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# North County Inland, Unit 549

2427 S. Centre City Pkwy., Escondido, CA 92025

(760) 747-6092

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# TABLE



# TALK



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ACBL UNIT 549

## *PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*

Next month is our very special Holiday Party in which the Unit offers a “thank you” to all of its members for their loyal attendance to our functions by holding a **free Holiday Lunch and Bridge Game**. This luncheon and game are free to all Unit 549 members and just \$7 to players that do not belong to our Unit. So save the date, Sat. Dec 15th on your calendar. New this year, we will also hold a raffle with prizes that will have been specifically selected to interest for our bridge players. So come one, come all, and kick off the Holiday Season with all of your bridge friends.

We anticipate a big crowd for this event so we need to have everyone sign up in advance as we will be limited to 25 tables or 100 players. You can sign up at the NCBC or email Bill Sperry at [wrsperry@gmail.com](mailto:wrsperry@gmail.com) and I will add you name to our list.

The Happiest of Holidays,

Bill

## P L A Y E R S   O F   T H E   M O N T H



**Open**  
Tim Flaherty



**Under 1500**  
Al Nadel



**Under 750**  
Art Foeste



**Under 300**  
Mariam Saner



**Under 100**  
Sue Compton



**Future Master**  
Nate Figler

## Upcoming Unit 549 Events – Mark the Date

### Special Games with Extra Points

Sat. Nov. 17th – Unit Game “Toys for Tots” Charity Game & Pot-Luck Lunch at 12:15pm, Game starts at 1:00pm, Lake San Marcos Pavilion, Open & NLM  
Sat. Dec. 1st 12:30pm – NCBC – Barometer – Mega-Point Game  
Mon. Dec 3rd 12:30pm and 6:30pm – NCBC – Open – STAC Games  
Tues. Dec 4th 9:00am (NLM) and 1:00pm (Open) – NCBC – STAC Games  
Wed. Dec. 5th 12:30pm – NCBC – Open – STAC Game  
Wed. Dec. 5th 12:30pm – LSMDBC – STAC Game  
Thurs. Dec. 6th 12:30pm – NCBC - Mentor/Mentee & Open – STAC Game  
Fri. Dec. 7th – 9am (Intermediate) & 12:30pm (Open) – NCBC – STAC Games  
Fri. Dec. 7th – LSMDBC – Pot -Luck 5:30pm, 6:30pm STAC Game  
Sat. Dec. 8th – 12:30pm – NCBC – Barometer – STAC Game  
Mon. Dec. 10th 12:30pm – NCBC – Open – Mega-Point Game  
Tues. Dec. 11th 9:00am – NCBC – Intermed. – Mega-Point Game  
Wed. Dec. 12th 12:30pm – NCBC – Open – Club Championship Game  
Thurs. Dec. 13th – NCBC – Mentor/Mentee & Open – Birthday Game  
Fri. Dec. 14th 9:00am – NCBC – Intermed. – Mega-Point Game  
Sat. Dec. 15th 12:15pm – Unit 549 Christmas Lunch and Unit Game at 1:00PM, Lake San Marcos Pavilion  
Tues. Dec. 18th – 9:00 am – NCBC – NLM – Mega Point Game; 1:00pm – NCBC – Open – Mega-Point Game  
Thurs. Dec. 20th 12:30pm – NCBC – Mentor/Mentee & Open – Mega-Point Game  
Mon. Dec. 24th 6:30pm – NCBC – Open – Club Championship Game  
Wed. Dec. 26th 12:30pm – NCBC – Open – Mega-Point Game  
Fri. Dec. 28th 12:30pm – NCBC – Open – Mega-Point Game  
Mon. Dec. 31st 6:30pm – NCBC – Open – Mega-Point Game  
Mon. Dec. 31st – LSMDBC – New Year’s Eve Pot-Luck – 5:30pm dinner & Champagne, 6:30pm Game

## Winter Sectional – Jan 25 – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013...New Location!

Come One! Come All! Unit 549’s Winter Sectional will be held at our new location, the Lake San Marcos Conference Center, 1105 La Bonita Dr, Lake San Marcos, 92078. The Winter Sectional will have NLM, Open Pairs, Knock-outs and Swiss Teams. Mark the date! Contact: Sheila Latus, Tournament Director by email: [slatus1977@aol.com](mailto:slatus1977@aol.com) for further information. Partnerships: John White Email: [johnvwhite@gmail.com](mailto:johnvwhite@gmail.com)

## Mark the Date! February 9<sup>th</sup>! Audrey Grant is returning to Unit 549!

Once again, Audrey Grant, renowned Bridge Author and Educator will be here to help us get our game to the next level. We will have a full day Workshop, The topic will be “Modern Bidding Techniques... Balancing, Reason and Rules”. The workshop will begin at 10:00am and end at 3:00pm with a one-hour break for lunch. The Early bird fee is \$69 per person and includes Audrey’s materials and a full lunch with beverages. Location is the Lake San Marcos Conference Center, 1105 La Bonita Dr, Lake San Marcos. Early Bird rate expires Jan. 31, 2013

Checks should be made out to “Unit 549 – Escondido” and sent to the attention of Liz Nixon at 1572 Caminito Aguar, Lake San Marcos, Ca. 92078. Questions? Email Liz at [cruzqueen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cruzqueen@sbcglobal.net) or call 760-214-8999.

Note: The Lake San Marcos Conference Center has plenty of free parking and handicapped parking with NO STEPS! When the Unit game is in the Pavilion, you can park in the Quail’s Inn Parking Lot and walk down the sidewalk along the Lake. There are no steps this way. You can come in the back door of the Pavilion.

## Unit 549 Holiday Party – December 15<sup>th</sup> at the Lake San Marcos Pavilion

Unit 549 will be providing a Turkey/Ham luncheon with all of the trimmings... Free to all Unit 549 Members. Lunch will be served at 12:15pm and the Unit game will begin at 1:00pm. Non Unit-549 members are invited to play at \$7.00 per person. Arlene Curtiss will be available to autograph her children’s books as gifts for children in members families. Arlene is the wife of Ray Curtiss.

Unit 549 will be hosting Unit Games on December 15<sup>th</sup> (LSM Pavilion), January 19<sup>th</sup> (LSM Conference Center), and February 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Lake San Marcos Pavilion, 1105 La Bonita Dr, Lake San Marcos, 92078. Go to [www.SDBridge.com](http://www.SDBridge.com) for details, a map and directions. Unit games are \$7 per person and include loads of snacks. Game time is 1pm. Call Kay Haralson at 760-685-2535 to sign-up or email Kay at [haralson2@cox.net](mailto:haralson2@cox.net). You can also sign-up at North County Bridge Center, Lake San Marcos Bridge club or Town Hall Bridge club in Ramona. Need a partner? Email John White at [johnvwhite@gmail.com](mailto:johnvwhite@gmail.com)

## STAC Week - Dec. 3 - 8<sup>th</sup>

All clubs in Unit 549 will be participating in STAC WEEK. Call the clubs to verify exact times of the STAC Games.

## New Unit Board Nominees

Our new board members were nominated at the October Unit game. Our nominees are Art Foeste, Sue Compton, Sandy Skillern, Mariam Saner, and Tom Nolan. They will be joining our existing board members Sheila Latus, Liz Nixon, Ayoub Jaraicie, Ken Matson, and John White. Specific Board Assignments have not been determined.

## October Unit Game Winners

Open Game winners: Tim Flaherty & Joe Houde – 63.66% followed by Marilyn Florin & Doris Cubeisy – 59.95%; Ayoub Jaraicie & Lee Hofacre – 57.87%; tied 4/5 Kent Hartman & Bettie Helderling with Kay Haralson & Magdalene Krish - 54.63%; and Ken Matson & Chuck Ward with 53.7%.

Non-Life Master winners: Art Foeste & Roger Liles – 66.50% followed by Suzanna McDowell & Diana Fritz-Maes – 61%; Shelia Slayton & Katherine Wilkey – 55.50% and Ed Koch & Donna Buys – 55%. Congratulations to all players. See you next month!

## 70% Games in Unit 549

75% Jean Holt - Norman Schwartz, Crystal Symphony Bridge Club, Oct. 24th

74.77% Tim Flaherty - Tom Nolan, North County BC, Oct. 30th  
73.61% Joe Houde - Christine Houde, Lake San Marcos BC, Oct. 3  
71.62% Suzanna McDowell - Connie Etheridge, North County BC, Oct. 9th.  
Congratulations to all! If you have a 70% game please send an email to Liz Nixon at [cruzqueen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cruzqueen@sbcglobal.net).

## Members reaching new levels of achievement in Unit 549 in October are:

Junior Master – Robert Stinner, Rancho Bernardo;  
Club Master – Richard Sontag, Escondido  
Sectional Master – Sue Compton, Escondido  
NABC Master – Art Foeste, Escondido and Michael Kole, Rancho Bernardo  
Life Master – John Meyer, Escondido  
Silver Life Master – Antoinette Lewis, Rancho Bernardo  
Gold Life Master – Norman Schwartz, Lake San Marcos  
Congratulations to all achievers! See you at the next level or the next tournament!

## New Members Welcomed to Unit 549

Unit 549 welcomes Rhonda Cooke and Joan Renaud, Ramona; Patricia Frinell and Suzanne Marin, Rancho Bernardo; Marion Mercer, Carlsbad; Becky Aarestad, Escondido; Jean Bane, San Marcos; Michael Haubenstock, San Diego; Michael Kole, Rancho Bernardo; and Joan and Verle Prickett, Borrego Springs. A big welcome to Unit 549! We look forward to meeting you across the bridge table at one of our events.

# Unit 549 Club News!

## North County Bridge Center

The **BirthDay Game** will be **December 13th** at NCBC. December Babies, this is your chance for a **free play** at NCBC. North County Bridge Center will be closed on December 25<sup>th</sup> in honor of the Christmas Holiday

### NCBC Class schedule for December:

**Mondays @ 9:00am** Beginner & Intermediate Class \$10.00 per class; Bill Butler teacher.

**Wednesdays @ 9:00am** Mentor Class with David Anding. \$10.00.

**Thursdays @ 9 - Noon** Mentor/Mentee Lesson with David Anding, \$10.00 per session. Hand records will be given with expected results. All aspects of bidding and play will be covered and you will have input into focus. It is best to come with a partner, so you can learn and grow together. PLEASE call and sign up or e-mail Amy or Lee to reserve your spot.

**Monday night is Pizza Night!** Every Monday night at 6:30pm a loyal group of players show up to play. Each week Lee Hofacre rewards us with pizza! The Monday night game is an Open game with good competition. Give it a try!

**Barometer Game** – Every Saturday! (except the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday) Lunch provided by NCBC! Don't miss the excitement and fun of playing in this non-traditional format! Try it! You'll like it!

Call Lee or Amy for the up to date class schedule at 760-747-6092 or go to [www.sdbridge.com](http://www.sdbridge.com)

## Lake San Marcos DBC at Grandon

### Special events at LSMDBC in December –

**STAC week** - Dec. 5 at 11am Pot luck and Dec. 7 - Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, dinner at 5:30pm, game at 6:30pm.

There will be no game on Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> in honor of the Holidays.

LSMDBC will host it's annual New Years Eve Pot-Luck, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. Come ring in the New Year with great food and plenty of cheer!!!

### Alert! LSMDBC game start time changes!

The Wednesday game **now starts at 11:00am** and includes a **light lunch...Plus!** Jean Holt, will give a brief **Chalk Talk at 10:00am**. The **cost** is \$5.00 for lunch, chalk talk and game. For Information call Jean at 760.734.4518 or Nina at 760.736.9386 for further information.

The **Lake San Marcos DBC** hosts an Open Game on Wednesday at 11:00am, and twice a month Potluck on the first and third Friday night at 6:30p. For Information call Jean at 760.734.4518 or Nina at 760.736.9386 for further information.

**Top five MP winners** for October were Jeanne Griffin, Minnie Williams, Kathy Balog, Roger Liles and Nina Laughbaum. Way to go Top Five!

Charities supported in October were Lungevity Foundation and San Marcos Senior Center.

## New Club in Ramona

### Town Hall Bridge Club, in Ramona

Town Hall Bridge Club has games every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. Lunch and game are \$6.00. The games are being held at the Senior Center, 434 Aqua Lane. Another day has been added on Friday. Call Doug & Maryann Houston at 760-789-1132 email them at [houston6805@sbcglobal.net](mailto:houston6805@sbcglobal.net)

## New Club in San Marcos at Grandon!

### One-Eyed Jacks Bridge Club!

Joe Houde will be continuing his on-going series of classes for intermediate and experienced players every Thursday morning. Classes are held at the San Marcos/Grandon location, 1605 Grandon Ave. There will be classes every Thursday from 9:00am - 11:30am.

**Joe is planning a new open game on Thursday afternoon after January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013** at the Grandon location. Contact Joe for details: 904-347-9250 or Email: [joe@ecinstitute.com](mailto:joe@ecinstitute.com).

Get all of the latest Unit 549 news at [www.sdbridge.com](http://www.sdbridge.com) including the Unit 549 Calendar of Events, Unit Newsletter and game results.

## Bridge Hand of the Month

It's always frustrating when your opponents insist on sacrificing against your big hands. But it's even more frustrating when you fail to exact the maximum penalty.

And so you find yourself taking some extra time for thought in defending a doubled 4S contract on the fourth board of the final round of the big Sunday Swiss, which your team must win in order to clinch first place.

As dealer, at unfavorable vulnerability, you had no trouble opening 2NT after picking up this hand:

S – K J    H – A J 6 3    D – A J 2    C – A Q 9 5

Your LHO passed and your partner, Raoul, bid 3D, a transfer to hearts. But RHO bid 3S, explained as natural, and, over your 4H, LHO bid 4S. Raoul promptly doubled and you, anticipating a big number, decided not to press on to 5H. You led the heart ace, and LHO put down this dummy:

S – Q 5  
H – Q 7 2  
D – Q 10 7 6 3  
C – 8 6 4

You  
S – K J  
H – A J 6 4  
D – A J 2  
C – A Q 9 5

East followed to the first heart, but ruffed your heart continuation and led a small spade. You took your king, Raoul following with the four, and East ruffed a third heart and led a second trump to dummy's queen, Raoul echoing with the spade three.

Declarer then led a diamond to his king, your partner contributing the eight, and that's when you went into the tank.

You've taken two tricks already and the diamond ace is a certain third, and the club ace a very likely fourth. So you'll set the contract for sure, but will plus 100 be a good result? Let's see. Your partner holds five trumps and, given the spade bid on your right, you'd probably have guessed the heart queen correctly. That would give you five trump tricks, the spade queen, a spade ruff in your hand, the diamond ace and at least two clubs even if your partner didn't hold the king. That's at least 10 tricks and plus 100 wouldn't even begin to compensate for plus 620.

Raoul's card technique, you know, is impeccable and, given his echo, you can trust that he holds a third trump. It also is a near certainty that his eight of diamonds is the top of a doubleton. But how do you engineer a diamond ruff for him? If you let the king win, declarer

will simply draw Raoul's last trump and lead another diamond, which you'll have to duck. After winning your ace on the third round of diamonds, you'll have to lead a fourth heart and declarer will lose at most only three more tricks, giving you only plus 500.

Finally, you figure out the winning line. You take your diamond ace and return the jack, locking declarer in dummy with no way of drawing Raoul's last trump. Declarer shrugs and leads a club, covering Raoul's ten with the king. You win your ace and give your partner a diamond ruff. He cashes the club jack and leads the three to your queen, declarer following helplessly. Down four, for plus 800!

"Sorry," Raoul says with a wink. "I should have put you in five hearts and spared you all that agony. You'd have made that in your sleep."

You're not sure whether that was a compliment.

The full deal:

	N-S vul	North	
		S – 10 4 3	
		H – K 10 9 5 4	
		D – 8 4	
		C – J 10 5	
West			East
S – Q 5			S – A 9 8 7 6 2
H – Q 7 2			H – 8
D – Q 10 7 6 3			D – K 9 5
C – 8 6 4			C – K 7 2
		South	
		S – K J	
		H – A J 6 3	
		D – A J 2	
		C – A Q 9 5	

(Post-mortem: Your teammates at the other table stayed out of the bidding and West led a diamond against 4H. Your counterpart won the ace, played A-K of trumps, took and repeated the successful club finesse and pitched his losing diamond on the fourth club. Subsequently, he misguessed the spades but wound up with 10 tricks for plus 620. Your team won 4 IMPs after your successful defense. Had you held up the ace of diamonds, you would have lost 4 IMPs. Winning the diamond ace and returning the deuce would have cost 11 IMPs, as would have returning a heart or cashing the club ace. Taking the diamond ace and returning a small club would have allowed declarer to make his contract, costing your team 15 IMPs.)

# December 2012

## North County Inland, Unit 549

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

North County Bridge Center - Lee Hofacre  
2427 S. Centre City Pkwy., Escondido, CA 92025 • (760) 747-6092 • nbc09@sbcglobal.net

Lake San Marcos DBC - Jean Holt, Director; Nina Laughbaum, Manager  
1605 Grandon Ave., San Marcos • (760) 734-4518 or (760) 736-9386 • wrnbkwrn@pacbell.net

### Unit 549 Board Members:

**President:** Bill Sperry; **Vice-President:** Jay Humes; **Secretary:** Liz Nixon; **Treasurer:** Ken Matson;

**Board Members:** John White, Ayoub Jaraicie, Marianne Kuzma, Bobbie Cohen;

**Tournament Director:** Sheila Latus;

**Publicity & Partnerships:** Maureen Fischer

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b> NCBC Barometer Game 12:30pm MEGA-PT GAME
<b>2</b> NO GAMES TODAY <b>STAC WEEK</b>	<b>3</b> NO GAMES TODAY Mentor Aide Class <b>STAC GAMES</b> NCBC 12:30pm Open Pairs NCBC 6:30pm Open Pairs	<b>4</b> <b>STAC GAMES</b> NCBC 9:00am NLM Game NCBC 1:00pm: Open Pairs	<b>5</b> <b>STAC GAME</b> NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs Lake San Marcos DBC 10AM Chalk Talk 11AM Open Game (STAC)	<b>6</b> <b>STAC GAME</b> 12:30pm Mentor/Mentee & Open Game	<b>7</b> <b>STAC GAMES</b> NCBC 9am Intermed Game NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs Lake San Marcos DBC Potluck 5:30 pm, Game 6:30 pm (STAC Game)	<b>8</b> <b>STAC GAME</b> NCBC Barometer Game 12:30pm
<b>9</b> NO GAMES TODAY	<b>10</b> NO GAMES TODAY NCBC 9 - 11:30 Mentor Aide Class NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs MEGA-PT GAME NCBC 6:30pm: Open Pairs	<b>11</b> NCBC 9:00am NLM Game MEGA-PT GAME NCBC 1:00pm: Open Pairs	<b>12</b> NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs CLUB CHAMP. Lake San Marcos DBC 10AM Chalk Talk 11AM Open Game	<b>13</b> NCBC 12:30pm Mentor/Mentee & Open Game "Birthday Game"	<b>14</b> NCBC 9am Intermediate Game Mega-PT Game NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs	<b>15</b> Unit Championship Game Lake San Marcos Pavilion Holiday Party - Lunch 12-1:5pm Game 1:00pm
<b>16</b> NO GAMES TODAY	<b>17</b> NO GAMES TODAY NCBC 9 - 11:30 Mentor Aide Class NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs NCBC 6:30pm: Open Pairs CLUB CHAMP.	<b>18</b> NCBC 9:00am NLM Game MEGA-PT GAME NCBC 1:00pm: Open Pairs MEGA-PT GAME	<b>19</b> NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs MEGA-PT GAME Lake San Marcos DBC 10AM Chalk Talk 11AM Open Game	<b>20</b> NCBC 12:30pm Mentor/Mentee & Open Game MEGA-PT GAME	<b>21</b> NCBC 9am Intermediate Game NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs	<b>22</b> NCBC Barometer Game 12:30pm
<b>23</b> NO GAMES TODAY	<b>24</b> NO GAMES TODAY NCBC 9 - 11:30 Mentor Aide Class NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs NCBC 6:30pm: Open Pairs CLUB CHAMP.	<b>25</b> MERRY CHRISTMAS! ALL CLUBS CLOSED	<b>26</b> NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs MEGA-PT GAME Lake San Marcos DBC - NO GAME TODAY	<b>27</b> NCBC 12:30pm Mentor/Mentee & Open Game	<b>28</b> NCBC 9am Intermediate Game NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs MEGA-PT GAME	<b>29</b> NCBC Barometer Game 12:30pm
<b>30</b> NO GAMES TODAY	<b>31</b> NO GAMES TODAY NCBC 9-11:30 Mentor Aide Class 12:30pm - Open 6:30pm - Open MIP Lake San Marcos DBC Potluck 5:30 pm, Game 6:30 pm (New Year's Eve Game)					

BOLD games denote Mega-Masterpoint Games.

COVERING POWAY, SAN MARCOS, RANCHO BERNARDO, VALLEY CENTER, RANCHO SANTA FE & ESCONDIDO