

January 2016

eDeclarer

ACBL UNIT 499 NEWSLETTER

President's Message



Happy New Year to All!

We had an exciting and bridge filled final month of the year. I saw many of you at the Denver NABC. A big shout out to Grant Robinson and his partner, Teresa Boyd for a top finish in the coveted national event, 0-5K Mini Blue Ribbon Pairs. It got them on the front page of the tournament's Daily Bulletin and lots of high fives from other players, as well as 75 gold master points. While most of us did not come home with triple digit points, I hope all of you who attended had a good run in the mile high city and fun at the tables.

We had our unit holiday party on December 20, with another big turnout. It was our final holiday party at DVBC and it was a nice way to finish out the old year and ring in the new. Lots of delicious food, good cheer, catching up with friends, and of course, higher master point awards.

As we start the new year, I want to thank all of the Unit 499 Board members who have volunteered their time in 2015 to bring you sectionals (and the best hospitality around), special events (like our Goodwill Dinner and unit games), up to date bridge news on our website, publicity for events as well as articles in the eDeclarer and Forum, warm welcomes to new members and congrats to advancing members in our unit, and a mentoring program as well as youth bridge. There are lots of activities in our unit thanks to the efforts by your Board Directors. If you see one, please take a moment to thank them for their time and contributions.

I will look forward to seeing many of you at the tables, with the regional in Monterey to start off the new year. We also are fortunate to have an NABC in our neck of the woods. Plan to attend the Reno NABC in March. It will be fun with lots of bridge games to choose from.

Anne Hollingsworth

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Unit 499 eDeclarer

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Deadline for February is January 16, 2016

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

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

diablovalleybridge.com

...from the editor

Happy New Year!

While at the Palm Springs Regional last month, Jack and I visited with Judy and Bob at their new home, and then went to dinner with them, along with Jackie Zayac. Bob is doing very well, having recently come home from a six-week hospital stay. It sure was fun to see them enjoying their new home.

Congratulations to our two new board members - Patti Kogan and Bill LeMaire. Be sure to thank these two for volunteering to help make our unit a great one.

Judy Keilin,
Editor



Mary Krouse, Publisher



Unit 499 Milestones

New Junior Masters

Judith Murphy
Agnes van Boeschoten

New Junior Masters

Rochelle Becker
Barbara Bignami
Carey Corbalay
William Resnick

New Sectional Masters

F. R. Bottomley

New Life Masters

Bill LeMaire
Dorothy Lloyd

New Silver Life Masters

Ellen Beltran



Bridge Center

STATUS REPORT: Future of Diablo Valley Bridge Center

As many of you know, the lease for Diablo Valley Bridge Center (DVBC) expires April 30, 2016. Efforts by Iris Libby to sell DVBC have not been successful.

A non-profit corporation has been formed by Mike Bandler, Bruce Johnsonbaugh and Mark Humphrey for the purpose of finding a "home" for the DVBC games, preferably at a venue with a more affordable rent. The name of the non-profit is "Contra Costa Bridge Center, Inc" (CCBC). CCBC will only begin hosting games after the DVBC lease expires.

A suitable site has been located in Lafayette, but no lease agreement has been reached as of December 12, 2015. We do expect to know by January 31, 2016 if a satisfactory lease can be obtained.

We are making every effort to find a suitable location to continue the games that Iris has kept alive and well these past 5 years. We will keep you posted. If any of you know of a potential location, please contact any one of us.

Happy Holidays!!

Mike Bandler	925.831.1320	mickybandl@sbcglobal.net
Bruce Johnsonbaugh	925.766.7586	eckhoffhoppe@hotmail.com
Mark Humphrey	925.377.6508	markhumphrey@comcast.net



Happy New Year Diablo Valley Unit 499!

I hope you are all planning to attend the Reno NABC from March 10 - 20, 2016! I am the Prize Desk Chair for the Reno NABC and I need a few good men and women to help me staff the prize desk during the tournament.

Just think.....where besides Disneyland can you find a group of happy people? Well,.....at the Reno NABC Prize Desk of course! You will have the opportunity to give prizes to fellow bridge players who have won events in Reno!

You may work at the Prize Desk and still play bridge! There are some great perks, too! You will be paid \$10.00 in ACBL Script for each shift that you work AND you may visit the volunteers suite for a free breakfast or lunch.

You may sign up now at www.2016SpringNABC.org. Make sure you volunteer to work at the Prize Desk! If you prefer, email me at jackiezayac@gmail.com and I will be happy to sign you up.

I look forward to working with you in Reno!

Jackie Zayac

Play a Hand with me

Mini-Blue Ribbon Pairs, Session 6

This board from the final session of the 2015 Mini-Blue Ribbon Pairs at the Denver Nationals showcases some fine defense by Teresa Boyd, sitting West and Grant Robinson playing East.

Board 1: North Deals, None Vul

	North		
	S 106		
	H KJ3		
	D AJ742		
	C AK4		
West		East	
S A93		S QJ	
H A10952		H Q4	
D K1083		D Q965	
C 9		C Q8753	
	South		
	S K87542		
	H 876		
	D --		
	C J1062		



West	North	East	South
Boyd		Robinson	
	1D	Pass	1S
Pass	1NT(1)	Pass	2S
All pass			
1. 15-17, balanced			

North-South were playing a weak notrump, so North's 1NT rebid showed the equivalent of a strong notrump opening bid. This had the effect of making South declarer when North would declare at most tables via a transfer sequence.

Lead: **Club 9**

A diamond lead is tempting, but risky. West accurately led her singleton club, on which East encouraged. Declarer won in dummy to lead a spade to the jack, king, and ace. Looking for an immediate entry to partner's hand, West underled her **Heart Ace** to dummy's jack and East's queen. East reasoned that partner must have no more clubs to lead, so returned a suit-preference high club spot card, ruffed by West. West accurately cashed her **Heart Ace** and gave East a heart ruff. Another club ruff capped a fine defense.

The heart switch gave declarer a guess. Interchange the heart honors and the **Heart Jack** is the winning play. East-West scored all five of their trumps, plus two heart tricks, for down one and 73% on the board. This result helped Boyd and Robinson to win the event.

Jerry Weitzner

Classes Offered

Two Bridge Classes Offered

The Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club (RDBC) is offering classes to players in competitive bidding and in defensive play.

Bridge Basics Two is designed for students who have taken Bridge Basics One. The focus will be on competitive bidding and the use of conventions. The instructor will be Ravi Bhalla.

Classes will be on Mondays for eight weeks starting on January 18 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Oak Room at the Gateway Center.

The cost for this class is \$40 for RDBC members with an additional \$10 fee for membership for nonmember residents. The nonresident cost is \$80.

The text will be "Bridge Basics Two, Competitive Bidding" by Audrey Grant and will be available from the instructor for \$12.

Defense in Duplicate Bridge is a class in the basics of defending a bridge hand. The class will cover carding, second and third hand play, and opening leads among other topics. Defense is one of the most important parts of the game, but is often overlooked. Classes will consist of part lecture/discussion and part playing hands which will give practice of the concepts learned. This is an intermediate class for players who know the basics of bidding. The instructor will be Michael Gosnell.

Classes will be on Tuesdays for eight weeks starting on January 19 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Oak Room at the Gateway Center.

The cost for this class is \$40 for RDBC members with an additional \$10 fee for membership for nonmember residents. The nonresident cost is \$80.

The text will be "The Heart Series - Defense" by Audrey Grant and will be available from the instructor for \$15.

To enroll in either class call Kit Miller at 926-0117. Checks should be payable to the Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club. Members of the RDBC have first priority for enrollment. There is a maximum of seven tables (28 people) for each class.

Kit Miller



Popular Conventions

The Next Step in Learning Bridge



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

- Essential bidding conventions
- Introduction to effective slam bidding
- Bidding very strong hands
- Getting to the right contract after opening one notrump
- Balanced overview of all aspects – bidding, play, and defense
- Hands-on learning and mentored play
- Learn to play with any partner
- Outstanding course material from top teachers and players
- Meet other bridge players and make new friends

Open to all, reservations required

\$97 for 8 lessons, includes Audrey Grant textbook

DAYTIME SERIES

Tuesdays, 2:30–4:30 p.m.

beginning January 26

with Trisha O'Connor

misbridgewc01@gmail.com

925-457-9995

EVENING SERIES

Wednesdays, 7–9 p.m.

beginning January 27

with Grant Robinson

grantmrobinson@gmail.com

408-857-7240

READY FOR THE NEXT STEP IN LEARNING BRIDGE?



***Trisha O'Connor
Certified ACBL
Instructor***

Audrey Grant's Popular Conventions class will begin Tuesday, January 26, from 2:30 to 4:30 at DVBC.

The series will include lessons on slam bidding, strong openings-2C & 2NT, with the appropriate responses.

We will also go over Stayman and Jacoby. For those who learned those conventions in my Beginning Classes, there is actually a "Pg 2" to Stayman and Jacoby—a bit more to learn.

This is the third in Audrey Grant's Bridge Basics and is a complement to the earlier learning in Bridge Basics 1 & 2.

The class is a series of 8 lessons and costs \$97, including the Popular Conventions book.

If you are interested in signing up, you may contact Trisha O'Connor at misbridgewc01@gmail.com or by phone at 925-457-9995

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



There will be no game on January 1.

The Mini McKinney and Ace of Clubs awards will be announced in January.

Happy New Year to all!

Kit Miller

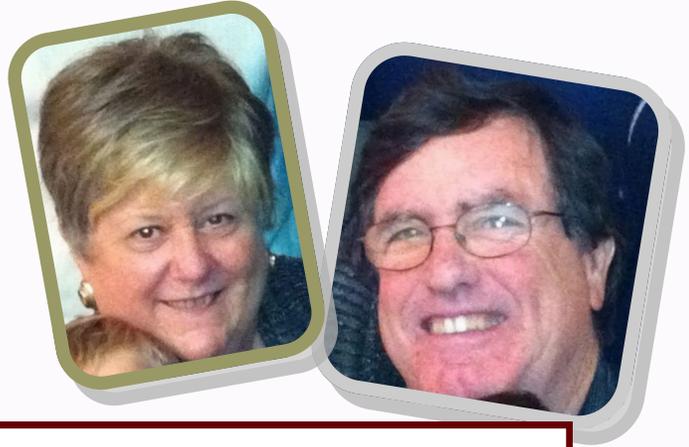
The 24 / 680 Bridge Club

The 24/ 680 Club

The location is our home:
183 Corliss Drive , Moraga 94556
(on the corner of Corliss and Crossbrook Drives at
the stop sign)
On-street parking
[925-376-1125](tel:925-376-1125)

Reservations required:
Winnie: Winnie@wjasper.com or [925-376-1125](tel:925-376-1125) (home)

Jerry: [925-766-5228](tel:925-766-5228) (cell)



24/680 Bridge Club

Our Wednesday games run 10AM to about 2:00 PM with lunch included. We continue to host a Swiss Team Game on the third Saturday of each month. We will be holding as many Charity Games and Special Club Appreciation games and other extra points opportunities as we can reasonably schedule within the ACBL Guidelines. We hope to support a local Charity several times per year. So far we have made contributions locally to ARF (Animal Rescue Foundation) and in December to the Contra Costa Food Bank.

Please remember that reservations are required in advance for these games. If we have enough notice we can usually arrange for partnerships.

Jerry Chamberlain & Winnie Jasper

Winnie@wjasper.com

925-376-1125

Upcoming Schedule:

January 2016:

Closed January 1 – 13

Sat. 1/16: Junior Fund Swiss Team Game \$10

Wed. 1/20: Junior Fund Pair Game \$9

Wed. 1/27: Junior Fund Pair Game \$9

February 2016:

Wed. 2/3: Charity Game (Wounded Warrior Family Support) Pair Game \$9

Wed. 2/10: Regular Pair Game \$8

Wed. 2/17: Regular Pair Game \$8

Sat. 2/20: Charity Game (Wounded Warrior Family Support) Swiss Team Game \$10

Wed. 2/24: Club Championship Pair Game \$8

The Moraga Evening Duplicate Bridge Club

The Moraga Evening Duplicate Bridge club meets every Tuesday evening. No more Wednesdays.

Games always begin at 7pm and finish about 10. Fee is \$3 per player. ACBL Open Club, with Master Points. Hand Records. Free play for the winners.

YOU MUST SIGN UP IN ADVANCE with David Geary (dsgeary@comcast.net) for Tuesdays. If you cannot get in touch with David, contact Winnie Jasper (winnie@wjasper.com) phone [925/376-1125](tel:925/376-1125).

We meet at the Moraga Country Club, upstairs, on St. Andrews, a short distance from Moraga Way.

Recent results:

11/24 - 6 tables

- 1 - Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain
- 2 - Ann Elliott & Sheila Knoth
- 3+ - Sanda Henry & George Bazgan
- 3+ - Art Donaldson & David Geary

12/1 - 2 tables

- 1 - Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain
- 2 - Sue & Shyam Rungta
- 3 - Ashok Chakradeo & George Bazgan

12/8 - 3 tables

- 1 - Sanda Henry & George Bazgan
- 2 - Sue & Shyam Rungta
- 3- Andrea & Dan Green



Regards, David Geary