

JULY 2014

eDeclarer

ACBL UNIT 499 NEWSLETTER



President's Message

IN THE IMMORTAL WORDS OF CHARLIE BROWN..

Winning isn't everything, but losing is nothing. Last year, our unit invited Unit #502 from Oakland to play at DVBC in the first annual Tunnel Tourney. The Oakland unit accepted our invitation and we had a lovely day of bridge. Door prizes were raffled and the overall winners received bottles of wine. Only one minor flaw--our unit didn't win. The plaque we had purchased, confident that it would reside in unit #499, is now ensconced in Oakland.

Never fear, we have a chance to redeem ourselves. The second annual Tunnel Tourney will be held in Oakland on October 5th. Please save the date. We need you all to have a chance to win back our honor. Flyers will be out soon with all the details.

If you are eager to warm up in some big events prior to the Tunnel Tourney, there are at least two opportunities this month. The NABC in Las Vegas runs from July 17th-27th. If you have never been to a National, this presents a nearby opportunity to take in all the excitement.

There is also a Sectional really close to home. The Sonoma unit, is having their annual Sectional. It is the only Sectional in District 21 during the month of July. The folks up North are very welcoming and it is always a fun day.

Win or lose, bridge is a great game. See you at the tables!

Trisha O'Connor



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Unit 499 eDeclarer

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Editor: Judy Keilin

Publisher: Mary Krouse

Submit articles to jkeilin@pacbell.net

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July 2014

Deadline for August is July 14th

...from the editor

Lots of tournaments, lots of fun! Jack and I attended the Penticton Regional - Canada's largest regional - in June. It's in a big wine-producing area, similar to Napa, but with a huge lake in the middle of it. It's a fun tournament and a great stepping-off point for visiting the Canadian Rockies and Glacier National Park, which we did.

Next big one is the Las Vegas National. Hope to see you there.

Judy Keilin

jkeilin@pacbell.net



To submit a letter to the editor,
send it to Judy Keilin at
jkeilin@pacbell.net

Mary Krouse, Publisher



Be sure to visit the unit website for more information on our clubs and events, as well as archives of our newsletters.

diablovalleybridge.com

Unit 499 Milestones

***** NEW JUNIOR MASTERS *****

Linda Ingalls
Malcolm Mendelson
William Resneck
Carol Shannon

***** NEW CLUB MASTERS *****

Robert Melani
James Regan

***** NEW NABC MASTERS *****

Mike Rippey

***** NEW LIFE MASTERS *****

Sandi Cummings
Carol Harrison
Susan White

***** NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTERS *****

Patricia George



What's Happening?

SWISS TEAM GAME at ROSSMOOR

There will be a Swiss Team event at Rossmoor on Saturday, July 12. Play will begin at 12:30 pm in the Oak Room at the Gateway Center. At least two of the team members must be members of the Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club.

UNIT GAME at ROSSMOOR

There will be a Unit game held at Rossmoor on Thursday, July 17, at 7pm. This will be an open game and will be held in the Oak Room at the Gateway Center.

UNIT 499 DIRECTORY ADDENDUM

Have you picked up your four-page (double-sided on two sheets of paper) copy of the Addendum to the 2014 Diablo Valley Unit 499 Membership Directory? It is now available at the Unit 499 Bridge clubs! Get yours today!

BIG GAMES

Jerry Weitzner and Darrell Fung had a 79.4% game recently. Great playing, guys!

Ed. Note: We are happy to include this type of info in eDeclarer. Please let me know if you score over 70%, and we'll acknowledge your achievement.



...seen at the Sacramento Regional

Diablo Valley Fall Sectional



Salute to Veterans

Nov. 8th & 9th, 2014

San Ramon Valley High School
501 Danville Blvd., Danville, CA 94526

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

Saturday, November 8th

10:00 AM

Two Session Stratified Open Pairs (session 1)
(0-750/750-2000/2000+)

Single Session Stratified Pairs*:

Open (0-750/750-2000/2000+)
299er (0-50/50-100/100-300)
99er (0-20/20-50/50-100)

3:00 PM

Two Session Stratified Open Pairs (session 2)
(0-750/750-2000/2000+)

Single Session Stratified Pairs*:

Open (0-750/750-2000/2000+)
299er (0-50/50-100/100-300)
99er (0-20/20-50/50-100)

* Games and strats will be adjusted based on attendance.

Sunday, November 9th

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

Table fees: \$10 per session (non-ACBL or unpaid members \$13)

Tournament Director: Nancy Boyd. ACBL Sanction #: S1411087

Tournament Chair: Anne Hollingsworth (925) 934-3149, scootcat@pacbell.net

Partnerships: Partnership desk available at tournament. Also, use Unit 499's Google Group to find a partner: <http://groups.google.com/group/bridgepartner499>

Food: Refreshments Saturday & Sunday.

Directions: Take I-680 and exit onto El Cerro Blvd., turn west on El Cerro approx. 0.4 miles to Danville Blvd. Turn left onto Danville Blvd and drive 0.2 miles. San Ramon Valley High School is on the right.

BRIDGE • SWISS TEAM EVENT

SATURDAY, July 19, 2014

DVBC, 12:30 PM

Light Lunch Served

12 Noon

\$40/team

We hope to continue having a separate Section
of teams of beginning players.

The Game will be Handicapped per directions on ACBL SCORE to give
teams with lower master-point totals a boost when playing against
more experienced players, OR strati-flighted if enough teams enter to
accomplish this.

LIMITED TO 24 TEAMS

Please make a reservation in advance on

The sign-up sheet at DVBC

Or contact Jerry Chamberlain

JERRY@WJASPER.COM; 925-766-5228 (CELL)

***Names • team master-point total • email and/or phone
of team captain***

NEED TEAMMATES OR A TEAM?

WE WILL TRY TO MATCH UP PLAYERS

Diablo Valley Unit 499 0 - 500 NLM* Sectional

NEW EVENT

**SILVER
RUSH**



Location: Diablo Valley Bridge Center
2920 Camino Diablo, Suite 100
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Saturday, Sept. 20, 2014

Stratified Newcomer 99er Pairs 10 AM & 3 PM
(0-20,20-50,50-100)

Both events have single session games; play either or both

Stratified Pairs 10 AM & 3 PM
(0-100, 100-300, 300-500)

*Only Non-Life Masters with less than 500 MPS may play in this sectional. Strats based on average. Director may change strats based on attendance. Silver points awarded for all events.

Space limited – Reservations recommended. Sign-up sheet available at Diablo Valley Bridge Center. Please provide individual MPs on sign-up sheet. If you are unable to use the sign-up sheet, contact Beth Eggers for reservations.

Tournament Director: Grant Robinson. ACBL sanction # 1409160

Tournament Chair: Ted Gunn – edwinmgunn@mail.com

Reservations: Beth Eggers – betheggers@gmail.com

Table Fees: \$10 per session (\$13 for non-ACBL members & unpaid)

Food: Refreshments provided.

Directions: For directions go to diablovalleybridge.com (click on sectionals tab)

Improve Your Game

Declarer Play

Looking at the hand to the right, determine your line of play before reading the Solution. You are South.

After you open 1 NT, partner responds 2♣ and you wind up in 3NT. West leads the ♠4. East plays the ♠6, standard count. Plan the play.

NORTH
♠ J 9
♥ K 7 6 2
♦ K J 10 4
♣ K 9 6

SOUTH
♠ A K
♥ A 5 3
♦ A Q 9 5
♣ 8 7 5 4

You have eight top tricks with two chances for a ninth: leading up to the ♣K (50%) or playing for 3 – 3 hearts (36%). Unfortunately given the fragility of the spade position (you can only let them in one more time before their spades are established) you don't have time to try both. Which will it be?

When on line give you a 50% chance and the other 36%, guess which one you should take? After cashing four diamonds, lead up to the ♣K.

Tip:

When you don't have 'time' to give yourself two chances in the play, take the one that offers the best odds.

Notice that East's count card at Trick 1 from the 7652 was second highest from four small; the highest card tends to show a doubleton – assuming a doubleton is possible.

The West hand: ♠ Q 10 8 4 3 ♥ 10 8 ♦ 7 6 3 ♣ A J 2

The East hand: ♠ 7 6 5 2 ♥ Q J 9 4 ♦ 8 2 ♣ Q 10 3

The hand above is taken from *Take All Your Chances at Bridge*, by Eddie Kantar, by permission of the publisher, Master Point Press.

Club News

This section is for club owners and managers who wish to submit news about their games. Please go to our website for information about all our clubs, game times, and to check on the latest results.

Diablovalleybridge.com

ROSSMOOR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Gateway Club

Rossmoor

WINNERS of SWISS TEAM EVENT

Congratulations to the winning team in the Swiss Team Event which took place on June 7th. Seen below are Thayer and Alice Johnson and Al and Valerie Petersen.



DIABLO VALLEY BRIDGE CENTER

2920 Camino Diablo, W. C., SUITE 100

CALL: 925-935-2273 or 925-943-2273



Here we are, in mid-June, and you all have the chance to play in a sectional, regional and/or NAP game practically every weekend this summer. We have an embarrassment of riches in the Bay Area, with all these contests happening within a two-hour drive, giving you the opportunity to win extra points.

DVBC is continuing the regular schedule of play, for the most part. The Thursday afternoon Novice Game is on summer hiatus, replaced by a new beginning class taught by Trisha O'Connor. Grant Robinson is continuing his Monday evening class, but other lessons will wait until August or September, also.

I very much appreciate all our instructors: Ravi Bhalla, Randy Corr, Larry Miller, Trisha O'Connor and Grant Robinson share their knowledge and enthusiasm with 15-minute, half-hour and two-hour lessons. The level of play among our newer players, as a result, is quite impressive.

Many of our regular players are either presently or will soon be on vacations. Have a wonderful time, and when you return --- **COME AND PLAY!!**

Iris Libby



The Moraga Evening Duplicate Bridge Club

The Moraga Evening Duplicate Bridge club will meet in July 2014 as follows:

Wednesday, 7/2

Tuesday, 7/8

Wednesday, 7/16

Tuesday, 7/22

Games always begin at 7pm. and finish about 10. Fee is \$2 per player. ACBL Open Club, with Master Points of course. Hand records. **YOU MUST SIGN UP IN ADVANCE** with: Winnie Jasper (Winnie@wjasper.com) for Wednesdays, or David Geary (dsgeary@comcast.net) for Tuesdays.

On Wednesdays we meet at the Moraga Country Club, upstairs - on St. Andrews, a short distance from Moraga Way. On Tuesdays we are usually at the Country Club, sometimes at homes.

Results:

5/21 six pairs

- 1 - Colleen Geary & Jerry Chamberlain
- 2 - Renee & Dennis Ross
- 3 - Winnie Jasper & Irwin Javinsky

5/27 four pairs

- 1 - Sue & Shyam Rungta
- 2 - Colleen & David Geary
- 3 - Carol & Gary Irwin

6/4 no game held, organizers travelling

6/10 no game held, organizers travelling

Regards, David Geary





Bridge Basics 3: Popular Conventions

For New and Returning Players



- Learn important methods for responding to a notrump opening bid — the Stayman and Jacoby Transfer conventions
- Learn how to bid very strong hands — the Omnibus 2♣
- Learn fundamentals of slam bidding — Blackwood and Gerber
- Balanced overview of all aspects — bidding, play, and defense
- Hands-on learning and practice with mentored play
- Learn to play with any partner
- Course material from top teachers and players
- Meet other bridge players and make new friends



**Instructor:
Grant Robinson**

Gold Life Master
ACBL Star Teacher

408-857-7240
grantmrobinson@gmail.com

Open to all, reservations required

\$95 for 8 classes, includes Audrey Grant textbook

**Thursday evenings, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
July 9 through September 10 (8 classes)**

**Diablo Valley Bridge Center
2920 Camino Diablo, Ste. 100
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
(925) 935-CARD (2273)**

Tournament Results

Unit 499 had a great showing at the recent Sacramento Regional. Those earning 20+ MP's include:

66.94 – Robert Munson
43.51 – Daniel Friedman
25.04 – Elizabeth Golanco
25.04 – Bradley Komsthoft
21.94 – Winnie Smith
21.94 – Nancy Barker
21.94 – Patti Keenan
21.94 – Mary Krouse
21.41 – Linda Gross
20.04 – Robert Pastor



We had many who were top finishers in events:

Thurs Aft 299er Pairs - Lois Zollars and Betty Wood
River Cats Series 1/5 - Grant Robinson
Folsom Side Series 4/4 - Marj Russell and Carroll Brooks
Thurs Eve Side Swiss - Robert Munson
Sierra KO - Bkt III - Winnie Smith, Nancy Barker, Patricia Keenan, and Mary Krouse
Sierra KO - Bkt V - Bee Sturmer, Don Sturmer, Lilah Newton, Paul Newton
Fri Aft 299er Pairs - Jamie Ney and Colette Johnson
River Cat Series Final - Mark Marty and Anne Hollingsworth
Kings KO - Bkt II - Lisa Evans and Linda Gross
Delta Compact KO - Bkt I - Robert Munson and Daniel Friedman
Delta Compact KO - Bkt II - Grant Robinson
Sat AM 299er Pairs - Lois Zollars and Betty Wood

Kudos to Mark Marty for making Life Master at the Sacramento Regional. He is the second unit member to reach LM under the new 2010 requirements of 500 MP's, which includes 50 gold and 75 silver. Neil Swanon was first in the unit, reaching LM in 2012 with the new rules (he had been a previous ACBL member and had some MP's when he re-started). Making LM with the new rules is like making LM and Bronze LM all at the same time!! Whew!!!!

Anne Hollingsworth

SWISS TEAM GAME SCHEDULE

Swiss team games are held at DVBC on the 3rd Saturdays of each month, except for January 25 and December 20, 2014.

**All games will be \$10 per person
(\$5 per person if ALL 4 TEAM MEMBERS ARE UNDER 300 MP'S).**

Games will be stratified or handicapped.

Dates for 2014 are as follows:

February 15

March 15

April 19

May 17

June 21

July 19

August 16

October 18

November 15