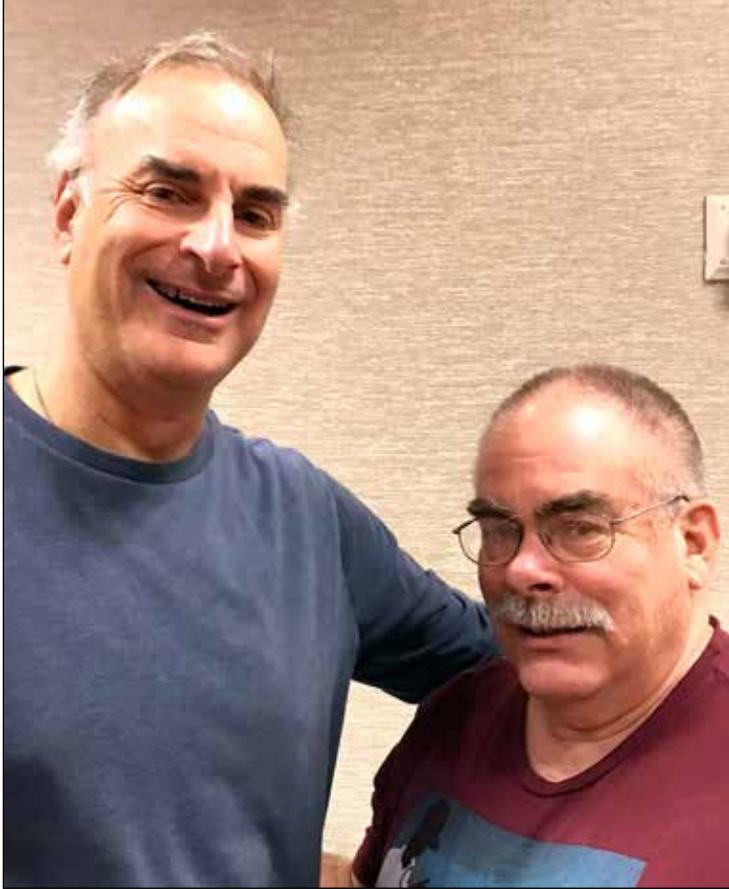
1D: Paulette Moe, Ross - Carolyn Farren, Larkspur  
1E: Daniela Tone, Santa Clara - Kevin Smith, Ione

### **Sat Aft Side (7 Tables)**

1A: Sherman Gao, Brea - Linda Harrison, Calgary  
AB  
1B: Carla Francis, Castro Valley - Linda Decquir,  
Wildomar  
1C: Vard Nelson - Frances Nelson, Evergreen CO

### **Sat Open (9 Tables)**

- 1A: Mark Perlmutter, San Diego - Crispin Barrere, Berkeley  
1B: July Ratley, Redding - Sara Rothmuller, Occidental  
1C: Stephen Tu, Milpitas - Mike Cailean, Santa Clara



*Mark Perlmutter and Crispin Barrere*



*Sara Rothmuller and July Ratley*

### **Sat Aft 299er (6 Tables)**

- 1D: Donna Cleary - Bob Shafer, El Dorado Hills  
1E: LecClier Kelly - Frederick Kelly, Reno NV  
1F: Lisbeth Mackenzie - Julie Stoik, Reno NV

### **Sat Eve Side (5 Tables)**

- 1A: Katherine Ewing - Edwin Ewing, Sacramento  
1B: Jerry Nakamura - Terence Degan, El Dorado Hills

### **Sun Fast Pairs (11 Tables)**

- 1A: Tim Hays - Chad Fisher, Kansas City MO  
1B: Anthony Trebaol, Milpitas - Paul McEleney, Menlo Park  
1C: Frank Xie, Sunnyvale - Ying Liu, Palo Alto

## **Teams**

### **Mon Aft Swiss (12 Tables)**

- 1A: Kathryn Evans, Sparks NV - Martin Blain, Rancho Mirage - Rick Weiss - Steve Print, Reno NV  
1B, 1C: Paul Sojka, West Lafayette IN - Ruth Swain - Richard Greenthal - Jefri Donovan, Reno NV

### **Nugget KO (10 Tables)**

- Lou Ann O'Rourke, Scottsdale AZ - Marc Jacobus - Curtis Cheek - Geoff Hampson, Las Vegas NV - Joe Grue, New York NY - Robert Levin, Henderson NV

### **Tues Eve Swiss (4 Tables)**

- 1A: Larry Spanier, Rohnert Park - Mark Hersko, Windsor - Lee Grams - Bruce Emmons, Santa Rosa

### **Northstar KO 1 (9 Tables)**

- John Jefferson, Davis - Bob Etter, Elk Grove - William Harker, Santa Fe NM - Mark Ralph, San Francisco

### **Northstar KO 2 (13 Tables)**

- Steven Drucker - Libby Silver, Oakland - Amar Chunder, San Jose - Sukumar Mukherji, San Ramon

### **Wed Side Swiss (6 Tables)**

- 1A, 1B, 1C: Paul Pugsley - Brenda Pugsley, Carson City NV - Robert Underwood - Elizabeth Underwood, Incline Village NV

### Goodwill Swiss (11 Tables)

1A, 1B: Larry Spanier, Rohnert Park - Mark Hersko, Windsor - Patricia Hertz, Sebastopol - Nancy Johnson, Santa Rosa  
1C: Anthony Salam, Antioch - Alan Morris, Oakley - John Mount - Georgia Lambert, Brentwood



First Row: Anthony Salam, Alan Morris.  
Second Row: John Mount, Georgia Lambert.

### Tahoe KO 1 (13 Tables)

Lou Ann O'Rourke, Scottsdale AZ - Marc Jacobus - Curtis Cheek - Geoff Hampson, Las Vegas - Joe Grue, New York - Robert Levin, Henderson NV



Robert Levin, Geoff Hampson, Joe Grue,  
Lou Ann O'Rourke, Curtis Cheek, Marc Jacobus

### Thurs Side Swiss (6 Tables)

1A: Paul Kushner, So Lake Tahoe - Martin Blain, Rancho Mirage - Lin Goldstein - Daniel Green, Reno NV  
1B, C: Gail Gabiati - Kris Wong - Jeanette Shinsako - Judy Soong, San Francisco

### Alpine KO 1 (9 Tables)

Howard Parker III, Clements - Chris Compton, Dallas TX - Veronica McMurdie - D Jones, Sacramento



First row: Veronica McMurdie. Second Row: Howard Parker III, D Jones, Chris Compton.

### Alpine KO 2 (8 Tables)

Jerry Nakamura - Terence Degan, El Dorado Hills - Jim Bowman, Carmichael - Jeffrey Beyers, Orange Vale

### Fri Side Swiss (3 Tables)

1A, 1B (tie): Carla Francis, Castro Valley - Linda Decquir, Wildomar - Brenda Glaze, Anchorage AK - Douglas Jansen, Happy Valley OR  
Jerry Nakamura - Terence Degan, El Dorado Hills - Jim Bowman, Carmichael - Jeffrey Beyers, Orange Vale

### Virginia Swiss (7 Tables)

1A: Gilbert Ramirez - Virginia Kellermeyer, Reno NV - Loretta Bromberg, Bel Tiburon - Betty Martin, Fulton MS  
1B, 1C: Robert Crosby, San Mateo - Raymond Yue, Reno NV - Peter Peca Jr - Liz Ashby, El Paso TX

### Bonanza KO 1 (5 Tables)

Lou Ann O'Rourke, Scottsdale AZ - Marc Jacobus - Geoff Hampson - Curtis Cheek, Las Vegas NV - Robert Levin, Henderson NV - Joe Grue, New York NY

### Ponderosa Compact KO 1 (13 Tables)

Howard Parker III, Clements - Veronica McMurdie - D Jones, Sacramento - Chris Compton, Dallas TX

### Sat Aft Side Swiss (5 Tables)

- 1A: Jerry Nakamura - Terence Degan, El Dorado Hills - Jack Blyskal - Stanley Shamitz, Folsom  
1B: Ed Gould - Cornelia Gould, Incline Village NV - Jon Greenfield - Lorelei Greenfield, Hillsborough

### Sun Senior Swiss (6 Tables)

- 1A: Gilbert Ramirez - Charlotte Falk, Reno NV - Atam Lalchandani, Incline Village NV - Bob Luebkehan, Sparks NV  
1B: Paul Pugsley - Brenda Pugsley, Carson City NV - Martin Blain, Rancho Mirage - Paul Kushner, So Lake Tahoe



Bob Luebkehan, Charlotte Falk, Adam Lalchandani, Gilbert Ramirez

### Sun A/X Swiss (10 Tables)

- 1A: Howard Parker III, Clements - Veronica McMurdie - D Jones, Sacramento - Chris Compton, Dallas TX  
1X: Edwin Straver, Incline Village NV - Bob Sendall, Morro Bay - Pam Moreland - Michael Moreland, Penn Valley

### 299er Swiss (8 Tables)

- Donald Parsons - Paul Ferber - Susan Powell, Reno NV - Joanne Onstine-Dill, Sparks NV



Susan Powell-Paul Ferber-Joanne Onstine-Dill - Donald Parsons

**Plan now to be  
in Monterey for  
New Years (and  
get your photo in  
future *Diamond  
in the Ruff* for  
winning)**



New Life Master: Michael Hollins picked up his Gold Card in Reno!

# 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](http://www.d21acbl.com)

#### For information contact:

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

## Intermediate/Newcomer Events

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

**Bridge Concepts Lectures**  
**with Scott Campbell**

**Tuesday thru Saturday at Noon**

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

Nancy Boyd, Director in Charge

ACBL Sanction R1901035

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

# Monterey Clambake Regional

## December 31 - January 6, 2019

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

### Monday, December 31

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

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

### Tuesday, January 1

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

### Wednesday, January 2

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

### Thursday, January 3 GOODWILL DAY

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

### Friday, January 4

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

### Saturday, January 5

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

### Sunday, January 6

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

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

KO Events with only one Bracket may be Handicapped

**Stratified Events Key Unless otherwise posted.**

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

# RANK UPGRADES

## JUNIOR MASTERS

Kathryn Apgar, San Jose CA, 507  
David Bao, Cupertino CA, 507  
Herschel Cozine, Santa Rosa CA, 509  
Teri Day, Roseville CA, 505  
Lynford Disbrow, Reno NV, 473  
Betty Dobak, Sacramento CA, 505  
Paul Grassman, Walnut Creek CA, 499  
Clint Hudson, Fresno CA, 522  
Jason Leith, Oakland CA, 502  
Sandra Maker, Oakland CA, 502  
Cynthia Molstad, San Francisco CA, 506  
Ellie Satow, Castroville CA, 530  
Joanne Stack, San Francisco CA, 506  
Ken Steiner, Walnut Creek CA, 499  
Julie Stoik, Reno NV, 473  
Weihong Tao, Redwood City CA, 498  
Emily Van Vleet, Walnut Creek, CA, 499  
Robert Wherritt, Lafayette CA, 499  
Robert Williams, Cupertino CA, 507  
Huiwen Yang, Redwood City CA, 498

## CLUB MASTERS

Isaac Chotiner, San Anselmo CA, 508  
Fred Golini, Orinda CA, 499  
Jolanda Heijnen, Oakland CA, 502  
Carolyn Johnston, San Francisco CA, 506  
Liz Koh, San Francisco CA, 506  
Ben Kuckens, Mountain View CA, 503  
Loreta Landucci, Walnut Creek CA, 499  
Chris Larkin, Napa CA, 512  
James Levin, San Francisco CA, 506  
Marja Marting, Reno NV, 473  
Gail Mejeur, San Francisco CA, 506  
Jim Page, Modesto CA, 529  
Gary Robinson, Roseville CA, 505  
Dennis Snarr, Walnut Creek CA, 499  
Jeanne Urich, Hillsborough CA, 498  
Carolyn Wilson, Morgan Hill CA, 524  
Margaret Wu, San Francisco CA, 506

# SECTIONAL MASTERS

Ed Becker, Saratoga CA, 507  
Arnita Calloway, Oakland CA, 502  
Chris Chang, Mountain View CA, 503  
Sue Comporato, Morgan Hill CA, 524  
Jim Duport, Santa Rosa CA, 509  
Judy Duport, Santa Rosa CA, 509  
Natalie Elefant, Los Altos CA, 503  
Colin Ferrett, Walnut Creek CA, 499  
Henry Gaw, Santa Rosa CA, 509  
Aloysius Geelhaar, Camino CA, 505  
Kathy Hamilton, Half Moon Bay CA, 498  
Lawson James, Petaluma CA, 509  
Jim Luther, Oakhurst CA, 522  
Nick McCully, Piedmont CA, 502  
Diane McDonough, Coarsegold CA, 522  
Page O'Connor, Sacramento CA, 505  
Steve Oliver, Moraga CA, 499  
Jeri Ram, San Leandro CA, 502  
Carol Skuce, Danville CA, 499  
Carole Terry, Napa CA, 512

# REGIONAL MASTERS

Jeffrey Beyers, Orange Vale CA, 505  
Joyce Cates, Stockton CA, 510  
Patricia Dunbar, Little River CA, 509  
Lynette Foppiano, Stockton CA, 510

Christine Furnas, San Francisco CA, 506  
Lynn Gurnee, Fremont CA, 500  
Robert Joerger, Oakland CA, 502  
Linda Kenigsberg, Saratoga CA, 507  
Frank Mainzer, San Francisco CA, 506  
Donna Pellegrini, Burlingame CA, 498

# NABC MASTERS

Robin McDuff, Santa Cruz CA, 550

# LIFE MASTERS

CHRISTINE BARKLEY, MODESTO CA, 529  
DANIEL CLAASSEN, FREMONT CA, 503  
DEBORAH DRYSDALE, SAN FRANCISCO CA, 506  
LIBBY LONGSTRETH, RIVERBANK CA, 529  
BRUCE POSTER, WALNUT CREEK CA, 499

# BRONZE LIFE MASTERS

Lawrence Bowerman, Oakland CA, 502  
Lisa Euphrat, Piedmont CA, 502  
Peggy Oakshott, Clovis CA, 522  
Gerald Patrick, Redwood City CA, 503  
R Murty Ponnappalli, Sunnyvale CA, 507

# **SILVER LIFE MASTERS**

Judith Smith, Merced CA, 529

Wayne Vondera, Livermore CA, 501

Kris Wong, San Francisco CA, 506

Raymond Yue, Reno NV, 473

# **RUBY LIFE MASTERS**

Charles Bass Jr, North Highlands CA, 505

Elizabeth Noronha, San Francisco CA, 506

# **GOLD LIFE MASTERS**

Dana Brown, Coulterville CA, 522

Bruce Chapman, Folsom CA, 505

Elazar Friedman, Middleton ID, 502

Mark Hersko, Windsor CA, 509

# **DIAMOND LIFE MASTER**

Laura Kenney, San Rafael CA, 508

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<a href="#"><u>East Bay</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>502</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sandi Davis</u></a>
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## Diablo Valley

*By Lisa Assoni*

Mama Mia – Up first is our terrific Tunnel Tourney. For those who may not be aware of precisely what the TT is: This is a challenge match between our Unit 499, and Oakland's Unit 502. It's called the Tunnel Tourney because of the location of the Caldecott Tunnel, which separates the two units. How about pumping up the volume, and listen to the enthusiastic group of competitive folks who want that plaque. Yes, it's just a decorative piece, but it is so much more. Unit 499 is gearing up with a spirit of defeating Unit 502. Are you ready? So set, and go. Andy Fine is our go-to guy. Please e-mail him at [Afine63@aol.com](mailto:Afine63@aol.com). You must have a partner and calculate both your point counts. Truly, everyone from both units is welcome to sign up. Last year we had 20 tables. There were two flights, the Open, with three strats: 0-500/ 500-1500. The 299er: 0-50, 50-149, and 149/299. The event is happening in Oakland on November 4. The day will include two sessions, a delicious lunch, and many munchies for our culinary pleasure. All for the bargain basement price of \$15.00. How can you beat that for a great day's entertainment!



Next on the menu is our fall sectional wanting to serve up a great weekend for all to enjoy. As most of you know, this is not only a sectional, but also a fun-filled day with lots of yummy foods. You've probably already marked your calendars, but this is a reminder. On November 10 and 11, we meet at Dougherty Valley High School.

Sessions on Saturday begin at 10:00 a.m. and the next at 3:00 p.m. Our board of directors gives up so much of their precious time to put on these extravaganzas; so come on down. For latest details check out our website at [diablovalleybridge.com](http://diablovalleybridge.com).

What a day! Mark Humphrey and his wife Lyn did it again! Their repeat performance helped us celebrate Ken White's Memorial Game, and it was over the top. Mark also works hard for no money, and manages to spread the cheer with a beautiful breakfast spread. It was the Pros who volunteered to help us Ams, make our day! With their helpful assistance, all learned how to improve our game.

Hey, Grant Robinson, the man who encouraged all members to gather teammates for a Swiss Teams

Tournament held on October 8. He also bribed us with pizza, and the house was full. It worked! What a fun, fair-weathered day. Thanks Grant.

See what's cookin' in Unit 499. Log onto our website and check in to have some fun. Click on the e-Declarer for the latest hot stuff.

Ciao Bella

## East Bay

*By Sandi Davis*

On Saturday, November 3 the EBCBC will be holding a Pro-Am event for the opportunity for newer players to play in an 18 board game with a more experienced player. They will have an opportunity to discuss the hands and possible ways to help improve their game. There will be a catered lunch and the event is fun and has proven very popular so contact Susan Boyers at [smboyers@comcast.net](mailto:smboyers@comcast.net) if you are interested in participating.

The unit game on Sunday November 4 will not be held as it is the date for Unit 499 and Unit 502 to go head to head in the Sixth Annual Tunnel Tournament. This is a two session event beginning at 10:30 AM with lunch included for a bargain price of \$15/person. Players must be members of these two units and pairs must be from the same unit. You must pre-register so contact Carol Warren at (510) 653-8733 or [carolwarren036@gmail.com](mailto:carolwarren036@gmail.com).

There will also be no unit game at the Center on November 18 because the Unit 502 Fall Sectional will be held on November 17 and 18 at the Oakland Masonic Center at 3903 Broadway. Saturday has single session stratified Pairs games while Sunday will be the Barbara Harmon 2-session bracketed Swiss Teams. Game times are 10 AM and 2:30 PM each day with a nice \$5 lunch between sessions. For partnerships or information, contact Shirley Rodenborn at (510) 459-6286. Table fees are \$12 per session. Bring your favorite partner and come have a good time at the tables.

At the October 7 unit game, N/S Carol Warren and Norm Marks placed 1st OA with Kathryn Van Dohre and Robert Ipswitch placing 1st E/W. This was a charity game with donations going to the Alameda County Food Bank so thanks to everyone for supporting this good cause.

On the Tournament trail, Lili Bassett and Jeff Fountain finished in the overalls of the pairs game

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while Tom McGuire's Swiss team also placed in the overalls at the Santa Rosa Sectional.

We welcome new members Bob Kurtz and Sandra Maker. Transferring to our unit, welcome to Robert Joerger, Don Maker, and Andrew Weisenfelder. In addition we have many rank advancements. Sue Burish and Jolanda Heijnen are now Junior Masters; Marilyn Chilcote is a Club Master; Pam Davison and George Proper have reached Sectional Master; Ken Rice and Margaret Timm are our newest Regional Masters; Russ Kirschenbaum and Jeff Toman reached Bronze Life Master. I am so happy Jeff achieved that here with us as he and his lovely wife Mary will be leaving us to relocate to Nashville. We all wish them the best. At the Santa Clara Regional Herbert Chung and Susie Chung each won enough gold points to reach milestones. Herbert is now a Life Master and Susie became both a Life Master and a Bronze Life Master on the same day! Cris Barrere, our Monday teacher extraordinaire, reached a major milestone with the rank of Grand Life Master having earned over 10,000 masterpoints. He is the only GLM in our unit. Well done, one and all!

As you know, the EBCBC has stopped its Saturday games but will now hold club games on the 2nd, 4th and 5th (when there is one) Sundays of the month at 1 P.M. In November the dates are the 11th and 25th. There will be a lunch prepared mostly by me but several people kindly offer to help with this task. If you would like to help, let me know. Also, I would love to help any newer players partner with a more experienced player for this game. If you are interested in either mentoring OR being mentored, please contact me at sandi.david21@gmail.com or call me at (510) 524-6925. The only qualifications for a mentor are a good knowledge of Standard American, patience and kindness. For mentees, the requirement is a willingness to listen, learn and apply it to your game. It is a good experience for both.

I also want to remind everyone that Doug Handler runs a Monday evening game at 7:30 P.M. each week for both Open and Limited MP players. It is a good competition and could use your support. Doug is also interested in hearing from anyone who might be interested in supporting a Swiss Teams game on Wednesday evening so if this appeals contact Doug at dough0918@aol.com.

We are lucky that we have so many good options to enjoy our favorite game so get out there and have some fun!

There are lots of sectionals and regionals coming up so get out there and play. It is a fun experience to play against players from other units and it improves your game! Let us know how you do!

If you have any news & you'd like to see your name in print, Tom Pajak is writing next month's column and he would love to hear about anything you have done. E-mail him at tompajak999@gmail.com.

## Fresno

*By Laura Da Costa*

Hello everyone,

The Fresno Fall Sectional was held in September this year (28th-30th). For the second year, the sectional ran just three days, Friday thru Saturday. Just like last year it proved to be fun and profitable. Though the number of Swiss teams on Sunday was disappointing, Saturday made up for it. Saturday morning, we had the biggest attendance in quite a few years with 15 ½ tables in the Open game and 5 tables in the 199er game; the afternoon added 10 tables in the Open and 5 in the 499er. What a great day! The President's Award winner was Gerard Laquerriere, and the 99er Award winner was Ann Keag. Congratulations to the 79 members who won masterpoints at this tournament. Our thanks to Scott Campbell (Director) and Mary Lou Pease (Partnership). Also, our appreciation goes to Hospitality Chair Jackie Finn and assistants Deb Petersen and Belva Quattrin, and to those members who donated refreshment money and wonderful treats for the tournament.

Once again, we reserved the Friday thru Monday of President's Day Weekend (February 15-18) for our winter sectional. Start making plans to join us then.

Hard to believe that the holiday season is already approaching. Be sure to check the Aces, Places, and Faces calendar for games that are going to be affected by the Thanksgiving holiday. For those looking ahead, the annual Unit Christmas Party (and meeting) is scheduled for Sunday, December 2.

Mun had another lesson/fund raiser on September 4. The topics were "The Law of Total Tricks" and whether a bid is forcing or not. More than 20 members attended the lesson.

Did you qualify in a North American Pairs (NAP) game during June, July, and August? If so, then the next step is the NAP Unit Final that is scheduled for Sunday, November 11. If you do not know if you are

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qualified, the list is posted in the clubhouse and on our website. It is not required that you play with the same partner that you qualified with, just that the partner you choose is also qualified. Qualifiers from the unit final would then be allowed to play at the district finals scheduled for early December. You may play in the unit final even if you do not believe you will be attending the district finals. The unit final will award red masterpoints.

Not many 70% games were in September; those we had were all in Fresno. Gary Nelson earned 70.45% in the Friday evening Open Individual on 9/21. The Tuesday evening 99er/Lesson on 9/25 had two pairs tie with 70.83%: Steve Johnson & June Oeser and Fred Schellack & Walt Kelso. Lastly, Ann Keag & Cheryl Johnson earned exactly 70% in the Saturday morning 199er session of the Sectional on 9/29.

Congratulations to Dana Brown (Coulterville) for achieving the rank of Gold Life Master (2500 mps) and Peggy Oakshott for achieving Bronze Life Master (500 mps).

EasyBridge lessons on Saturday mornings are taking a break until 2019. If you know someone interested in learning to play bridge, let them know lessons start January 12!

## Marin

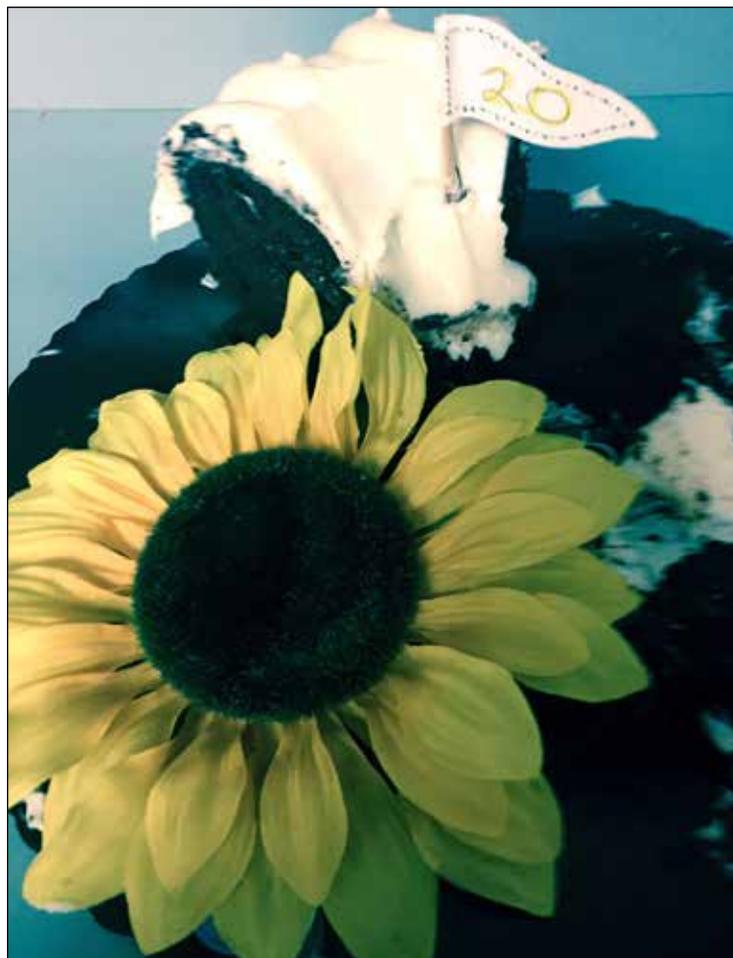
*By Gail Haar*

Our unit is richer by several new and transfer members this month. Be sure to greet and welcome Jillian Kantola, Fay Mark, Frannie Prewitt, Pamela Snellgrove, Cheri Bartel, Pamela Hoffman, Nancy Kiskis, Mary Marcom and Dennis Walsh.

Congratulations to our members who have advanced in Master rank: Christopher Barnes, Barbara Goldstein, Michael Goldstein & Ken Phillips (Junior); Bill Kirn & Steve Marsh (Regional); Shirley Ehrlich & Catherine Wallace (Club); Ellen Sirbu (Sectional); Paulette Moe (Advanced NABC); Carol Morse (Bronze Life); James Tunnell (Silver Life); Mark Peterson (Gold Life) and Anne Stein (Sapphire Life). There were so many big games this month that there is only room for a representative club sampling – Jim & Pat Griffin (75.35% at Fuldek) Bart Roades & Steve Boyle (73.21% at Hoppe) and Deborah & Gerry Levine (71.32% at Belvedere.) Cyrus Ansari & partner won the unit game on October 7.

Notes from Belvedere: Elaine J. is in her mid-90's

and has been playing for 20 years at table 2 in the first room. (Her partner is 97 and served as an army nurse in Africa in WWII. Bridge is good for mind and health.) Elaine stopped playing a week before the club's 20th anniversary and the director, Barbara Prior, called Elaine's daughter to tell her that we'd all miss Elaine. Elaine's daughter then brought in a wonderful sunflower bundt cake with a little 20th Anniversary flag for all to enjoy!



In a fortuitous alignment of the PR stars, two of our Unit 508 members got shout outs in the October ACBL Bridge Bulletin. Peggy Tatro, Director of the Terra Linda Club, was the subject of a lengthy fan letter praising her customer service and Bruce Noda's play in the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs was admiringly written up in Barry Rigal's analysis of Atlanta Action. Well done! (In case you missed the articles and have tossed the October Bulletin, you can find them all on line at the ACBL web site.)

The most recent ACBL figures show that for the first time in recent memory, our unit membership has risen by almost 10%. Our unit board focuses on mentoring and education is part of the story and kudos go also to the unit's teachers and directors who are

seeking out interested bridge players, providing ongoing lessons and creating games that nurture and encourage duplicate. All our members can help by encouraging friends to take advantage of the many opportunities available in Marin to participate in our great game. Remember, bridge is good for mind and health!

With several regionals and an NABC coming up, here's some words of wisdom from a bridge pro about playing with a new partner. "I agree to Standard American, plus Cappelletti and some other gadgets he insists on. The way I see it, who cares what you play with pickup partners. Better to just humor them so they can concentrate on judgment and reasoning, which are ten times more important. So, lo and behold, I find myself with a good one-suiter after the opponents open 1NT. Dutifully I bid 2C (an artificial relay to 2D). Partner bypasses the relay and we wind up in a horrible spot for some horrible result. Confused, I ask him if we are playing Cappelletti. "Yes," he replied, "but I thought you forgot."

## Modesto/Merced/Sonora

*By Gail Vick*

During the latter half of September, Bruce Ruskin & Frank Frohman with 73.70% captured 1st in A Division with Traudi Kofler & Dave Machado taking 1st in B Division, 60.42%, and Joyce Rudesill & Gail Vick finished 1st in C Division, 59.90%. Sunday's beginner/intermediate high scoring game was won by Judy Remmers & Gail Vick for 1st with 65.38% in A, and Lorraine Bocks & Sherrie Barakatt for 1st in both B & C with 58.60%.

Bruce Ruskin & Frank Frohman with 66.20%, took 1st in A, and Dave Terry & George Loscalzo were 1st in B Division for the first half of October, with Connie Arnold & Barbara Page taking 1st in C's with 59.52%. The beginning duplicate group was won by Pete Hoy & Sue Winter for 1st in A, and Nancy Simas & Cathy Peck for 1st in B & C.

Thanks to Barbara Page and Lee Maddocks, along with all those bringing food, for the sectional at Homewood Village, also thanks to Jackie & Roland Wilson for procuring the site, which turned out to be a success. Easy parking, and wonderful lighting on a weekend filled with sunshine and autumn in the air.

Those winning overall from Modesto were Sheela Wani & Ray Adams, 1st A Division, morning open pairs, John Fiscalini & Lee Maddocks 1st in B, and Christine Barkley & Libby Longstreth 1st in C.

In the 99er game, Sharon & Neil Von Tersch took 1st in D, and Nancy Lilly & Peder Hoy took 1st in both E & F.

The stratified Sunday Swiss Teams game was won in A by Lee Maddocks & John Fiscalini, Sheela Wani & Ray Adams, along with Stockton teammates Ann & Bill Nutting.

On the 14th, the unit game was a celebration of Libby Longstreth & Christine Barkley achieving their life master status. Lorna Crooks & Joyce Rudesill were 1st in A with 64.74%, followed by Sheela Wani & Sherrie Barakatt with 62.50% for 1st in B, and Vickie MacClyment & Judy Remmers taking 1st in C.

Heard that Libby Longstreth & Chris Barkley won 1st in a Gold Rush Pairs two session event in Reno! Marcia & Jim Laird placed 2nd in a stratified 299er game. Judy Remmers & Joyce Rudisell scored points as well. Jeanne Russo & Gail Vick placed 1st in C, 2nd overall in side pair event, and 4th in A. Congratulations to all! If I did not get everyone, let me know, and I will get it in next month's article.

Linda Kenyon is having extreme back problems. We're hoping that you get better quick and are back to the tables with the rest of us, soon!

## Monterey

*By Mary Block*

Updating unit information: we have some transfers into the unit to report: Josephine Callahan, Philip Hebner, and Ellen Lux. We have a few rank upgrades: Julie Anongos, Betty Pribula, and Deane Satow are now Junior Masters; Debbie Anthony, Ed Schrenzel, and Laura Gamble are Club Masters. Ann Mahoney, Wayne McIntyre, Karen Mok, Sally Reed, Elizabeth Sebring, and Gerald Williams are Sectional Masters. Glenn Chee has reached the status of NABC Master. Congratulations to all.

Charles Rauch is a new member of the Unit Board of Directors, replacing Bill Cohen. Bill will continue to serve with Laura Gherman as a co-chair of our May sectional. Time for another reminder that it takes help from many members, not just members of the board of directors, to keep the unit functioning well.

By the time you are reading this, the MBEF's annual fund-raising Halloween event will have taken place. Results will appear here next month.

The annual holiday luncheon and game is coming up on Sunday, December 2. There will be a new venue this year: the Bridge Center. Lalla Grill will be catering the Italian luncheon. Watch this space for further details.

Because of the Clambake's starting on Monday, December 31, Lyde's annual New Year's Eve party will take place on Sunday, December 30. This is the usual early start/early to home event that has been so popular for so many years.

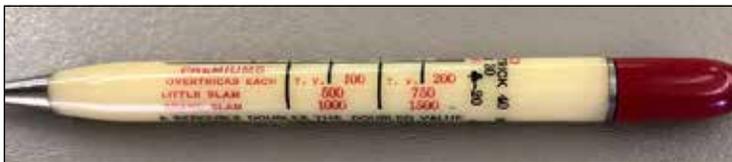
NAP qualifying game will take place at the Bridge Center on Saturday, November 17 at 9:30 a.m. Contact Alan Hedegard for details.

Our beloved late centenarian, Olivia Bigelow, left a generous bequest to the bridge club. A new refrigerator and icemaker have already been purchased and other upgrades and repairs are being planned for the building, including lighting replacement.

Alan and Janet announce that starting in November, the time of the Tuesday evening game at the Bridge Center will be 6:30 p.m. It is hoped that the earlier start will make the game more attractive. Reservations are needed; call Janet at 422-6607 or Alan at 512-7870.

Karen and Ray Mok had a 74.37% game in the Interclub Championship game. Kudos to David Ow and Alan Hedegard for their outstanding 80% game on October 8.

Bill Been, of Unit 530, was recently given the ballpoint pen pictured in the illustration by a non-bridge player friend. The pen was in its original box, made of Bakelite, one of the earliest forms of plastic and dates back to the late 1930's. It is difficult to see in the photo, but the writing on the pen is a scoring table, which is still accurate today.



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

## Napa/Solano/Sonoma

*By Tom Sheahan*

Things I didn't know dept: I had a nice talk and a couple glasses of wine with Clyde and Kathleen Smith recently and they were talking about the old days of our unit and all the wild times they had. I never knew that the Vacaville Prison was part of our unit and there was a regular game there once a week. Players from Napa would go there to play with the inmates which included convicted murderers.

The game ended when one of the inmates came in first nationwide in his category for total annual master-points even though first place every week was less than one point. Apparently there was some point stuffing going on by the inmate. In those days, you mailed in your points every month. They also talked about the great times they had and all the characters that played. One of the rules was that if you won the last trick of the hand with the 2 of Clubs, you got a free glass of wine. Ask Clyde and Kathleen to expound on the "old days" when you see them. Sounds like they really had good times.

Congratulations to our newest Life Masters! They are John & Patty Shribbs, and Jim O'Brien. John and Patty did it the hard way by having to earn 50 gold points and 500 total Master-points. They would go to a lot of tournaments in their trailer so they really earned it. I'm really against the 50 gold points needed now. You only see 4-6 tables now in the 299 game at regionals. Newer players aren't trying for Life Master like they were 5 years ago. Jim is recognized as one of the top players in our unit and richly deserved his LM. Congratulations also goes out to Carol Morse for her 500th point to make Bronze LM.

We have winners to announce from our club games. Sheila Malinowski was the only two time winner in Sonoma as she paired up with David Cappucini and Randy Hoyle for her wins. Other winners were John Kardach & Charlotte Carr, Gerry Fox & Tom Jacobson, Nancy Rude & Barry Samuel, Dawne Dickenson & Ann Toke Espy, and Russell Quinnell & Jeff Hargrove. Russell & Jeff had a 73% game which was good enough for first place overall nationally in that game.

There were two 74% games in the Sonoma 499er game! Dick Hale & Ann Begin and Dennis Sturdevant & Brooke Farkas accomplished that feat. Ron & Jean Hoffman won the other game.

Tom Jacobson was a double winner in the Napa game, once with Gerry Fox and once with Sigrid Price. Other winners were Larry Page & Joanne Wegsten and Holly Gustafson & Irene Lam.

Those weren't boos you heard in the Rio Vista game, but Crews! Cliff & Natalie Crew were double winners there. Tad Quayle & Robert Wiskotzil and Alan Morris & Marilyn Schuyler won the other games.

Thanks for all the good wishes for my knee replacement surgery which set my game back 6 weeks. The doctor said I should be able to resume work around the house in about 10-12 years.

Reno Regional results will be in next month's column.

## Reno

*By Sandy Powell*

Thank you, Carson City, for the truly wonderful sectional you hosted at the beginning of the month. The Plaza Hotel is a great venue for a bridge tournament, quiet, well lighted and well ventilated; a pleasant place to sit for many hours with easy on-street parking. The experience was enhanced by the free coffee/tea and the tasty homemade breads/cookies complemented by fruit and cheese, healthy food to keep energy levels up. Usually, I am exhausted by the end of a tournament but not this one and I played every day.

For those of you who did not attend, you missed a great event. For those beginning players who have started playing in the 299 game, the sectional provided an opportunity to play tournament bridge in a congenial, friendly and non-threatening environment. Even more important, this was an opportunity to improve your game. After all, we learn by playing with people better than us, not people we can beat.

For those of you who regularly play several times a week in Reno but did not go to Carson, I would remind you that units generate most of their money through their sectionals. It's a short distance between Reno and Carson City. If we want people from Carson to attend our sectionals, we should be attending theirs. Let's do better next time and be mutually supportive of one another.

Congratulations to Ruth Swain, Ruby Life Master. Ruth grew up in North Dakota. What better way to wile away the long cold winters than by playing cards.

But, it was not until 1970 that she learned bridge from her husband, a career military officer, who had played with his family growing up. At Grand Forks Air Force Base, Ruth took some lessons and started playing social bridge in the Officer Wives Club. Ruth left her husband in 1976 but not bridge and continued to play social bridge for the next decade or so while living in North Dakota and West Virginia and working in the area of social services.

Around 1985 Ruth saw an ad for duplicate lessons and started playing in the Fargo Duplicate Club. She was hooked. The Fargo Club is "hard" -- populated by very intelligent and skilled players, so point accumulation went slowly. Yet, continuously competing against expert players meant that Ruth's game improved quickly and dramatically. Once she started competing in tournaments, the points started rolling in, Life Master, Bronze Life Master.

Ruth believes that critical to one's game is "having a partner you absolutely trust to know what s/he is doing, and who is fun to play with." She should know. Ruth and her second husband Don, whom she met at the Fargo Bridge Club, partnered for close to 20 years. Sad circumstances brought Ruth to Reno; treatment for Don's cancer.

After he died, she retired to Reno in 2014 and began playing at our club. For the past 2 years, she has served on the board. This past year she took on the awesome responsibility of Tournament Director, an exceedingly time consuming and often hair pulling venture; trying to please everyone is an arduous task.

We made a ton of money from the August Sectional – in large measure due to Ruth's (and all who assisted) very hard work. Everyone applauds Ruth except her dog Andy who believes that Ruth should be permanently banned from the Nugget and take him hiking instead.

More people advanced in Rank this month: Silver Life Master: Stan Green; Bronze Life Masters: Harry Boon & John Swanson; Life Master: Karla Reynolds; Regional Master: Jon Probst. Special congratulations to Helen Trop-Zell and Jack Brown, winners of the 299er competition, with an outstanding score of 72.0%!

Top Overall Scores: 77.08% Satish Gupta & Lin Goldstein; 73.85% Kathy Lane & Linda Averett; 70.37% Bob Luebke & Marlene Davis; 70.17% Charlene Falk & Paul Kushner.

# Sacramento

By *Miriam Steinberg*

Who could use a mentor? Unless you are the stature of someone like Jeff Meckstroth or Eric Rodwell, you probably qualify! We need to recognize that no one popped out of the womb a Life Master or Grand Life Master; everyone had some instruction and guidance along his path. Conversely, who could be a mentor? Most of us (after we attain a certain level of proficiency) would be capable of aiding those less accomplished. Without growth, our clubs will shrink and die. We owe it to the bridge community to help develop and retain newer players.

Barbara Sommervill, who spearheaded an extensive mentor program in Greenville, South Carolina and is a new member of our bridge community explained, "You have to be willing to pay back for all the people who have helped you during your bridge experience. You can save bridge by helping people who are struggling now, so they don't get discouraged and quit."

Mentors, of course, need to be patient and kind. After all, who raises his hand and asks to be yelled at or put down? From my own experience, harsh treatment can throw off my concentration for the next couple of rounds and diminish my confidence. Mentors have the enormous responsibility of not overwhelming their mentees. Bridge can be very complex, so not overloading someone with too much information is of the essence. And basic skills come first; we all had to start at the beginning. When you learn to play the piano, you start out with tunes such as "Hot Cross Buns" before tackling Beethoven sonatas. It is so easy to fall into the trap of pushing someone who is eager to learn, but seek caution or his knowledge base may have big holes, he may not retain the abundance of information or he may get frustrated and discouraged.

Don't assume your mentee knows anything! I always hated it when one mentor would look at me in horror at an error and declare, "Well, that's standard basic bridge. Don't you know that?" It would be quite unusual to err on purpose, so be thoughtful, realize the mentee didn't know a technique and explain cheerfully what he should do the next time the issue comes up.

Of course, bidding and declarer play are vital, but many beginners snooze during the 50% of the time they

are on defense. Teaching evaluating and re-evaluating when the dummy comes down is so important. What was the bidding? What does the lead signify? What cards might partner have and how can one defend?

It's easy for a mentee to become a convention addict because it is exciting learning new bridge vocabulary and problem solving skills. But the mentor needs to carefully think through how often a convention comes up and at what juncture it might be useful to introduce it. Instead of adding tons of conventions, share the mental skills involved in bridge strategies that come up every game.

Although you must correct your mentee, positive feedback plays a major force in the mentee's success. For example, you might boost his confidence by congratulating him for making a difficult contract rather than chastising him for not making a possible overtrick. Or, thank him for putting you in the right contract!

It's important for the mentor to protect the mentee. Consider introducing him as a newer player to your experienced opponents in advance to encourage courtesy and sensitivity. And if the opponents are bickering, be sure to tell them to cut it out! That behavior can be especially unsettling, intimidating and distracting to a newer player.

Be sure to root your mentee on to "play up." The mentee will not improve playing with other less experienced players who keep making the same errors with each other.

And remind your mentee that bridge is only a game; winning is indeed fun, but so is the process of the match. And everyone makes mistakes. Jeff Meckstroth told Barbara Somervill "If I only make three mistakes during a session, I feel I did well enough to win!" (Keep in mind, though, that the magnitude of his mistakes may be more minor than that of a less experienced player and your mentee will surely make some whoppers as we all have!).

Most of all, don't be afraid to laugh and have a good time. If playing bridge isn't fun for your mentee, he may head quickly out the door to some "lesser" game such as Mahjong!

The Sacramento Winter Sectional will be held Friday, November 30-Sunday, December 2 at the Orangevale Community Center, 6826 Hazel Avenue, Orangevale, Ca. 95662. On Friday, there will be a NLM seminar given by Jim Bowman at 9:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday pairs games will be held at 10:30



a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Sunday will be a Swiss teams game from 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Snacks will be available all days and lunch will be sold all days. Partnership Co-Chairmen are Marc Grunseth, mrgrunseth@aol.com, 916-971-3988 and Sam Sandusky, samelayne@gmail.com, 916-705-5557.

If you have any feedback or ideas for this column, please contact Miriam Steinberg at mirsteinbergsac@gmail.com.

## San Francisco

*By Kimberly Fanady*

The holiday season is fast approaching. While you are enjoying your Thanksgiving turkey and trimmings, be sure to say thanks for your favorite bridge partner, the hard-working people who run your favorite club, and for the fun, excitement, and challenge of bridge!



The penultimate unit game of the year is the annual Swiss Teams game, on November 10. Get three of your friends and be there. As usual, the game will be preceded by a lesson at 10:45 and lunch at 11:15, with the game at noon, at St. Mary's Cathedral, 1100 Gough St. at Geary. All are welcome. The unit will hold its holiday party and game on December 22, same time and place. This is always a fun and festive event, so come celebrate with us.

Welcome to our new members Jennifer Caulfield and Andrew Eidelhoch; and transfer Tushar Gheewala (Palo Alto). Be sure to say hello and welcome to these new players when you meet them at the table. Andrew is a junior high school student who plays (and wins!) with his mom, Sarah, in the QuickTricks Easybridge! class. Don't you wish you had learned to play when you were that young? I sure do. Keep an eye out for this future star.

Congrats to our ladder climbers: new Junior Masters Jay Beatty, Helen Chow, Nathan Chow, Charles Hinger, and Helga Justman; Club Masters: Marie Berggren and Serena Greening; Sectional Masters: Marilynne Holloway and Sara Van Dyke; Regional Masters: Gary Fields and Charles Gherman; NABC Masters: George Bazgan, Sharon Lee, and Nancy Thompson; Advanced NABC Master: Gary Mankin; Ruby Life Master: Robert Balas; and Gold Life Masters: Edward Hornung and Teiko Peterson.

Nice going, all!

We sadly say goodbye to PJ Joseph, who passed away last month. PJ came to bridge just a couple years ago, but promptly jumped in with both feet, serving on the unit board of directors, taking lessons, and playing. She was fun, hard-working, and really wanted to learn our great game. She will be missed. Our condolences to her family and friends.

Good luck to all the Unit 506ers headed for the Honolulu Fall NABC. We want to see pictures of you doing the hula, mai tai in hand, to celebrate your wins! Your jealous columnist is staying continental for Thanksgiving, so give my regards to the islands; have fun and win big!

## San Mateo

*By Fran Gaura*

Autumn is definitely in the air as days grow shorter and evenings cooler; what better time to dust off your best playing tactics and join Unit 498 for games at both the club and unit level!

Folks demonstrated their prowess at our NLM Sectional on October 13 and 14 at Fattoria. It was gratifying to see players from San Francisco, Palo Alto, south San Jose, Marin and the East Bay joining our local members for the game. Many out-of-area players commented on the ease of access to Fattoria, a welcome positive comment!

Winners included: Brenda Hatton, Eunice Menezes, Murarka Prabhu Dya, Rakesh Gupta, Marie Chong, Roy Tsai, Annie Green, Sue Bockmann, Charles Michalopalos, Laura Storto, Nancy Thomas, Pete Davis, Geraldine Macdonald, Lori Mirek, Chris Chang, Jessica Su, Jackie Lowenberg, Virginia Zapitz, Andrew Sinclair, Chris Chen, Alex Martelli, Anna Ravenscroft, Geri Derby, Joan Smith, Bob Farekas, Bob Gleason, Ryan Tock, Theron Tock, Mary Lou Zoback, Nancy Dearborn, Natalie Huang and Nathan Huang.

In the limited Section for players with fewer than 99 points, winners were Marcia and William Pade, Charlene Friedman, Cynthia Yock, Robyn Lee, Stan Kangas, Judith Duffy and Shirley Ehrlich. For some of these players it was the first experience of sectional tournament play. It was encouraging to hear their upbeat comments about the venue and the welcome accorded them by the more experienced players. We hope to see these folks at future unit games.

The NLM Sectional gave players the chance to check out the improvements being made at Fattoria to make playing there more comfortable. The restaurant has done some remodeling to accommodate our need for more playing space, opening walls to make a much larger room in which to play. The restaurant will also be bringing new tables into the playing area which promises to further upgrade our environment. Great news for the site of our unit and some club games!

November 17 is the annual unit meeting and unit game at which a new slate of board members will be elected. A dynamic board is vital to the success of Unit 498 and ensures that future games will be designed to meet the needs of all our member players. Plan to attend this event and to welcome new board members for 2019. Sign-ups are available now. The meeting and game will be held at Fattoria.

Jennifer Kuhn reports that the Unit 498 Mentor Program is off and running! The first session on October 25 was expected to draw at least 11 tables and the committee coordinating the program is thrilled with the level of participation and the commitment and support of both the mentors and the mentees! These are evening sessions affording an opportunity for folks otherwise engaged during daytime hours to be included.

All sessions are held at Fattoria. For more details on the program contact Jennifer, [jkuhn@peninsuladbc.co](mailto:jkuhn@peninsuladbc.co). In addition to the unit mentor program, Ted Richmond continues a daytime mentor series at the Bayshore Bridge Club. For details contact Ted, [tedteddyr@att.net](mailto:tedteddyr@att.net).

The Bayshore Bridge Club is holding two November championship games on November 14 and 28. In honor of Thanksgiving, Patti Frederick has scheduled a special holiday luncheon on November 20. This has become an annual event and one sure to be festive. Join the fun at 11:30 with the game to follow. Contributions of side dishes appropriate to the occasion would be greatly appreciated.

Be sure to keep an eye on the Unit 498 website for up to date information on all of the activities at our member clubs and announcements of unit games and associated sign-up opportunities. Check it out at [acblunit498.com](http://acblunit498.com).

A warm welcome to new Unit 498 members: Rosemary Bardi, David Duncan, Carl Ebeling, Laura Gallinetti, Lauren Rosen, Kathy Rudovsky, Brenda

Sell, Seva Sokolov, Weihong Tao, Huiwen Yang, and Nancy Zorfas. And congratulations to players advancing over the past months: to Club Master, Bob Farkas and Sarah Ryland; to Sectional Master, Kenneth Hui and Adolph Rosecrans; to Regional Master, Bob Gleason; and to NABC Master, Kal Aziz, Doriane Heyman, Bob Johnson, Ayako Narumi and Camele Wanat.

## Santa Cruz

*By Karen Schamberg*

The Santa Cruz Surf's Up Sectional was fun, beautifully organized, and well attended. Special thanks to Tom Burke, Chair, Sydney Reuben, Co-chair and to all the many people who helped with set up, clean up and food donations.



Mick Friedberg & Ken Llacera's between-sessions talk was right on point (especially for me) and enjoyed by those who attended.

Finishing in the top 25% of MP earners were: Mick Friedberg, Ken Llacera, Ken Gamble, Carol Maggipinto, Robin Evenden, Rich Hill, Jonni Faircrest, Susan Slinger, Jim Slinger, Rick Zinman and Josh Karter.

The Santa Cruz Bridge Education Foundation is hosting an ACBL Best Practices Teacher Workshop on December 29 & 30. One of only four in the United States this year, it's aimed at people who are thinking of teaching bridge, or are already a bridge teacher and want to improve & update their skills. More information can be found on the ACBL website or by contacting Susan Slinger at [sbertken@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sbertken@sbcglobal.net).

High scores in club games were earned by: Joanne Bruno & Phyllis Cramblet, 74%; and Harold Wasserstrom & Jan Winham, 71.35%. In newcomer games, high scores were earned by: John Wesolowski & Michael Burk, 73.33%.

Milestones this month were attained by: Joanne Brown, Ruby Life Master; Janet Tainty, Bronze Life Master; and Carol Cowen and John Walker. Sectional Masters.

Voting has opened for the Unit 550 Board of Directors. Ballots are available at the club. Election results will be announced at our Annual Meeting and Holiday Party on December 1.

The NAP Unit Qualifier, a one-session stratified

game, will be November 10 at 10 a.m. While the game is open to all players, only those who have qualified previously at the club level are eligible to advance to the District NAP finals.

We lost a friend in Cheryl Keay. I asked some folks for reflections and was overwhelmed by the responses. Here's just a few of them: Cheryl viewed bridge as she did life; a game worthwhile if one didn't take it too seriously. She brought joy and laughter to the table. Her bids were aggressive but she never complained if you screwed up a hand. She was an ideal partner, in it for the game, not the points.

A good friend who loved playing bridge, she had a winsome way of life and was a real chatterbox with panache and enthusiasm. She enjoyed socializing, going out to dinner, movies, or just visiting friends and she appreciated hearing the latest gossip.

She loved her grandchildren and recently went surfing with them; imagine how she felt when she managed to stand up on her surfboard. Cheryl was a person the loss of whom will leave a mark. She'll be missed by everyone who sat at the bridge table with her and our condolences go out to her family.

Unit 550 offers games most days and several evenings, many of which include lessons. Visit us at [www.santacruzbridge.org](http://www.santacruzbridge.org) and on Facebook. As a reminder, the SCBC is a fragrance-free venue; please use unscented, non-perfumed products.

## **Santa Rosa/Petaluma**

*By Cecelia Zachar*

The Santa Rosa/Petaluma unit hosted another successful fall sectional on September 29 and 30. Co-chairs Maxine Reagh and Jane Bender made putting on a sectional look easy through their thoughtful preparation, incredible organization, and lots of hard work. Attendance was a bit down from last spring but perhaps people get the travel bug in the fall when crowds are down and weather is still nice.

Thanks to everyone who pitched in with yummy snacks and helped setting up and taking down the tables and chairs. Thanks also to all the players who contributed to tipping our wonderful caddies, Freya, Emmet and Aiden. They each received \$123.00! Boy, were they happy!

In the Saturday Stratified Pairs event, Sara Rothmuller and Erwin Linzner were first in A and Lynn Dondero and Karen Rocco in C in the Open

game. In the other room, Alan Loebel and David Anderson were 1st overall in D, and Henry Gaw and Betty Souch were 1st overall in E & F.

In addition, the following unit players scored a section top for their strat: Tony Jackson, Randee Dimond, Paul Scheinberg, Larry Wyner, Nancy Gunn, Debbie Tesler, and Joanne Pransky, Barbara Norman, Linda Marin, Karen Weissberg, Cathy Netz, Phyllis Rader, Jock Rader, Janice Lee, Gail Whooley, Jane Bender, Mimi Armstrong, Helen Yost, and Michele Stephens.

In the Sunday Swiss Teams 1st in A and AX were Randy Ryals, Carol Kemper, Paul Cornelius, and Stephanie Singer, none of whom is in our unit. Second place were Jennifer Jones, Sara Rothmuller, David Pankratz, and Kathy Venton.

In the B/C/D section 1st went to Nancy Rude, Lee Grams, Theila Smith, and John Vion. Taking 2nd place in B, 1st in C, were Karen Weissberg, Carolyn Farren, Paulette Moe, and Cathy Netz. First in D were Christine Koehler, Dennis Sturdevant, Robert Goetzinger, and Lynda McGuire. Congratulations all!

The Bridge Gallery will be continuing a new class called What to Do When You Haven't Got a Cue. The November sessions are Michaels Cue Bid on November 6, Cue Bidding on Our Way to Slam on November 13, and Cue Bids That Show Stoppers and Those That Deny Them, Western and Invisible Cue Bids, and Doubling a Cue Bid on November 20. Classes are Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 and cost \$15 per class. Contact Kathy at [bridgegalleryca@gmail.com](mailto:bridgegalleryca@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending.

There were six 70%+ games since the last Diamond in the Ruff. At the Bridge Gallery, Abbe Cohen and Bob Klein scored 71.25 on October 8, Abbe Cohen and Randee Dimond scored 70.83 on October 13, Cris and Paul Pecknold scored 74.17 on October 17, and Jacqueline Ortiz and Larry Borsian scored 71.88 on October 19. In Petaluma, David Pankratz and Bob Klein scored 71.43 on October 4 and 72.32 on October 6.

Eleven players moved up in Master rank in September: (Junior) Jeremy Brott, Lee Fitzsimons, Richard Wuerthner; (Sectional) Kim Fusch, Robert Goetzinger, Bruce Mahood; (Regional) Enid Barnes, Maxine Reagh, Pam Schrock; (Life) Jim O'Brien; (Silver Life) Nancy Johnson. Congratulations all!

## Silicon Valley

*By Ray Yuenger*

Our Unit 507 holiday party is scheduled for Sunday, November 18. Again it will be a potluck dinner with the unit providing meats. Dinner will begin at 5 p.m. with a stratified pairs unit game to follow and a separate beginner section if the turnout warrants.



The event will be in the Roosevelt Room at the Campbell Community Center. Please sign up at the San Jose Bridge Center and list your contributions.

At the Seaside Regional, Marcia & Bob Dean were on a winning knockout team.

At the Santa Cruz sectional, Stephen Tu placed first in the two-session open pairs event and in the Swiss teams. Dorr Clark & Preston Kauk were first in their stratification. Mindy Foos & Michael Fleisher had a section top as did Leila Sink. Irene & Steven Jacobson were first in a limited pairs game.

I attended the Sparks/Reno regional for the first time. I was surprised at the small turnout. I know it's just getting started, but the hotel is quite affordable and my room wasn't lacking amenities. Amar Chunder's team won a knockout.

Earning strat tops in two-session pairs game were Frank Xie (twice), Stephen Tu & Mike Cailean, and Tony Trebaol. Earning section tops in two-session pairs games were Stephen Tu and Bruce Luttrell.

Congratulations to our unit's newest Masters: Min Bai, Chao-Hung Chen, Charlie Chen, Benjamin Darnell, Kayden Ge, Murarka Prabhu Dayal, Anoop Singhal (Junior); Monica Bacon-Proctor Will Kenigsberg, Bill Roman (Club); Barry Alhadeff, Limin He (Sectional); Marie Chong, Ashwini Datar, Thomas Morse, Tillie Myers, Gobind Sadarangany (Regional); Susan Dietz, Pamela Meckenstock (NABC); Wanwan Ren (Life); Lynn Bartz, Dee Ann Hansen, Linda Nemmer (Silver).

There's a new coffee maker at the San Jose Bridge Center and the chairs should be a little more stable after some screw tightening and replacement. Next month I'll have the results of our fall sectional.

## Stockton

*By Debbie DeZarn*

October was Club Appreciation Month so lots of extra points games were available. Both the Oak Park and Stockton Clubs had good attendance even with many players off at regionals, cruises, or other bridge related vacations. We also had some really big games: Jon Bearg and Jerry Baba scored 72.92% at the last September Open Game at Oak Park. Congratulations!



The other big games were all by Ann and Bill Nutting: 74% at the Senior Game October 5, 73.14% at Oak Park October 10, and 72.84% at a Stockton Club Game October 15. I'd like to say a few more nice things about Bill and Ann. They have been steady bridge partners for over 33 years and been married for almost as long. Bill can play excellent bridge while watching a Giants game on his lap.

Ann creates her own bridge themed clothes which are fun to see at club games and tournaments. They win a lot of points at the Stockton clubs so have become the team we all love to beat, but they give back much to our unit as well. Bill is the club manager and Ann serves on the board of directors and they co-direct the Monday game. They keep the computer running and updated and are available by phone at any time to help solve problems.

I am a new director and they helped me through my first game when I couldn't figure out how to put in a phantom pair. Then they bailed me out again, bolting down their just served restaurant lunch, to get to the club when the Bridgemates seemed to go haywire at the start of my first solo directing gig. Many thanks to both of them, especially to Ann for answering her phone.

Congratulations are in order for Marilyn Rickard and Jenny Lind who placed first in the Stratified Open Pairs afternoon session at the Modesto Sectional Tournament. It was especially sweet as the Nuttings were also competing along with another "A" team.

Our first (in several years) 99er game was held October 16. Players included students from Lorna Crooks' class on converting to the Two Over One System and most had under 20 points. The winners were Elaine Conner and Maria Uriz. Similar special games might become regular in 2019. Thank you

Ken Hillman for putting in the “no plays” at the end of the game that had the Bridgemate problem. Some of the players said they knew people looking for a beginning bridge class so I’d like to let them know that Jon Bearg does plan to teach such a class at Delta College beginning in January (Spring Semester). The time and dates are not yet confirmed. Stay tuned! More info will be available in December.

Korey Baumbach is now directing the unit game on the 3rd Sunday each month. I am so happy to

have another active director with whom to consult regarding tricky situations.

A new to Stockton player, Usha Bansal, began joining in at the Stockton Club in October. She has been a great addition to the partner pool. Welcome Usha.

The Oak Park club will be closed on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and there will be no intermediate game on Thanksgiving Day, nor the following Thursday.

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

# Diablo Valley Unit 499

## Fall Sectional



**November 10 – 11, 2018**

**Dougherty Valley High School**

**10550 Albion Rd. San Ramon, CA 94582**

Presented by Diablo Valley Unit 499 (<http://diablovalleybridge.com>)

**Saturday, November 10th**

### 10:00 AM

Two Session Stratified Open Pairs (session 1)  
(0-4000/4000+)  
Two Session 0-2500 Mid-Flight Pairs (session 1)  
0-1500/1500-2500  
Single Session Stratified Pairs\*:  
Open (0-750/750-2000/2000+)  
499er (0-100/100-300/300-500)  
99er (0-20/20-50/50-100)

### 2:30 PM

Two Session Stratified Open Pairs (session 2)  
(0-4000/4000+)  
Two Session 0-2500 Mid-Flight Pairs (session 2)  
0-1500/1500-2500  
Single Session Stratified Pairs\*:  
Open (0-750/750-2000/2000+)  
499er (0-100/100-300/300-500)  
99er (0-20/20-50/50-100)

\* Games and strats will be adjusted based on attendance.

### **Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>**

**10:00 AM & TBD: Bracketed Swiss Teams.** Brackets posted at tournament. **Teams must play both sessions.** 7 rounds/7 boards (lowest bracket plays 7 rounds/6 boards). 20 VP Scale for all brackets. Brackets based on team masterpoint average. Teams may elect to play in top bracket.

**Table fees:** \$12 per session (lapsed ACBL members \$16); non-ACBL members must join on a temporary basis to play.

**Tournament Director:** Lynn Yokel. ACBL Sanction #:1811038

**Tournament Chair:** Anne Hollingsworth @ (925) 899-7543 or [scootcat@pacbell.net](mailto:scootcat@pacbell.net)

**Partnerships:** Please use Unit 499's Google Groups to find a partner <http://groups.google.com/group/bridgepartner499>  
You may also contact Anne Hollingsworth @ (925) 899-7543 or [scootcat@pacbell.net](mailto:scootcat@pacbell.net) for assistance. Please do not attend without a partner or teammates.

**Food:** Refreshments. Lunch for purchase on Saturday and Sunday

#### Directions:

- From Highway 680 exit at Bollinger Canyon Rd. Head east for 3.92 miles. At Albion Rd, turn left.
- From I-580, exit at Dougherty Rd S and head north on Dougherty Rd S; at Y in road, stay to the right to continue on Bollinger Canyon. From I-580 exit, distance is about 5.7 miles. At Albion Rd, turn right.

Go to the light at Arrowfield Way, and turn left into the school entrance. After turning into the school, look for the parking on your right under the solar panels.

web site: [www.eastbayunit-502.com](http://www.eastbayunit-502.com)



## *East Bay 2-Day Fall Sectional*

**OAKLAND MASONIC CENTER**  
3903 Broadway, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**



# Sacramento Unit 505 2018 Winter Sectional

Friday, Saturday & Sunday  
Nov. 30th, Dec. 1st & 2nd

Orangevale Community Center  
6826 Hazel Avenue  
Orangevale, CA 95662

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, November 30th**

**9:30 am**

Non Life Master Seminar

Presenter: Jim Bowman

**Master point awards are silver**

**Sanction # S1812021**

**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 5:30 pm

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

Strats: 4000+/0-4000

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

1000-2500 / 500-1000 / 0-500

No one over 2500 MPs may play

**Entries \$12 per Session**

**Unpaid ACBL Members \$16**

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

**Partnerships**

Miriam Steinberg

Cell: 916-607-4947

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

Marc Grunseth

916-971-3988

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

All Events Use Pair/Team Averages

All Strats may be adjusted

by the Director

Based upon attendance

Director in Charge

Steve Kaessner

**Tournament Chair**

Dave Willmott

916-709-8958

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

**Tournament Co-Chair**

Sam Sandusky

916-705-5557

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

A Zero Tolerance Event  
Please avoid wearing perfumes and fragrances that may cause allergic reactions

**Hospitality Chair**

**Sharon Neff**

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

Lunch available Daily

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

**American Contract Bridge League, District 21**





American Contract  
Bridge League

ACBL



## Best Practices Teacher Workshop

Are you thinking of teaching bridge? Or, are you already a bridge teacher and want to improve/update your skills? Come to the ACBL's **Best Practices Teacher Workshop**, December 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, hosted by Unit 550 and the Santa Cruz Bridge Education Foundation at the Santa Cruz Bridge Center.

- Try new ways of teaching & exchange feedback in small groups!
  - Join the vanguard of Best Practices Teachers
  - Earn accreditation as an ACBL Best Practices Teacher! (Extra Charge)

Here's what teachers are saying about the workshop:

*"Completely reordered my thinking" "Taught me how to be a GOOD teacher. Great ideas with lots of practice" "Clear, precise and interactive" "Gave new tools to use in teaching bridge and the confidence to use them" "Excellent framework, guidelines, & ideas" "Wonderful & fast moving"*

--- Participant quotes from the Philadelphia and Atlanta NABC workshops

### Teacher Options

- ❖ ***Best Practices Teacher Workshop*** For teachers seeking ACBL certification and others interested in updating their teaching dynamics. Duration: 1 ½ days.

**Date & Time:** Saturday, December 29, 8am-5pm and Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, 8am-noon.

**Fee:** \$75 (\$50 Unit 550 members)

- ❖ ***Best Practices Proficiency Demo's*** For those seeking an ACBL *Best Practices Teacher Certification* (participation in a BP Teacher Workshop required). Duration: 20 minute per teacher.

**Date & Time:** Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2-6pm.

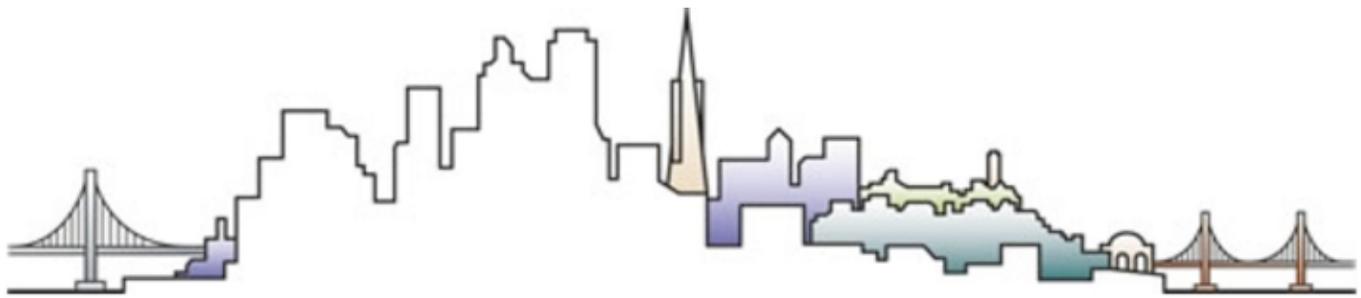
**Fee:** \$25.

For more information about BP Teacher Workshops, visit [acbl.org/bpteacher](http://acbl.org/bpteacher)

To register for the BP Teacher Workshop in Santa Cruz contact:

Susan Slinger: [sbertken@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sbertken@sbcglobal.net) or  
(831) 768-8758

\*\*\*Space Is Limited\*\*\*



# SAN FRANCISCO SECTIONAL

## January 12 & 13, 2019

### Janet Pomeroy Center

### 207 Skyline Blvd San Francisco

#### SATURDAY

10:30 am

Two Session Open Pairs  
Stratified at 0-750/2000/+

Single Session Open Pairs  
Stratified at 0-500/1500/+

Single Session Newcomer Pairs  
Stratified at 0-20/50/100

Single Session 499'er Pairs  
Stratified at 0-100/300/500  
*No player can have more than 500 MP*

3:00 pm

Second Session Open Pairs

Single Session Open Pairs  
Stratified at 0-200/500/+

Single Session Newcomer Pairs  
Stratified at 0-20/50/100

#### SUNDAY

10:30 am

Bracketed Swiss Teams  
4 rounds - 7 boards per Round  
Brackets based on average number of  
masterpoints for a team. Each team plays  
the other teams in its bracket except any  
team can choose to play in the top bracket

Single Session Open Pairs  
Stratified at 0-50/300/+

**\*FREE\*** Single Session Novice Pairs

0-10 Masterpoints only **(NO TABLE FEE!)**

3:00 pm

Second Session Swiss Teams  
3 Rounds - 7 Boards per Round

Single Session Open Pairs (24 boards)  
Stratified at 0-200/500/+

Strata for pairs events based on masterpoint average for the two players

TOURNAMENT CHAIR: Libby Noronha (415-627-8040; [libbynoronha@gmail.com](mailto:libbynoronha@gmail.com)) (email preferred)

PARTNERSHIPS: Joanne Allen (415-441-1736; [jma1017@comcast.net](mailto:jma1017@comcast.net)) (email preferred)

MID-CHART Conventions OK except for newcomer and 499er events

Per Session: \$12 Members \*\$16 Unpaid Members \*Half price for students under 25 yrs of age

LUNCH on both days provided by pre-purchased meal ticket at time of entry. \$5.00 sandwiches & side

Free coffee, tea and snacks

No need to pre-register, just show up! See [www.unit506.org](http://www.unit506.org) for directions to Pomeroy Center

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