

# eDeclarer

January 2019

ACBL UNIT 499 NEWSLETTER

## President's Message



In thinking through this last year, I'd like to give a standing ovation to some very special folks from the Unit 499 Board of Directors; namely, Jackie Zayac, our illustrious president, Patti Kogan, our wonderful secretary, and Bill LeMaire, a financial whiz. Ted Gunn also gets special mention as a wise old fellow. I was privileged enough to be able to serve with these four. They are exemplary human beings, and a delight to be around. They shall be sorely missed, but then, ah, their delightful replacements!

Delightful replacements:

Lyn Sacco, President  
Karen Corburn, Vice-President  
Katherine Loh, Secretary  
Sam Earnhardt, Treasurer

Clare Smith comes on board while Bob Barnes has departed. Andy Shockley (new to the Board) will be handling Google Groups.

Returning members on the board include Rich Ahlf, Lisa Assoni, Andy Fine, Anne Hollingsworth, Bruce Johnson-baugh, Mike Kruley, Barbara McKay and Marian Renvall.

So here we are a new board, ready to face the challenges that this life presents. I notice that there is a new year on the horizon. May your year be filled with love, laughter and joy so that those around you may delight in your presence and the wonders of life!

Lyn Sacco

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### **Unit 499 eDeclarer**

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January 2019

***Deadline for February is January 19th***

## ...from the Editor

And so we begin a new year, hopefully filled with good health, happiness, and lots of masterpoints for all of us.

We have what looks like a strong Board of Directors to oversee our bridge activities. Think about what you can do to help. Volunteers are always needed to help with tournaments and unit games, especially with hospitality.

Check out the photos from the Danville Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest. Pick your winner, then turn to the next page and see if you agreed with the judges.

There's also info about a new class for beginners starting soon. Get your non-playing friends to try it out.

Happy New Year!

Judy Keilin, Editor



To submit a letter to the editor,  
send it to Judy Keilin at  
[jkeilin@pacbell.net](mailto: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](http://diablovalleybridge.com/ccbc)



# Milestones and New Members

## **MILESTONES**

### **New Junior Masters**

Edith Chiang

### **New Club Masters**

Maxine Topper

### **New Sectional Masters**

Diane Jones

Rosemary Mein

### **New Regional Masters**

Audrey Fujie

Barbara Promessi

### **New NABC Masters**

Karen Corburn

Georgia Lambert

### **New Sapphire Life Masters**

Lisa Evans

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Emily Beaty

Cathy Brostrand

Lisa Engstrom

Ronald Forney

Pamela Miller

Stephen Clark

Linda Botton

Irving Googins

Jean Heninger (welcome back!)

Pamela Kane

Neal Strand

Let's welcome these new members when you meet them at the tables.

# Happy New Years to All

## DIRECTOR PLEASE

We've all heard those words shouted out by our opponents. Some can really give a holler, accompanied by a big arm wave. Sometimes you don't even know why they called. When describing what occurred, the director tries to defuse the situation, and calmly asks what happened and when.

Some folks are perpetual hand-raisers, and most are justified.

However, it's how we treat the opponents when making a director call. An argument can ensue, with both parties stating their case. Sometimes the decision seems outrageous, especially when we incur a penalty. So, this is why we have trained people to help us decipher who's on first.

In my earlier years of learning this awesome game, I had one couple who was so mean, they made me cry. I told the director about it, and he said, "Will talk to them". Whenever I had to sit at their table, I was fearful, and too insecure to speak up. When someone rattles your cage, please try to address the issue without anger, and state your case. We've all experienced this, and let's all try to be considerate of opponents. We all make mistakes. OK, I'm speaking for myself, but to demean others is unkind. So let's all play nicely together. Next on the menu-

## PILE HIGH CLUB

Grant Robinson helped make our Holiday Party an event to remember. It was fabulous. Thanks, Grant, and thank you to all the players for making such wonderful food from turkeys, hams, stuffed eggs, mini-black bean cakes, pecan fruit cups, and more. You're awesome!

With so many homemade goodies ready for pickin', we filled our plates to the brim. Yikes. I don't know why I get so hungry when I play bridge. Some folks even tucked away a little food for later. An abundant array of sweet cakes and cookies were a delight. Just remember, sweet treats can make you groggy and sometimes foggy. We need clear heads to help us steer to victory.

Happy New Year to All. I hope your 365 days will be filled with cheer, good health, and blessings.

Ciao, Lisa Assoni



## **A NEW BRIDGE CLASS**

**For beginners and anyone whose bridge game is a little rusty**

**Tuesday afternoons, 2:00 to 4:00 pm**

**9 weeks**

**January 22 - March 19, 2019**

**Cost is only \$90 (including lesson book)**

**Classes held at  
CONTRA COSTA BRIDGE CENTER  
3039 Willow Pass Road, Concord**

**Taught by ACBL accredited teacher, Debby Rechnitz**

**A perfect gift for Christmas!**

**or**

**A great New Year's Resolution: Learn bridge/Improve my game in 2019!**

**To register, contact any of the following:**

**Debby Rechnitz**

**drechnitz@comcast.net**

**Bruce Johnsonbaugh**

**eckhoffhoppe@hotmail.com  
925-766-7586**

**Mark Humphrey**

**markhumphrey@comcast.net**



## Danville Bridge Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest



Sharon Tarpinian really knows how to throw a party! On Friday, December 21st, she directed the Danville game for Michael Gosnell, and decided to have a potluck lunch along with the contest. There were fourteen tables of players, many of whom wore their holiday finest.

Check out the photos, pick your winner, and then go to the next page to see who the judges (Eva Hyman, Daisy Lennon, and Judy Keilin) unanimously awarded the prize - a bottle of wine dressed in a very cute holiday sweater made by Sharon.

Judy Keilin





Gary!

# Play a Hand with Me

Play A Hand With Me...

January, 2019

North

S 1085

H K2

D Q7

C AK7632

West

S A73

H AQ987

D K1095

C Q

East

S 94

H J1065

D J832

C J109



South

S KQJ62

H 43

D A64

C 854

This deal is from the recent Art House Invitational Tournament. The bidding started by North with 1C p 1S 2H X (which is a support double showing 3 card Spade support) p 2S all pass.

The opening lead was a low Spade and you win it and lead a Heart towards the dummy. West wins and continues with a Heart. You now lead a Spade and North ducks this so you lead another Spade, North winning and leads a Heart which you trump and you decide that you want to run the Clubs, but the most likely split in Clubs is 3-1 so how do you do that?

At this point you are making 5 if the Clubs split 2-2 but you are making 4 if you just duck a Club allowing them to take their Club trick while you retain communication with the Club suit.

Making 4 is an excellent result since some pairs tried for 5 and therefore only made 3.

Jerry Weitzner

[jweitzner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jweitzner@sbcglobal.net)

# Improve Your Bridge Play

## IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE PLAY

By David Terris

### SOME LESS FREQUENT STAYMAN AUCTIONS

Reference: Max Hardy, "Standard Bridge Bidding for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," 2000

Your partner, North, opens 1NT (15-17 HCP). In the following hands, all of which are game-going or possible slams, you first bid 2♣ (Stayman). North's rebid could then be either 2♦, 2♥ or 2♠. Your further action depends on that particular rebid.

<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦/2♥/2♠	Pass	???	

Holding the following hand, a typical Stayman game-going auction might look like this:

♠KQ95      ♥86      ♦AQ83      ♣J104

If North's rebid is 2♦, bid 3NT. This is straight forward. North has denied having a 4-card major.

If North's rebid is 2♥, bid 3NT, but North might also have 4 spades. If so, he will now bid 4♠, knowing that your Stayman response had to be based on a 4-card spade suit.

If North's rebid is 2♠, jump to 4♠.

Here are some "Stayman" auctions that come up less frequently, but if they do, your partnerships should know the meaning of the bids.

♠KQ9      ♥6      ♦KQJ932      ♣AJ4

Bid 3♦, regardless of North's rebid. After having used Stayman, a rebid of a minor suit is forcing to game and a slam try.



♠AJ4      ♥KQ82      ♦AQ85      ♣97

If North's bid is 2♦ or 2♠, jump to 4NT as a slam try. 4NT in this auction is natural, not Blackwood.

If North's bid is 2♥, jump to 4♣ which is Gerber (ace asking) with hearts agreed to as trump.

♠KQ95      ♥6      ♦AJ4      ♣KQJ93

If North's rebid is 2♦, bid 3♣ as a slam try.

If North's rebid is 2♥, also bid 3♣ as a slam try. If North has both 4 hearts and 4 spades he will rebid 3♠ to check for a spade fit.

If North's rebid is 2♠, jump to 4♣ (Gerber) with spades as the agreed trump suit.

♠AJ96      ♥AQ4      ♦K7      ♣A965

If North's rebid is 2♦ or 2♥, jump to 6NT.

If North's rebid is 2♠, jump to 4♣. There could be a grand slam in spades if North has a maximum with the right fit.



# 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](http://Diablovalleybridge.com)

## ROSSMOOR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Gateway Club

Rossmoor



There will be no game on January 1, New Year's Day.

The week of January 7-12 will be a Birthday Week. Games will be free for members of the Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club.

The week of January 14-19 will be Junior Fund Charity Week. An extra dollar will be charged to members and guests and extra points will be awarded.

Sunday, January 20, there will be a Unit Game at Rossmoor. Lunch will be served at noon followed by play at 1pm. There will be an open section as well as a 299er game.

Kit Miller

# Lamorinda Bridge Club

Our Wednesday and Saturday games run 10am to about 2pm with snacks and beverages included. Following Open Game Board Play we offer a light potluck lunch with an opportunity to discuss the hands using hand records. Contributions of snacks and shared food dishes are welcome. We host a Swiss Team Game on the third Saturday of the month, and a pair game on the Saturday of STaC Week. Beginning in January of 2019 we will offer Pair Games Limited to 299 master points on the second and fourth Fridays (see the Unit 499 site for schedules posted by month).

Reservations are required in advance for all 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 at least 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: Lew & Nancy Voils (twice), Dave & Judy Niver (twice), Jodie & Perry Shapiro, Dennis & Renee Ross (twice), David Snyder & Andy Wasserman, Derek Southern & Steve Oliver, Russ Kirschenbaum & Kathy Wolf, Tom & Gayle Hester, Bob & Annette Horwitz (three times), Melinda Hall, Vijaya Kamath & Joyce Ellenberg, Darrell Fung & Jerry Weitzner, Marilyn Horan & Jack Hawks, Judy Murphy & Larry Lange, Carol Penskar, Carol Griffin, David Snyder & Susan Boyers, Al & Felicity Waner, Sue Eltringham & David Geary, Fred Golini & Dianne Lavin, and Bob Alfandary & Susan Nurock

## Upcoming Schedule:

### January 2019

Wed. 1/2 NO GAME

Wed. 1/9 Junior Fund Charity Pair \$10

Fri. 1/11 Junior Fund Charity Pair 299er \$10

Wed. 1/16 Junior Fund Charity Pair \$10

Sat. 1/19 Junior Fund Charity Swiss Team Game \$10

Wed. 1/23 Junior Fund Charity Pair \$10

Fri. 1/25 Junior Fund Charity Pair 299er \$10

Wed. 1/30 Junior Fund Charity Pair \$10

### February 2019

Wed. 2/6 ARF Charity Pair \$11

Fri. 2/8 ARF 299er Charity Pair \$10

Wed. 2/13 Club Championship Pair \$10

Sat. 2/16 ARF Charity Swiss Team \$11

Wed. 2/20 Regular Pair \$10

Fri. 2/22 Regular 299er Pair \$10

Wed. 2/27 Regular Pair \$10

Jerry Chamberlain & Winnie Jasper

[Winnie@wjasper.com](mailto:Winnie@wjasper.com); 925-376-1125

183 Corliss Drive, Moraga, CA 94556

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

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



# The Moraga Evening Duplicate Bridge Club

The Moraga Country Club duplicate bridge game continues to be each Tuesday night at 7pm. Reservations required with [dsgear@comcast.net](mailto:dsgear@comcast.net). ACBL Master Points and hand records.

11/20 – 3 tables

- 1 – Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain
- 2 – Colleen & David Geary
- 3 – Maxine Winer & Ashok Chakradeo

11/27 – 2 tables

- 1 – Richard Chen & Irwin Javinsky
- 2 – Colleen & David Geary
- 3 – Ann Elliott & Sheila Knoth

12/4 – 5 tables

- 1 – Anne Hollingsworth & Blair Hoffman
- 2 – Deb & Wayne Rechnitz
- 3 – Colleen & David Geary

12/11 – 4 tables

- 1 – Art Donaldson & David Geary
- 2 – Jackie & Dave Fenton
- 3 tie – Richard Chen & Mal Mendelson
- 3 tie – Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain

12/18 – 7 tables

- 1 – Richard Chen & Irwin Javinsky
- 2 – Bonnie Macbride & Irwin Lichtblau
- 3 – Colleen & David Geary

Regards, David Geary

