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North County Inland, Unit 549

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TABLE



TALK



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ACBL UNIT 549

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DAVID VS GOLIATH

Could it be? – Is it possible?? Could the Padres really sweep both the National League's East & West first place teams (the Atlanta Braves & the Arizona Diamondbacks) and win 6 in a row? Do you believe the underdog can beat up on the best players in their league?

As beginners we are awed by the Life Masters. But, even those players started as novices (granted it may have been a hundred years ago). The newer players have the brains and the ability. Now all you need is experience. Play as often as you can, take lessons, READ!! Listen to the mentors, they are all around willing to help! I don't suggest that you ask during the game. But after the game, with hand record in hand, approach your local experts for their opinions. Most are willing to help or offer suggestions.

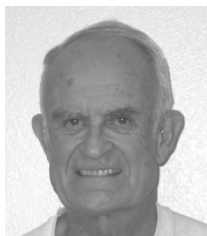
Hang in there. Don't be intimidated. Play well. Enjoy yourselves.

Sheila

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



Open
Tim Flaherty



Under 1500
Chuck Donaldson



Under 750
Maggie Yeh



Under 300
Sue Compton



Under 100
Rick Sontag



Future Master
Rhonda Edwards

Upcoming Unit 549 Events - Mark the Date

Special Games with Extra Points

Saturday, June 22nd - 1:00pm - Unit 549 Championship Game - Lake San Marcos Pavilion/Conference Center
Friday, June 28th & Saturday, June 29th - Unit 549 Summer Sectional - Lake San Marcos Conference Center
Monday, July 1st - NCBC - 12:30pm - Open - Mega Point Game
Wednesday, July 3rd - LSMDBC - 11:00am - North American Pair Qualifying Game
Wednesday, July 3rd - NCBC - 12:30pm - Open - Mega Point Game
Friday, July 5th - NCBC - 12:30pm - Open - Mega Point Game
Saturday, July 6th - NCBC - 12:30pm - Barometer - Club Championship
Tuesday, July 9th - NCBC - 9:00am - Non-Life Master - Mega Point Game
Tuesday, July 9th - NCBC - 1:00pm - Open - Mega Point Game
Wednesday, July 10th - LSMDBC - 11:00am - Charity Game
Thursday, July 11th - NCBC - 12:30pm - Open - Mega Point Game
Friday, July 12th - NCBC - 9:00am - Non-Life Master - Mega Point Game
Saturday, July 13th - NCBC - 12:30pm - Barometer - Mega Point Game
Monday, July 15th - NCBC - 12:30pm - Open - Mega Point Game
Tuesday, July 16th - NCBC - 1:00pm - Open - Club Championship
Wednesday, July 17th - LSMDBC - 11:00am - North American Pair Qualifying Game
Wednesday, July 17th - NCBC - 12:30pm - Open - Mega Point Game
Friday, July 19th - NCBC - 9:00am - Non-Life Master - Mega Point Game,
Friday, July 19th - NCBC - 12:30pm - Open - Mega Point Game
Tuesday, July 23rd - NCBC - 9:00am - Non-Life Master - Mega Point Game
Tuesday, July 23rd - NCBC - 1:00pm - Open - Mega Point Game
Wednesday, July 24th - LSMDBC - 11:00am - District 22/23 STAC game
Thursday, July 25th - NCBC - 12:30pm - Open - Mega Point Game
Friday, July 26th - LSMDBC - 5:30pm Potluck, 6:30pm District 22/23 STAC game
Saturday, July 27th - 1:00pm - Unit 549 Championship Game - Lake San Marcos Pavilion
Monday, July 29th - NCBC - 12:30pm - Open - Mega Point Game
Wednesday, July 31st - NCBC - 12:30pm - Open - Club Championship

Last Reminder

Unit 549's Summer Sectional will be held June 28-29 at our new location -- the Lake San Marcos Conference Center, 1105 La Bonita Drive in Lake San Marcos. Friday the 28th will be a charity game with extra master points for everyone, and all non-life masters with fewer than 25 master points will be able to play for free.

Both days will have open pairs, non-life master pairs, compact knockouts and Swiss teams. The games start at 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per player per game. For further information contact Tournament Manager Mariam Saner (mariamsaner@me.com), For partnerships, contact Art Foeste (artfoeste@gmail.com).

May Unit Game Results

Open game winners: Ken Matson/Charles Ward, 64.56%; Kay Haralson/Magdalene Krish, 62.04 percent; Art Foeste/Jill Roberts, 55.56%; Ray Curtiss/Chuck Donaldson, 53.24%; and Carol and Steve Bruno, 53.01%.

Non-Life Master winners were Katrina Zynda/Lynne Litwiller, 64.50%; Jenna Katz/Joseph Potts, 57.50%; Elizabeth Brekke/Adella Cloney, 56.50%; Linda Hershberg/Roger Liles, 56.00%; and Hillary Sutcliffe/BJ Amini, 54.50%.

The July Unit Game will be Saturday, the 27th, at the Lake San Marcos Pavilion, next door to the Conference Center. Cost is \$7, and loads of snacks with bottled water, soda and coffee will be provided. Doors open at 1 p.m. Please sign up in advance by calling Kay Haralson at 760-685-2535 or at one of the clubs: North County Bridge Center, Lake San Marcos at the Senior Center on Grandon Drive or the Townhall Bridge Club in Ramona.

70% Games

There were two 70% games in May: A whopping 74.99% by Art Foeste/Roger Liles in the May 7 Tuesday morning game, and a nifty 72.22% by Lorraine Suder/Ed Kunkel in the May 20 Monday open game.

Members reaching new levels of achievement in May

Junior Master – Rhonda Cooke and Lenore Sjoberg, both of Ramona.

Advance Alert

Please set aside Saturday, Sept. 21 for a very special Charity Game to benefit Lungevity, the largest lung-cancer-focused, private funder of research in the United States. The game will be held at noon at the Lake San Marcos Pavilion in conjunction with Unit 531, The cost, \$25 per person, includes lunch, and all money raised will be donated to Lungevity. Lung cancer affects roughly one in every 14 Americans.

Also, a special walk at Mission Bay Park to benefit the charity will be held on Nov. 9. Register or donate at www.lungevity.org/sandiego.

Coordinators of both events are Jean Holt and Eileen Goss.

Unit 549 Club News

North County Bridge Center

The club's new website is up and running: www.northcountybridgecenter.com. It can be used to check game results and special announcements early, and to sign up for future games even months in advance. Check it out!

NCBC will continue its Monday Mentoring Class at 9:00am with Bill Butler. Call Lee to sign-up for the class.

Birthday game reminder! You can play for free once during the month of your birthday. So choose your game and let Lee know it is your birthday month and Bingo, you play for free! Call Lee to sign-up in advance on on-line.

All special games can also be found at www.northcountybridgecenter.com.

Lake San Marcos Duplicate Bridge Club at Grandon

July 3rd and 17th will be North American Pair Qualifying games, and July 24th and 26th will be the District 22/23 STAC games, while July 10th will be a charity game (benefiting the San Marcos Senior Center and The Longest Day Alzheimer's game sponsored by Matt Belau's club). July 26th also will be the monthly potluck.

Top Five Players for April were Nina Laughbaum, Joe Potts, Jean Holt, Carolyn Scerni and Jeanne Griffin.

Remember: The Wednesday LSM games now start at 11 a.m. and include snacks and coffee. Players are asked to bring a bag lunch if they so desire. The cost is \$5, covering both a chalk talk and the game. The Friday evening potluck (July 26th) dinner is 5:30 p.m. and the game is 6:30 p.m. For more information, call Jean Holt at 760-734-4518 or Nina Laughbaum at 760-736-9386.

Town Hall Bridge Club in Ramona

It started as a tiny drop – you know, like the fragile one hanging from the Bridge. Ramona's new duplicate group began with Mary Ann Houston calling nearly all the players in town to ascertain whether they wanted to "up" their game. She offered duplicate lessons and lunch. In less than a year, that little drop became a big splash, with people signing up for Wednesday mornings in such numbers that another game had to be scheduled for Fridays. Then, several players asked for extra lessons on Tuesdays. And now we have requests for an evening group on Thursdays.

Did I say "splash?" It's more like a wave – and it's rolling in! Beware, all you valley folk, the RTHB high surf is coming your way. On June 28th the entire club will be dropping in to the Lake San Marcos Conference Center to participate in the Unit 549 Summer Sectional. We'll be traveling down the line with two Masters and 10 Junior Masters (all of whom achieved their status after joining RTHB). We're ready to take on the big kahunas and we've got high hopes of hanging ten on the boards, slamming the surf and generally creating gnarly chaos on the beach.

Think you might like to hang with us? All regular games are held in the Ramona Town Hall, 729 Main St: Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m., Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. (teaching session) and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Call Mary Ann or Doug Houston at 760-789-1132.

We've got the boards!

Bridge Hand of the Month

Thinking you need a good result on the last board of the session at your club to finish in the money, you pick up, with both sides vulnerable, the best hand you've held all day:

S-AKQ5 H-2 D-AK86 C-AQJ10

Your partner, a normally solid bidder, opens 1H, and East passes. It takes you only about 10 seconds to end the auction by bidding 7NT. The grand slam may depend on a finesse, you realize, but opposite a solid opener, it's a worthwhile gamble. Your joy is tempered somewhat when East doubles, obviously calling for a heart lead. West duly plays the six of hearts and you're stunned when partner lays down this dummy:

S-102 H-AJ1097 D-Q3 C-K852

Holy cow, you think. When did he start opening on 10 points vulnerable?

As if reading your mind, your partner stammers, "Sorry, but I thought we needed a good board so I pushed a bit." Wonderful, you think, but why'd you have to do it at the same time I was pushing? Still in semi-shock, you count your tricks: Four clubs, three diamonds, three spades and heart ace. That's eleven, two short, without even a seven-card fit outside of your 4-4 club suit. You need some kind of miracle.

If East hadn't doubled, you might hope to win a double finesse in hearts to pick up a 12th trick and then hope for some kind of squeeze

to gain another. But East certainly wouldn't have doubled without the heart king, so that's out. Nothing else to do, you think, other than take your tricks quickly, put your cards back in the board and hope partner doesn't ask to see what prompted your greedy bidding.

After winning the heart ace at trick one, you rattle off four club tricks, perking up somewhat when East discards the heart queen after following twice, and then hesitating noticeably before pitching a small spade on the final club. You perk up even more when both opponents follow to the top three spades. This is the position when you cash the last spade:

North
S - (void)
H - J 10 9
D - Q 5
C - (void)

West
S - (void)
H - 8 5
D - 7 5 4
C - (void)

You
S - 5
H - (void)
D - A K 8 6
C - (void)

East has no winning discard. Shrugging, he plays the diamond deuce, and you happily

take the last four tricks with your diamonds. As you hastily push your cards back into the board, your partner says, "Wow, great bid! Thank God you had all those high cards so my overbidding didn't matter."

"Don't even think about it," you say.

The complete deal:

Both vul North
S - 10 5
H - A J 10 9 7
D - Q 3
C - K 8 5 2

West East
S - 7 4 3 S - J 9 8 6
H - 8 6 5 3 H - K Q 4
D - 7 5 4 D - J 10 9 2
C - 9 4 3 C - 7 6

South
S - A K Q 5
H - 2
D - A K 8 6
C - A Q J 10

Second look: It was a difficult deal for East to defend accurately. But if he had thrown a diamond on the fourth club instead of a spade, your grand would have gone down. Yes, it would have given you your fourth diamond, for a 12th trick, but dummy would have no entry remaining. Your long diamond couldn't serve as a squeeze card, and you'd wind up one trick short.

July 2013

North County Inland, Unit 549

North County Bridge Center - Lee Hofacre
 2433 S. Centre City Pkwy., Escondido, CA 92025 • (760) 747-6092 • ncbcc09@sbcglobal.net
 Town Hall Bridge Club - Doug & Maryann Houston
 729 Main Street, Ramona, CA • (760) 789-1132 • houston6805@sbcglobal.net
 Lake San Marcos DBC - Jean Holt, Director; Nina Laughbaum, Manager
 1605 Grandon Ave., San Marcos • (760) 7344518 or (760) 7369386 • wrnblkwrm@pacbell.net

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 NCBC 9am Mentor Aide Class NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs (MEGA POINT)	2 NCBC 9:00am NLM Game w/breakfast NCBC 1:00pm Open Pairs Town Hall BC 1:30pm Teaching Session	3 Town Hall BC 10am Open Game NCBC 12:30pm Open Pairs (MEGA POINT) Lake San Marcos DBC 10AM Chalk Talk 11AM Open Game (NAP QUALIFIER)	4 NCBC 12:30pm Mentor/ Mentee & Open Game Town Hall BC 6:30pm Open Game	5 NCBC 9am NLM Game Town Hall BC 10am Open Game NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs (MEGA POINT)	6 NCBC Barometer Game 12:30pm (CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP)
7 NO GAMES TODAY	8 NCBC 9am Mentor Aide Class NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs	9 NCBC 9:00am NLM Game w/breakfast (MEGA POINT) NCBC 1:00pm Open Pairs (MEGA POINT) Town Hall BC 1:30pm Teaching Session	10 Town Hall BC 10am Open Game NCBC 12:30pm Open Pairs Lake San Marcos DBC 10AM Chalk Talk 11AM Open Game (CHARITY GAME)	11 NCBC 12:30pm Mentor/ Mentee & Open Game (MEGA POINT) Town Hall BC 6:30pm Open Game	12 NCBC 9am NLM Game (MEGA POINT) Town Hall BC 10am Open Game NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs	13 NCBC Barometer Game 12:30pm (MEGA POINT)
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21 NO GAMES TODAY	22 NCBC 9am Mentor Aide Class NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs	23 NCBC 9:00am NLM Game w/breakfast (MEGA POINT) NCBC 1:00pm Open Pairs (MEGA POINT) Town Hall BC 1:30pm Teaching Session	24 Town Hall BC 10am Open Game NCBC 12:30pm Open Pairs Lake San Marcos DBC 10AM Chalk Talk 11AM Open Game (DISTRICT 2223 STAC GAME)	25 NCBC 12:30pm Mentor/ Mentee & Open Game (MEGA POINT) Town Hall BC 6:30pm Open Game	26 Town Hall BC 10am Open Game NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs Lake San Marcos DBC Potluck 5:30 pm, Game 6:30 pm (DISTRICT 2223 STAC GAME)	27 Unit Championship Game Lake San Marcos Pavilion 1:00pm
28 NO GAMES TODAY	29 NCBC 9am Mentor Aide Class NCBC 12:30pm: Open Pairs (MEGA POINT)	30 NCBC 9:00am NLM Game w/breakfast NCBC 1:00pm Open Pairs Town Hall BC 1:30pm Teaching Session	31 Town Hall BC 10am Open Game NCBC 12:30pm Open Pairs (CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP) Lake San Marcos DBC 10AM Chalk Talk 11AM Open Game	Unit 549 Board Members: President: Sheila Latus; Board Members: Liz Nixon, Ken Matson, John White, Ayoub Jarajcie, Karen Okey, Sue Compton, Marian Saner, Art Foeste, and Tom Nolan		

BOLD games denote Mega-Masterpoint Games.

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