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Diablo Valley By Lisa Assoni/The ShortCut Cook (499)

LIFE LINES

When it comes to living, we all need connections. You can't live life--alone. The conduit for all people is other people. Remember, the saying, it takes a Village?

As we mature, I'm reminded of how important socialization is. Time doesn't always heal all wounds but getting out of our comfort zone and becoming a part of something bigger than us, is a key component to living a fulfilling Life.

We have our own member, Eldonna Dayton, a nonagenarian bridge player, who is an inspiration to us all. She recently passed away at the age of 99. She volunteered until the age of 95, and at 96 was still an avid Bridge Player. She was a dedicated woman to continue on the path to build more than just brain matter. Her attitude, care and passion for the game, was reflected every time she played. So folks, be more like the Eldonna, and be resilient, kind, fun and motivated.

There are a few other heady brain games to play, but bridge is every bit as strategic and intellectually demanding as a game like chess, but also an inherently social. This distinction is important because it's well known that staying socially connected is key to healthy aging. Yes, chess is a brain enhancer too, but while chess is played silently against a solitary opponent, bridge involves multiple players, and requires communication skills. It's been said that Bridge players say it's the synergistic combination of the strategy, and social aspects of the game that make it so alluring.

So, let's all grow older, smarter, and connected to each other. Hang out at the bridge tables and enjoy the challenge!

Lisa Assoni/The ShortCut Cook

East Bay By Larry Bowerman (502)

First, I hope that everyone continues to be well and stay healthy.

Second, the EBCBC continues to hold both face-to-face (F2F) and some online games. The latest game schedule and results can be found by clicking the "Game Schedule and Results" tab on the left side of the Home page of the EBCBC website. All FTF players must be fully vaccinated, and masks are recommended.

In addition, Doug Handler's Piedmont Bridge Club offers virtual games on BBO on Monday at 7:10 pm, Wednesday at 2:10 pm and Thursday at 7:10 pm. Table fees are \$6.00. Contact Doug at 925 938-4493 or dough0918@aol.com.

Third, the Unit 502 games continue on the first and third Sunday of each month at the EBCBC beginning at 1:00 pm. As a reminder, if you "scratch," these games provide





Club Championship level masterpoint awards. At the March 20, 2022 Unit 502 Board Meeting, the Board voted to increase table fees to \$10.00 per person to match the EBCBC fee schedule. The increased fees became effective at the April 3, 2022 Unit Game.

Fourth, the ever-popular Tunnel Tournament competition for “bragging rights” between Units 499 and 502 resumes (after a two-year hiatus) on Sunday, October 23, 2022 at the East Bay Community Bridge Center on Oakland. This is a two-session game, and there will be Open level competition in A, B and C strats plus a separate 299er game. The results from all four levels will be compiled to determine the overall winner. If you are interested in being a part of this friendly competition, make arrangements with your partner, “save the date” and let Grant Vance know of your interest in playing.

Fifth, Unit 502 will hold its second Sectional this year on November 19 and 20, 2022. Mark your calendars now for this popular silver point tournament! The East Bay Fall Sectional will be held at the Alameda Elks Lodge, 2255 Santa Clara Ave, Alameda, California 94501. All players must be fully vaccinated, and masks are recommended. The table fees will be \$15.00 per person per session. The Saturday sessions will begin at 10:00 am and 2:30 pm. There will be a Two-Session Stratified Open Pairs Game and Single Session 299er Pairs Games that day. The Sunday “Barbara Harmon Bracketed Swiss Teams” (20VP scale) will take place at 10:00 am and approximately 2:30 pm. Coffee, tea, water and packaged snacks will be provided. For additional information, contact Kathy Wolf at katrider13@gmail.com.

Welcome to the following new Unit 502 members since June 1, 2022:

Laura Carlson	Jim Gay
John Eastman	Mary Wardlaw

Also welcome to the following people who have transferred into Unit 502 since June 1, 2022:

Laura Davis	Linda Ward
Nancy Price	

When you see them, please introduce yourself and welcome them to our unit.

Congratulations to the following members on their recent rank advancements since June 1, 2022:

Junior Master: Katherine Thompson	Life Master: Allan McAllister
Club Master: Gabriel Foster	Silver Life Master: Barak Engel

Well done, congratulations and keep on playing! There is always another goal in





front of you!

I will be writing the next column, so please contact me at (lmjtbow@pacbell.net) if you have noteworthy results or other items to report.

Fresno By Laura Da Costa (522)



Hello Everyone!

I hope you are all having a great Summer—just one more month until Fall begins. As always, I will be covering upcoming events and Unit news from the last couple of months.

Upcoming Events

We have dates for our next two sectionals. The Fresno Fall Sectional is scheduled for November 11-13 (a little later this year for us). The Fresno Winter Sectional is scheduled for February 17-20. We are tentatively planning on the Winter Sectional going back to the four-day schedule of Friday thru Presidents Day on Monday.

Members News

Congratulations to Don Austin on passing his Director's Test. Don has been working hard on our beginning bridge lessons on Saturday mornings for some time. Now that he is a director, he plans to turn these lessons into beginner games (the earlier they start playing games, the better). Once they discover the wonders of duplicate bridge, they should be hooked (well, that is the hope anyway). He will also start a Tuesday evening series of beginning lessons with the Clovis Adult School.

Special Games

At the time I write this newsletter, the Non-Life Master Sectional is still a couple of days away. I will post results from that Sectional in our October issue.

Longest Day: Our Unit celebrated the Longest Day on Saturday, June 25th. We went back to having a marathon day, though only with 4 games (instead of the 5 we have done before). Games and winners below:

<u>Games</u>	<u># of Tables</u>	<u>Winners</u>
6 am Individual	2	Laura Da Costa
9 am Open Pairs	4	Ray April & Laura Da Costa
12:30 pm Open Pairs	7	Mun Takeda & Gerard Laquerriere
4:30 pm Fast Pairs	3	Mun Takeda & Clint Hudson





The person with the most masterpoints for the day was Laura Da Costa followed closely by Mun Takeda. Many members played more than one game that day, but only four played them all: Don Austin, Laura Da Costa, Steve Johnson, & Jason McAlexander. As always, the purpose of the Longest Day marathon is to raise money for the Alzheimers Association. Between game fees and donations at both the clubhouse and website, Unit 522 and its members contributed a little over \$1800.

July 3rd, Sunday Game: We had just 3 tables enjoying our early celebration of the 4th of July. Those in attendance though were treated to barbecue hot dogs and burgers (thanks Don Austin!). The game was a Unit Championship pairs game. Winners were Barbara Thacker & Belva Quattrin. Also winners, were my Monday game on July 4th that had superb leftovers.



Pro-Am Team: Another Sunday lunch was on the books in July. We had a potluck lunch before a Unit Championship Pro-Am Team game on July 24th. The lunch was plentiful and delicious; thanks to all who contributed. Six teams were created after the lunch. Happily, everyone won at least some masterpoints as all won at least one round. With 3 victories and the most Victory Points, the winning team was Barbara Thacker (Captain), Judy Zimmerer, Don Austin, & Lori Sandersier.

New Ranking Since Our Last Issue (we only have one for the past 2 months!):

Judy Pierre Club Master (20 Masterpoints)

We have some special games to report, 70% and above:

Pair	Percentage	Game
Laura Da Costa & 7 diff. partners	80.56	Longest Day Individual (6/25/22)
Lowell Gist & Gerard Laquerriere	75.69	Mon. Aft. Open Game (6/27/22)
John McGregor & Robert Durbrow	75.00	Wed. Even Open Game (7/6/22)
Victor Greener & Ray April	75.00	Sat. Aft. 99er Game (7/9/22)
Tom & Mary Warner	80.56	Sat. Morn. Lesson Game (8/6/22)





That's all until October. Keep in mind the dates for the Fresno Fall Sectional. Also look for any other special games at our Website, fresnobridge.org.

Livermore Valley By Don Garka (501)

The Livermore Bridge Club is making some progress in its return to face-to-ace games. We are trying to determine if Monday or Thursday works best for a larger turnout. In August, we moved our Monday game to Thursday for 3 weeks. At this time, we do not have enough Directors to play both days of the week. On that front, there is some good news. Art Mirin passed his director's test. Way to go Art!!!

The hope is enough people become directors we will be able to have games on both days. We have had in excess of 60 players attend at various times so the outlook is good to have 6 tables or more tables on a consistent basis. Also, in order to provide more feedback with results, hand records and analysis, we are going to start using "the common game" link. The website is thecommongame.com, and you can login with your ACBL number. There will also be a STaC game (Sectional Tournament at Clubs) in August which will provide you the opportunity to earn silver points.

Finally, since our district has combined with District 20, the board will elect one representative to the National ACBL board. Presently, Stu Goodgold, Laurie Rowe and Jackie Zayack have presented the board with their qualifications.

Words of "Whistdom" – The art of playing bridge is knowing which lie to tell. – Anne Lindle.

Marin By Arti Bhargava (508)

Greetings all! As of July, we have a few new Marin Board members: Cindy Blum, Shirley Ehrlich, Vince Mueller, and Arti Bhargava. Arti was elected to be our new President, and Anne Schweichler our VP. We haven't sorted out all the positions on the Board yet but hope to do so during the next Board meeting. As with other units, we are concerned about growing our F2F games, and we sent out an online survey to help figure out what our unit members have to say. Melanie Haddad (our secretary and generally awesome Board member) composed and sent out the survey, and the summary of the results is as follows (about 20% of our membership responded):

- 1) 49% of our respondents have returned to F2F bridge
- 2) Almost 95% of our respondents not playing in the F2F games are open to returning to live games
- 3) 83% of the respondents are currently playing on BBO
- 4) We were asked by the District if STaC games would entice more F2F bridge, and we got a very lukewarm response as to the popularity of additional STaC games.





- 5) The majority of respondents who have not returned to F2F bridge cited the risk of contracting Covid. The next most cited reason was the convenience, flexibility and cost of BBO games.
- 6) The majority of respondents who have returned to F2F bridge cited the social component of live bridge, and because all live players are vaccinated, they felt safe and comfortable playing in the clubs.
- 7) In terms of making F2F games more attractive, there were many comments, and a few of the more commonly mentioned suggestions are: more beginner classes and games; financial incentives (like attend 3 games and the 4th game is free); bring back food and coffee.

Onto other news: A few Marin bridge players did exceedingly well at the Boise regional August 1-7. A huge congratulations to Carol Liss and her partner Val Kovachev who were the top overall master point winners. Arti Bhargava and her partner Mitch Dunitz won every event they entered save one where they only managed second. Returning Marin bridge player William Bailey and his partner Josh Donn finished in the top 5 of all master point winners. The participants found Boise to be a charming small city, with excellent restaurants. Coincidentally the New York Times published an article the week they were there which listed Boise as the fastest growing metropolitan area in the country.



Arti Bhargava



Carol Liss

Finally, Arti, playing with Amy Casanova of Portland, almost won the Women's National Pairs event in Providence!! Very exciting for both of them.

Modesto By Ray Adams (529)

June/July Modesto Unit Report

One of our most popular players – Cindy Rodgers – achieved the rank of Silver Life Master playing in our club this past June. Cindy then celebrated by having a 64% game and finishing first the next time she played. Congratulations, Cindy, on your fine playing over the years.

By now, everyone in the unit knows about the Saga of Judy and Wes Reed. Judy has long been one of our very most popular players and she is also well known for teaching beginning bridge classes. Her husband Wes, who also enjoys an occasional game of duplicate, went on a tour of Alaska in July. However, misfortune prevailed when they tried to leave Alaska. Judy tested positive to covid-19 and had to





be quarantined. They then had to leave their hotel and had a very tough time finding a new place to stay. When they did, Wes tested positive for covid-19, and then he, too, had to be quarantined. I was able to talk to Judy by phone recently and she and Wes hope to be back in Modesto covid-19 free on August 1. We are all looking forward to seeing them again and also playing bridge with them. Hurry back, Judy and Wes, we do miss you!

The unit welcomed back long-time Sunday player Marcia Eblen. Marcia did play in our online game but had not played in our new digs since the re-opening. Also, Pam Rozycki played in her first Sunday game ever on the thirty-first. Pam has been studying bridge at Judy's lessons on Monday and joins Lynne Fenderson as the other graduate from Judy's lessons who is now playing on Sunday.

There were a total of five Sunday Limited games in June and July. Leading point winners were: In B, Barbara Page with 1.95, Sharon Cole at 1.53 in second, and third, Gail Vick at 1.43. In C, Jaime Hamilton and Jim Page tied for first with 1.38 each, Garrard Marsh was second at 1.14, and Lynne Fenderson was third.

Three of Frank Frohman's grandsons came all the way from Southern California to play on the sixteenth of June. Frank and Benjamin Kuscher-- who only recently made Junior Master – were first in A & B with a 71.76% game. Wow! I am glad we don't have to play against Benjamin all the time.

High games for the two months were: 72% turned in by Libby Longstreth and Mike Saeler on June twenty-sixth, the 71.76% game by Frank and Benjamin, and then Frank and Bruce Ruskin had a 65.63% game. On a note which might interest statisticians, there were four separate 62.5% games in June, turned in by four different pairs.

High pointers for the two months were: A, Frank Frohman with 17.14, Bruce Ruskin at 16.51, and Ray Adams with 11.89. In B, Barbara Page led everyone with 11.77, Cindy Rodgers was second with 7.73, and Judy Remmers was third at 7.23.

August is known for "Hot August Nights", and I hope we will have some "Hot August Games" in our unit in August.

Monterey By Mary Block (530)

The Board of Directors met in July and elected the following officers: Sharon Larson continues to serve as President; Mano Singham is the new Vice President. Ray Mok continues as Treasurer, and Neville Kirby is the new Secretary. Joe Trustkot is still Webmaster and Membership Chairman. Rita Sturgeon will be in charge of Hospitality and Maja in charge of supplies. Pat Heller will continue to handle Goodwill.

The next Brunch and Bridge Unit game is scheduled for Sunday, August 21 at noon. As a special treat, Kurt Schnebele will be preparing his famous PAELLA on the





patio. We have missed this the last couple of years and are looking forward. Watch your mailbox for updates from <http://bridgewebs.com/montereyunit530>.

Lyde is giving lessons on Wednesday afternoons at the Bridge Center. Contact her at lydefromcarmel@comcast.net. Hetty is offering her beginner sessions on Monday mornings. Contact her at hettyeddy1@me.com.

Maja has restarted her open game at 12:30 on Thursdays.

Ginny Arguello and Judy Archibald are new Junior Masters. Karen Belding is a new member.

The Board of Directors is continuing to search for solutions for a venue for our games. As you are aware, the diminished attendance has resulted in a loss of revenue and that issue is also being addressed. Monthly unit games have helped to create some additional income and have been popular both for bridge and social interaction. Stay tuned for more information.

As always, be sure to check our Unit website at bridgewebs.com/montereyunit530. Joe Truskot is doing a wonderful job of maintaining and expanding this site to keep our members up to date. A new feature of the website is a partnership registry to assist members who do not have a regular partner or whose regular partner is unavailable. Contact Mano Singham at mano.singham@case.edu to be included in the registry.

In addition to being our webmaster, Joe also sends out e-mails of interest to our membership. Some of you may have your spam filters set so that e-mails to a mailing list go into your junk folder, so make sure that members@bridgewebsemail.com is in your on-line address book.

We are bridgewebs.com/montereyunit530The Bridge Center is 831-747-1650. I am maru0407@comcast.net. The Foundation is montereybridgeeducation.org.

Napa/Solano/Sonoma By Sigrid Price (512)

Word on the street is that a new Ruby Life Master is due a round of applause. Barbara Lemme recently passed the 1500 masterpoint level and will probably be out shopping for some sparkling red earrings or bracelet. Currently Barbara is president of Vintage Duplicate Bridge Club's Board of Directors and has been a major contributor to the success of the club. Congratulations, Barbara!

Speaking of Vintage Duplicate Bridge Club, Sandy Hicks has retired from the board and Sheila Malinowski is now one of the directors. In addition to Sheila, the current VDBC board members are Barbara Lemme, Rick Davis, Barry Walner, Joanne Wegsten, Victoria Bonnington, Carol Werner, Eileen Holsten and John Coulston. Sending a big thank you to Sandy who worked for many years on behalf of the club.



It seems as though there's been a recent spate of car accidents. Kathleen and Clyde Smith were rear-ended on a freeway and each of them told me they thought "this is it!" when they felt the jolt. I am so glad to write that they are mending and that it wasn't "it" after all. Their car was totaled, and they were actually reimbursed more than they paid for it initially. Barbara Lemme tells me she somehow totaled her vehicle too, but she came away from the accident unscathed. She's driving a new car now and my guess is, being extra cautious. And I heard that Sheila Malinowski also had an incident; I saw her recently and she looks fine, don't know the condition of her vehicle. I have heard it said that trouble comes in threes, so that's enough of this!

As of the of June the Ace of Club and Mini-McKenny Races look like this (first place followed by second):

	<u><i>Ace of Clubs</i></u>	<u><i>Mini-McKenny</i></u>
0-5	Cynthia Wornick/ Timothy Crew	Cynthia Wornick/Aimee Morris
5-20	Cynthia Cope/Carole Kupsoff	**the same**
20-50	Robert Bruce/Arlene Hold	Robert Bruce/Carol Werner
50-100	John Coulston/Tad Quayle	**the same**
100-200	Jody Brug/Marge Sheridan	Cynthia Crawford/Sylvia Landt
200-300	Barry Walner/Ann Begin	Kathryn Houk/Ann Begin
300-500	Helen Bohl/Claudia Sims	Edward Houk/Helen Bohl
500-1000	Carol Fraser/Rick Davis	**the same**
1000-1500	Richard Tebay/Lilyan Frank	Richard Tebay/Barbara Lemme
1500-2500	Sylvan Karfiol/Dan Harp	Susan Vogtlin/Dan Harp
2500-3500	Anita Pensler/Clyde Smith	Anita Pensler/Kathleen Smith
3500-5000	Joanne Wegsten/Michael Goshell	Joanne Wegsten/Jeffrey Ferro
5000-7500	Tom Jacobson/Russell Quinnell	**the same**

The closest race is in the Ace of Clubs, 500-100 category, Carol leading by 1.11 masterpoints; in the 0-5 range Cynthia leads Timothy by 1.23 so it will be interesting to see what the number show in the next couple of months.





The latest VDBC Pro-Am game was held July 27th in Sonoma. Overall winners were as follows:

1 st	Gerald Besser/Nancy Gunn	3.95 masterpoints
2 nd	Daniel Harp/Lois Lourie	2.96 masterpoints
3 rd	Barry Walner/Richard Tebay	2.22 masterpoints
4 th	Barbara Simon/Cathy Netz	1.66 masterpoints
5 th	Helen Bohl/partner	1.25 masterpoints
6 th	Theila Smith/Carole Kupsoff	1.44 masterpoints

That's it for Unit 512 this time. Hope everyone is staying well and out of trouble (and car accidents!) Hope you are enjoying this awesome summer weather.

Palo Alto By Judi Gentry (503)



Hi Members and Friends of Unit 503:

After almost 3 years, Unit 503 hosted a return of the popular Firecracker Super Sectional. It occurred from Wednesday July 6 to Sunday July 10.

First a huge thank you to the Tournament Directors: **Marc Cervellino and Geraldine McDonald**. So much planning and effort went into make the event run smoothly. It all starts with leaders who are willing to step up. Then we depend on many others to create a successful tournament.

Gratitude to:

- **Josephine Ventura** for coordinating the caddies;
- **Don Cohn** for overseeing parking, allowing all to be safe (and legal) as we came to our games on time
- **Carl Baeuerlen** who is the perfect person to represent our hospitality and assist players to find partners
- **Lynn Yokel and her team** for keeping the games moving and assuring fair play at all times.
- And finally, a rousing hand for the more than 40 volunteers who kept it all going smoothly.

In the few days of the tournament, 403 tables played. In all, 2121 silver points



were awarded to 364 separate players. And the winners are... Rory Xiao of Fremont was the top point earner with 41.6 points. While there were players from all over the region (and beyond), 8 Unit 503 members each earned more than 25 masterpoints. These sterling winners of silver were: Gary MacGregor, Makund Thapa, Frank Xie, Jonathan Yue, Cornelius Duffy, Robert Madalena, Will Watson and Michael Xu.

Join us for the next sectional on October 15 and 16.

Our 2022 Celebrity Seminar Series will finish the year with a presentation by Alan Parrish on **Preempts**. Save the date: **Saturday, October 1, 9:30-11**. Be sure to register. The fee is \$25, which includes a free ecopy of his newest book, *Parrish the Thought Volume 1: Preempts and Overcalls*.

We have such wonderful opportunities to keep improving our game as we enjoy spending time together. Judi

Reno By Sandra Haslem & Jill Wallace (473)

A Little Less Talk, and a Lot More Action!

Unit 473 is proud to share that we are #1 in District 21 and #9 across ACBL for the "Increase in Active Membership" from June 30, 2021 to June 30, 2022. We realized a 4.38% increase in active members.

Our Unit is also #1 in "New Member Gains" in District 21 and #3 across ACBL. Our new members increased by nearly 12% year over year to June 2022.

Efforts to promote increased membership and mentor new players is firmly rooted in the Center. Specifically listed below are recurring events focused on new Bridge Players at the Club.

Limited games at the Mathewson Bridge Center and Virtual Games on BBO:

- Every Thursday 499er Game,
- Every Friday 99er Game
- Every Sunday 149er Game
- Every Tuesday Pro-Am Game





Coaching:

- Coaching is ongoing with drop-in coaching sessions on Thursdays, Saturday practice sessions with topics presented, followed by play, and Tuesday instructional presentations and play ahead of games.

Special Games:

- Other Special Games focus on newly acquired skills for the students. This month, on four Wednesdays, the Mathewson Bridge Center is hosting Reno Notrump Virtual Club game on BBO, where members can test their notrump playing skills in these FUN games.

- Upcoming Celebrity Speaker Event: Robert Todd Day, September 14.

Other News: Our Reno May 17 – 20 2022 Sectional was the first held for Unit 473 since August of 2019. We hoped for better attendance (109.5 tables) but none-the-less, the tournament was a success, providing many opportunities for Silver Points, and a small profit for the Center.

By the time you read this article we will be competing in our August 11-14, 2022 Sectional. Good luck to all!

San Francisco By Kimberly Fanady (506)

Congratulations to all our Unit 506ers who shone at the Providence NABC. Special mention to goes to Anant Rathi, winner of the 0-10,000 Pairs; and Deborah Murphy, winner of the Bruce LM 0-6000 Pairs. Well played!

Our Youth NABC contestants, Andrew Eidelhoch, Joey Qi, Eddy Qi, Helen Chow, Nathan Chow, Chloe Chow, Kyle Lin, Keith Lin, and Gary Zeng all did GREAT! Their smiling faces are splashed all over the NABC Daily Bulletins for their many wins and high placings. The

Daily Bulletins are available on the ACBL website, take a look!.

We are particularly proud that Andrew received the Master Point Press Sportsmanship Award (nominated by Youth NABC players and chosen by the directors). Winning a bridge game is always great, but good sportsmanship and the admiration and respect of your peers are truly something to be cherished. Way to go Andrew! And just to prove what a good guy Andrew really is, he gave QuickTricks (the SF club where he learned to play and practiced for the Youth NABC) a shout-out in





the Daily Bulletin.

Welcome to our new member Alexandra Williams. Be sure to say hello when you see her at the table or online. Congrats to our latest ladder climbers: new Club Masters Kavita Khanna, Anita Mahtani; Sectional Master Sarah Malarkey; Regional Masters Caroline Allen, Gail Mejeur, Kristine Therian; Bronze Life Master Sue Campbell; and Gold Life Master Rob Balas. Way to go, everyone!

Finally, we sadly say goodbye to Terry Levin, who recently passed away on the eve of her 70th birthday -- much too young. Terry usually played at QuickTricks, Pips, and the unit games and sectionals with her gang of girlfriends. Always friendly and kind, as well as sharp and eager to learn and improve her game, Terry was a great asset to San Francisco bridge. She will be much missed. Our condolences to her family and friends.

Hope everyone had a great summer and is looking forward to an even better fall! See you at the table, real or virtual!

San Mateo By Melanie Mauldin (498)

We welcome new, reinstated, and transferred Unit members:

Diane Armstrong	Menlo Park	Amber Lin	Milbrae
Silas Burdick	S San Francisco	Toni Middleton	El Granada
Joanne Engelhardt	Redwood City	Albert Nuti	San Carlos
Richard Foley	Portola Valley	Dorothy Nuti	San Carlos
Gail Hynding	Woodside	Sianak Parsaneiad	Belmont
Jayson Lee	Hillsborough	Prashanth Sriram	San Mateo
Rita Lee	Hillsborough		





Congratulations to our new Master Achievers:

Junior Masters

- Barbara Brown
- William Brown
- Sally Farr
- Victoria Lowdon
- Carol Ordemann
- Shirley Roberts

Club Masters

- Janice O'Brien

Sectional Masters

- Ema Bowman
- Lee Bowman
- Lauren Rosen

- Nancy Zorfas

Regional Masters

- Prashanth Sriram
- Barbara Curry

Life Master

- Jeanie Kwong

Bronze Life Master

- Kathryn Barnard

Silver Life Master

- Christine Hevener

It's been an eventful couple of months for Unit 498. A large focus was the Longest Day Campaign. To date, we've raised over \$20,000. Thanks to Rita Armstrong, Janice Carter, Jennifer Kuhn, Barbara Lewis, Jackie Lowenberg, Sue Papillon, Janelle Van Rensselaer, and Lauren Rosen for all their efforts in organizing and running the Longest Day Game on June 25th. The game drew 12 tables, evenly divided between open and 499er games. The big winners in the open game were Dariush Youssefi and Roger Dewes, who took overall and N-S honors. Arline and Jim Van Ness won the E-W section. In the 499er, Debra Martinez and Carl Ebeling were the overall winners playing E-W, and Melanie Mauldin and Cat Raanes led the N-S section.

As another Longest Day fundraiser, Jackie Lowenberg and Janelle Rensselaer sponsored and hosted a bridge party on July 15th. Fred Chasalow and Gary Porter took first place in the open game. Laurie Benson and Orene Kearn finished first in the 499er game. Thanks to Jackie and Janelle for the party.

As the final parts of this year's Longest Day Campaign, lessons and play-with-a-pro in return for donations extend through the end of August, and Jennifer Kuhn will hold a seminar on how to fill out the new convention card. Instructions for donations and selection of items in recognition of your donation can be found on our website.





Our July Unit games included open and 499 sections, each with 5 tables. Sharon Sloan and Kit Morse took first N-S and first overall in the 499er. Jeanne Urich & Pete Goldsmith were the N-S runners-up. In the E-W section, Rula & Ford Tamer finished first, with Kathy Hamilton and Becca Simmons coming in second. In the Open game, Seva Sokolov and Roger Dewes came in first E-W and first overall. Beth Eggers and Bob Gleason were second E-W. The N-S winners were Loretta Baines & Carole Ringoen, followed by Claude Hughes & Anne Javer. Congratulations to all the winners, and thanks to Art Quey and Jennifer Kuhn for directing the games.

The mentor-mentee games on BBO for June and July both drew 9 tables. In June, Elizabeth Molumphy and Robert Ng were the overall winners. Carmen Keenan and Jennifer Stern were first in the N-S section. Runners-up were Julie Navid and Mark Sorenson (N-S) and Andrew Erich & Bob Farkas (E-W). Thanks to Art Quey for directing. In the July game, the top scores were bunched tightly together: Carol Ordemann and Fred Chasalow (56.3%) topped the N-S section, followed by Jeanne Urich & Kal Aziz (54.5%). In the E-W section Mili Delbecq and Norma Bozzini (56.6%) edged out Elizabeth Molumphy and Robert Ng (56.3%).

Club game schedules are unchanged (and can be seen on our website). Both Raad Bunni and Jenny Kuhn offer bridge lessons. Raad's weekly lessons are available at www.sanmateobridgecenter.com. Anyone wanting to take lessons from Jenny can reach her at jkuhn@peninsuladbc.com.

Dariusz Youssefi, long-time Unit member and frequent player at our tables, passed away in July. Our heart-felt condolences to everyone who knew and loved him.

Last, but not least, congratulations to Jennifer and Phil Kuhn on their first-place finish in the Red Ribbon 0-2500 Pairs competition at the Providence NABC.

Santa Cruz By Rick Zinman (550)



Our unit will continue to follow COVID health and safety guidelines provided by Santa Cruz County. Currently, masks are optional.

Currently, FTF open pairs are Tuesday and Friday at 10AM and Wednesday at 6PM. BBO games are Tuesday at 6:30PM for 499er Pairs and Saturday at 9AM for open pairs. Check the SCBC website for the current schedule of games.





High Scoring Games

<i>Date</i>	<i>Pair Names</i>	<i>Score</i>
07/05/22	Darby Kremers – Linda Downing	70.8%
07/27/22	Clair Sweetland – Dennis Webb	73.7%

Scoring Milestones

<i>Name</i>	<i>Rank</i>
James Miller	Junior Master
John Walker	Life Master
Amos Hahn	Club Master

Santa Rosa/Petaluma By Cecelia Zachar (509)



August 2022 (June 20 - August 09)

The Unit 509 Fall Sectional is coming September 17 and 18 at the Petaluma Community Center. Get your partner on board, and plan to attend. This spacious new venue proved to be comfortable and convenient last March, and we can expect the same this fall. Coffee, tea, water and sodas will be provided, along with donations of snacks throughout the day. For more details about the tournament, see <https://web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2022/09/2209314.pdf>. For help with partnership, contact Kathy Venton at BridgeGalleryCA@gmail.com.



Our big news since the last Heart of the District is that the Bridge Gallery has opened for Face-to-Face bridge again. Kathy Venton now has a Thursday open game at the Petaluma Community Center. She will also be hosting our unit games there. Her first unit game will be August 28 at 1 pm, following lunch at 12:30. I've heard that Tony Jackson will be bringing homemade ice cream which I am sure will be delicious. In

addition to her Face-to-Face Thursday game, the Gallery continues to have virtual games several times a week. For more information, see <http://santarosabridge.com>.

In Face-to-Face bridge, we had three 70+% games since the last Heart of the





District, all at the Oakmont Duplicate Bridge Club. On June 3 Carl Ballou and Mary Ann Essig had a nice 70.41% score, on August 2 Jan Conklin and Howard Neckel turned in 71.88%, and on August 9, Jackie Reinhardt and Nancy Rude scored 73.02%.

There were two 70+% Virtual BBO games at the Bridge Gallery since the last newsletter. On June 16, Bonnie Nackley and Elizabeth Strasen scored 71.94%, and on July 1 Helene Gay and Ron McEwan scored a whopping 74.4%. Good going!

Our new Club Master is Sheila Wong. Cathy Netz and Lawson James are our new NABC Masters. Linda Marin, Barbara Norman, and Muthiah Ramanathan all be-came Life Masters at the Sacramento tournament. Patty Harberson is our newest Ruby Life Master; Debbie Tesler, our newest Gold Life Master; and Mark Hersko, our newest Sapphire Master! Congratulations all.

We finally have our Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney results for 2021. Here they are:

2021 Unit 509 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race Winners

<i>Bracket</i>	<i>Player</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Points</i>
0 to 5	Jeff Sacher	Petaluma CA	8.33
5 to 20	Stephen Cotler	Healdsburg CA	16.24
20 to 50	Jean O'Donnell	Santa Rosa CA	20.51
50 to 100	Catherine Shanahan	Windsor CA	52.07
100 to 200	Kim Fusch	Petaluma CA	109.56
200 to 300	Lawson James	Petaluma CA	100.49
300 to 500	Linda Marin	Calistoga CA	78.63
500 to 1000	John Shribbs	Petaluma CA	92.90
1000 to 1500	Abbe Cohen	Santa Rosa CA	100.23
1500 to 2500	Helene Gay	Santa Rosa CA	55.97
2500 to 3500	Larry Spanier	Rohnert Park CA	53.84
3500 to 5000	Mark Hersko	Windsor CA	124.60
5000 to 7500	Evelyn Holtz	Santa Rosa CA	106.74
7500 to 10,000	Erwin Linzner	Santa Rosa CA	8.73
Over 10,000	Bob Klein	Santa Rosa CA	131.00





2021 Unit 509 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race Winners

<i>Bracket</i>	<i>Player</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Points</i>
0 to 5	Jeff Sacher	Petaluma CA	8.33
5 to 20	Stephen Cotler	Healdsburg CA	16.24
20 to 50	Jean O'Donnell	Santa Rosa CA	20.51
50 to 100	Catherine Shanahan	Windsor CA	52.07
100 to 200	Kim Fusch	Petaluma CA	115.05
200 to 300	Lawson James	Petaluma CA	100.49
300 to 500	Linda Marin	Calistoga CA	84.30
500 to 1000	John Shribbs	Petaluma CA	95.06
1000 to 1500	Abbe Cohen	Santa Rosa CA	100.23
1500 to 2500	Helene Gay	Santa Rosa CA	55.97
2500 to 3500	Larry Spanier	Rohnert Park CA	58.33
3500 to 5000	Mark Hersko	Windsor CA	130.70
5000 to 7500	Sara Rothmuller	Occidental CA	141.95
7500 to 10,000	Erwin Linzner	Santa Rosa CA	8.73
Over 10,000	Bob Klein	Santa Rosa CA	158.45

Congratulations, all!

Silicon Valley By Ray Yuenger (507)



My last column was composed seven weeks ago. There has only been one Unit Board meeting since then on which to report, with the next monthly meeting scheduled about the time this newsletter will be published.

The Board decided to hold a combined Unit 507 membership meeting and unit game on Saturday, August 20 at the Campbell Community Center. The Bylaws require annual membership meetings. Due to the pandemic, we attempted to hold the last two meetings online via Zoom, but very few members turned out. We hope a free game will attract more members, although getting a quorum (15% of the membership) may





not be a realistic expectation. To get the word out, each Board member (there are 12) agreed to call or email part of the membership. We have also sent out a group email via Pianola. If you are interested in playing, proof of vaccination will be required at the door and masking may be required depending on local transmission conditions or your opponent's request. For more details, check the latest newsletter on sjbridge.org.

The Unit membership is currently 537 members. When the County of Santa Clara first issued a shelter-in-place order on March 16, 2020, the Unit membership was 660, so there has been a steady decline during the COVID pandemic, with more Life Masters changing to unpaid status and more non-Life Masters changing to inactive status.

Still some members have been active. Madhu Moorthy and Russell Segal have advanced to the status of Junior Masters and deserve congratulations.

At the Nationals in Providence, Rhode Island, unfortunately a number of players caught COVID. Some unit members soldiered on. Michael Rosenberg's teams placed first in the Roth Open Swiss and tied for fifth in the Spingold KO Teams. Tsao-Tung Tsai placed first in the under 2500 Pairs. Stu Goodgold was second in the under 6000 Bruce Life Master Pairs. Pangjie Xu was sixth in the same event aided by a section top. Michael Bodell was fifth in the Wernher Open Pairs and had a section top in the event. Sathya Bettadapura had a section top in the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs.

In regional events at the NABC, Will Watson's bracketed team placed first. Rich Reitman was first in a fast open pairs event.

In a regional preceding the NABC, Tony Barre's team tied for first in their bracket in Waterloo, Iowa.

Kyra Helmbold's team was first in a Granite City sectional in Minnesota.

In the East Bay sectional, Kevin Rosenberg's team was first in the top bracket. John Stremel was first in his strat in a two-session pairs game. Kevin Rosenberg was second overall in the same pairs game. Both Kevin and Bruce Luttrell had a section tops in that game.

In the five-day Firecracker sectional, Will Watson & Eugene Hung won a two-session pairs game as did Frank Xie and Daren Kuo & Luen-Jyh Luo. Prevailing in single-session pairs games were Renee Cantu & Alicia Breyer, Kevin Rosenberg, Barbara Roupe, Melanie Kakalec, Jack Clinch, and Tom Rossi. Earning section tops in two-session games were Stu Goodgold & Ray Yuenger and Michael Fleisher. Sandra Erickson had a section top in a single-session game.

Several teams were first in their brackets, including teams with Michael Fleisher & Norman Marks, Andy Scott & Philip Freiberger, Frank Xie & Donghui Lu, Ron Baron





& Ken Rosenfeld, and Michele Liu & Yannie Zhao. Arthur Zhou's Swiss team was first in its stratification.

Stockton By Debbie DeZarn (510)



There has been renovation at the Oak Park Senior Center this summer which didn't deter the regulars from still coming to play. It was a little tight (and loud) in the tiny game room, but Korey was still able to run a game of 8 full tables. The stress was relieved through Krispy Kreme doughnuts provided by Mary Hill.

There have been some rank advancements by newer players! Sylvester Price earned his Junior Master and Joan Canepa, who plays mostly online, became a Club Master. I am especially happy to congratulate the Stockton Club's newest Life Master, Mary Westin. Mary earned her final silver points at the Reno Sectional on August 12.

Lorna Crooks is teaching classes for advanced beginners through experienced players on Friday mornings before the weekly game at the Stockton Club. There is no cost for the 90-minute session, but it is hoped all attendees will stay and play in the game at 11:30 a.m. Class begins at 9:30 a.m. and includes as many boards as time permits, each with a particular "problem" to be addressed through bidding or play. She often has handouts as well and there is always some new concept to pick up even if you can't make it every week. All are welcome as she will tailor the lesson to the level and interests of those who attend.

Food is no longer officially served as part of the Stockton Bridge Club games, but thanks are sent to Zulka Dozier who frequently brings her signature sandwiches, and those who have brought in extra bounty from their home gardens and "orchards" (one prolific tree). This is one of the perks of living in an agricultural area of our beautiful State.

