



District Dispatches

August 2026

One D21 member has reached a new milestone and has passed on her comments and journey to Jackie Zayac to share with our readers.



Christina Kobland, Unit 550, Regional Master

My bridge journey began late in life, in my 70s, and it's one of the best decisions I've ever made. The bidding came fairly naturally, but declarer play has been much more challenging. Because puzzles have never been my strength, that's where I've devoted the greatest effort and where I continue to focus.

If I've had an advantage, it's been persistence. I show up, study, ask questions, seek out great teachers and partners, and keep working to improve. Reaching Regional Master has been especially rewarding because every masterpoint represents hours of learning, competition, and determination.

I'm deeply grateful for the active Santa Cruz Bridge Center and the many players who have encouraged me along the way.

One suggestion I have for the ACBL is to invest more in social media. Bridge is one of the most intellectually rewarding games there is, yet many younger people simply aren't exposed to it. Modern videos, short-form content, and stories featuring players from all walks of life could help introduce a new generation to the game.

I'm looking forward to continuing the journey toward my next bridge milestone.