

eDeclarer

July 2019

ACBL UNIT 499 NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Greetings Unit 499!

We are in the midst of vacation time for a lot of folks. School is out, and children are abundant, out and about with all the accouterment of youth. Ah, the energy and dreams of by-gone days!

But it is bridge that calls and captures us to those ever-important moments of thought and strategy. How to survive without the daily fix?

Sunday September 22 will be our annual Tunnel Tournament with Unit 502 from Oakland. The Tourney will be held at CCBC, starts at 10am and plays for two sessions. Table fees are \$15 for two sessions with lunch included. Signups are required. We will be limited to twenty-four pairs from each Unit. To secure a place in this fun and competitive event, please contact Andy Fine Afine@aol.com.

NABC – the Fall North American Bridge Championship (ACBL's national tournament) will take place in San Francisco from Nov 28 – December 8 at the Marriott Marquis in downtown San Francisco. Hotel reservations are open.

Since our District 21 is the host District, we are in need of volunteers to help with various desks at the Nationals (registration, partnership, prizes and I/N). Volunteers will get a voucher for a free play. Katherine Loh is in charge of Unit 499 volunteers. To secure a space, contact Katherine at Ladysanguine@gmail.com. One only has to volunteer for a short stint of duty (approximately 1.5 - 2.0 hours) in order to receive a voucher for free play

To those of you who have achieved the Rank Advancement to the next level, Congratulations, and Well Done! You are an inspiration to all of us. Thank you for your uniqueness!

Daily games are held in our Unit at a variety of places. Pick your favorite partner, and engage in a game of skill and chance to rock your world with the satisfaction of a game well played. Bridge always leads me to think; before, during, and after! – Oh those 3am machinations of plays and mistakes, strategy and knowledge for the next time!

Lyn Sacco



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...from the Editor

Lots of good information in this issue!

Be sure to read the 99er Flyer. There are some new incentives for players with under one hundred master-points. These folks will now be able to play with others at their level, away from those advanced players. No stress here!

Plan to sign up for the Tunnel Tourney on September 22. A trophy is at stake! Let's make it ours!

The Nationals will be in San Francisco in November. It's a great opportunity to experience one of these huge tournaments without the expense of travel – it's just a BART ride away. While you're there, be a volunteer! You'll be rewarded with a free play for one of your games.

In Club News, you'll learn that the Blackhawk game will be open to all on August 7 for a Unit Game and lunch. Those Blackhawk lunches are always fabulous, so plan to attend.

See you at the tables!

Judy Keilin
Editor



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.

diablolvalleybridge.com/ccbc

Mary Krouse, Publisher



Milestones and New Members

MILESTONES

New Junior Masters

Jack Chang

New Club Masters

Marlene Farrell

New Sectional Masters

Yilmaz Ozturhan

New Life Masters

Sheila Robinson

New Emerald Life Masters

Chris Pisarra

NEW MEMBERS

Sharon Bonner

Joe Fuchs

Sheila Langon

Jacalyn Sisto

Ray Spears

Leslie Crall

Robert Liss

Let's greet these new members
and welcome them when you



Team Games

The IMPish

Bridge Club at EBCBC

One Saturday each Month @Noon

When:	July 13 th – Bracketed Swiss teams. Brackets by team master point total. You will play most or all of the teams within your bracket.
	Aug. 24 th – High Low Swiss. Come as a pair. Highest master point pair teamed with lowest master point pair. 2 nd highest with 2 nd lowest, etc.
	Sept. 14 th – Bracketed BAM teams – Board-A-Match is the ultimate match point game. Again teams play other teams of their master point level.
Where:	The East Bay Community Bridge Center 9520 Mountain Blvd, Oakland

Bracketed Swiss Games are 4 person teams. If you are only a pair, let us know, and we will try to match you up with another pair.
Reservations are not required, but greatly appreciated!

For more details Contact:

GregoryGVance@gmail.com, or GrantVance1@gmail.com, or
dsgeary@comcast.net (David Geary)

WANTED

All Units Send Your Players For a Special Event
held in conjunction with the All-Western Regional
Friday August 30th, 2019



**All 0-99 masterpoint players a.k.a.
THE WILD WEST 99ers**

**All 0-299 masterpoint players a.k.a.
THE BRANDING IRON 299ers**



Two chances to Play - play one or Both Sessions
1:00 and 7:00

Special Reduced Entry Rate!

\$10 per person for one session or play both for \$15!!!

Prizes for the Winners!

- Registration Gift for all players
- Mentors available to answer bidding and playing questions after the games
- Play today and receive 50% off any Saturday, Sunday and Monday Game!
- Prizes provided by the Brian Haley Memorial Fund

for information:

Pam Hughes
Tournament Manager
jmom380@yahoo.com

Jackie Zayac
District 21 Director
jackiezayac@gmail.com

at the
Hyatt Regency Santa Clara
5101 Great American Parkway
Santa Clara, CA 95054

408-200-1234
800-233-1234

Room Rates
Thurs Aug 29 - Mon Sept 2 - \$139

I'VE GOT A HEADACHE

After a long day of Bridge, has your head ever hurt? That only happens to me, if I don't scratch. Sometimes I can feel them coming on during the game. It's a lot like looking at the cards, and seeing double. When I have hidden a card, or never counted all of the cards, or not followed suit, it's a sad day. Bridge requires thinking with a clear head. This little snappy game requires your full attention, and it actually demands it.

I'm excited about what's happening in our Unit. We now have a class that caters to folks with zero to twenty Masterpoints - a perfect start to a great future.

Here's info about this month's, **Featured Teacher**:

Debbie Rechnitz is a Club Director, Cruise Ship Director, ACBL Accredited Teacher and Life Master. She recently finished the 'Club Series' beginning class in Concord, and is wrapping up the 'Diamond Series' (Play of the Hand) next week. On June 4 she started a brand new club game for newbies with zero to twenty masterpoints. We're proud to offer this series, as there are less than twenty games in Northern California offering these classes. We're very excited to host this comfortable, friendly, non-threatening introduction to Duplicate. Games are held on Tuesday afternoons, at 2pm. There will be a free twenty-minute pre-game lesson for those interested. Debbie also guarantees a partner for all singles who want to play, and encourages all to invite anyone who seems remotely interested in learning how to play Bridge. Come on down,

So keep your cool, as the weather can be extremely hot. July 4th is on its way, and of course you all know this date was set aside as American Independence Day that represents the Declaration of Independence, and the birth of the United States of America. Let's all have a blast, as this date says *let's barbecue*.

Happy 4th

Lisa Assoni



Play a Hand with Me

This is a corrected version of Jerry's hand from the June issue. The 6 and 9 of diamonds have been switched to their correct hand. In the wrong version, you can unblock the diamonds by playing the 10 early.

Play A Hand With Me....

June, 2019

	North
	S 874
	H J3
	D AKQ62
	C 754
West	East
S 10965	S 3
H AK1098	H Q6542
D 4	D J53
C A106	C QJ98



South
S AKQJ2
H 7
D 10987
C K32

You are playing in a Knockout match when you hear the bidding start by West with 1H P 4H and you bid 4S. It goes all pass and the lead is the Ace of Hearts followed by the King of Hearts. Before you play to trick two you observe that your partner has put down a very nice dummy and it looks like you can take 5 Spades and 5 Diamonds.

However, you notice that you might have a blockage in the Diamond suit. You should also notice that if the Spades are 4-1 and you trump the second Heart and Diamonds are 3-1 which is highly likely considering the preemptive bidding you might not be able to collect 10 tricks. So how do you plan to make your contract?

You can essentially unblock the Diamond suit by discarding one of them on the second Heart. If they continue a third Heart you can ruff in dummy and if they cash their Ace of Clubs you still make your game.

Try making 4 with the given layout after you ruff the second Heart. You cannot but since you never had more than 10 tricks, you get rewarded for making an unusual safety play.

Jerry Weitzner

jweitzner@sbcglobal.net

North

S QJ75

H Q76

D A32

C A52

West

S K98

H AKJ8

D 765

C 875

East

S 10643

H 72

D K1084

C J62

South

S A2

H 10954

D QJ9

C KQ109

The bidding on this deal from a recent knock-out event started with South: 1C 1H X P, 1N(this should stop their suit) P 3N P P P.

The opening lead was the 7 of Diamonds and my thought was that if they had led away from the K then I would take 3 tricks in that suit. East won the K and led the 7 of Hearts to the A, K and a 3rd Heart. I was surprised to see that West had over-called on a 4 card suit. On the 3rd Heart, East threw a low club which was encouraging to me .

Upon winning the 3rd Heart, I tested Clubs and West signaled he liked Spades so I am fairly sure he has the K and the finesse would lose and he would take his good Heart, so after cashing two Diamonds I led my 10 of Hearts and he was forced to lead away from his Spade K.

I took 2S, 1H, 2D and 4C making 9 tricks for a 12 imp gain when they went down at the other table.

Sometimes it doesn't pay to alert the declarer that a finesse is going to lose.

Jerry Weitzner

jweitzner@sbcglobal.net

Improve Your Bridge Play

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE PLAY

By David Terris

BALANCING AFTER OPPONENT OPENS ONE OF A SUIT (Part 2 of 5)

Reference: Mike Lawrence, "The Complete Book on Balancing," 1981

This is the second of five installments on reopening the bidding (balancing) when LHO opens the bidding with one of a suit.

Balancing with 1NT

After LHO's 1♣ or 1♦ opening bid and two passes, reopening with 1NT requires 11+ to 14 HCP. With 15 to 18 HCP, you first double and then rebid Notrump.



After LHO's 1♥ or 1♠ opening bid you should extend the range to about 15-16 HCP. With 17 to 18 HCP, you first double and then rebid Notrump.

Bidding 1NT with no stopper in Opponent's suit requires maximum HCP and at least 3 cards in the suit.

Open. Part. Resp. You

1♣ Pass Pass ???
♠K8 ♥1065 ♦KJ87 ♣AJ54

Bid 1NT. This is a minimum.

Open. Part. Resp. You

1♣ Pass Pass ???
♠K73 ♥AQ2 ♦KJ4 ♣QJ83

Double. This is too strong to bid 1NT. Double and then rebid 1NT—which shows the type of hand you would have overcalled 1NT in the direct seat.

Open. Part. Resp. You

1♠ Pass Pass ???

♠K73 ♥AQ2 ♦KJ4 ♣QJ83

Bid 1NT. This is the same hand, but with LHO's 1♠ opening bid, you should be more conservative. If you double, Partner has to bid at the 2-level, and you have to rebid 2NT which may be too high.

Open. Part. Resp. You

1♥ Pass Pass ???

♠KJ ♥1062 ♦AJ54 ♣AQ83

Bid 1NT. You don't have to have a stopper in hearts, but you do need good HCP and at least 3 cards in Opponent's suit.

Open. Part. Resp. You

1♦ Pass Pass ???

♠43 ♥KJ7 ♦QJ987 ♣AJ3

Pass. Opponents are in your best suit. You could bid 1NT, but if Opponents are vulnerable, pass for sure.

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

Blackhawk Duplicate Bridge

Blackhawk Country Club

Contact Lilah Newton at

lilahnewton@yahoo.com

On the 1st Wednesday in August, Blackhawk Ladies' Duplicate Bridge will have a special game. We are inviting our male friends and any other outside friends who would like to join us that day. We will have a sanctioned game starting at 9:30am in the main dining room of Blackhawk Country Club, followed by a scrumptious BBQ lunch. It will be a Unit Game so there will be higher masterpoints awarded. Our club is absorbing a large part of what would be the normal cost. Players will be charged \$28 for the lunch and NO BRIDGE FEES! Don't miss out. Reservations are required. Please call or email Lilah Newton (925-648-3154, lilahnewton@yahoo.com) or Sharon Tarpinian, Director (925-736-2461, enchantment-s@comcast.net).



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 (no lunch following the Friday games).

Reservations are required in advance for all games. If we have enough notice we can usually arrange for partnerships. You may re-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:

Dennis & Renee Ross (twice), Larry Lange & Beth Majchrzak, Carol Penskar & Randy Corr, Al & Felicity Warner (twice), Doug Handler & Diana Lowell, Bill Burns & Bill Warren, Al Dessayer & Pat Rolandelli, Judy Peak & Charlie Wolff, Tom & Gayle Hester (twice), Daisy Lennon & Sandi Cummings, Darrell Fung & Josh Fendel, Bob Alfandary & Susan Nurock (twice), Conrad Robertson & Beth Majchrzak, Vijaya Kamath & Susan Schlicht, Larry Lange & Judy Murphy (twice), Joan Tasker & Sue McCaffrey, Melinda Hall & Jaymie Ney, and Charlie Wolff & Mack Riddle.

Upcoming Schedule:

July 2019

Wed. 7/3 No Game

Wed. 7/10 Regular Pair Game \$10

Fri 7/12 Regular 299er Pair Game \$10

Wed. 7/17 ARF Charity Pair Game \$11

Sat. 7/20 ARF Charity Swiss Team Game \$11

Wed. 7/24 Regular Pair Game \$10

Fri. 7/26 ARF Charity 299er Pair Game \$10

Wed. 7/31 Regular Pair Game \$10

August 2019

Wed. 8/7 Unit Pair Game \$10

Fri. 8/9 299er Hospice Charity Pair Game \$10

Wed. 8/14 Hospice Charity Pair Game \$11

Sat. 8/17 Hospice Charity Swiss Team Game \$11

Wed. 8/21 STaC Pair Game \$11

Fri. 8/23 299er STaC Pair Game \$11

Sat. 8/24 STaC Pair Game \$11

Wed. 8/28 Club Championship Pair Game \$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

Reservations required:

Winnie: Winnie@wjasper.com or 925-376-1125 (home)

Jerry: 925-766-5228 (cell)



Jerry Chamberlain & Winnie Jasper

Winnie@wjasper.com; 925-376-1125

183 Corliss Drive, Moraga, CA 94556

The Moraga Evening Duplicate Bridge Club

The Moraga Country Club duplicate bridge game continues to be each Tuesday night at 7pm. Reservations required with dsgeary@comcast.net. ACBL Master Points and hand records. Fee is only \$3.

5/14/2019 – 5 tables

- 1 – Rohan Srivastava & David Snder
- 2 – Anne Hollingsworth & Blair Hoffman
- 3 – Kathy Wolf & Mal Mendelson

5/21/2019 – 5 tables

- 1 – Barbara McKay & Irwin Lichtblau
- 2 – Art Donaldson & David Geary
- 3 tie – Ed Lichtig & Blair Hoffman
- 3 tie – Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain

5/28/2019 – 2 tables

- 1 – Perry & Fred Serafin
- 2 – Kathy Wolf & David Snyder
- 3 – Colleen & David Geary

6/4/2019 – 3 tables

- 1 – Art Evans & Bill LeMaire
- 2 – Ravi Bhalla & Rohan Srivastava
- 3 – Marcia Wasserman & David Snyder

6/11/2019 – no game

Regards, David Geary



ROSSMOOR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Gateway Club

Rossmoor

Duplicate Bridge Club offers Bridge Basics 3 class series.

Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club (RDBC) is offering a Bridge Basics 3 class on Mondays beginning July 15. The class will run for nine weeks with no class on Labor Day, September 2. Classes will be held in the Oak Room at the Gateway center from 9:30-11:30am.

The class will cover the Stayman Convention, Jacoby Transfer Bids, Strong Opening Bids and Slam Bidding.

The text will be "Bridge Basics 3" by Audrey Grant and will be available from the instructors. The class will be taught by Pat Taylor and Kathleen Young.

The cost is \$50 for members of the RDBC, \$60 for resident nonmembers (\$10 of which will cover RDBC dues for 2019), and \$100 for non-residents. Checks should be made payable to Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club.

To enroll call Barbara V. Smith at 925-256-4430.

Kit Miller



Carol Griffin



And all year round there is: **Drop-in** bridge Thursdays from 10-noon for social supervised bridge and "**Newplicate**" (for those who are new to duplicate) on Tuesdays from 12:30-4pm All activities are at the new lovely location of Wilder Ranch (except for Newplicate), just 1/4 mile beyond Orinda exit off of Highway 24

Carol also offers a variety of classes at Lafayette Community Center on Mondays and at Wilder Ranch club house (thru Orinda Community center) on Thursdays. Please contact the appropriate community center for details or visit her website at: carolgriffinsbridge.wordpress.com

Carol T Griffin

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Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Tel 925 933 3535

Email: nobidd45@gmail.com

Web Site: carolgriffinsbridge.wordpress.com

If this is an emergency please call as I do not necessarily look at my email every day.