

eDeclarer

August 2019

ACBL UNIT 499 NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Hello Unit 499!

August is here with the dog-days of Summer to be coming soon. Of course, dog-days are mostly celebrated on the East Coast, but I thought it a nice reminder for us here on the West Coast.

The 29th and 30th of June saw Unit 499 hosting the Summer Sectional at Rossmoor's Event Center. We had a great turnout, 394 folks attending for both Saturday and Sunday; 94 were from Rossmoor. The venue was varied and successful. Saturday morning held 73 tables for games, with the afternoon seating 55½ tables. Sunday's Swiss Team held 38 tables for both morning and afternoon. Lunch was provided for \$5, a real treat from Morucci's. After all expenses, the profit was \$3,500, which goes a long way to help with our expenses in helping clubs with their technology purchases. Thank you all who attended and helped to make this event so successful!

Ever-present, Dori Dolgin handled Hospitality and kept us on track with coffee and snacks. Thank you, Dori! We couldn't do it without you!

As we play in the playground of bridge, personalities and characters emerge in the most delightful and harrowing of manner. One of those delightful personalities was Ted Gunn. On a sad note, I reflect upon his passing recently. Ted was a member of the Unit 499 board, and a wonderful pun and word master. He was always quick with a quip on words or phrases, and had an engaging way of bringing a smile to one's face. He was ever-present with his own smile and hand-wave for acknowledgement. He had a hyper-active engaging manner in his quickness with words and observations. Many times he used himself for the comic relief at the end of his discourse. He will be sorely missed.

Lyn Sacco



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Unit 499 eDeclarer

Published monthly

Editor: Judy Keilin

Publisher: Mary Krouse

Submit articles to jkeilin@pacbell.net

Volume XCVX

August 2019

Deadline for September is August 19

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/ccbc

...from the Editor

The bridge community suffered two losses recently: Terry Terzian directed and taught in Unit 500. Many of us played at his Redwood Bridge Club, and attended bridge cruises with him. Our own Ted Gunn passed away suddenly in July. Please be sure to read the lovely tribute submitted by Sam Earnhardt, and also the touching remarks from Lyn, in her President's Column. (Many thanks, Sam, for your contribution. eDeclarer encourages unit members to share their experiences and observations in our newsletter.)

I hope many of you were able to attend our Sectional at Rossmoor. There is no nicer venue for a tournament! If only we could have it there every time!

Check out Karen Corburn's article on Mentoring. Take advantage of this if you qualify to be a mentee. It will definitely improve your game. Being a mentor is a great way of sharing your expertise with a beginning player. There is definitely personal satisfaction to be experienced.

See you at the tables!

Judy Keilin,
Editor



Mary Krouse, Publisher



Milestones and New Members

MILESTONES

New Junior Masters

Philippa Erlank
Alice Lowe

New Club Masters

Christine Gee

New Regional Masters

Mary Evenson

New NABC Masters

Mary-Jill Clemens
Bob Spivock

New Advanced NABC Masters

Albert Chu
Ingrid Hsu
Clare Smith

New Life Masters

Marilyn Chaplin
Debby Rechnitz

New Bronze Life Masters

Mel Chaplin
Malcolm Mendelson

NEW MEMBERS

Joann Bloom
Anna Brosler
Linda Cook
Erika Fox
Gessica Johnston
Bari Mantel
Carol Meehan
Sallie Nelson
Nncy Peterson
Kathleen Smith
Susan Wait
Roberta Polson
Valerie Mills
David Morris

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

IN MEMORIAM

Edwin 'Ted' Gunn passed away the weekend of July 13-14 at his residence in Rossmoor. Ted was medically challenged with managing Diabetes. Ted was 76 years old and had a long and successful career as a CPA.

For the past 8-10 years, Ted was an avid bridge player focused on helping the bridge community both with mentoring and with serving on the Unit 499 Board of Directors.

Currently mentoring a beginning player was part of his involvement with the Bridge community.

While serving on Unit 499's Board of Directors, Ted served as Treasurer for three years, partnered with Bruce Johnsonbaugh in the Youth Bridge program, and supported Anne Hollingsworth with the Sectionals.

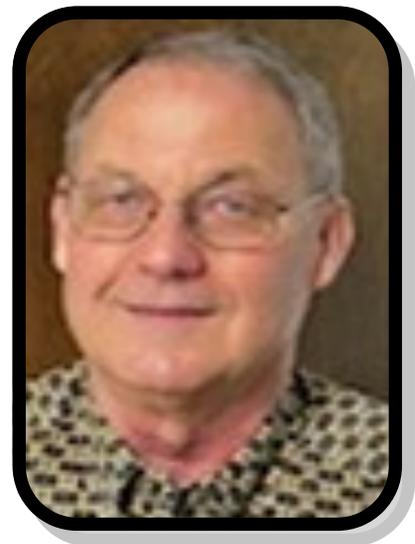
Some personal notes:

Many of you will remember the quips, puns, and erudite bridge knowledge that were a staple at the bridge table. Ted would want bridge players to say of him "He is such a card".

There was never a beer that Ted would turn down. After sessions of bridge at Regionals and Nationals, there were always the fluid dynamics (beer drinking) sessions to uncover the best ways to bid and play the hands. Let's all raise our glasses and toast Ted.

Ted is survived by his two children, Edwin Gunn Jr and Megan Gunn.

Sam Earnhardt



Special Opportunities for Mentoring

Mentors are needed to ensure that our new group of beginning bridge players continue to learn and grow to love the game of bridge as we more experienced players do.

To facilitate this learning process, there are three currently scheduled games at Contra Costa Bridge Club in Concord appropriate for newer players. We would like volunteer mentors to join us at one of these games:

Wednesday mornings from 8:45am to Noon

Thursday afternoon from 2 to 5pm

Saturday morning from 9:30 to 12pm

Volunteer to be a mentor and meet with your mentee at any of these games. You will receive up to six “free play” coupons to use for these partnerships.

Reap the rewards of sharing the game you love with new, eager to learn, bridge novices. Although most mentoring partnerships at this level, will not earn Masterpoints, the enthusiasm and appreciation from dedicated learners are personal rewards. Help us grow the membership in Unit 499 through this program.

Please contact Karen Corburn, Mentoring Chair, Unit 499 at kscorburn@gmail.com or 404-386-2731.

Team and IMP Games

The IMPish IMP

Bridge Club at EBCBC

One Saturday each Month @Noon

When: Aug. 24th – High Low Swiss. Come as a pair. Highest master point pair teamed with lowest master point pair. 2nd highest with 2nd lowest, etc.

Sept. 14th – Bracketed BAM teams – Board-A-Match is the ultimate match point game. Again teams play other teams of their master point level.

Oct. 26th IMP Pairs – Come as a Pair. Each hand is IMP'd against all other pairs. Make your contract; bid your games; don't worry about overtricks!

Where: The East Bay Community Bridge Center
9520 Mountain Blvd, Oakland

For more details Contact:

GregoryGVance@gmail.com, or GrantVance1@gmail.com, or dsgear@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

LIFE LINES

When it comes to living, we all need connections. You can't live on life alone. The conduit for all people is other people. Remember the saying "It takes a Village?"

As we mature, I'm reminded of how important socialization is. Time doesn't always heal all wounds, but getting out of our comfort zone and becoming a part of something bigger than us, is a key component to living a fulfilling Life.

We have our own member, Eldonna Dayton, a nonagenarian bridge player, who is an inspiration to us all. She recently retired at the age of 94, still volunteered at the age of 95, and at 96 is still an avid Bridge Player. She and her partner Joyce Goodman have been dedicated women to continue on the path to build more than just brain matter. Their attitudes, care and passion for the game, are reflected every time they play. So folks, be more like the girls. Be resilient, kind, fun and motivated.

There are a few other heady brain games to play, but bridge is every bit as strategic and intellectually demanding as a game like chess, but also an inherently social one. This distinction is important because it's well-known that staying socially connected is key to healthy aging. Yes, chess is a brain enhancer too, but while chess is played silently against a solitary opponent, bridge involves multiple players, and requires communication skills. It's been said that Bridge players say it's the synergistic combination of the strategy, and social aspects of the game that make it so alluring. So, let's all grow older, smarter, and connected to each other.

Hang out at the bridge tables, and enjoy the ride!

Lisa Assoni/The ShortCut Cook



Play a Hand with Me

Play A Hand With Me...

August, 2019

	North	
	S AK9	
	H QJ97	
	D J109753	
	C	
West		East
S J76		S Q108
H A32		H 865
D AK64		D Q82
C 765		C KQ98
	South	
	S 5432	
	H K104	
	D -----	
	C AJ10432	



This deal came up in the recent World Wide Bridge Contest.

The bidding started with West opening 1D and it went p, 1N, p,p, and North bid 2D which is to play.

South decided clubs would fare better so he bid 3C, all pass.

The opening lead was the K of diamonds trumped by South and led a heart to dummy, winning and trumped another diamond. The K of hearts was led and West won and continued diamonds. You ruff this, lead a heart and trump another diamond. Then back to dummy with a spade and lead a diamond which allows you to score two clubs in your hand either by trumping with the 10 or over ruffing with the A and getting another club with either the J or 10. All in all you score 2 spades, 2 hearts, 3 small clubs (ruffing diamonds) and 2 big clubs because the K and Q are in front of the AJ10.

This is making 3 for a good result (70%). As it turns out, diamonds plays almost as well, you can score 2 spades, 2 hearts, the A of clubs, and some club ruffs in your hand but you will probably lose a spade, a heart, and 3 top diamonds for making 2.

East and West might make 1N or if they go down one for minus 50 they will get a good score which is why it was important to balance after their 1N bid.

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 3 of 5)

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

Balancing with a Suit of Your Own At the One Level

Given adequate strength, any 5-card suit is acceptable for reopening at the 1-level.

<u>Open.</u>	<u>Part. Resp.</u>		<u>You</u>
1♣	Pass	Pass	???
♠87654	♥A8	♦K104	♣K54

Bid 1♠. No problem here even with this poor suit. The hand has adequate strength. It would be much too conservative to pass.



Many 4-card suits are adequate, particularly if the shape is wrong for a double or if good enough to prefer over bidding 1NT.

<u>Open.</u>	<u>Part. Resp.</u>		<u>You</u>
1♦	Pass	Pass	???
♠A2	♥QJ109	♦8654	♣A97

Bid 1♥. Your shape is fine for bidding 1NT, but you should prefer 1♥. You will be happy for your Partner to lead hearts if the Opponents play the hand.

<u>Open.</u>	<u>Part. Resp.</u>		<u>You</u>
1♦	Pass	Pass	???
♠J1087	♥3	♦AK42	♣A642

Bid 1♠. The hand is too good to pass, even though your spades aren't very good.

The better the suit or the better the shape the less strength is needed to reopen.

<u>Open.</u>	<u>Part. Resp.</u>		<u>You</u>
1♣	Pass	Pass	???

♠KJ873 ♥3 ♦Q542 ♣1065

Bid 1♠. You have a decent suit and good shape.

<u>Open.</u>	<u>Part.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>You</u>
1♣	Pass	Pass	???

♠AQJ8 ♥3 ♦10654 ♣8632

Bid 1♠. This is minimum strength, but both the suit and shape are very good.

Your holding in Opponent's suit is an important factor on close decisions. The queen and jack should be considered almost worthless and the king valued only as some immediate protection.

<u>Open.</u>	<u>Part.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>You</u>
1♥	Pass	Pass	???

♠K73 ♥Q53 ♦K54 ♣A654

Pass. This hand is worth a lot less than its 12 HCP. The heart queen is probably worthless, and the highest card you have other than an honor is a seven.

What suits are missing? Be aware of short suits in your hand that haven't been bid—particularly majors. Sometimes by reopening you can give Opponents a chance to find a better contract.

<u>Open.</u>	<u>Part.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>You</u>
1♣	Pass	Pass	???

♠65 ♥AQ964 ♦764 ♣974

Pass. Although your heart suit is good, you are short in an unbid major, spades. With your hand this weak it is likely that it is the Opponents' hand, and you don't want them to find a better contract in spades.

<u>Open.</u>	<u>Part.</u>	<u>Resp.</u>	<u>You</u>
1♣	Pass	Pass	???

♠82 ♥Q5 ♦AJ985 ♣KJ107

Pass. Do not reopen with 1♦. You have two unbid major suits to be concerned about, and a significant amount of your strength is in Opponent's suit. It is highly probable that if you reopen, they will find a major suit 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

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).



Lilah Newton

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. We are now holding Limited Pair Games (less than 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 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:

Al & Felicity Warner, Daisy Lennon & Sandi Cummings, Annette & Bob Horwitz, Susan Nurock & Bob Alfandary, Joanne Kim & Holly Chapin, Diane Kennedy & Marguerite Birkenfeld, and Tom & Gayle Hester

Upcoming Schedule:

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

September 2019

Wed. 9/4 Regular Pair Game \$10

Wed. 9/11 Regular Pair Game \$10

Fri. 9/13 International Fund 299er Pair Game \$10

Wed. 9/18 Unit Pair Game \$10

Sat. 9/21 Club Championship Swiss Team Game \$10

Wed. 9/25 International Fund Pair Game \$10

Fri. 9/27 International Fund 299er Pair Game \$10

Jerry Chamberlain & Winnie Jasper

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 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. ACBL Master Points and hand records. Fee is only \$3.

6/18/2019 – 3 tables

- 1 – Diana Lowell & Doug Handler
- 2 tie – Irwin Javinsky & Mal Mendelson
- 2 tie – Marcia Wasserman & David Snyder
- 2 tie – Art Donaldson & David Geary

6/25/2019 – 3 tables

- 1 – Deb & Wayne Rechnitz
- 2 – Diana Lowell & Doug Handler
- 3 – Nancy & Lew Voils

7/2/2019 – 3 tables

- 1 – Colleen & David Geary
- 2 – May Mok & Ethan Wood
- 3 – Diana Lowell & Doug Handler

7/9/2019 – 3 tables

- 1 – Colleen & David Geary
- 2 – Irwin Javinsky & Mal Mendelson
- 3 – Sanda Henry & George Bazgan

7/16/2019 – 3 tables

- 1 – Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain
- 2 – Diana Lowell & Doug Handler
- 3 – Deb & Wayne Rechnitz

Regards, David Geary



ROSSMOOR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Gateway Club

Rossmoor

There will be a UNIT GAME held at Rossmoor on Sunday, August 4. Lunch will be served at noon followed by play at 1pm. There will be an open section and a 299er game. The cost is \$5 to members of the Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club and \$9 for others. The game will be held in the Oak Room at the Gateway Center.

On Thursday, August 8, the game will be a North American Pair Qualifier. This game is at 7:00pm.

August 19-24 will be Summer Fun STaC Week. The cost of games that week will be \$5 for Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club members and \$10 for others.

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

400 Beacon Ridge Lane

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.