

# DIAMOND IN THE RUFF

ACBL District 21 Newsletter

Vol 2, Number 4 August 2019

## Report from Las Vegas NABC

*By Ray Yuenger*

Here's a coincidence. The last time I wrote a District 21 ("D21") column was a day after my return from the Memphis nationals, and I'm writing this column a day after my return from the Las Vegas nationals, which are ongoing. As before, I'll report to you not just as District Vice-President, but also as the Chair of the D21 Youth Grant Program, the D21 Disciplinary Chair, and the Executive Editor of this newsletter.



### The Youth Grant Program

This year we had 40 applicants for grants to facilitate their attendance at the Youth NABC that began today (July 25) in Las Vegas, up from 32 applicants last year. With the help of my committee members, Marion Robertson and Katherine Ewing, we determined to give grants of \$280 to the 18 first-time applicants and \$225 to the 22 repeat applicants, staying within our program limit of \$10,000.

I'm not going to report on the partial results of an ongoing event. I will say that all but one of last year's grantees attended last year's Youth NABC. And I saw a healthy percentage of young players in Las Vegas before the Youth

*Continued on Page 3*

## District 21 Regionals

*By Pam Hughes, Regional Tournament Manager*

I hope all of you who attended the Las Vegas NABC had a wonderful time, and that you've recovered by now! Rest up because there is plenty of great bridge to come in District 21!



First up is the 85th All Western Championships in Santa Clara (August 27-September 2). If you have not reserved your room at the Hyatt you're in luck! There are still a few rooms available, but BOOK NOW because the cutoff date is soon. Book using the link on our district website ([www.d21acbl.com](http://www.d21acbl.com)), or call the Hyatt at (408) 200-1234. If you happen to miss out, contact me ([jmom380@yahoo.com](mailto:jmom380@yahoo.com)) - I may still be able to get you into the hotel. Also, if you have a room you're going to cancel, please let me know because I do keep a wait list.

For you locals, parking is still free for our group at the Hyatt. So, come and enjoy all the wonderful bridge events we have planned for you! We have new knockouts starting daily, morning and evening Swiss Teams, and Pair games for every level (Open, Mid-flight, Gold Rush, 299er, side - you name it, we've got it!). You can view a full schedule on either our district website (see above), or at ([www.d21acbl.com](http://www.d21acbl.com)).

*Continued on Page 5*

# Upcoming Tournaments

## Sectionals

Aug 3-4, 2019

San Mateo County Summer Sectional

Cañada College Cafeteria, Redwood City CA

**Aug 14-17, 2019**

**Reno 2019 August Sectional**

Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks NV

Aug 19-25, 2019

Western Conference Summer Fun STaC

Local clubs

**Sep 6-8, 2019**

**Sacramento Fall Sectional**

Orangevale Community Center, Orangevale CA

**Sep 14-15, 2019**

**Santa Cruz Surfs Up Sectional**

Mid-County Senior Center, Capitola CA

Sep 19-22, 2019

Carson-Tahoe Fall Sectional

Plaza Conference Center, Carson City NV

Sep 21-22, 2019

Unit 509 Santa Rosa/Petaluma Sectional

Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa CA

**Sep 21-22, 2019**

**Non-Life Master Sectional**

Palo Alto Bridge Center, Mountain View CA

**Sep 27-29, 2019**

**Sacramento Fall NLM Sectional**

Sacramento Bridge Center, Sacramento CA

Sep 28-29, 2019

Earthquake Sectional

Gilroy Senior Center, Gilroy CA

**Oct 4-6, 2019**

**Fresno Fall Sectional**

Fresno Bridge Center, Fresno CA

**Oct 5-6, 2019**

**Non-Life Master Sectional**

Fattoria e Mare, Burlingame CA

**Nov 2-3, 2019**

**Castro Valley Sectional**

Transfiguration Catholic Church, Castro Valley CA

**Nov 9-10, 2019**

**Diablo Valley Fall Sectional**

Dougherty Valley High School, San Ramon CA

**Nov 16-17, 2019**

**East Bay Fall Sectional**

Masonic Center, Oakland CA

**Nov 23, 2019**

**North American Pairs Flight B District Finals**

East Bay Community Bridge Center, Oakland CA

**Dec 6-8, 2019**

**Unit 505 Winter Sectional**

Sacramento Bridge Center, Sacramento CA

**Dec 9-15, 2019**

**Great Western Holiday STaC**

Local clubs

**Jan 4-5, 2020**

**North American Pairs Flights A & C District Finals**

Fattoria e Mare Restaurant, Burlingame CA

**Jan 18-19, 2020**

**San Francisco Sectional**

Janet Pomeroy Center, San Francisco CA

**Jan 25-26, 2020**

**Livermore Valley Sectional**

Christensen Middle School, Livermore CA

**Jan 25-26, 2020**

**Palo Alto Bridge Club Sectional**

Palo Alto Bridge Club, Mountain View CA

## Regionals

Aug 27-Sep 2, 2019

All Western Championships

Hyatt Regency Santa Clara,  
Santa Clara CA

**Oct 7-13, 2019**

Reno/Sparks Regional

Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks NV

**Jan 6-12, 2020**

**Monterey Clambake Regional**

Hyatt Regency, Monterey CA

events began. Of course I consider even a few young players healthy for the continued existence of the ACBL. I would have liked to stick around in Las Vegas to observe the Youth NABC in action, but wasn't able to line up partners for the end of the nationals. (And I have to admit I was glad to return to Campbell, where today's high was merely 88 degrees, not 105, a good temperature for writing this column in air-conditioning.)

## **Disciplinary Matters**

Switching to my Disciplinary Chair hat, no, I'm not going to report on any confidential discipline imposed on misbehaving players. I am going to report on some changes to the disciplinary structure made at the recent meeting of the ACBL's Board of Directors ("BoD") in Las Vegas. In case you didn't know, the BoD meets in advance of the nationals to make decisions about the future of the bridge league.

The BoD has finally defined "collusive cheating" as "An agreement made between two or more people, at least one of whom is a contestant, to exchange or pass information illicitly. This section includes agreements made by persons who are not partners or contestants, including, but not limited to kibitzers or teammates." I say "finally" because it was in July 2009 that the BoD amended the Code of Disciplinary Regulations to impose serious punishment on any participant in any ACBL-sanctioned who was either convicted of or confessed to collusive cheating. I've been arguing that a definition has been needed to give guidance to future disciplinary proceedings.

Not to preempt a future column by Jackie Zayac, our D21 Director, discussing recent BoD

decisions, I'd also like to mention a significant change effective January 1, 2020. A motion passed providing in part: "The positions of Unit Recorder and Unit Disciplinary Chair are eliminated. All disciplinary matters previously managed by Units will be managed by Districts. For disciplinary matters in a District the District President shall be the Charging Party unless otherwise specified in the District's bylaws." Further, "District Recorders will appoint Assistant Recorders. If a Unit requests that one of its members be an Assistant Recorder, such a request shall not be unreasonably denied.

Robb Gordon, the ACBL's National Recorder, gave the following reasons for this change in the Tuesday Daily Bulletin in Las Vegas. "1. Many units are small and don't have enough volunteers (or they don't have people willing to take on these tasks). 2. We have 25 districts and about 300 units. We want to have all disciplinary actions handled in a way consistent with our Code of Disciplinary Regulations. It is very difficult to keep 600 unit officials trained and current, especially with turnover that the Office of National Recorder might not even be aware of. 3. Units are sometimes so close-knit that it can be hard to find a panel that has no conflicts with either side. 4. There are so few cases that it is impossible for disciplinary personnel to keep their skills fresh. During 2018, for example, unit recorders dealt with 55 cases total ACBL-wide."

As a former unit disciplinary chair, I have no big objection to this change. After all, it was in August 2007 that the BoD eliminated the jurisdiction of unit disciplinary chairs and recorders over most misbehavior in club games, excepting only complaints of alleged cheating by use of signals, other unauthorized information, other forms of cheating, or serious breaches of ethics. Units retained jurisdiction

over all behavior at their sectionals and at unit games, but the jurisdictional limits have not been well understood. As the D21 Disciplinary Chair, I fortunately have had few charges to resolve, but I have been actively involved advising unit officers how to handle potential charges of misbehavior in club games.

If you are currently a unit recorder, you should start thinking about whether you'd like to be appointed an Assistant Recorder next year by the D21 Recorder, now Kate Hill.

### **Editorial Matters**

Switching to my Executive Editor hat, I'd like to note the risks of publishing news. Whether or not you attended the Las Vegas nationals, you would have read in Monday's Daily Bulletin that D21 members Ed Nagy & Gary Soules won the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs. Their photo was prominently displayed on page 1.

Well, the Tuesday Bulletin issued a correction. This pair had placed second at the end of the event. According to the Bulletin, a series of scoring corrections temporarily elevated them to first (when the Monday Bulletin was being written) and later dropped them back to second.

I ran into Ed at dinner on Wednesday. He told me that he never believed they had won. There was a scoring correction involved the first-place pair that could have affected the standings, and Ed had a pending appeal that also could have affected the standings, but the appeal was unsuccessful. Second place is still a fantastic accomplishment.

Finally, I have recently gained some insight into why some D21 members continue not to receive my emails at the beginning of every month distributing the latest edition of this newsletter, even though the ACBL has their current email addresses. The ACBL has

partnered with Pianola to have mass emails distributed by Pianola. While Pianola has some methods to avoid appearing as spam to an email service provider, some providers use a kind of artificial intelligence to detect and block what looks like spam under their criteria. So if your email address is at AOL.com, for example, AOL.com may well have automatically blocked simultaneous mass messages sent by [emailservices@acbl.org](mailto:emailservices@acbl.org) or [emailservices@acbl.com](mailto:emailservices@acbl.com) without asking you, as the recipient, whether you consider the messages to be spam.

If Pianola receives a notice from an email service provider of a blocked or bounced message, it will remove that address from its mailing list, without notifying the sender. Pianola says it hopes to automate such a notification process because it is too burdensome to perform manually.

Meanwhile, Pianola will instantly report to me on the number of newsletter emails I send every month (it has been around 5,690 until last month, when it mysteriously increased to 6,935), but I have no way of seeing a list of the recipients or whose addresses have been removed from Pianola's list.

If you suspect your spam blocker has been overactive, you'll need to look into what messages have been blocked and notify your email service provider that the above senders shouldn't be blocked. After that, you'll need to email James Ward at [james@pianola.net](mailto:james@pianola.net) to have your email address added to the mailing list. The mass mailings are a free service provided to district and units by the ACBL, but I'm frustrated every month when I hear that someone hasn't received this newsletter, and I wish there was another solution than burdening the recipients with the steps above.

A few months back I was about to post these unblocking instructions on the D21 website, but here they are instead.

acbl.org). If you have any questions email me, I'm here to help!

For you newer players out there, don't forget the special day we're devoting to you on Friday August 30, at 1:00 and 7:00. We'll be running both 299er and 99er games that day. Entry fees are discounted (\$10 for one session or \$15 for both). There will be special prizes, snacks, and advanced players available for you to ask questions about those pesky hands.

Don't miss this fun event! Every player will receive a registration gift, and a coupon good for a half-price entry on Saturday or Sunday. The room rate at the Hyatt is \$139 August 29-September 2, so you can even plan to stay on and enjoy the free lectures and special Intermediate/Novice events we'll be offering over the long weekend (including the free student game for players with 0-5 masterpoints on Saturday at 1:00). Booking info for the Hyatt Santa Clara is three paragraphs up.

Right around the corner is our Reno Regional at the lovely Nugget Casino and Resort in Sparks. This tournament is new but it's a lot of fun. The venue is fantastic and the price can't be beat. I suggest you book your room in the Resort Tower (even though it's a \$10 upgrade), because the rooms are newly remodeled, far from the Casino (no smoke), and the elevator for that tower will drop you right in the tournament area. You can book using our online link or call the Nugget at (800) 648-1177 - ask for Group Code GACBL19.

This year in Reno we are going to have events at 10:00 and 3:00, with side games and extra Gold Rush events available at 7:30. Some of you have been asking for this schedule and we've been listening! Here's your chance to have all your bridge for the day

finished in time to have a nice dinner and an enjoyable evening of entertainment in Reno. We've condensed the events schedule to build up the fields in all events. There are still new team events starting daily, and a variety of pair games every session (including a record EIGHT Gold Rush events!). This schedule is also available for viewing online.

And - it's not too early to make your reservations for Monterey, January 6-12, 2020! Don't miss out on the bridge rate of \$122. As always you can use the online booking link on our website ([www.d21acbl.com](http://www.d21acbl.com)), or call the Hyatt at (831) 372-1234.

There's plenty of bridge in your future! So make all your reservations and rest up. See you there!

## District 21 2020 GNTs

*By Grant Vance, D21 GNT Coordinator*

District 21 will once again be able to send two Flight B and two Flight C teams to the National Final in Montreal, beginning July 16, 2020. This is contingent on at least 8 teams entering each of these Flights, a threshold we have easily reached each recent year. The D21 Board has also voted to offer a stipend to the second place teams, beginning in 2020.



The schedule and locations for all Flights is now posted on the D21 website. Please note that if ANY Flight has more than 16 entries, there will be a 5th session of play, taking place on the following Sunday.

The Final round of the Flight B and Flight C events will additionally include a playoff between the 3rd and 4th place teams. This will determine the first substitute team, in the event either the first or second place teams choose not to attend Montreal.

## NAPs - The Next Level

By Stu Goodgold, District 21 NAP Coordinator

North American Pairs (NAP) are one of two events that start at the club level and proceed all the way to a NABC final. (GNTs are the other). There are 3 strats at the club level that carry over all the way to the championship events: A=open; B=0-2500; C=0-500 NLM.



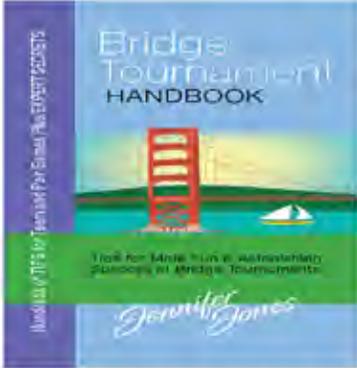
Right now your local clubs are holding NAP club qualifiers through August. To go to the next level you must obtain a qualification from at least one club. You can play in as many club qualifiers as you want.

The next level is a unit qualifier. If you Q at the club level you are eligible to play in one and only one unit qualifier. Unit qualifiers are held between Sept 3 and Nov 17. Qualify at the unit level and you can play in the D21 District NAP finals. Finish in the top 3 (Flt A) or 4 (Flt B or C) and you earn a stipend to play in the championships next spring at the NABC in Columbus, OH.

As of this writing, 16 of our 21 units in D21 have scheduled unit NAP qualifiers. You can

play in any unit's qualifier; it doesn't have to be your own unit. But again, you can play in only one. To find which is most convenient for you and your partner, see the D21 NAP web page: <http://www.d21acbl.com/tournaments/nap/2020/nap2020.htm>.

**NEW!** From Jennifer Jones  
Author of Losing Trick Count  
Volume I & Volume II



**Bridge Tournament Handbook**  
Tips for more fun and astonishing success at bridge tournaments  
**\$14.95**  
plus shipping/handling

**TOPICS INCLUDE:**

- Improving Focus and Memory
- Tips for Pair and Team Games
- Declarer Play Tip: Counting
- Defensive Tip: Carding and Signals
- Types of NABC Games
- Expert Secrets and More!

Available now at [Jennbridge.blogspot.com](http://Jennbridge.blogspot.com)

**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!**

# SPECIAL EVENT FOR PLAYERS WITH 0 - 299 MASTERPOINTS ON AUGUST 30, 2019

*By Jackie Zayac*

If you will have fewer than 250 masterpoints on Friday, August 30, 2019, you are encouraged to play in two special games at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. held in conjunction with the All-Western Regional at the Hyatt Regency Santa Clara.

The Wild West 99ers games are for players with 0 – 99 masterpoints. Players with 0 – 299 masterpoints may play in The Branding Iron 299ers games. Each player who attends will receive:

- A registration gift. (IT'S A GREAT GIFT!)
- Mentors will be available after each game to answer any bidding or playing questions. (A PRICELESS GIFT!)
- If you play on this day, you will receive 50% off any Saturday, Sunday OR Monday game. (WHAT A DEAL!)

This is a chance for you to experience a Regional Tournament and possibly earn some red points too!

These games are a wonderful opportunity for you to play in a Regional Tournament to prepare for the North American Bridge Championships (NABC) coming to San Francisco from November 28 – December 8, 2019.

If you have any questions about this special event, please contact Pam Hughes, Tournament Manager at [jmom380@yahoo.com](mailto:jmom380@yahoo.com) or Jackie Zayac, District 21 Director, at [jackiezayac@gmail.com](mailto:jackiezayac@gmail.com).

Pam and I are very excited to offer this special event for you and we hope you will make plans to attend now!

# Western Conference Summer Fun STAC XII



Like to win 15-20 Silver Points while playing in a Club Game?

**August 19-25, 2019**

*Well, the odds might be STACed a little against you, but it's possible during the Western Conference Summer Fun Sectional Tournament at Clubs*

***One of the Three Largest Sectionals in ACBL!***

***TheWesternConference.com/STAC/***



# WANTED

**All Units Send Your Players For a Special Event**  
held in conjunction with the All-Western Regional  
Friday August 30th, 2019



All 0-99 masterpoint players a.k.a.  
**THE WILD WEST 99ers**

All 0-299 masterpoint players a.k.a.  
**THE BRANDING IRON 299ers**



Two chances to Play - play one or Both Sessions  
1:00 and 7:00  
Special Reduced Entry Rate!  
\$10 per person for one session or play both for \$15!!!

### Prizes for the Winners!

- Registration Gift for all players
- Mentors available to answer bidding and playing questions after the games
- Play today and receive 50% off any Saturday, Sunday and Monday Game!
- Prizes provided by the Brian Haley Memorial Fund

for information:

Pam Hughes  
Tournament Manager  
jmom380@yahoo.com

Jackie Zayac  
District 21 Director  
jackiezayac@gmail.com

at the  
**Hyatt Regency Santa Clara**  
5101 Great American Parkway  
Santa Clara, CA 95054  
408-200-1234  
800-233-1234

Room Rates  
Thurs Aug 29 - Mon Sept 2 - \$139

DISTRICT 21 ACBL PRESENTS

# 85<sup>th</sup> ALL WESTERN



# CHAMPIONSHIPS

August 27 - September 2, 2019

## \*Tournament Highlights\*

All Western Open Pairs Championship

Saturday and Sunday

- New Knockouts Daily
- Six Days of 0-750 Gold Pairs
- Three Stratified Side Game Series
- Daylight Pairs  
Wednesday - Sunday at 10 & 3
- Celebrity Speakers  
6:15-6:45 Wednesday-Sunday
- Special Event for 99er/299er Friday
- 0-5 mp's play free Saturday!

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

Reserve EARLY for the  
**BRIDGE RATE**  
 Mon-Wed \$209  
 Thurs-2nd Mon \$139

408-200-1234  
 800-233-1234

**LIMITED PARKING!  
 REMEMBER TO CARPOOL**

**ENTRIES \$12**  
 Unpaid ACBL members \$16  
 Non-members will be required to become members by either purchasing an annual membership, or a \$7.99 special monthly membership.

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

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

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

**Intermediate/Newcomer Events**

299er Pairs Daily at 9, 1 & 7  
 Bridge Concepts Lectures  
 with Scott Campbell  
 Wednesday thru Sunday at Noon  
 Free game for 0-5mp's Sat. 1:00  
 For advance partnership help, use  
[partnership@acbl.org](mailto:partnership@acbl.org)

Ken Horwedel - Director in Charge ACBL Sanction R1909041

**DISTRICT 21: Upbeat Bridge....Low Key Atmosphere!**  
 Like us on FACEBOOK [www.facebook.com/d21acbl](http://www.facebook.com/d21acbl)

Bye-bye version 4.3.7.2019

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

## August 27 - September 2, 2019

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

### Tuesday, August 27

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

### Wednesday, August 28

- 9am **KIT CARSON KOs** – round 2  
Morning Side Pairs 1st of 5  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **WEDNESDAY DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1pm Pony Express Side Pairs 3rd of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+**  
**STRATIFIED MID-FLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000**  
**GOLDEN SPIKE PAIRS 0-300/750**  
**WYATT EARP BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Thursday 1 & 7  
**KIT CARSON KOs 3 & 4**
- 7pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Pony Express Side Pairs 4th of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs

### Thursday, August 29

- 9am **GOODWILL SWISS TEAMS** – 1st of 2  
Morning Side Pairs 2nd of 5  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **THURSDAY DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1pm Pony Express Side Pairs 5th of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+**  
**STRATIFIED MID-FLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000**  
**CHEROKEE GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750**  
**SIERRA BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Friday 1 & 7  
**WYATT EARP KOs 3 & 4**
- 7pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Pony Express Side Pairs 6th of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs

### Friday, August 30

- 9am **GOODWILL SWISS TEAMS**– round 2  
Morning Side Pairs 3rd of 5  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **FRIDAY DAYLIGHT PAIRS**
- 1pm Stagecoach Side Pairs 1st of 6  
Wild West 99er Pairs  
Branding Iron 299er Pairs
- 1 & 7 **STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+**  
**STRATIFIED MID-FLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000**  
**SASPARILLA GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750**  
**APACHE BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Saturday 1 & 7  
**SIERRA KOs 3 & 4**
- 7pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Stagecoach Side Pairs 2nd of 6  
Wild West 99er Pairs  
Branding Iron 299er Pairs

### Saturday, August 31

- 9am **DOC HOLLIDAY SWISS TEAMS** 1st of 2  
Morning Side Pairs 4th of 5  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**ANNIE OAKLEY GOLD RUSH PAIRS 0-300/750**
- 1pm **FREE GAME 0-5 mp's** (attendance permitting)  
Stagecoach Side Pairs 3rd of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **ALL WESTERN OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP**  
2 qualifying sessions Saturday  
2 final sessions Sunday  
**O.K. CORRAL BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Sunday at 1 & 7  
**APACHE KOs 3 & 4**
- 7pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Stagecoach Side Pairs 4th of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs

### Sunday, September 1

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

### Monday, September 2

- \*\*\*EARLY START - All games at 10am\*\*\***  
**STRAT A/X/Y TEAMS 0-3000/3000-5000/5000+**  
**0-2500 mp ROUND ROBIN TEAMS**
- 10am •No individual player over 2000 mp  
& •Typically brackets of eight, three gold overall  
TBA places per bracket.  
•Teams may not withdraw after one session.
- SENIOR SWISS TEAMS(60 years+)**  
**FAST STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS**  
10am and TBA with a short break  
299er Stratified Pairs 10am only

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

**Stratified Events Key Unless otherwise posted.**

**A 2500+ B 1000 – 2500 C 0 - 1000**  
Eligibility is based on masterpoint total of top player.  
Stratification is determined by average of pair/team

KO Events with only one Bracket may be Handicapped

DISTRICT 21 ACBL PRESENTS

# Reno Regional

October 7-13, 2019

\*\*\*NEW EVENT TIMES - 10:00 & 3:00\*\*\*

with extra events at 7:30

\*\*\* A Record Eight Gold Rush Pair Events \*\*\*

Come and strike it rich!

## \*Tournament Highlights\*

- New Team Events Daily
- Eight Gold Rush Pair Events
- Three Stratified Side Game Series
- Side Games at every 10:00, 3:00 & 7:30 session

## Intermediate/Newcomer Events

299er Pairs Daily at 10, 3 & 7:30

Bridge Concepts Lectures  
with Scott Campbell

Tuesday through Saturday at 9:00am

Free Student Game (0-5 MP's) Sat. 10:00

### 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.

For information contact:

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

Partnership: Rich Scoggins (775) 972-3962

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

Please comply with D21's Pet Policy. See website for details.  
Schedule subject to change.

- Resort Tower Rooms and Meeting Spaces are Newly Renovated!
- 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
- 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

\$104+tax Friday & Saturday

- Casino Tower

\$59+tax Sunday - Thursday

\$94+tax Friday - Saturday

For Reservations:

800-648-1177

or book on our D21 website link  
or [www.nuggetcasinoresort.com](http://www.nuggetcasinoresort.com)  
use Group Code: GACBL19

# Nugget

CASINO RESORT

1100 Nugget Avenue, Sparks, NV 89431

Lynn Yokel, Director in Charge  
ACBL Sanction R1910038

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

# Reno Regional October 7-13, 2019

at the Nugget Casino & Resort 800-648-1177

## Monday, October 7

- 1pm Sparks Side Pairs 1 of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**NUGGET GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750**
- 7pm Sparks Side Pairs 2 of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs

## Tuesday, October 8

- 10am Sparks Side Pairs 3 of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**PROSPECTOR GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750**  
**NORTHSTAR BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Wednesday at 10 & 3
- 3pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Sparks Side Pairs 4 of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 730pm **BONANZA GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750 1 of 2**  
continues Wednesday at 7:30 pm  
Evening Side Pairs 1 of 5  
299er Stratified Pairs

## Wednesday, October 9

- 10am Sparks Side Pairs 5 of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**EUREKA! GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750**  
**LOVELOCK BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Thursday at 10 & 3  
**NORTHSTAR KOs 3 & 4**
- 3pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Sparks Side Pairs 6 of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 730pm **BONANZA GOLD PAIRS 2 of 2**  
Evening Side Pairs 2 of 5  
299er Stratified Pairs

## Thursday, October 10 GOODWILL DAY

- 10am Sierra Side Pairs 1 of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**LOVELOCK GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750**  
**ALPINE BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS**  
**LOVELOCK BRACKETED KOs 3 & 4**
- 3pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Sierra Side Pairs 2 of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 730pm **HEAVENLY GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750 1 of 2**  
continues Friday at 7:30 pm  
Evening Side Pairs 3 of 5  
299er Stratified Pairs

## Friday, October 11

- 10am Sierra Side Pairs 3 of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**BLACKJACK GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750**  
**PONDEROSA BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2**  
continues Saturday at 10 & 3
- 3pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Sierra Side Pairs 4 of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 730pm **HEAVENLY GOLD PAIRS 2 of 2**  
Evening Side Pairs 4 of 5  
299er Stratified Pairs

## Saturday, October 12

- 10am Sierra Side Pairs 5 of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs  
Free Student Game 0-5 masterpoints
- 10 & 3 **OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+**  
**PROSPECTOR GOLD PAIRS 0-200/400/750**  
**TAHOE BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS**  
**PONDEROSA BRACKETED KOs 3 & 4**
- 3pm Stratified Swiss Teams  
Sierra Side Pairs 6 of 6  
299er Stratified Pairs
- 730pm Evening Side Pairs 5 of 5  
299er Stratified Pairs

## Sunday, October 13

- STRAT A/X 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  
299er Swiss Teams (10am and TBA with a short break)

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

October 5 - 1000 1, 2019



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

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

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

**Choose the Level of Naming Rights to Fit Your Wishes!**

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

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

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Karen Bode, Lincoln CA, 505  
Marcia Bohan, Berkeley CA, 502  
Ying Chow, Los Altos CA, 503  
Wil Dopkins, Carmichael CA, 505  
Janet Douglas, El Dorado Hills CA, 505  
Daniel Duffin, Moss Beach CA, 498  
Sarah Eidelhoch, San Francisco CA, 506  
Joan Fox, Saratoga CA, 507  
Bradley Friedman, Redwood City CA, 498  
Irwin Friedman, Los Altos CA, 503  
Mark Green, Lincoln CA, 505  
Maryjo Hawley, Cameron Park CA, 505  
Barry Katz, Fresno CA, 522  
Pat Kelley, Morgan Hill CA, 524  
Mikki Kindelberger, Stockton CA, 510  
Patsy Knight, Petaluma CA, 509  
Carol Lashman, Redwood City CA, 498  
David Leaver, Los Altos Hills CA, 503  
Susan Leibel, San Francisco CA, 506  
James Locke, Cupertino CA, 507  
Pamela Lynch, Sacramento CA, 505  
Bari Mantel, Walnut Creek CA, 499  
Phyllis Mills, Sacramento CA, 505  
John Schafer, Virginia City NV, 473  
Mike Shriver, San Francisco CA, 506  
Gregory Siehl, San Jose CA, 507

Illa Skidmore, Carmichael CA, 505  
Patti St Denis, Concord CA, 499  
Julia Susser, San Francisco CA, 506  
Marilyn Tallent, Modesto CA, 529  
Gary Taylor, Carmel Valley CA, 530  
Judy Van Winkle, Midpines CA, 522  
Betsy Wagner, San Jose CA, 507  
Diane Walz, Reno NV, 473  
David Wright, Reno NV, 473  
Yannie Zhao, Saratoga CA, 507  
Mary Ziegenfuss, Redwood City CA, 498

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David Berger, San Rafael CA, 508  
Kathy Bertonneau, Brentwood CA, 499  
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Micheline Brown, Sacramento CA, 505  
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Michael Calder, San Rafael CA, 508  
Rhian Davies, San Francisco CA, 506  
Harry Dewey, Oakland CA, 502  
Susan Frank, Folsom CA, 505  
Peter Gannon, Stockton CA, 510  
Barbara Gorden, Lincoln CA, 498

Fareday Hemingway, San Francisco CA, 506  
Suzy Jackson, Hillsborough CA, 498  
Barbara Jones, S Lake Tahoe CA, 465  
Howard Levitan, Cupertino CA, 507  
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Lucie Rosa-Stagi, Laredo TX, 508

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Hans Van Boldrik, Santa Rosa CA, 509  
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Joanne Wicker, Morgan Hill CA, 524  
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# GOLD LIFE MASTER

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# SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER

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## Berkeley/El Cerrito/Richmond

*By The Beer Dude*

Injuries doomed the Ws, but the As & lately the Giants have made summer more interesting; we in my neck of the Bay Area don't get the dog days that came early to the Boston-DC corridor. I lived in MD for 16 yrs, and I don't miss the heat, rain, & semi-oppressive humidity at all.

The July 5 unit game drew just 5.5 tables; Ray Barber-Inja Hwang topped it (1A/B). Dexter-Gordon 2A/1B; E-Sandi 3A; Lamar-Richard & Miye-Shahla 4/5A. Just one unit game in August – Fri 2nd. BBQ Swiss #2 coming Sat 9//21 – limited to 10 teams (\$80 per; Unit 497 members dine FREE, others pay \$7). Call/email me to get your spot! 3rd. Top B team was Marcia Mattoon's crew (U502-ers Sarla Purohit-Lois Flock-Stuart Schneck). Only 1 tie.

June In-Out report showed George Proper transferring in (from 502; he's been appointed to the U497 to replace Larry Zeni); Arthur Schultz reaching the 50 MP milestone of Sectional Master. One that came out of the blue – RIP Rev. Dennis Kuby. I never saw/heard anything whenever he passed (could've been last year or this – last time I saw him in person was on BART a couple yrs ago). Google searching him was a futile exercise for an obit, but other stuff I didn't know about him.

I first met Dennis 1979-1980 at the long-gone Oakland Bridge Club on Broadway; he played there with his wife Jeanne (whom he called "Bear"); she's still alive as far as I can tell and she's 8-10 yrs older than him; he was 84-85. He was a great guy who officiated at least 2 bridge players' weddings (I know both, but I'll keep them anonymous), plus a memorial gathering we had 10+ yrs ago for late board member Anne Dorst. May he find

a good bridge game & some ardent baseball fans in the great beyond.

At da club: Dick Walker was May LM MP Champ; Dexter-Gordon shared June honors. On the NLM side: John Love topped May; George Proper June. Gate for Longest Day (including donations above entry fee) was around \$220; thanx to all who handed me more than \$7 & said "Keep the change." August brings STaC games 21st & 23rd, plus "Last Chance" on Fri 30th. Club champ game is Wed 28th.

More on the club front: Board member Carrie Stoltzfus gathered info from "opt-in" players to create a Club Directory. The ACBL prohibits clubs, units, or districts from publicizing names, addresses, or phone numbers/email addresses without consent. That's now up on our Website; click the "Info" button on the home page to find it. And, if you're a relative newbie looking for some decent FREE books to read to hone your bidding/playing skills, we have plenty of them; just ask Eric or me for recommendations! Some are relics of the past (Culbertson/Goren/Vanderbilt); those would be good if you're interested in bidding evolution.

E & I will be gone Aug 11-18, our annual trek to Del Mar via different routes before we hook up on the 14th @ our motel in Encinitas. Track days are Fri/Sat 16th-17th. Dick Walker will be running the games.

Good news about the upcoming Santa Clara Regional, we will still have FREE parking! Earlier this year, Distrist 21 tourney booker par excellence Pam wasn't sure, but she confirmed it at the June D21 mtg in Sacramento. And, if you like 2-session games to start at 10 & 3, head for Reno Regional in October; all 2-session events will be on that schedule (which for nightowls like me & Marcia Mattoon is pure anathema). Good luck wherever you go!

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

## Diablo Valley

*By Lisa Assoni/The ShortCut Cook*

August, August is here to stay, but can you believe Christmas is just five months away! Joy can be heard throughout the bridge room, when some players scratch, and count their match points. There's been a whole lot of shaking that's been going on, the flow of the crowd is calming, the Center feels like is our go-to place to play. Some drive for miles. Wouldn't it be cool if you got a point advantage for driving the furthest? Fat chance!



Can you believe we'd been at our new bridge site for over 2 years? Of course, this wouldn't have been possible if it weren't for the Super Heros who saved unit 499. You boys are the greatest! I'm listing their names in alphabetical order. Mike Bandler, Mark Humphrey and Bruce Johnsonbaugh. They are always working behind the scenes to make your day special!

Well, there's something special coming your way very soon! It's our Tunnel Tourney, the annual challenge between Units 499 and 502. So East meets West, and kick off a full day of fun and frolic. Our man, Andy Fine, once again is putting his best food forward, and gathering up folks to play, food to eat, and hoping that CCBC wins the coveted plaque. It was secured last year by Unit 502. Get your game on, save the date, September 22, and come for lots of FUN and FOOD. Contact (Afine@aol.com), along with your pair's individual MPs, and if you need a N.S. Please register very soon, as this event fills

up quickly! We'll be serving up our super sandwiches from our favorite deli, Morucci's in Walnut Creek.

Dreams don't always come true, but for Ted Gunn, his lifelong passion to play bridge was fulfilled when he became a Life Master. I sadly write today, as Ted has passed, but his spirit will always be remembered. He was a punster, a comic, happy, and a very congenial guy. Ted was my second bridge partner, and with other newbies, we took lessons and had a great time. Ted surpassed me quickly though, and was a regular at CCBC. Ted Gunn, you'll be truly missed.

Not ending on a sad note, please know that each day makes a difference, and by enjoying yourself and knowing you're special too, will make every hour count. Make the most out of life. I know Ted did.

## East Bay

*By Marcia Wasserman*

Question: When is July 4 not July 4?  
Answer: When it is July 7. On July 7, Unit 502 held a member appreciation Independence Day picnic. Karen and Bob Cabrera planned yet another fabulous event. The turnout was great and the food even better. The big winners North/South were Pat and Jim Leary coming in first as well as first overall. Adrienne and Gene Kuehneman were second North/South and second overall. Daniel and Linda Friedman and John Santibanes and Tom McKelvey tied for 1/2 East/West.

Unit games in August will be August 4 and 18, beginning at noon with a lunch served at 11:30. On the Sundays when there is no unit game, the East Bay Community Bridge Center sponsors a game also starting at noon with a light lunch served prior. In August those games are August 11 and 25. The August 11

game is a NAP qualifier and the game on the 25th is a ST@C game.

On August 4 the unit game will be held to honor the memory of Russell Rector, former Unit 502 board member who passed away unexpectedly in mid-April.

Grant and Greg Vance, and David Geary will be holding Swiss Teams games one Saturday each month. The August game will be High/ Low Swiss Teams on Saturday, August 24. Come as a pair and the highest master point pair will be teamed with the lowest master point pair, etc.

Unit 502 hosted our Summer Sectional June 22 and 23. Cris Barrere's Swiss team came in first in bracket 1 winning 17.44 silver; Joye Sidoti, Cathleen Otvos, Allan Harris and Neal Mazaroff were part of the bracket 2 team coming in 1st winning 10.37 silver; Carol Smith and David Cartwright's team came in first in bracket 3 winning 6.67 silver. As always, we got rave reviews on the food. Thanks to Libby Silver, Esther Rubke, and Estelle Baum for coordinating the event.

Unit 502 claimed a few spots in the Diablo Valley Sectional held June 29 and 30. Helen Burke and her partner came in first in the 99er pairs. Grant and Greg Vance, along with their partners Jessica Lai and Dmitri Shabes won the top bracket of the Diablo Valley Swiss Teams, undefeated in 7 rounds of play and clinching the winning slot before even playing the last round.

August special events include NAP Qualifier games on Friday August 2 and Sunday August 18. (Fees \$9). ST@C week is August 19-25. (Fees \$9). The Unit 502 NAP final game for qualifiers is Sunday September 8 (entry fee for this event is \$10). All games are held at the East Bay Community Bridge Center – 9520 Mountain Blvd in Oakland.

New members to the unit include Corlyne and Stephen Recht and Maryly Snow. Jesse

Chao and Margaret Landy recently transferred into our unit. When you see them at a game, please welcome them.

Congratulations to the following members who achieved Master rank advancements: Helen Burke and Carol Wolleson (Club); Jolanda Heijnen and Tom Willging (Sectional); Martin Lorber (Regional). Please congratulate them when you see them.

On a more serious note, the members of Unit 502 would like to offer our condolences to the family and friends of Terry Terzian, who passed away in July. He was a sweet individual and an asset to the East Bay bridge community.

Next month's column will be written by Larry Bowerman. If you have any news you wish to include, please send it to Larry at (lmjtbow@pacbell.net).

## Fresno

*By Laura Da Costa*

Two big events in early August: In the week of July 29-Aug. 3, all of our afternoon games will be participating in The Regional Event at Club House (REACH) for the first time. Good luck to those participating members looking for gold points that week. On the weekend of August 10 & 11, we will be having the Fresno Non-Life Master Sectional. This tournament is for non-life masters with less than 500 masterpoints. Richard Meffley will serve as director of this sectional.

A couple of events took place in June, on the same weekend (what an exhausting weekend!). Friday, June 21 was the day of our 7th annual participation in the ACBL's Longest Day fund raising drive to support the Alzheimer's Association. As we did last year, we had five games from Sunrise to Sunset. Five members played in all five games: Don

Austin, Laura Da Costa, Richard Meffley, Mary Lou Pease, & Anthony Toto. For the 6am Individual game, we had 12 people; yes, 3 whole tables showed up that early (Winner: Richard Meffley). In our 9am Open Pairs game, we had 6 tables (Winners N/S: Al Crane & Patrick Carroll and E/W: Robert & Tay Cherry; Overall winners: Al & Patrick). In our 12:30pm Open Pairs game, we had 10 1/2 tables (Winners N/S: Skip Miller & Cynthia Tingey; E/W: Bill Glass & Laura Neville; Overall winners: Bill & Laura). In our 4:30pm Fast Pairs game, we had 5 tables (Winners N/S: Suzanne & Warren Cederborg; E/W: Mark Stern & Victor Greener; Overall winners: the Cederborgs).

Finally, we had 4 tables in the 6:30pm Open Pairs Barometer game (Winners: Robert Rouch Jr. & Vincent Cheng). The overall masterpoints winner for the day was Mark Stern! Thanks to the three directors for the day, Kay Chrisman, Laura Da Costa, & Richard Meffley, and hospitality chair, Jackie Finn. The event raised nearly \$3000.

Just two days later, June 23, was the Annual Pro-Am Pairs graduation party, this year honoring our new life master: Rhonda Hampton. Congratulations Rhonda! We also honored our 2018 Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenney winners and other life masters who changed ranks this last 12 months. Six tables enjoyed a pot luck lunch and game. Winners were: N/S, Mary Lou Pease & Cynthia Tingey; E/W, Ray April & Jonel Mueller (Overall Winners).

There were six 70% games in June—all in Fresno: on 6/8 (in the Saturday afternoon Worldwide Bridge Contest), Bill Glass & Debbie Kemp, 76%; on 6/11 (Tuesday evening 99er game), Walt Kelso & Fred Schellack earned an impressive 81.67%; Victor Meffley & Richard Greener achieved the feat in back to back afternoons with a 71.43% on Friday

6/14 and a 70% on Saturday 6/15; on 6/19 (Wednesday afternoon 299er game), Ann Keag & Steve Johnson 70%; on 6/28 (Friday evening Individual), Anthony Toto with the help of his seven partners, 75%.

Welcome to new members Kandiah “Jei” & Nalini Jeyapalan.

## Livermore Valley

*By Rosemarie LaFrancesca*

As I write this article, many of our unit members are on a plane to Las Vegas! We will have good representation at the Nationals in Vegas and hope all the participants do well. I will especially be watching scores from Jean Barry and Pat Leary who will compete in the Women’s Open Pairs. I wish them and all the players success; 70% boards for all!

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. For every “novice” on Thursday, we will guarantee a partner to any player with fewer than 100 masterpoints. Encourage your bridge-playing friends to give Duplicate Bridge a try!

We are happy to see some of our 99ers play on Mondays as well. Keep up the good work, 99ers! The Livermore Bridge Club website is ([livermorebridge.com](http://livermorebridge.com)). You will

find a calendar of events there; you can also find Paul's bridge tips and publications via ([pfdubois.com/publish](http://pfdubois.com/publish)). There are links to neighboring units if you want to travel to your next bridge game.

To keep the game alive, teach a friend how to play bridge! I have started to teach a life-long friend the game. It is not easy to teach a beginning course! Things I told her that all of us take for granted brought a puzzled look to her face. "What does that mean?" Alas, I was a pretty good teacher for 34+ years in Livermore, but I referred my friend to Audrey Grant's Beginning Bridge on the iPad. She loves it and hopes to play duplicate in the near future!

## Marin

*By Gail Haar*

We have a new member this month; please welcome Ann Arnott when you meet her at the table.

Congratulations go to new: Club Master, Georgianna Farren; Regional Masters, Jim Albo, Pat Albo & Jane Grusby; Gold Life Master, Lynn Pasternak; Sapphire Life Master, Richard Riezman.

There were several Big Games this month: Hari Ramani & Bob Sampson (75% at Terra Linda); Barbara Cooper & Robert Chilvers (72.25% at Hoppe); Kathy Sanders & Stan Green (71.95% at Fuldek); Joan Ehmann & Peggy Tatro (70.37% at Fuldek.) The unit game winners were Bruce Blakely & Bob Thomson (June 30) and Ellen Schiller & Joan Ehmann (July 14.)

Our annual Election and Awards party was a rousing success. Lots of tables full of folks drinking and eating and oh yes, playing

bridge. And for the first time we had enough tables of beginners for them to have their own section.



Fuldek held their on-its-way-to-being-annual Longest Day game and raised \$4,104. Thanks to Henry Kingdon and our generous Unit 508 members for supporting this worthy cause.

Volunteer for the Fall Nationals (NABC) in SF: If you would like to feel the excitement and get a behind-the-scenes look at what goes into putting on one of these events, why not volunteer? All you need to do is sign-up for a 1 hour & 15 minute "shift" and you'll be in. You can even pick the day and the time so it won't interfere with your pursuit of Gold and Platinum! Our unit is sponsoring the Peggy Tatro Day, which is Tuesday, December 3 in case you would like to specifically give your time to making our day go smoothly. Here's the

link that'll make it super easy: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b45a8af2fa7f49-nabc>.

Do you know these bridge songs? Bridge Over Troubled Water - Travel-with-Goren cruise that stops in Havana, Tripoli and Basra; It's Not Unusual - partner's scream after you misinterpret his 2 NT bid; Monday, Monday - what you wish for after single-handedly blowing the Swiss Teams on Sunday; The Second Time Around - the usual occasion when your aces get trumped; Somethin' Stupid - whichever line of play you decide to take; 'Til the End of Time - normal duration before admitting your bridge mistakes.

## Modesto/Merced/Sonora

*By Gail Vick*

Finalizing the month of June, winners were: 67.50% A, Frank Frohman & Bruce Ruskin; 67.26% B, Sheela Wani & Sherrie Barakatt; 50% C, Sharon Cole & Fred Fellows. Sunday's Beginning Group: 69.88% A, Judy Remmers & Jim Page; 58.80% B & C, Marcia Eblen & Alan Beban.

During July: 75.89% A, Chris Brown & Jan Mastenbrook; 60.88 B & C, Barbara & Jim Page. Winners in the Beginning Sunday Group with 59.52% A & B, Marcia & Jim Laird.

The unit game was hosted by Sherrie Barakatt who had a wonderful array of food, including a homemade apricot cobbler. Ralph Jungwirth & Trelle Uhl tied with Libby Longstreth & Sharon Cole for 1st & 2nd in A, with Libby & Sharon winning across the board in B & C as well.



## Monterey

*By Mary Block*

The Board of Directors elected the following officers for the new term: Susan Mazzei as President; Fran Soskins as Vice President; Susan Mehra as Secretary; Mary Quenette as Treasurer; Ed Schrenzel as Membership Chair. Other new Board members are Amy Pofcher and Louise Barnard. Thanks and appreciation to departing Board members Charles Rauch, Laura Gherman, and long-time member James Pond.

The unit welcomes one new member this month: Joyce Underdown. We have several advancements in rank: George Albright, Jeff Riehl, and Joe Truskot are now Sectional Masters. Barbara Callaway and Karen Mok are Regional Masters, and David Ow is a NABC Master.

Lyde will be teaching a series of five lessons starting Wednesday, August 7 at the Bridge Center on Defensive and Declarer Play. The classes are from 2:45-4:45 and are \$15 each. Sign up at the Bridge Center, please, as hands will be prepared.

Sunday, August 4 is the Swiss Teams game. Please sign up in advance with your team.

Doug Halleen will teach EasyBridge! classes again this fall. Check with him for further details.

This year's fundraising for the Alzheimer's Association did not include a raffle, but our members generously donated \$1,090.00 in direct donations and another \$218.00 from four Charity Games (Larry's, Lyde's, Alan and Janet's and the annual unit game).

You are reminded again that the NABC Tournament is in San Francisco this year, November 28-December 8 at the Marriott Hotel. Our unit has been assigned to volunteer at the hospitality desk on Saturday, November 29. Volunteering before and after the playing

sessions doesn't interfere with your playing and does give you a free cookie. Contact Donna Jett at: (Jettcarmel@gmail.com).

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

## Napa/Solano/Sonoma

*By Tom Sheahan*

Well, we did it again! The Longest Day event in Sonoma was a grand success thanks to the very generous members of our unit and beyond, and the very hard work put in by Barbara Lemme. Barb pounded the pavement to get many items for auction donated by local merchants.

All told, with donations, auctions, and raffles, we amassed over \$14,500 to be donated to help finding a cure for Alzheimer's which is a disease that could affect any one of us, and has already affected some of our players. Barb worked tirelessly for months ahead of the event and richly deserves our appreciation. Others who helped a lot include Marge Sheridan, John Coulston, Karen Rocco, Adrienne Varin, and Suzie Davis. I'm sure I've missed many more as there are plenty of people to thank.

We had 128 players on that day and one of the most impressive things to remember was the camaraderie of everyone and the willingness to help shown by all players. A great time was had by all that included a lasagna luncheon thrown in. The event really showed the spirit of our club and why we are one of the best units around. How about George Gordon? With a crowd that size, you usually have 2 directors, and George handled



it flawlessly by himself as was no surprise to anyone. Thanks to all participants!

A "Way to go" shoutout goes to Dolores Jaquez. Always one of the favorite people in our unit, she recently underwent open heart surgery, came through with flying colors and should soon be back at the tables. Ask her to show you her scar.

Speaking of Dolores, she and Larry Page won a game in Sonoma in June and Larry also posted a win with Joanne Wegsten. Gerry Fox & Tom Jacobson also won twice. Other winners included Jim & Frances O'Brien, Don Powell & Vince Taylor, Barbara Lemme & Sheila Malinowski, and a tie between Clyde & Kathleen Smith and Don Powell & Jeff Reid.

In Napa, it was Leandra Stewart & Richard Tebay, Gerry Fox & Tom Jacobson, Larry Page & Joanne Wegsten, and Dawne Dickenson & Britt-Marie Eldred in the winner's circle and the unit games belonged to Don Powell & Gary Henry as they won them both. A lot of these names are starting to sound familiar.

It was Sue Vogtlin month in Rio Vista as she was in on 3 of the 4 wins in their games. She won twice with Xiao Gong of which one of the games was a 70%, and partnered with Scott Clyde to tie the pair of Joyce Vass & Chandler Stauffer with both pairs scoring a 77% game! Joyce & Chandler also won another game.

Huge games were also happening in the 499er game. Brian & Karen Aabel twice had 75% games, and Havard & Susan Staggs had a 71% in one of those games. Jean Behse & Claudia Simms also had a 75% game, while Carol Werner & Shirley Le Sueur could only manage 68% in their win.

## Palo Alto

By Carolyn Chaney

The 2019 Firecracker Sectional was a big success, literally; so far this year it is the largest sectional in the US with 878 tables. Putting on an event like this is truly a reflection of the family spirit of Unit 503.



Special thanks to tournament chairs, Carl Baeuerlen and Don Cohn, all of the MANY volunteers, the directors, and to the IFES for offering such a delicious variety of foods. I was in the kitchen to nuke my own lunch, when one of the nice IFES ladies whispered, “Are you playing for money?” When I said, “Sadly, no,” she went on, “For prizes then?”

When I said that only imaginary points were given, she looked at me like I was crazy, and she said, “Just for fun, then.” I didn’t have the heart to tell her that bridge was very serious business.

Once again participants donated generously to Second Harvest Food Bank, and we raised \$10,287 (20,574 meals) to feed hungry people. Thank you! Vera Baum (next year’s SHFB chair) and I had the great pleasure of taking our offering to Second Harvest.



At a brainstorming session (while hiking in our local park), Vinita Gupta and I decided to try something new: a spotlight on some of our Unit 503 players. We hope you enjoy this interview with Lori Spaeth, written by Vinita (and Lori). Talk to Vinita if you have a suggestion for a future “spotlight.”



Vinita Gupta

Lori Spaeth is an invaluable member of Unit 503 in the heart of Silicon Valley. She is friendly and always takes the time to assist new and old members of the club. Her 30 years of dedication to bridge include Unit President, Director of Wednesday evening games, pioneer of clubs’ beginner’s bridge, Vinita Gupta teacher, and now Diamond Life Master. Congratulations, Lori!

As a teacher: Taking bridge classes, asking lots of questions, reading bridge books and playing at the club in the limited games are a really good foundation. Her favorite bridge book as a newbie was 5 Weeks to Winning Bridge. She often reminds students to “remember the bidding” to help them play and defend a hand. As Director: She says, “Our unit has so many games which offer limited sections, I hope that newer players who are hesitant to call the director, will do so if they have any questions.” She believes the “Zero Tolerance” program, instituted by the ACBL several years ago, really helped empower players to say something (or call the director) if they’re subjected to bad behavior.

Lori Spaeth at the Firecracker: Lori worked in administration and marketing for a few startups in the 80’s and 90’s and retired relatively early. Her other passion is tennis; she claims the key to success in both bridge and tennis, is “practice, practice, practice and try to learn from your mistakes.” Lori

was introduced to bridge (and tennis) by her husband, Grant, a lawyer in Palo Alto and former President of the US Golf Association. She and Grant have enjoyed playing in many bridge clubs in other parts of the world.



*Lori Spaeth*

## **Reno**

*By Judith Robyns*

We have had a good response to our bridge classes. We have two new 49er games, one on Monday afternoon and one on Wednesday evening. We have a complete line-up of games so that everyone can play at a level where they feel comfortable.

Kathy Lane is one of our club's directors. She runs the Tuesday game which is very popular. It is our "Pro-Am" game. This is where two players with 500 MP or more cannot play together. Many of our members who are advanced players pair up with newer players. It is a great way for them to mentor new players.

Kathy has been playing bridge for 50+ years. It all started when she and her three siblings would listen to their parents discuss their Saturday evening bridge game at the

Sunday breakfast table. She and her siblings thought it was so stupid when they talked about who had the King of spades or the Queen of clubs. Then after her dad died and her grandparents visited, one of the 4 siblings would have to sit in and be the 4th. They all loved playing cards, so it was a natural. Three of the four play bridge today. When she got married, her husband was a good bridge player, so they partnered up and played duplicate bridge. That is what got her hooked. She said once she was addicted, wanting to achieve the next level was natural.

With kids etc., she took ten years off. She was not sure she would ever come back to the game, but her friend and teacher, Ted Muller, got her reinstated with all her black points. She did not know that he had done this. So it was a great surprise when she got the notification from ACBL!

She taught school for 25 years in Reno and was only able to play evenings and weekends. Sheila Wimer, a director, kept encouraging her to become a director. She said when she retired she would do it, and became a director when she retired. Sheila gave her her three games.

That was 12 years ago. She has loved every minute of directing. It was challenging and all the former directors were kind and helped to get her started. Kathy says the players are still patient with her. She loves all the people she encounters.

Kathy and Bud Brewer started Reno Youth Bridge. He was the brains and Kathy had contacts in Washoe County. David Weinberg, Grace Martin and Molly Rakestraw were also on the Reno Youth Bridge board. Bud did all the work and included the rest of the board in the process. Kathy is proud that it has survived after Bud moved. She said that is because Susan Powell and David Weinberg contributed.

Now it is headed up by Jefri Donovan, Susan Powell, Virginia Kellermeyer and LecClier Kelly. These types of programs are what will keep bridge going.

Kathy thinks bridge is certainly the best game ever. She keeps playing because she loves the challenge and the discipline. It is a major part of her life. She likes her partners and all the friends she has made through bridge. She says to be surrounded by intelligent thinkers, doers and their common love of the game makes bridge her passion.

Levels achieved this month: Susan Powell, Advanced NABC Master.

## Sacramento

*By Miriam Steinberg*

His unconventional journey, which started the minute he was born in the back seat of his grandfather's friend's car on Highway 1, was the beginning of the unusual road which led Carl Oeser to where he is today as a Monday/Wednesday director at the Sacramento Bridge Center.



Carl grew up in Chowchilla in the Central Valley, where he excelled in music. Not only did he conduct and compose, but also learned most wind instruments specializing in brass and later also adding percussion. To this day, Carl loves most kinds of music excluding rap. The Julliard School, one of the best music conservatories in the world, accepted him as a freshman, which is quite an accomplishment. But because of the steep tuition, Carl shifted paths and instead entered UC Davis as a pre-med major.

Carl's bridge career began the third week of college during a poker game, after an upperclassman in the dorm appeared and

drafted Carl and two others for a bridge game. Bridge hooked Carl from the beginning and he was soon playing day and night. "It ruined my life," he lamented. "I almost didn't graduate!" He ultimately did earn a degree in political science and history.

After university, Carl entered the military for four months and managed a restaurant for one year. He later went into sales in the insurance business for 28 years and the car business for 17 years, which were lucrative professions for him.

He also got married and had two sons and now has 5 grandchildren, one in Alameda and four in Fresno. Although Carl is currently single, he is involved in a relationship with (of course!) another very fine bridge player!

He has played bridge continuously since college except for a break for sixteen years when he played only about four times a year. Some of his early bridge colleagues include current SBC players Ted Muller, Mike Grob and Steve Maurer.

Carl served as president of Unit 505 for eight years and got certified as a director around 1977-78, but did not direct at that time.

In 2015 after he had stopped working, he started directing Wednesday nights and added every other Monday in 2018. Carl directs because he loves promoting bridge. He explained, "I want to help bridge and have a nice place for people to play and have fun. It's a lot of work!" Carl commits about fourteen hours of his time for each Monday day game which involves shopping, travel, cooking, clean up and running the game. He also directs one Monday night a month and Wednesday nights, which are less work, because there is no food preparation involved.

In addition to directing, Carl teaches intermediate level students privately and is considering teaching a class on judgement:

how to think, the highest percentage play, timing, etc. He mentioned that he doesn't think you can have sound judgement until after you have played a million hands, and he has accomplished this feat! Carl is also an insightful consultant for those of us with bridge questions, with intelligent and well-thought through responses.

Some of his favorite bridge books include "How to Read Your Opponents' High Cards" by Mike Lawrence; he highly recommends any defense book by Lawrence, and "Killing Defence" by Hugh Kelsey. Carl, always a gentleman and a happy person with a great wit, never fails to make me laugh and is always a pleasure to have at the table. He shared a couple of funny director anecdotes: one time he was called to the table because a player alerted his OWN bid; another time he was called to a table after approximately trick six, only to discover there was NO dummy!

In addition to playing bridge around five times a week and directing, Carl works out diligently five times a week. "It pays off," he admitted. He is probably one of the fittest players in town! He also golfs once a week when it is 70 degrees or higher.

Carl obviously feels intensely about the game and is a great advocate. We're fortunate to have him as an active member of our bridge community. "Bridge has been my love and passion for fifty years," explained Carl. "I'll never get tired of playing—there's always something interesting. I feel it in my heart and in my soul!"

Unit 505 members have achieved many Life Master milestones in the last month: Marc Grunseth, Marilyn Poindexter, Bob Shuken and Diane Strategos are all new Life Masters; Cindy Daugherty and Trudy Harstad earned their Bronze Life Master (500 MP); Ted

Easley earned his Silver Life Master (1000 MP); Sandy Wold, Sam Sandusky and Jack Blyskal earned their Ruby Life Master (1500 MP); Joanne Merry earned her Gold Life Master (2500 MP) and Dorothy Mc Dermott earned her Sapphire Life Master (3500 MP). Congratulations to all!

If you would like to submit feedback or ideas for this column, please contact me at ([mirsteinberg@yahoo.com](mailto:mirsteinberg@yahoo.com)).

## San Francisco

*By Kimberly Fanady*

One of the many great aspects of bridge is the wide spectrum of people it attracts. Check out this photo of Teiko Peterson, age 98, playing against Chloe Chow, age 8, at the Sunset Club. 90 years apart, and bridge brought them together. Gotta love it! Think about it, whom have you met at the bridge table that you never would have encountered elsewhere?



Most of the SF clubs will be participating in the Summer Fun STaC during the week of August 19-25. May the silver points come rolling in like the August fog! August also features the last round of club level NAP

qualifying games. If you haven't gotten your Q yet, go get one!

The unit game schedule continues with pairs games on August 10. Come for a lesson by one of our expert players at 10:45, lunch at 11:15, and game at noon, at St. Mary's Cathedral, 1100 Gough St. at Geary. Attendance permitting, 3 sections will be in play: open, 499er, and 99er. Check the unit website at [www.unit506.org](http://www.unit506.org) for all the details. Be there!

Looking back: QuickTricks is proud to have been part of the NorCal team that raised over \$22,000 for the Alzheimer's Association during the Longest Day games in June. The team was among the top ten fund-raisers in the entire ACBL. Kudos to tireless leader Fred Chasalow for all his work for this worthy cause.

Looking ahead: save the date of October 2, when the Sunset Bridge Club is sponsoring a showing of the movie "Double Dummy." The movie features the 2012 USA1 Under 21 Team competing in the 14th World Youth Team Championship. Details to follow.

Congrats to our Master rank advancers: (Junior) Andrew Eidelhoch; (Club) Lora Danis, Peggy Skornia; (Sectional) Jeannette Bonifas, Patricia Lee; (Life) Gary Mankin; (Silver Life) Denny Arar. Well played all!

Welcome as always to our new members Gabriel Bassan (yes, he's been playing with us for decades, but just joined ACBL), Sue Decker, Susan Marsch, and Megan Sanguinetti; and transfer Geoffrey Fletcher (Marin). Everyone say hello to these recent additions when you get a chance.

Hope everyone is enjoying a wonderful summer. See you by the pool at the Santa Clara Regional!

## San Mateo

*By Fran Gaura*

The Longest Day Team, standing, l to r; Donna Pellegrini, Bob Johnson, Raad Bunni, Sandra Tilch, Jackie Lowenberg, Joy Venosa, Janelle Van Rensselaer, Loren Charlton; seated, Sue Papilion and Marge Pacchetti. Other members: Fred Chasalow, Jennifer Kuhn, and Marie Pattie.



WOW, WOW and WOW! the Longest Day volunteers pictured above worked their considerable magic, as well as sweat and tears to make the 2019 Longest Day Charity event spectacular! The team had a personal goal to bring in more funds for the Alzheimer's Association than was raised last year, a pretty amazing goal since last year's event added approximately \$15K to the Association's coffers. Well they did it; over \$21K was earned through the efforts of these folks and the compassion and generosity of our players and others in the area. We can't say congratulations loudly enough!

24 tables of competitive players engaged in the June 22 Longest Day game at Fattoria. Winners in their respective sections were: Open winners, Alfred Lee & Jim Liu with a 64.45%; 499er winners, Marlene Hubbard & Joanne Gates with a 61.29%; 99er winners

Clare Thorpe and Ruth Gallagher with a 62.68%.

The July unit game was directed by Jennifer Kuhn as her regular Wednesday evening game. This was a “Fast Pairs” game and brought 10 tables of players out for the evening. Jennifer was good as her word and promoted real “fast” play enabling a 9:30 finish for the event. Overall Winners at this game were: first, Art Quey & Mie Thiemmedh; second, Doug Seifert & Philip Kuhn; third, Janelle Van Rensselaer & Virginia Zapitz; fourth, Raad Bunni & Virginia Wailes. All players remarked how well the game moved and how much they appreciated the quiet atmosphere encouraged by Jennifer. Kudos to all players and a special thanks to Jennifer!

The dog days of summer are almost upon us, and as the temperatures rise (at least we’re not in Europe!), thoughts turn to our unit’s San Mateo County Summer Sectional at Canada College. Bob Gleason has moved mountains to assure that the games on August 3 and 4 will be spectacular! If you have never played at Canada, now is the time; the hills are lovely in their transition from green to gold and the facility is great for bridge! An added event designed just for newer players is set for Sunday, August 4 at 10:00 AM: a single session 49er pair game; what a great way for beginning players to get their feet wet in tournament play and to earn some silver! In addition, on Saturday at 10:00 am, players with fewer than 100 points can compete for the Art Weinstein Trophy. The usual pairs games round out the Saturday schedule with additional pairs games and Swiss Teams on Sunday. See the flyer on the ACBL Tournaments website.

August continues with NAP club level qualifying games leading up to competition at the National level. These games will award 50% red and 50% black masterpoints! Plan

to attend as many as you can to improve your Masterpoint chances!

The Peninsula Duplicate Bridge Club, directed by Jennifer Kuhn, has scheduled the following August dates for these NAP qualifier games: August 7 at 12:30 pm and at 6:30 pm; August 8 at 12:30 pm; August 21 at 12:30 pm and 6:30 pm; and August 22 at 12:30 pm. Raad Bunni will direct NAP qualifying games at his 9:00 AM San Mateo Bridge Center games on August 20 and 23. Both Jennifer’s and Raad’s games are held at Fattoria. Qualified players will move to the NAP Unit Qualifier which will be held September 7 at Fattoria. So sharpen your skills and make your mark in these events!

A warm welcome to new Unit 498 members: Sadhna Diwan, Georgina Eckert, Jeff Finer, Alfred Fricke, Patricia Smith, Kara Alexandra, and Jay Bergeron. Also, congratulations to players advancing over the past months: to Junior Master, Gail Cameron, Michael Goldstein, Seva Sokolov; to Regional Master, Sharon Sloan; to NABC Master, Aaron Mayerson; to Life Master, Kal Aziz; to Silver Life Master, Daniel Sonner.

Be sure to check the Unit 498 website, ([www.unit498.com](http://www.unit498.com)), to get all the up to date info on game schedules and special events.

## Santa Cruz

*By Karen Schamberg*

News-Ooze Alert - Unit 550 is positively overflowing with news this month.

During the Longest Day Games, the members of the Santa Cruz Bridge Center and Unit 550 donated \$1,385 to support Alzheimer’s research. A big Thank You to



everyone who participated in the games and a salute to those who made extra donations to take the total well over \$1000!

The Santa Cruz Surf's Up Sectional is September 14-15. John Oppenheimer and Steve Smith are planning a terrific event. Click the link on our unit webpage for complete details. If you need a partner or team members for Swiss Teams, contact Ginger Stone at (ginger252@comcast.net).

Here's a heads up, so start planning now: The National Bridge Tournament will be held in San Francisco November 28 - December 8. What an experience a National Tournament is! Our unit will have the opportunity to volunteer at the tournament on Tuesday, December 3. Contact Bette Harken for more information!

There are so many folks to congratulate this month. At the East Bay Summer Sectional in Oakland, John Walker took a 1st in Saturday Afternoon 299er pairs. At the Firecracker Supersectional in Mountain View, Carol Avenmarg and Dor Malutta earned a 1st in Friday Afternoon Open Pairs. High scores in club games were earned by: Jim Slinger & Ken Llacera, 71.85%; and John Walker & Jonni Faircrest, 71.8%. Special, warm congratulations to Ken Llacera for attaining Sapphire Life Master.

We have some new members of Unit 550. A big welcome goes out to Will Forest, Matthew Nathanson and Suzanne Snyder.

Unit 550 offers games most days and several evenings: Open Pairs games are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, the first, third & fifth Thursdays (free lesson preceding), and Friday daytimes, as well as Thursday evenings; 99er Pairs play Wednesday evenings (free lesson preceding); 199ers play Monday evenings (free Defense lesson preceding); 749ers are Tuesday evenings; the second Thursday morning is a Pro-Am game; the fourth Thursday morning is

an Open Swiss Teams; and Sunday afternoon is NLM/Mentor game (free lesson preceding). Our unit game will be on Saturday, August 10 at 10 a.m. and don't forget to bring a lunch.

Paid lessons are available from time to time from Nancy Wainer, Bette Harken, Pam Benz and Ken Gamble. Sydney Reuben's new round of Beginners Bridge lessons starts on Tuesday, September 10. Check the "Learn Bridge/Classes" link on our website to contact the individual instructors.

Unit 550 now has a presence on Nextdoor.com. It's a great way to connect with prospective players. If you already use Nextdoor, please recommend us by searching for "Bridge" and clicking on "Recommend" for our Bridge Center. Also, be sure to visit our Facebook page.

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

## **Santa Rosa/Petaluma**

*By Cecelia Zachar*

Fall in Sonoma County is a beautiful sight. As grass throughout most of California has turned the color of straw, our hillsides are emerald green with vineyards. Grapes are being harvested, and wine makers are excited about their next vintage. Join us for bridge and come a day early or stay a day late to enjoy a little tasting at a winery, a tour of a creamery (I highly recommend a tour of the Bohemian Creamery for goat cheese), or a meal at one of our many fine Farm-to-Table restaurants. Our fall sectional is September 21

and 22 at the Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa. Saturday we will have Open and 299er Pairs at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Sunday Swiss Teams are Strati-Flighted. Delicious restaurant sandwiches, including a vegetarian option, will be available for purchase each day. For more information, see: (<http://web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2019/09/1909064.pdf>).

On July 1, a team of 6 of Unit 509's finest, Mimi Armstrong, Enid Barnes, Jane Bender, Charlotte Carlson, Carol Clewans and Jan Gullarian put on a pool-side Brunch and Duplicate game at Mimi's home. This event was part of our Longest Day fund-raising. Participants donated \$15 a head, check payable to the Alzheimer's Foundation.

We gathered together 7 tables, 28 players, for brunch and bridge. The food was fabulous. We were greeted at the door with muffins, scones, coffee cake, coffee, and tea. Seven bridge tables were set up around the pool. We played 22 boards, all of which made game, a small slam, or a grand slam, half N/S and half E/W.

Midway through the game we had brunch: asparagus quiche with a potato crust, deviled eggs, the best-ever fruit salad, sweet potato and beet canapes, plum coffee cake, ginger scones, watermelon, lemonade, iced tea, and strawberry ice cubes. What a good time! Special thanks to Karen Weissberg and Kathy Venton for running the bridge game. Our donation to the Alzheimer's Foundation was about \$400.

Many of us said, "Wow! Let's do this again next year!" The one thing we want to change is the price. The morning festivities were worth much more than the \$15 we paid to be there. There were two things that were especially memorable to me. One was the beautiful venue. Bridge by the pool in a peaceful setting is so relaxing. The other

memorable thing: the women who put on this event were amazing; They worked together like an orchestra playing a sonata. Everyone contributed what they did best, no grandstanding. What a wonderful morning! For photos, see ([https://www.facebook.com/pg/ACBLUnit509/posts/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/ACBLUnit509/posts/?ref=page_internal)). Oh, yes, we did good. The \$400 raised by the brunch brings Unit 509's contribution to The Longest Day fundraiser to nearly \$5,000!

On Sunday, July 14, the talented Cris Barrere continued his two-part lesson on minors at the Bridge Gallery. We reviewed the Minors I topics that were presented at Petaluma Bridge Club in June, looked at a variety of jump shifts, and then discussed getting to the right contract with the inverted minor convention while not providing the opponents a road map to defending the hand.

Cris calls his inverted minor approach Stopperless Inverted Minors. Basically, instead of determining if you have all suits stopped, you determine if you should be in a minor suit contract or a NT contract, and, if the latter, whether you have enough strength to bid 3NT. The class was excellent, as always, and many of us are looking forward to mulling over this new approach using the handouts provided.

Following Cris' lesson, we had a 9-table unit game. First overall and 1st N/S were Joanne Pransky and Debbie Tesler, first E/W were Nancy Gunn and Patricia Hertz, and 1st in B were Carol and James Reed.

Cris will be returning on Sunday, August 11, presenting a class on the Play of the Hand at Petaluma Bridge Club from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The class is paid for by Unit 509 and is open to all. Cris does a great job at offering something for everyone from beginners to Platinum Life Masters.

## Silicon Valley

By Ray Yuenger



Following the lesson will be a Stratified Pairs unit game starting at 1 p.m., \$11 table fee.

On Sunday, August 25, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the Bridge Gallery will host world champion Sylvia Shi who will teach a class titled Opening Leads Against Notrump. The fee will be \$20 prepaid, \$25 at the door. Following the class will be a Stratified Pairs unit game, \$12. For more information, email: (bridgegalleryca@gmail.com).

The Bridge Gallery started the class, Defense in the 21st Century, on July 23, but you can attend individual sessions if you would like. Remaining sessions are: August 6 Attitude Signals; August 13 Count Signals; August 20 Suit Preference Signals; August 27 Interfering with the Declarer/Making a plan for the defense. Single sessions are \$15, \$10 to repeat if you've taken the class before. Kathy Venton is the teacher. The classes are held on Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. See <http://santarosabridge.com/classes> for more details.

We had three big games since our last report. At Bridge Gallery: Bob Klein and Erwin Linzner brought in 73.15% on June 26; Sharon and Richard Radovich racked up 75% on July 3; Elizabeth Sather and Carol Morse slid in with 70.92 on July 11.

In June, we were notified of 7 players who went up in Master rank: (Club) Joni Conner and Anna Mae Mohrman; (Regional) Lawson James and Cathy Netz; (NABC) Tony Jackson; (Advanced NABC) Barbara Norman; (Life) Hans van Boldrik who has been playing with the same partner, Roy Redlich, on and off, for over 40 years. When you play against Hans and Roy, you see a great partnership at work.

If you are a particularly avid reader of my columns (this one and one in our club newsletter), you may have noticed some repetition over time. My column deadlines for the last year or so have been six days apart (this one being six days later), and sometimes much of the news is the same. However, you won't notice repetition after this column, as my monthly writing duties for our DiRekTor newsletter are ending.

I wrote a column as Unit President for 11 years, but recently stepped down from that position. Stu Goodgold is the new Unit President, someone who has served on the Unit Board longer than I have, and a former District President. I will remain on the Board and will continue writing this column of unit news.

Our recent dinner, membership meeting, and game was successful, with 26.5 tables (down 1.5 from last year) turning out for some tasty dishes contributed by unit members and coordinated by Mischel Postas. First overall were Fran Dickman & Ted Ujifusa with a 67.84% game! First in the B stratification and second overall were Mike Cailean & Daniela Tone. First in C were Kat Wesolowska & Roy Tsai. In the 499er section, Murarka Prabhu Dya & Radhakishin Thawani were first in both strats. The unit game was free to members of Unit 507 in appreciation for their membership and participation.

At the Los Angeles regional in Long Beach, Roy Tsai won a gold rush pairs event.

At the East Bay sectional, T-C Yang won an open pairs game, while Susan Dietz won

a limited pairs game. Elenalani Lam's team prevailed in their bracket, as did the team of Henry Zhang, Michele Liu & Yannie Zhao.

At the Walnut Creek sectional, Andrew & Charlie Chen won a single-session pairs game, being first in strats A, B, and C. Meanwhile, father Steve was first in his strat in the two-session pairs along with T-C Yang.

Many unit members competed successfully in the nearby Firecracker supersectional, which offered a variety of events. Michael Rosenberg won one two-session open pairs event, while Sadik Arf & Luen-Jyh Luo won another one. Earning strat tops in two-session pairs games were Frank Xie and Donghui Lu. Section tops in two-session pairs games went to Pangjie Xu, Jason Chui, and Dianne Shannon three times, twice with her daughter Lynn, once with Malcolm McLaughlin.

Winning overall firsts in single-session open pairs were T-C Yang & Peter Sun, Mindy Foss & Michael Fleisher, and Malcolm McLaughlin, while strat tops went to Paul Davis, Jum Lui, Henry Zhang & Yannie Zhao, Xin & Kayden Ge, Jennifer Duval & Dorr Clark, and section tops to Leila Sink, Lynn Shannon, Buddhadeb Biswas & Stuart Goodgold, Stephen Tu, and Elizabeth De Paola & Frances Dickman.

In single-session limited pairs events placing first were Margareta Hozdic & George Schlinkert, Kathy Vita, Lucy Huang, and Prince Kohli & Rajeev Gupta, with strat tops to Irene & Steven Jacobson, Kayoko Iwasaki (twice), Rajeev Gupta & Radhakishin Thawani and Betsy Wagner & Jan Pfiffner. Section tops in limited pairs went to Betsy Wagner & Jan Pfiffner and Joanne Cornbleet & Jackie Hiatt. Winston Li won the beginner pairs. I apologize if I've overlooked anyone.

Winning their four-session KO brackets at the Firecracker Sectional were Cheryl Mandala, Yul Inn & Li-Chung Chen; Daren

Kuo; and Xin & Kayden Ge, Min Bai & Andrew Chen. In two-session team games, first in their strats were Will Watson & Leila Sink; Brandon & Xin Ge; and Maxine & Ray Lubow, Jeffrey Hack & Fern Herman. Placing first in their single-session team games were Will Watson (twice); Sarah Chen (twice); Jim Liu, Tsao-Tung Tsai & Ken Imboden; Donghui Lu & Elenalani Lam; Rick & Kathy Jasper, Ken Rosenfeld & Joel Koransky; and Larry Wagner. Winning their single-session team strats were Jim Liu, Tsao-Tung Tsai & Arthur Zhou; Yannie Zhao & Michele Liu; Pradeep Verma & Meena Oza; and Kayden Ge, Charlie & Andrew Chen (twice), one with Min Bai.

Congratulations to our newest Masters: Renee Cantu (Junior); Andrew Chen, John De Santis (Club); Tan Hussain, Manoj Thawani (Sectional); Brandon Ge (Regional); Don Morin, Wanwan Ren (Bronze); Zag Kadah (Ruby); Anthony Barre (Diamond).

The Unit Board has produced an updated directory that is different from past directories in part due to enhanced concerns about personal information. We surveyed participants and learned that more participants favored a printed directory than one on-line. The new directory, instead of listing members of Unit 507 with their masterpoints, whether or not they play in the club, provides contact information for those who play at the San Jose Bridge Center or at least want to be contacted about playing at the club. Directories are available at the San Jose Bridge Center. If you find an error in your listing, please contact ([sjbcsurveys@gmail.com](mailto:sjbcsurveys@gmail.com)).

I'm proud to announce that our unit raised \$1,497 on the Longest Day in donations for the Alzheimer's Association, due primarily to the efforts of directors Mary Steele and Gabi Bowling.

I'm writing this column after returning mid-week from the Las Vegas nationals. I

usually don't report on the first part of an ongoing tournament, so the Las Vegas results will be reported in next month's column.

## Stockton

By *Debbie DeZarn*

This column is being written from the Las Vegas Summer NABC and the venue is gorgeous! If you weren't able to make it to this one, plan on attending the Fall NABC in San Francisco beginning Thanksgiving Day.



We have had some of the more famous players (think photos that pop up the most in the monthly Bridge Bulletin) join us in the Modesto and Sacramento Regionals, but the NABC is where you can watch them play using screens and video monitoring.

NABC tournaments are so good to newcomers (those with less than 299 points) and usually have gifts, coupons for free or half price play, free lessons, special sessions for those with under 20 points, and free coffee and pastries that the more experienced players can only dream about. The price of the host hotel, Marriott Marquis, is great at \$165/night, and parking is ridiculous at \$78-89.52 per night. Form your car pools now!

There were a large number of big games this month: Joan Garcia and Korey Baumbach, 71.45% at the 6/21/19 NAP qualifying game; Ann and Bill Nutting had their highest result with 73.21% at Oak Park on 6/5/19; they also had 2 other games at over 70% since my last report; Barbara Smart and Glo Williams were tops at Oak Park 7/10/19 with 72.32%; Jon Bearg and Chandler Stauffer led the

Intermediates with 70.92% on 6/27/19; Zulka Dozier and Mary Sievers had a 70.14 on 7/19/19. Congratulations to all!

August 18 will be the monthly Potluck game with extra points as a NAP qualifier. Remember, you don't have to bring anything as lunch will be catered by Norma Peterson's family in her memory. August also has a STaC week with Open games on the 19th, 23rd and 25th and restricted games on the 20th (99er) and 22nd (NLM). Come earn some Silver points!

No new rank advancements to report this time, but with so many Silver and Gold earning opportunities this summer I hope to announce several next time! The Stockton club did participate in the Summer Instant Matchpoint Game, and Gold was won by: intermediates, (getting really close to Life Master) Wendy Buchanan and Bill Mitchell; as well as already Bronze Life Masters Usha Bansal and Jack Fitzgerald; and Emerald Life Masters Ann and Bill Nutting.

I'd like to close the column with thanks to Rose Knutson who does so much for our unit. She has served as treasurer for many years and makes frequent Costco runs to replenish the tons of paper goods, coffee/cups, snacks, and other misc. items we need. She works diligently to find partners for those who need one for SBC games; just text her (number is on our website).

Rose is frequently the money-taker for the games at SBC and jokingly reminds people to pay their entry fee before enjoying the provided lunch (and she reimburses the person who brought the lunch!). Rose is a Silver Life Master who still goes to tournaments and likes to play teams to help people earn those last few Silver or Gold points for the next level.

**The San Francisco NABC is a few short months away...**

# San Mateo County Summer Sectional



August 3 and 4, 2019  
Cañada College "Grove"  
4200 Farm Hill Boulevard  
Redwood City, CA 94061

Sanction 1908106

**\*\* Replacement for canceled 1908070 previously scheduled for Aug 17 & 18 \*\***

Saturday August 3, 2019	Sunday August 4, 2019
<p><u>10:00 AM</u></p> <p><b>Two Sessions Open Pairs (0-750/2000/2000+)</b> (Pairs must play both sessions)</p> <p><b>One Session Open Pairs (0-500/1500/1500+)</b></p> <p><b>One Session 299er Pairs (100/200/300)</b></p> <p><b>Art Weinstein Trophy Pairs (0-100)</b></p>	<p><u>10:00 AM</u></p> <p><b>Two Sessions Stratified A/X Swiss Teams (0-4000/4000+)</b> (First 3 or 4 rounds of 7 boards/round, staggered to reduce lines at lunch)</p> <p><b>Two Sessions Bracketed Swiss Teams</b> (No player with more than 2000 points)</p> <p><b>One Session Open Pairs (0-500/1500/1500+)</b></p> <p><b>One Session 49er Pairs</b></p>
<p><u>1:30 PM Lunch</u></p>	<p><u>1:30 PM Lunch</u></p>
<p><u>3:00 PM</u></p> <p><b>2nd Session Open Pairs (0-750/2000/2000+)</b></p> <p><b>One Session Open Pairs (0-500/1500/1500+)</b></p> <p><b>One Session 299er Pairs (100/200/300)</b></p>	<p><u>Approximately 2:30 PM</u></p> <p><b>2nd Session Stratified A/X Swiss Teams (0-4000/4000+)</b> (Last 3 or 4 rounds)</p> <p><b>2nd Session Bracketed Swiss Teams</b> (No player with more than 2000 points)</p> <p><b>One Session Open Pairs (0-500/1500/1500+)</b></p>

Director-in-Charge: Greg Vance [Greg.Vance@acbl.org](mailto:Greg.Vance@acbl.org)

Tournament Chair, Partnership Coordinator: Bob Gleason [bob.gleason@comcast.net](mailto:bob.gleason@comcast.net)

**Fees per Session:** ACBL members \$12, lapsed ACBL members \$16, students under 22 \$7  
Sunday AM 49er pairs game free for players with fewer than 20 MPs

#### Directions to playing site:

From I280, exit at Farm Hill Boulevard, between Highway 92 and Woodside Road. Turn left into the Cañada campus at the first signal light. Follow the Loop Road (and signs) to lots #5 and #6.

A map is available at <http://www.canadacollege.edu/about/campusmap.php>, and an elevator to the Grove is located at parking lot #4 for those who need assistance. The grill at the Grove will be open for lunch.

ACBL Unit 465 • District 21  
**Carson/Tahoe Fall Sectional**

Carson City, Nevada

September 19-22, 2019

Sanction #S1909125



**Excellent Playing Site • Fabulous Hospitality**

**Play:** Plaza Convention Center  
211 E. 9th Street  
Carson City, NV 89701  
(across the street from the hotel)

**Host:** Plaza Hotel  
800 S. Carson Street  
Carson City, NV 89701  
888.227.1499  
775.889.9500

**Table Fees:**

\$12.00 ACBL members  
\$16.00 Unpaid ACBL Members

**Open Strats\*:** A = 2000, B = 750-2000, C = 0-750

**499er Strats\*:** D = 200-500, E = 100-200, F = 0-100

\*All events subject to stratification change by computer based on number of entries.

**Thursday, September 19**

Noon Stratified Open Pairs  
Stratified 499er Pairs  
**No-host Cocktails after the session**  
**Appetizers Catered by the Plaza Hotel**

5:30 PM Eight Is Enough Swiss Teams  
Team total cannot exceed 8 points  
0-750 = 1 pt, 750-2000 = 2 pts, 2000+ = 3 pts

**Friday, September 20**

10:00 AM Stratified Open Pairs  
Stratified 499er Pairs

3:00 PM Stratified Open Pairs  
Stratified 499er Pairs

**Saturday, September 21**

**International Fund Game – Regionally Rated**

10:00 AM Stratified Open Pairs  
Stratified 499er Pairs

3:00 PM Stratified Open Pairs  
Stratified 499er Pairs

**Sunday, September 22**

10:00 AM Stratified Swiss Teams  
Play Thru – Done by 5:30 PM  
Single-session entry allowed; will only receive match awards  
Lunch available for purchase, \$8.00

**Director In Charge:** Dianne Barton-Paine

**Tournament Coordinators:** Leona Pchelkin • [lpchelkin@pyramid.net](mailto:lpchelkin@pyramid.net) • 775.720.4567 and  
Cornelia Gould • [cornelia.gould@gmail.com](mailto:cornelia.gould@gmail.com) • 925.395.7385

**Partnerships:** Carole Sill • [johncarole22@gmail.com](mailto:johncarole22@gmail.com) • 775.309.3833

# Unit 509: Santa Rosa/Petaluma Fall Sectional September 21 and 22, 2019

Odd Fellows Hall 545 Pacific Avenue Santa Rosa

Play begins at 10:00 a.m.

Registration 9:15 – 9:55 a.m.

**Lunch with vegetarian option available for purchase each day before play begins**

Table Fees/Session: Members \$12; Unpaid Members \$16

Non-members must join ACBI. on a temporary basis (\$7.99 for one month + table fees)

## Saturday 10:00 a.m.

(strats determined by individual MP's)

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

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

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

## Saturday 2:30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

JACKIE ORTIZ (Strati-Flighted) Swiss Team Games

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

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

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

Tournament Director TBD • ACBI. Sanction #1909064

Tournament Co-Chairs: Harley Conner and Maxine Reagh [maxinereagh@comcast.net](mailto:maxinereagh@comcast.net)

Kathy Venton, Partnership Chair, 707 591-5015 [bridgegalleryca@gmail.com](mailto:bridgegalleryca@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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



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