

North County Inland, Unit 549

acblunit549.org



TABLE



TALK



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ACBL UNIT 549

With Sadness



Unit 549 has lost a friend, a bridge brother, a mentor, a director and a club owner. Lee Hofacre died peacefully Sunday morning, December 7th, after a short illness. The Executive Board for Unit 549 would like to personally extend our sympathies to Lee's wife Joan, his son John and the rest of the Hofacre family. The family said they were not planning a funeral service and that his ashes would be taken to northern California to rest with his daughter. The family has suggested that those wishing to, send a memorial to Elizabeth Hospice. <http://elizabethhospice.org/>

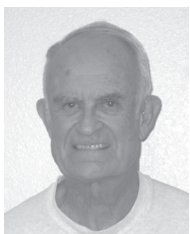
Lee loved to play bridge and he loved being a businessman and for the last 7 years he combined those two loves to make sure there was a duplicate bridge game six days a week in Escondido. For those of us who made his club a regular stop we are grateful for his commitment to the game. Lee's son John said that he would like to see his dad's legacy be the continuation of that bridge club. To facilitate that he will be keeping the club open through December 20th. During that time with help from some diehard bridge players he will be looking for someone to buy or take over the club. If you know of anyone interested in becoming the next Bridge Baron of North County please let us know. You can contact Bill Sperry at (858) 676-0359 or Rex Latus at (760) 781-3320.

Continuing to have a regular duplicate bridge game conveniently located to our bridge family in North County is a priority for Unit 549. We will keep you updated on the efforts to find a new club owner. In the interim, please continue to support the club in Escondido.

Memorial

Art Foeste, Unit 549 Board Member

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



Open
Chuck Donaldson



Under 5000
Jeri Adams



Under 3000
Al Nadel



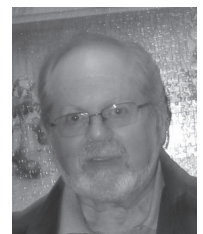
Under 1500
Dot Swanger



Under 750
Mariam Saner



Under 500
Dan Higgins



Under 100
Larry Gach

Upcoming Unit 549 Events - Mark the Date Special Games with Extra Points

Lake San Marcos DBC - Friday, January 23, Potluck at 5:30pm, Charity Game 6:30pm

Friday, January 16th & Saturday, January 17th- Unit 549 Winter Sectional, Lake San Marcos Conference Center
Morning games (Pairs or Knockout Teams) begin at 10:00am and afternoon games (Pairs or Swiss Teams) beginning at 2:30pm

Saturday, January 24th - 1:00 PM - Unit Championship Game, Lake San Marcos Pavilion

Big Happenings in Unit 549 in January and February!

Winter Sectional coming to Unit 549! January 16th and 17th at the Lake San Marcos Conference Center, 1105 La Bonita Dr, 92078. Friday features all Charity games, stratified Open Pairs, Stratified Non-Life Master games. 25 or fewer points play for FREE! Games start at 10:00am and 2:30pm. Knock-out events may be handicapped. Saturday follows the same schedule. Partnerships: Art.foeste@gmail.com; Jill Roberts Tournament Director-jillroberts78@gmail.com Card Fees are \$10 per session.

Audrey Grant Returns in February!

Audrey Grant will be coming to Unit 549 February 12th and 13th for two jam packed days! Day 1 topic is Declarer Play and Day 2 is Making the Most of Cue Bids. Mark the Date! Location will be at the Lake San Marcos Pavilion, 1105 La Bonita Dr. Hours are 10:00am – 3:00pm and include a light lunch, Morning work-shop and afternoon work-shop plus all materials. Call Liz Nixon at 760-214-8999 to reserve your spot. Early Bird rate is \$79 per person per day. Checks should be made out to ACBL Unit 549 and sent to Liz Nixon, 1127 Los Campaneros, Lake San Marcos, Ca 92078

Alert! In 2015 our Unit games will be January 24th, February 28th and March 28th at the Lake San Marcos Pavilion. Unit Games now include lunch. Bottled water and sodas are provided at 50 cents apiece and coffee and tea are free. Overall winners in each section receive a free play at any Unit game. Unit Games are held on the 4th Saturday of each month at the Lake San Marcos Pavilion, 1105 La Bonita Dr, Lake San Marcos, Ca 92078. Call Liz Nixon for directions – 760-214-8999. The games are \$8.00 including lunch and begin at 1:00pm. Doors open at 12:15pm. Go to Unit 549's web-site www.acblunit549.org for partnerships, to sign-up for the Unit games and see results.

November Unit/STAC Game Winners

North-South: Tim Flaherty & Alex Fowlie followed by Terry Badger & Ray Curtiss; Rex & Sheila Latus; Al Nadel & Lee Hofacre; Gary Beed & Mariam Saner and Chuck & Madonna Donaldson.

East – West Winners in the Open Pairs were: Joe Houde & Ron Kay followed by Ian Collins & Lorraine Gordon; Jeri Adams & Jim Andrews; Minnie Williams & Earl Maas, Jr.; Betty Jackson & Ray Boehne and Susanna McDowell & Connie Etheridge.

Non-Life Master winners in November were North – South: Ed Koch & Ray Gogolewski followed by Sandy Johnson & Naomi Brownell and Betty Brekke & Adella Cloney. Again congrats to all winners!

East –West Winners were Nancy Campbell & Ronique Nilson followed by Angela Tilaro & Julie Watkins and Harriett Landon & Patti Frinell.

Congratulations to all. Remember Overall Winners get a Free Play at any Unit Game!

Welcome New Members to Unit 549

Sally Stirnkorb, David Greene, Donna Huhn, Marjorie Narramore and Robert Sigg. Welcome to all new members!

Members Reaching New Levels of Achievement in Unit 549 in November

Club Masters – David Barnard

Sectional Masters – Geoff Applegate, James Rudeen, and Nancy Shelmon

Regional Masters – Joyce Fox and Patti Frinell

Life Masters – Ron & Nancy Perkins

Congratulations to all achievers! See you at the Unit Game and at the Winter Sectional!



Unit 549 Club News

North County Bridge Center

Please watch acblunit549.org for new information about North County Bridge Center, we will keep you informed.

Lake San Marcos Duplicate Bridge Club at Grandon

The charity for November was the SM Senior Center West and Camp Pendleton Toy Drive for Marine families.

The monthly potluck will be on January 23rd. **All games will be Charity** games and support the ACBL Junior Fund. All of this means more points for the winners,

Annual New Year's Eve party will be daytime and Potluck, Game starts at 11:00am.

Top Five Players for November were Nina Laughbaum, Jean Holt, Kay Haralson, Joe Potts, and tied for 5th place Rex & Sheila Latus. Way to go top five!

Alert! Jean Holt is teaching a weekly class at 10:00am before the Wednesday game. The focus is on Eddie Kantar's "Thinking Bridge" program. The class is free!

Reminder: LSMDBC has a Tuesday night game at 6:30pm! The Wednesday game **starts at 11:00am** and includes snacks and coffee. Players are asked to bring a bag lunch if they desire. The **cost** is \$5.00 for chalk talk and game. The **Lake San Marcos DBC** hosts a once a month Potluck (dine at 5:30pm) on the third Friday night at 6:30p. For Information call Jean at 760.734.4518 or Nina at 760.736.9386 for further information.

Ramona Town Hall Bridge

729 Main St. - Ramona, CA 92065

Sanctioned Games Wed. & Fri. at 10:00 a.m. BYO Lunch

Free Adult Lessons - Tues. at 2:00 p.m. NEW! Sanctioned Game Afterwards

Sanctioned Evening Game - Thurs. at 6 p.m. + Snacks

After-School Bridge – Fri. 3 – 5:00 p.m. Pizza, too!

Call Mary Ann Houston for Details: 760-789-1132 – rthbridge.com

It is with sad hearts that we hear of the passing of Lee Hofacre who helped our little bridge group get its start. On many occasions, Lee would arrive, heavy case of cards in hand, to get us set up. And then he joined in! Lucky the learner who had Lee for a partner. He never criticized, but gently guided us to understanding bids and adjustments, defense and strategies. Our games, squeezed into the Senior Center while work went on in the Town Hall, were livelier with Lee there. His sense of humor kept us hopeful while his knowledge of the right plays kept us grounded. May he be flush with "high cards" in his new home and know that the Ramona Town Hall Bridge players still sit comfortably on the chairs he donated and remember him with great fondness and appreciation for his kindness in our fragile first year of falling in love with Duplicate Bridge.

As one generation passes . . . we are fortunate that our newbies, the RTHB Youth Group is climbing swiftly onto the bandwagon. Kudos to Olivia and Hunter who came out on top in the last "under 20 points" tournament. Mary Ann believes they will be ready for the Regional, and if current playing is any indication, the others in their age group, Savannah and Daniel are closing in as well. Outside competition may start looking for Ramona on a map!

More kudos to Mary Ann Houston and her playing partner Marilyn Kalabsa for taking and passing the Director's Test! (Now if we could only get them to stop playing long enough to BE Directors . . . hmm?)

Our dear former Director, Doug Houston, is battling the final stages of the cancer that was supposed to take him from us "within a few months" five years ago. We've been privileged to have him with us from the inception of RTHB, and until very recently, he's been there to answer the call of "Director, please" and to report our scores with diplomacy and good humor. His decade of voluntary contributions to the restoration of our historic Town Hall cannot be listed on one page and his community activities leave us wondering how he did it – and still had time to work for an income, to build his home with Mary Ann, and to be the father and grandfather of his, hers and theirs. We raise our Aces to you, Doug.

It is the time for grateful reflection. May the New Year bring you and yours blessings even beyond the bonds of Bridge and at the table, may you hold in your hand, the faces of royalty smiling upon your choices.

January 2015

North County Inland, Unit 549

acblunit549.org

Town Hall Bridge Club - Doug & Maryann Houston • 729 Main Street, Ramona, CA
 (760) 789-1132 • houston6805@sbcglobal.net • www.rthbridge.com
 Lake San Marcos DBC - Jean Holt, Director, Nina Laughbaum, Manager
 1605 Grandon Ave., San Marcos • (760) 734-4518 or (760) 736-9386 • jnnhlt582@gmail.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Unit 549 Board Members:						
President: Sheila Latus (selatus@gmail.com)						
Board Members: Liz Nixon, Ken Matson, Mariam Sener, Art Foeste, Jill Roberts, Hazel Turner, Jean Jantz, Erica Federman, and Nancy Scott						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
NO GAMES TODAY		Town Hall BC 2:00pm Teaching Session/Sanctioned Game Lake San Marcos DBC 6:30PM Open Charity Game	Town Hall BC 10am - Open Game Lake San Marcos DBC 10AM Chalk Talk 11AM Open Charity Game	Town Hall BC 6pm Open Game	Town Hall BC 10am Open Game Town Hall BC 3pm After School Bridge	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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BOLD games denote Mega-Masterpoint Games.

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