

eDeclarer

February 2020

ACBL UNIT 499 NEWSLETTER

President's Message



Hello Unit 499!

Days—longer light! Sun peeking through, trying to warm what night descends and thrives upon. Fall—the colors of the leaves dance with death--never quite giving up. To hold in the coming next life.

January in Monterey at the Clambake Regional was a lovely distraction and warm compilation of games and people. Lots to see and do! The weather was chilly and cold with warmth in the room after returning from a bridge session. Lots of discovery of new eating places in Pacific Grove and Monterey. Ah, the wonders of being away!

February promises to be a short month. Unit games and club games hold the days and times of this early pre-spring season. Gather your favorite partner and get out there and play!

Lyn Sacco

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Unit 499 eDeclarer

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Submit articles to jkeilin@pacbell.net

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February 2020

Deadline for March is February 17

...from the Editor

I'm writing this from Honolulu, where the 69th Hawaii Regional begins tonight. Some of you have attended this event, I know. In fact, I got my Life Masters here many years ago with Sharon Tarpinian, filling in as teammates at the last minute with Marj Russell and Carroll Brooks. Sharon and I played in a two-session pairs event on the first night, and at the end, I had those elusive 3.08 (or something like that) gold points that I needed.

It's a small, very friendly Regional. It's close to the beach, restaurants and shopping. AND, you're in Hawaii! Stay a few days longer and you can play golf, visit the north shore towns and beaches, attend a luau, see pineapples grow, take surfing lessons, and learn about the Hawaiian culture.

Aloha!

Judy Keilin

Editor



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

diablovalleybridge.com/cbc



Mary Krouse, Publisher



Milestones and New Members

MILESTONES

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Alice Lowe
Coralie Wilkes

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

Loretta Landucci
Mike McCluer
David Pierce
David Slaby

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Gary Moore

NEW ADVANCED NABC MASTERS

Jeanette Bartz

NEW LIFE MASTERS

Forrest Bottomley

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTERS

Jay Francis

NEW MEMBERS

Janice Adragna
Cynthia Engers
Spencer Johnson
Kathy Parrish
Stan Raider

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

EXCELLENT TOURNAMENT RESULTS FOR LOH

At the recent ACBL National Bridge Tournament in San Francisco, Kathrine Loh of the Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club (RDBC) placed in all the events in which she played. She played in the National 0-10,000 masterpoint Swiss Team, a second bracket Knockout, and won an open Swiss Team event with her team. She also played with RDBC manager, Michael Gosnell, and placed in the National 0-10,000 IMP pairs game. She won a very impressive 56+ gold, platinum and red points. Congratulations Kathrine!



CHILL OUT

The New Year is already in its second month. For some, time passes quickly; or for others, very slowly. Though February is the shortest month of the year, it often feels like the longest; especially in cold, drizzly climates. So, make the most of this mini-month, beginning at the bridge table. When the weather outside is frightful, skedaddle to your local bridge center. You'll be nice, warm and cozy, while playing your favorite card game. Now, if we only had fireplaces.

Unit 499's website, diablovalleybridge.com has lots cookin' for folks that want to jump into the game. No, not YOUR GAME OF THRONES, yes, you may have a few moans, but the life lessons you'll learn. It was a real life changer for me. My late husband was diagnosed with Early-On-Set Alzheimer's, and it consumed my life. Ronald Oswang, at that time, was the father of the local Bridge Center, and while I was walking by, I peeked inside and was greeted by Ron. He explained about the Bridge Center, and he even gave me a bridge book, with contingencies, that I promise I'd return it, and come to the first class. I did, and yikes, I was hooked. Whenever my caregiver was there, I'd be taking lessons, playing Rubber Bridge, and so the journey had begun. Even in my darkest time, besides my faith, Bridge was my refuge.

Don't get bored, but I'd like to introduce our current Board Members.

Lyn Sacco, our elected President, is very supportive and caring for everyone in Unit 499. Her decision-making skills are honed-in, and all feel her kind spirit.

Sam Earnhardt is our Vice-President, another hard-worker, and zealot for bridge.

Andy Shockley, Secretary, just can't be replaced. He's a very kind guy, and dedicated to serving all.

Sam Earnhardt doubles down as our terrific Treasurer, and keeps that pencil sharp.

Richard Ahlf, is a highly seasoned businessman, and our Publicity chair. A perfect fit.

Lisa Assoni, that's me, Hey, I love the job.

Clare Smith is membership chair. Her enthusiasm for the game will surely bring others to the tables.

Andy Fine works tirelessly at planning, scheduling, and securing times, dates and places to play in Unit Games.

Bruce Johnsonbaugh, his faithfulness and dedication to Bridge, is obvious by his willingness to help our youth.

Anne Hollingsworth continues to organize and "seal the deal" for our Spring and Fall Sectionals.

Marian Renvall, the hostess with the mostess, is our hospitality chair. She does an awesome job.

Mike Kruley, has the magic touch. He's our Webmaster.

Not part of our board, but a big part of keeping folks up on the latest, is Judy Keilin, who edits our online Electronic Newsletter. Her dedicated work dishes out the latest news from our Unit. Mary Krouse is the publisher, and is so supportive. She's helps make each month's issue informative and fun.

As you can see, lots of folks including Bruce, Mark, and Mike, make our bridge life a well orchestrated symphony, and a happy place to play.

Ciao, Bella

Lisa Assoni

The Shortcut Cook



Play a Hand with Me

Play A Hand With Me...

February, 2020

North

S 102

H KQ10876

D 53

C Q43

West

S AK987

H 94

D QJ108

C 87

East

S QJ6543

H AJ2

D 9

C 652

South

S ____

H 53

D AK7642

C AKJ109



This deal is from the 4 session Mixed Swiss Teams in the San Francisco Nationals. I am playing with a lady from Houston who is an excellent player. The last time we played was in 1974 prior to her moving from Oakland to Houston. Our teammates are Jim and Pat Leary from Livermore.

The bidding had gone 1D by me, 1S on my left, 3H by my partner (which is preemptive and shows a good suit), 4S on my right, 5C by me, all pass.

The opening lead is the A of spades which I ruffed. This looked like an easy hand having one heart loser and maybe a diamond loser but this is imps and it is very important to do whatever it takes to make your contract.

I led a heart and East took my K with his A. I am not sure, but it might have been better for him to duck this. He then led the 9 of diamonds and I won this in my hand. This looks like a singleton and I began to worry about that. There are two things that can be done here. One is to cross to the heart Q and lead a low diamond back towards my hand and if East ruffs that I would just play low. The other is to lead a low diamond giving them their trick now, later trumping a diamond with the Q of clubs and hoping that clubs would split and my hand would be good. The second line is what I chose and it did make a difference because at the other table, they went down. Not only was this a big pickup, but West (an international champion) said to me "Very nicely played".

It is always fun to get a compliment from an accomplished player!!!

Jerry Weitzner

jweitzner@sbcglobal.net

Improve Your Bridge Play

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE PLAY

By David Terris

A NIFTY END PLAY MAKES THE CONTRACT WITH AN OVERTRICK

North Deals None Vul	♠ J3 ♥ KQ93 ♦ A9 ♣ AJ1076	♠ 7 ♥ J104 ♦ 10643 ♣ KQ854									
♠ K1086 ♥ A765 ♦ K82 ♣ 32	<table style="background-color: #008000; color: white; border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ AQ9542 ♥ 82 ♦ QJ75 ♣ 9
	N										
W		E									
	S										



North	East	South	West
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Playing this deal at the **Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club**, most North/South pairs went down at the usual contract of 4♠. They pulled trump, and found that they had to lose 2 spade tricks, a heart trick and eventually a diamond trick. But it's possible to not only make the contract but make an overtrick. When you see the line of play, which requires both that trump not be pulled, plus perfect timing of the play, one must ask if even an expert would take this line. But, when one can see all four hands, one can be very innovative.

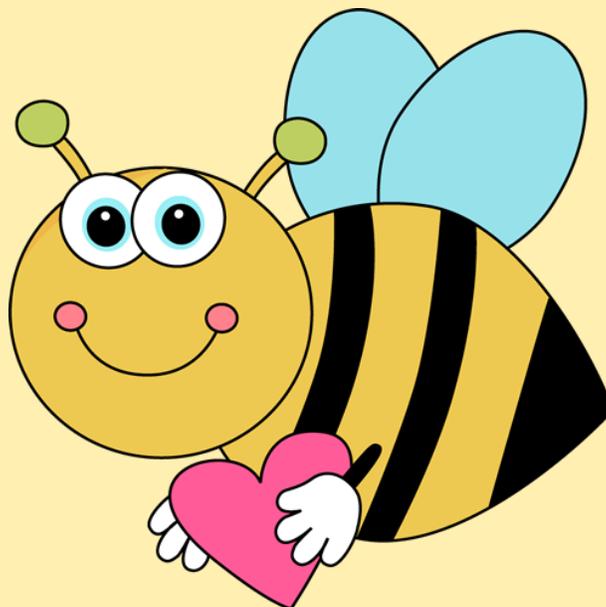
West led the 3♣ won by Dummy's A♣. Dummy continued with a club which Declarer ruffed in his hand. He then led the Q♦. West saw no need to cover since there were only two diamonds in the Dummy, so he ducked. Now Declarer switched to a heart which East ducked to Dummy's Q♥. The A♦ was cashed, and Dummy continued with the K♥ won by West's A♥. West exited with a heart which was ruffed in Declarer's hand.

At this point, here is the layout with the defenders having won only the A♥, and the lead in Declarer's hand.

South Deals	♠ J3		
None Vul	♥ 9		
	♦		
	♣ J107		
♠ K1086		N	♠ 7
♥ 7		W	♥ 106
♦ K			♣ KQ8
♣		S	
	♠ AQ95		
	♥		
	♦ J7		
	♣		

A diamond was ruffed in the Dummy, clearing West's K♦. Next, the good 9♥ was ruffed by East and over-ruffed by Declarer leaving West with only his 4 spades. The last diamond was led. West was forced to ruff and Dummy over-ruffed with the J♠. The J♣ was led, ruffed with Declarer's 5♠ and over-ruffed by West. This left West in the lead holding ♠K10 and Declarer holding ♠AQ. So East was only able to win one spade trick plus the A♥, and Declarer made 5 spades.

Note that if West refused to ruff the 9♥, Declarer discards his last diamond, leads the J♠, and East will still be endplayed.



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

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.



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 STaCWeek. 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:

Jerry Weitzner & Darrell Fung, David Geary & Malcolm Mendelson, Dennis & Renee Ross, Barby Eppinger & Jackie Birdsong, Mike Whitaker & Dick DeVoe, Tom & Gayle Hester (twice), Ron Forney & Dianne Wesselhoft, Wayne & Deb Rechnitz, David Geary & Barry Bosworth, Malcolm Mendelson & Sid Landman, Joan Tasker & Charlie Wolff, David & Colleen Geary, Bob & Annette Horwitz (twice), Gray & Linda Cardiff, Ed & Teresa Seputis, Derek Southern & Maxine Winer, Dan Wong & Darrell Fung, Derek Southern & Daisy Lennon, Bob Alfandary & Susan NurockGayle Hester & Eileen Tarrab, Steve Oliver & Leslie Wagstaff, Joan Tasker & Sue McCaffrey, Malcolm Mendelson & Irwin Javinsky, Melinda Hall & Jamie Ney, Pat Rolandelli & Al Dessayer, and Winnie Jasper & Joyce Ellenberg

Upcoming Schedule

February 2020

Wed. 2/5 NO GAME

Wed. 2/12 Regular Pair Game \$10

Fri. 2/14 ARF Charity 299er Pair Game \$10

Sat. 2/15 ARF Charity Swiss Team Game \$11

Wed. 2/19 ARF Charity Pair Game \$11

Wed. 2/26 Regular Pair Game \$10

Fri. 2/28 Regular 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 is each Tuesday night at 7pm.. Usually lasts until about 10pm.. Reservations are required by the Sunday before with David Geary @ e-mail: cocgeary@gmail.com. ACBL Master Points, hand records, stratified, \$3 per person.

1/7/2020 - 4 tables

- 1 - Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain
- 2 - Rohan & Sahan Srivastava
- 3 - Carol Smith & Dave Cartwright



1/14/2020 - 3 tables

- 1 tie - Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain
- 1 tie - Barbara McKay & Irwin Lichtblau
- 3 - Art Donaldson & David Geary

Regards, David Geary

ROSSMOOR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Gateway Club, Rossmoor

UNIT GAME (new date)

There will be a Unit game held at Rossmoor on Sunday, February 9. (Please note this is a date change from the original schedule on the 2nd, which is Super Bowl Sunday.)

Lunch will be served at noon followed by play at 1:00 p.m. There will be open and 499 games. The cost is \$5 for Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club members and \$9 for guests.

IMP PAIRS GAME

There will be an IMP pairs game on Thursday, February 6, at 7:00 p.m.

UNIT GAME

There will be a Unit game at Rossmoor on Thursday, February 20, at 7:00 p.m.

All games are held in the Oak Room at the Gateway Center in Rossmoor.

Kit Miller

