

eDeclarer

August 2018

ACBL UNIT 499 NEWSLETTER

President's Message



Welcome to August Unit 499!

I hope you will all enjoy the last full month of Summer, 2018! I hope many of you were able to attend the Atlanta NABC and are coming home with a lot of masterpoints! Just in case you did not go to Atlanta, there are a number of opportunities to earn extra masterpoints in Unit 499 this month.

Our Unit Game Scheduler extraordinaire, Andy Fine, has done it again! We have not one, but three unit games on August 1. At 8:45am, a 0 – 499 limited masterpoint game will be held at Contra Costa Bridge Center. The Blackhawk Country Club will hold an open game beginning at 9:30am for women only. Beginning at 10am, the Lamorinda Bridge Club will hold an open game. I hope you will all make plans to play in one of these games.

On August 19, Unit 499 will be hosting the annual Goodwill Lunch and unit game which will honor our most recent District 21 Goodwill Award winner, Anne Hollingsworth. Lunch will be served at noon and the game will start at 1pm at the Contra Costa Bridge Center. This event will be by reservation only. Please make your reservations by contacting Lyn Sacco at lyn.sacco@gmail.com.

We also have STaC Week this month! It will be held August 20 – 26. Mark your calendars now to participate in as many of these club games as possible this week to get SILVER points instead of black points. Place in the STaC Game overalls and you will get even more masterpoints plus bragging rights!

The All Western Regional will be held in Santa Clara from August 28 – September 3. Our ACBL President, Jay Whipple, will be attending this regional and speaking to our members as a celebrity speaker between sessions on Friday, August 31. I know that his talk will be informative and I encourage you all to attend his celebrity speaker session.

August will be a great month! I know that all of your home-grown tomatoes will be ripening and I am still hoping that someone will share some extra tomatoes with me.....I can already smell them.....

Jackie Z

...from the Editor

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Unit 499 eDeclarer

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Deadline for September is August 17th

We have two new contributors this month! Lisa Assoni will be contributing monthly. Lisa has been our correspondent to the monthly District 21 newsletter that is now only available online. Theresa Boyd has written a great article about the recent Pizza Swiss game held recently at CCBC, complete with photos. Many thanks to both of you!

I am still promoting The Common Game. Rossmoor has plans to try it in August, and another director in our unit expressed interest in trying it. Read about it, and encourage it, if you think it's worthwhile. It's another tool for bettering your game.

Judy Keilin, Editor



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/ccbc



Milestones and New Members

New Junior Masters

Jane Blanchard

New Club Masters

Carol Brooks
Thomas Hester

New Sectional Masters

Mark Curtis
DJ Dixon
Barbara Eppinger
Bruce Silverman
Stephen Walker

New Regional Masters

Furgan Naeem

New NABC Masters

Forrest Bottomley
David Goldsmith
Faith Greenberg

New Bronze Life Masters

Mariann Kesslet

New Silver Life Masters

JoAn Reid
Anthony Salam

NEW MEMBERS

Susan Davies
Ken Steiner
Emily Van Vleet



Unit 499 Board of Director Elections

If you have had an interest in serving on the Unit 499 Board of Directors, now's the time to let it be known!

Unit 499's mission is to promote and stimulate interest in duplicate bridge. We are a working Board with Directors that chair or serve on one of the various committees (such as Membership, Youth Bridge, Publicity, Forum, or eDeclarer Editor), or take on responsibility for running one of our tournaments or special games (Spring and Fall Sectionals, Tunnel Tourney, Goodwill Event). This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to the unit by volunteering your skills.

More information regarding Board Director responsibilities, expectations, and qualifications is contained in the document attached below.

Please contact Anne Hollingsworth, Nominating Committee Chair (sccotcat@pacbell.net), with any questions you may have and/or to let us know if you are interested in a Board position, no later than **September 30**.

Fundamental responsibilities of the Unit 499 Board of Directors:

- Promote and stimulate interest in duplicate bridge among unit members by providing an attractive program of bridge events and learning opportunities
- Expand membership by active efforts to interest new players and enroll new members.
- Effectively communicate with unit members, keeping them up-to-date on opportunities and soliciting feedback
- Manage the financial health of the unit
- Ensure compliance with ACBL regulations

Expectations of Directors:

- Actively participate in Board meetings (60-90 minutes each, 9-10 times per year)
- Assist with sectionals and other special events; play a role in one or more board activities (publicity, hospitality, membership, etc)

Qualifications for Directors:

- Passion for the game and interest in giving back
- Good teamwork and communication skills
- Willingness to invest a few hours per month (on average) to assist with unit activities

PIZZA SWISS UNIT GAME



Twenty-three teams showed up at CCBC Sunday July 8 for a Pizza Swiss Unit Game. A full house! Team masterpoint totals ranged from less than 100 to 26,500. The large number of teams allowed for three brackets.

I like pizza Swiss events and wanted to have our own at CCBC. They require a lot more work than pairs games but things ran smoothly. Grant Robinson directed, he and Dori toted boards as caddies, and Dori did her usual outstanding job with hospitality. Special thanks to Gail Giffen and Chris Pisarra who brought their Fat Slice Pizza to go with the salad, drinks

and desserts. A special thanks also to my partner Dan Scarola who arrived *very* early and willingly chipped in with the prep, including maintenance. So ... plan *your* arrival time accordingly.



Everyone seemed to have a good time. Event winners are listed below and detailed results can be found on the CCBC Results page.

We were thrilled so many teams participated. Thank you for coming! There is a Club Appreciation Swiss event planned for Sunday October 14. Awards will be section-rated black points with a sliver of gold possible. Hope to see you then!

Teresa Boyd



Bracket 1 (11 teams and was stratified (A/B) within it.)

Strat A:

- 1st Dan Scarola, Teresa Boyd, Linda Gross and Lisa Evans
- 2nd Mike Bandler, Linda Bandler, Jerry Weitzner and Dan Rubinfeld

The 3rd and 4th place winners were also the **Strat B** 1st and 2nd place winners:

- 3rd 1st Judy Keilin, Jack Meng, Kathrine Loh and Martin Leftik
- 4th 2nd Valerie Petersen, Annette Eastman, Betty Price and Addie Mattox

Bracket 2 (6 teams)

- 1st Georgia Lambert, John Mount, Alan Morris and Anthony Salam
- 2nd Marilyn Ruff, Rudolph Ruff, Sheilah Fish and Harry Fish

Bracket 3 (6 teams)

- 1st Carol Shannon, Barbara Bottomley, Forrest Bottomley and Patti Kogan
- 2nd Marilyn Schaeffer, Vicky Chen, Alice Adachi and Betty Ona

THE COMMON GAME

<http://thecommongame.com/>

Check out The Common Game in the link above to see what it's all about.

There are many benefits to joining. First, players' results are compared with other Common Game players from all over the country. Second, results are emailed to all participating ACBL members through Fast Results shortly after the game. In addition to rankings and hand records, there will be hand analysis.

Michael Gosnell, the Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club manager has agreed to try it out in August. I hope you will see the value of this. While on vacation, I played at a club in Albuquerque and experienced it. I was really impressed with the amount of info I received following the game.

If you think it's worthwhile, let your game owners/directors know. There's no downside. Let's try it!

Judy Keilin

FLASH!!

The Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club is going to join and play all games in The Common Game beginning the week of August 20 for a trial.

How about all our clubs do the same! We'll be looking for feedback as to how you like it. Send your comments to me (jkeilin@pacbell.net).

CARD HOLDERS

Many members have asked about the card-holder pictured here, so Carroll Brooks ordered them from England. They are \$15 each. Her email is clbrooks.ca@gmail.com. Please let her know if you are interested. Winnie Jasper will also have a few available.



THE HALL OF SHAME

Ever spent time in the Hall Of Shame? You've played bridge for three hours, and know you're crashing. The harder you tried, the worst it got.

I've been down that path recently. A score-to-scorn about. I love when folks say, "it's just a game. Right. You can say that when you're winning, but be real! No one likes to come in last. We all like to scratch. I came home that day and scratched my dog.

It's a humbling game, but with many opportunities to pump up your game.

When I fell to the bottom of the list, I made a wish, and it didn't come true.

This game is not for the wishful thinkers, but the pairs that play together, stay together; and usually score well. We once-a-weekers, have trouble keeping up with the point-seekers. Also, when you don't feel up to snuff, maybe because you didn't sleep well, or problems weighing heavy on your heart, whatever; sometimes it's best to take a day off. Also, just don't answer your cell phone, prior to playing. Kids can really snarl your game, just by hearing them complain.

So many players are kind and considerate. However, sometimes we can get the cranky crowd, and that can be intimidating. As my poker face disappears when I bid a contract, and my partner lays down their hand, and I know the opponents can read my face. "She's in trouble". The only advice I can give is if you feel out of sorts, stay home. We'd do anything to play a game of bridge though, and some people have. One lady came on a gurney, and played. Others have terrible impairments, and forge ahead. Just remember, if you can, that this is the only game you can play with severe disabilities. Eye, hand, legs, back and more, you can struggle though the door, and sit down. You can play until you're over a hundred, and still have the brain matter. The body maybe weak, but the brain is willing. Awesome!

As I try not to focus on one of the worst games I've ever played, I still consider it a privilege to have a partner who's kind, thoughtful and a very good sport.

No more singing the blues. We girls "just want to have fun." *OK-I'm joking.*

Hope you have a great bridge day, everyday.

Ciao,

Lisa Assoni

UNIT 499's ANNUAL
Goodwill Celebration Lunch and Unit Game



SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 2018
AT THE CONTRA COSTA
BRIDGE CENTER

*** Lunch and celebration begins at 12:00 PM**
Unit Game at 1:00 PM

We are honoring
Our 2017 Goodwill Award Recipient
Anne Hollingsworth
(Unit 499 past award winners also recognized)
Fee per person ...\$9.00

Seating is limited...
Reservation required

RSVP to Lyn Sacco at lyn.sacco@gmail.com

What is this Place?



Do you know what this has to do with Unit 499 bridge?

Email me with your answers. Those with the correct answers will see their names in the next eDeclarer.

Judy Keilin

jkeilin@pacbell.net

Play a Hand with Me

Play A Hand With Me....

August, 2018

	North	
	S Q65	
	H AQ74	
	D 1075	
	C 863	
West		East
S ____		S J7432
H 10852		H J6
D KOJ982		D 643
C K104		C Q52
	South	
	S AK1098	
	H K93	
	D A	
	C AJ97	



This hand came up in a knockout event in the Sacramento Regional and demonstrates how really good players should not act at the table.

I opened 1S and Mr. good player overcalled 2D. My partner raised to 2S and I bid 4S.

Mr. good player led the K of diamonds and I won the ace. At first glance it looks like I have 5 spades, 3 hearts and 2 aces for 10 tricks and if hearts split 3-3 I will make 11 tricks.

Thinking about the trump suit I led the A of spades and when west showed out I realized that I had misplayed this suit and had to rethink the hand. You need to start this suit by leading low to the queen which allows you to discover the 0-5 split and if they had both followed when you lead back to one of your high honors if west now shows out you can go back to dummy and pick up the rest of the trump suit with a finesse.

At this point I led a spade to the queen and returned a spade to my hand, but now I have a potential trump loser. My thinking now is that I need hearts to be 3-3 or I need something good to happen in that suit so I led the 9 of hearts to the queen and cashed the ace and led a little heart to my hand. East could not tell who had the king of hearts so he did not trump this and I scored my king. I now led the ace of clubs and exited with a club waiting to take my 2 remaining trump tricks making my contract.

It was at this point that Mr. good player screamed at me saying "why did you block the heart suit? If they were 3-3 you just lost a trick" and he said it very nastily. I stated that if hearts were 3-3 I was making my contract and if not I needed some help which is what happened. He continued to berate me and I should have called a director but I didn't.

It is this type of demeanor that the game does not need. Why couldn't he be gracious and say nice play or say nothing at all. His teammates reached slam and went down 2, we gained 13 imps.

The very next match we played against 2 other experts, Huub Bertens and Dan Korbel who really enjoy each other and go out of their way to have fun even when they lost by a bunch. It was quite fun to play with this attitude and these two are great examples of what the league needs to promote the game. It does not need this Mr. good player!!!!

Jerry Weitzner

jweitzner@sbcglobal.net

Improve Your Bridge Play



IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE PLAY

By David Terris

THE AUCTION AFTER OPENER'S REVERSE (Part 2)

Reference: Max Hardy, Standard Bridge Bidding for the 21st Century, 2000

Last month we discussed the requirements for Opener's reverse. It shows a minimum of 16 HCP with strength unlimited, and is forcing for one round. But with Opener's reverse unlimited, how is Responder to know just how strong it is? And, since the reverse is forcing on the Responder, how is Opener to know Responder's strength? Further rebids by both Partners are based on these ranges:

With 16 to 18 HCP Opener's hand is considered minimum. With 19+ HCP Opener will force any response to game.

With 5 to a bad 9 HCP Responder's hand is considered minimum. With 9+ HCP Responder will force the bidding to game.

Responder's Minimum Hands

Having a minimum hand Responder can rebid his 5 or 6 card major suit which is not forcing.

<u>Opener</u>	<u>Opp.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>Opp.</u>
---------------	-------------	--------------	-------------

1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
----	------	----	------

2♥	Pass	???	
----	------	-----	--

♠KJ9853 ♥96 ♦K54 ♣72

Bid 2♠. Your rebid shows a minimum hand. Opener may choose to pass if his hand is in his minimum range.

<u>Opener</u>	<u>Opp.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>Opp.</u>
---------------	-------------	--------------	-------------

1♠	Pass	1♠	Pass
----	------	----	------

2♥	Pass	???	
----	------	-----	--

♠AQ853 ♥963 ♦J54 ♣72

Bid 2♠. After a reverse, this is one of the few instances when you may rebid a 5-card suit. It still shows a minimum

hand. You may not rebid a 4 card suit.

With any other minimum hand Responder makes an artificial bid of 2NT. This requires Opener to bid 3♣ (artificial) if Opener is also in his minimum range. Responder will then set the final contract. If Opener ignores the relay to 3♣ and makes any other bid, he shows 19+ HCP and forces the auction to game.

<u>Opener</u>	<u>Opp.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>Opp.</u>
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	???	

♠AJ84 ♥96 ♦8543 ♣Q86

Bid 2NT. Opener has promised at least 5 clubs and 4 hearts. Although you have club support, you must first limit your hand by bidding 2NT (artificial) which asks Opener to bid 3♣ if he is in his minimum range. If Opener makes the expected bid of 3♣, you will pass. If he makes any other bid, it is forcing to game and you can support clubs if given the chance.

<u>Opener</u>	<u>Opp.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>Opp.</u>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	???	

♠Q863 ♥96 ♦A743 ♣Q85

Bid 2NT. After Opener's expected rebid of 3♣, you will correct to 3♦.

<u>Opener</u>	<u>Opp.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>Opp.</u>
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	???	

♠J8653 ♥Q1062 ♦K54 ♣2

Bid 2NT. Your hand is not strong enough to support hearts directly. You first limit your hand by bidding 2NT. After Opener's expected 3♣ bid you correct to 3♥.

In the next two columns we will address Responder's better than minimum hands (9+ HCP) and Opener's rebids.

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



August 9, will be a North American Pair Qualifier game at 7pm.

August 20-25 will be Summer Fun STAC Week.

Watch for information about our upcoming game as part of The Common Game. Nothing will be different during the play of the game, however at the end, you will receive your results, the hand record, your score compared to other Common Game members, and some hand analysis direct to your email via Fast Results. (You must be an ACBL member with an email address to receive this.) There is more information about The Common Game in this issue. Check it out!

Kit Miller

Lamorinda Bridge Club

Our games run 10am to about 2pm with snacks and beverages included. Following Board Play we offer a light potluck lunch with an opportunity to discuss the hands using provided hand records. Contributions of snacks and shared food dishes are welcome. We host a Swiss Team Game on the third Saturday of most months during the year, and a pair game on the Saturday of most STaC Weeks per year.

Reservations are required in advance for these games. If we have enough notice we can usually arrange for partnerships. You may reserve games in advance when you know your schedule.

Our neighbor directly across the street at 184 Corliss has requested that we leave the equivalent of three parking spaces open in front of their home at all times. We also ask that you not park directly in front of any of our neighbors' mail boxes, or too close to disposal containers left at the curb for pick-up that day. We learned recently that the mailman refused to deliver a neighbor's mail due to a car parked blocking the mailbox. **Please help us be good neighbors!**

Congratulations to some of our first place players in Sections A, B or C since the last newsletter: Bob & Annette Horwitz, Maxine Winer & Olga Gordon (twice), Al Dessayer & Pat Rolandelli, Melinda Hall & Dianne Lavin, Kathy Wolf & Russ Kirschenbaum, George Wang & Emily Beaty, Winnie Jasper & Conrad Robertson, Dianne Lavin & Fred Golini (twice), Dennis & Renee Ross, Bob Alfandary & Sue Nurock, Rosemary Hagman & Jerry Chamberlain, Eileen Pleticha & Beth Mahchrzak, Russ Kirschenbaum & Martha Ann Wishnev, Winnie Jasper & Bill Warren, Susan Schlicht & Greta Westeson, and Judy Murphy & Larry Lange.

Upcoming Schedule:

August 2018

Wed. 8/1 Unit Pair \$10

Wed. 8/8 Regular Pair \$10

Wed. 8/15 Hospice Charity Pair \$11

Sat. 8/18 Hospice Charity Swiss Team \$11

Wed. 8/22 STaC Pair \$11

Sat. 8/25 STaC Pair \$11

Wed. 8/29 Regular Pair \$10

September 2018

Wed. 9/5 International Fund Pair \$10

Wed. 9/12 NO GAME

Sat. 9/15 International Fund Swiss Team \$10

Wed. 9/19 Unit Pair \$10

Wed. 9/26 International Fund Pair \$10

Lamorinda Bridge 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)



Jerry Chamberlain & Winnie Jasper

The Moraga Evening Duplicate Bridge Club

The Moraga Country Club duplicate bridge is every Tuesday evening at 7pm at the Moraga Country Club.

Reservations are required with David Geary, dsgeary@comcast.net. If reservation not made by Sunday before, it will only be accepted if needed to avoid a half-table sit-out.

Fee is \$3. ACBL open club, stratified, hand records. Extra Master Points by donating to charity whenever ACBL allows.

Recent results:

6/19 - 3 ½ tables

- 1 - Winnie Jasper & Dan Noal
- 2 - Deb & Wayne Rechnitz
- 3 tie - Kathy Wolf & Mal Mendelson
- 3 tie - Richard Chen & Irwin Javinsky
- 3 tie - Anne Hollingsworth & Blair Hoffman

6/26 - 3 tables

- 1 - Anne Hollingsworth & Irwin Lichtblau
- 2 tie - Jackie & Dave Fenton
- 2 tie - Sue Eltringham & David Geary

7/3 - 3 tables

- 1 - Sue Eltringham & Carol Griffin
- 2 - Nancy & Lew Voils
- 3 - Deb & Wayne Rechnitz

7/10 - 3 tables

- 1 - Glenn Boyce & David Geary
- 2 tie - Kathy Wolf & Mal Mendelson
- 2 tie - Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain

7/17 - 3 tables

- 1 - Colleen & David Geary
- 2 - Richard Chen & Irwin Javinsky
- 3 - Deb & Wayne Rechnitz

Regards,

David Geary

