

## North County Inland, Unit 549

[acblunit549.org](http://acblunit549.org)

TABLE



TALK



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ACBL UNIT 549

***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

Holiday Greeting!!

Doesn't seem like it was all that long ago that I was spending 10 or 15 minutes just to find a parking space at the mall and that problem happened again last weekend.. Which leaves me with little doubt that on-line sales are going to grow bigly again this year. It also means it is time to thank all of you for the tremendous support you have given duplicate bridge here in North County.

Our Ramona Club keeps rising up to all the challenges of keeping a small club operational. Mary Ann and her team of volunteers work tirelessly to make duplicate bridge an option in Ramona and serve our members in the hinterlands. Our San Marcos Club has had an incredible year. They are regularly getting 15 tables or more each Wednesday and if you haven't tried it you should. Jean has retired, but Nina has a steady hand and has hired John Coulombe to direct the game. We would like to thank them for their really successful year. And lastly, our Escondido club has proven once again that they are the backbone of duplicate bridge in North County. They rank #113 in the country in club table count and #19 in California. They have offered Easy Bridge 1, 2 and 3 this year and grown our bridge family. The Mentor program has been wildly successful to the point where they are having problems finding enough mentors for all of the mentees. We all owe a big thank you to Sue Compton, Bill Butler, Vic Pitcock and Hazel Turner for all the work they have done. And a thank you to all of the volunteers at the Escondido club who have made it a really nice place to play bridge.

Change is coming in 2018. We have enjoyed some vary favorable room rates at the Lake San Marcos Pavilion and that is about to end. We were notified last week that our room rental rate for the unit game is going from \$100 to \$500 starting in January. Unfortunately, that is a rate we can't afford so in all likelihood the December unit game will be our last unit game at the Pavilion. But have no fear, the Board is actively looking for a new location for the next scheduled unit game which will be February 24th. We'll definitely keep you posted on our venue quest.

Don't forget we are having our Winter Sectional on 1/26 and 1/27 at the Conference Center in Lake San Marcos. So mark your calendars and make plans to join us.

The Unit Board would like to wish all of you and your families the best for this Holiday Season.

Art

## Upcoming Unit 549 Events - Mark the Dates!

Friday, January 12th – BCNC 3rd Anniversary Party (details below)

Monday January 22nd – Volunteer Appreciation Day (details below)

Friday January 26th & 27th – Unit 549 Winter Sectional (see details below)

Note: BCNC closed Monday December 25th. Ramona closed December 25th, 26th, January 1st & 2nd.

## Happy Holidays to Everyone! May your season be filled with memory making bridge events and lots of masterpoints!

Now that the NABC is over and has become “just a memory”, although studded with emotion laden wins and losses to be sure – it will more importantly, for everyone who attended, forever be a pleasant memory of meeting and re-meeting friendly bridge playing people from all around the country. Many of our Unit 549 members came away with gold and red points and proud memories of having competed among some of the best players in the country in their individual categories. Congratulations to all these players – you know who you are!!!

**Unit 549 Board elections** at the November game resulted in wins for those running for positions and produced the following roster for the 2018 Board of Directors: Art Foeste, Jill Roberts, Trish Frinell, John Coulombe, Hazel Turner, Ken Matson, Sheila Latus, Barbara White, and Dorothea Williams. One unexpected vacancy will be filled by appointment. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Dorothea Williams at [dorotheaw@cox.net](mailto:dorotheaw@cox.net).

## Special Event

**The Unit 549 Winter Sectional is Friday and Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.** There will be Open, NLM, and Swiss Teams events both days. Silver Points will be awarded in every event. Games are at 10AM and 2:30PM both days. Coffee and snacks will be provided free of charge, and a lunch will be available for purchase. Non-Life Masters can play for \$5 with the discount coupon, which is available on the tournament flyer (a printable copy is available on our website – see address below). This game will be held at the Lake San Marcos Conference Center located at 1105 La Bonita Dr, Lake San Marcos, CA 92078. The games are \$11.00 per session for ACBL members and \$14.00 per session for unpaid or non-members. Go to Unit 549’s web-site [www.acblunit549.org](http://www.acblunit549.org) for partnerships, to sign-up, to get the discount coupon, and to see results.

## Unit Game and Toy Drive Results

You will be delighted to hear that our **Annual Toy Drive** in November received dozens and dozens of assorted toys, games, and plush animals, plus \$710.00 in card fees and cash donations for the Interfaith Community Services “Adopt a Family” program in Escondido. The Board sends a very big Thank You to everyone for their generous support on behalf of this very worthy local charity.

**In November, the top four winners in each direction of the Open Section were as follows:** N/S – Barbara Lemke & Penny Berman, Norman Schwartz & Robert Schork, Andrew & Patricia Loh, and Art Foeste & Jill Roberts. E/W – Tim Flaherty & Alex Fowlie, Scott Nelson & William Grant, Jean Jantz and Doris Nizzi, and Hazel Turner & Ken Matson.

**The top winners in each direction of the NLM Section were:** N/S – Fred Kaufman & Katherine Wilke, Ben Moraine & Harry Arora, Judy Friedman & Verena Hommel. E/W – John Coulombe & Dorothea Williams, Nancy & Julie Watkins. Congratulations to all!

## Welcome New and Returning Members

**Welcome New Members to Unit 549:** Melvin Cohn, Frances Huettinger, Harshad Vora, Anne Schafer, Dr. William Schafer, Mindy Tremblay, and James Turlow.

**Welcome Returning members:** Dr. Paul Woody, and Evelyn Kepler.

## Members Achieving New Levels of Achievement

**New Junior Masters – James Brown, and David Valiulis**

**New Club Masters – Geraldine Jones, and Pamela Molthen**

**New NABC Master – Gerald Asbury, and Kennett Patrick**

**New Silver Life Master – Nikki Gilberg**

**Unit 549 Congratulates all of the above for achieving these new levels of excellence and awards them a free play at the next Unit game.**

# Unit 549 Club News

## Bridge Club of North County

Patrons of our club are familiar with the current hassles regarding parking. While we don't have an end date for the final repaving efforts, an end is actually in sight! Meanwhile, the club remains open, but the main entrance is not accessible. There is an alternate entrance about 50 feet south, just before the entrance to the Book Store. There are directional signs to guide you. Since, during the re-paving process, the BCNC parking spaces remain unavailable, you will need to park on the street. This may have an impact on your usual arrival time, so, to avoid being late, you should plan for a few extra minutes to find parking and walk to the club.

January games at BCNC are megapoint and charity games supporting the Junior Fund and Membership. There will be two Club Championship games – Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> and Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. Saturdays in January are Barometer games (except the 27<sup>th</sup>, when we close for the Unit Winter Sectional in San Marcos).

\*\*\*The Membership game on Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, will also be the **BCNC's 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Party**. The club will provide lunch for all players that day. Morning game players are invited to stay for lunch and afternoon players are encouraged to arrive early so that everyone can enjoy their lunch and we can still get the 12:30 game started on time. Reservations are required for this game to enable the club to get a head count for the caterer. Please sign up at the club, call BCNC at 760-807-9396, or send an email to [bridgeclubofNC@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeclubofNC@gmail.com) with your reservation request.

\*\*\*Monday, January 22, will be **Volunteer Appreciation Day**. This is a very special day organized to honor our wonderful volunteers without whom the club could not operate. Remember, we are a non-profit organization relying entirely on volunteers to keep the club operating. Volunteers will play free on this day. Everyone is invited to come help us celebrate our volunteers, and enjoy a free catered lunch that will be served by the club at 11:45. Game starts at the regular time of 12:30. Reservations are required for this game to enable the club to get a head count for the caterer. Please sign up at the club, call BCNC at 760-807-9396, or send an email to [bridgeclubofNC@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeclubofNC@gmail.com) with your reservation request.

**Good News/Bad News:** Since most of our Newbies who have been playing in the Thursday afternoon Newcomer game have graduated into the Wednesday morning 0-99 game, we have temporarily suspended the Newcomer game until there is enough interest from our current classes to restart that game. Isn't it wonderful that these new bridge players are moving up the ladder of success?!

**ALERT!!** We'll be closed on Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> (Christmas). On Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, we will be open for the morning 499er game, **BUT closed for the afternoon** and all day Saturday, the 27<sup>th</sup>, for the Unit 549 Winter Sectional.

Check the Calendar for exact dates of the various club games and activities. Go to [www.bridgeclubofnorthcounty.org](http://www.bridgeclubofnorthcounty.org) to find everything you need to know about bridge at the club. **The address is 2320 S. Escondido Blvd, Escondido, 92025. Phone # is 760-807-9396. Email: [bridgeclubofNC@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeclubofNC@gmail.com).** Feel free to contact the club regarding club programs, special games, and partnership help.

**Where are You?** Of the 411 members of our Unit 549, 71% are players with less than 500 masterpoints, who are also not Life Masters. Many of these players don't play in clubs because of the intimidation factor. However, there is good news for anyone who feels this way and who would like to enjoy a friendly, non-intimidating environment in which to hone their bridge skills. We have the perfect environment for you! Every Wednesday at 9:00 AM there is a 0-99 game. This game is a gentle introduction to the world of duplicate bridge. We even do a little instructing. On Monday and Friday mornings at 9:00 AM we have 0-499 games for players with intermediate skill levels. If you've been playing party bridge and are looking for something a bit more challenging, or just need to refresh your bridge skills, these games may be just what you're looking for! Come and join us. Cost is \$8.00 and includes coffee, tea, and snacks. Contact Vic Pitcock at [kcoctip.rotciv@att.net](mailto:kcoctip.rotciv@att.net) to sign up or if you need help finding a partner.

**NEW!! EasyBridge1** classes will begin on Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at 9:00 AM. This series of lessons consists of 15 weekly sessions of 20-30 minutes of instruction followed by 2 hours of assisted play. The total cost is \$149.00, which includes the lesson book (a \$12 value), and a free make-up session for any class missed. Hazel Turner, a Life Master and ACBL Certified EasyBridge Instructor will be presenting this class. To enroll, please contact Hazel at [hazelturnerbridge@gmail.com](mailto:hazelturnerbridge@gmail.com). For more information and directions to the club, visit our website at [www.bridgeclubofnorthcounty.org](http://www.bridgeclubofnorthcounty.org).

**Top Five Open Players for November:** Sue Compton, Dan Higgins, Al Nadel, Bunny Schmidt, and Marilyn Florin.

**Top Five 0-499 players for November:** Bejai Higgins, Lindy Patrick, Bruce Hanson, Ken Patrick, and Dorothea Williams. Congratulations to all of these winning players.

## Lake San Marcos Duplicate Bridge Club

All of our January games will earn megapoint awards. There will be a game every Wednesday in December, but on the 20<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a Pot-Luck Christmas luncheon. For this special event, everyone is asked to please bring a dish to share.

**Top 5 Open Players for November:** John Sharron, Jr., Rima Sharron, Pat Hawkins, Jean Holt, and Art Foeste.

**Top 5 Non-life Master players for November 0-499:** Susan Cronenwett, Lynne Jaseph, Sandy Hirstich, Marc Beardsley, and Wallace McCoy.

**Reminder:** Lake San Marcos Duplicate Bridge Club games are at Lake San Marcos Pavilion, 1105 La Bonita Dr. This is the same location as the Unit games. The Wednesday game starts at 10:30 AM, snacks and coffee are provided. Players are asked to bring a bag lunch if they desire. The cost is \$7.00. For further information call John at 760-751-0406, or Nina at 760-736-9386.

## ACBL Ramona Duplicate Bridge

Congratulations are in order for the Ramona Bridge Club players who placed in the overall STaC week in November. Actual Silver MPs awarded are published at ACBL.org. Well done, everyone... Obviously, you've all been practicing your lessons!!

**Thursday Eve Open Pairs:** Hazel & Alan Turner, James Marshall & Doris Hendrickson, Henry Tileston & Camille Collver.

**Friday Morning 499ers:** Nancy Johnson & Ernie Bedard, and Craig Rifel & Carole Gatwood.

**Friday Morning Open Pairs:** Mary Ann Houston & Henry Tileston, Marilyn Kalabsa & Mary Margaret Loehr, Chip Splinter & James Turlo, Lois Bobbitt & Jessica Patton, and David Barnard & Alan Jacobson.

Don't forget that we'll be closed December 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> (Christmas and Boxing Day), January 1 (New Year's Day), and January 2 (just because!).

Located at 1721 Main St. Ramona, CA 92065 #101. The Club Manager is Mary Ann Houston.

Game times are: Monday 6:00pm – 9:30pm (5:30 Potluck), Thursday Night 6:00pm – 9:30pm, Friday mornings: Open 9:30am – 1:30pm; 0-499 NLM 9:30am – 12:30pm. \*\*\*Tuesday Lessons: Both Beginners Group and Intermediate Group lessons are suspended until January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Call **760-789-1132**, or email Mary Ann at [houston6805@sbcglobal.net](mailto:houston6805@sbcglobal.net) for further information about classes and additional bridge activities.

# January 2018

## North County Inland, Unit 549

acblunit549.org

Bridge Club of North County (BCNC) - 2320 S. Escondido Blvd., Escondido, CA 92025  
 (760) 807-9396 • bridgeclubofnc@gmail.com • bridgeclubofnorthcounty.org  
 ACBL Ramona Duplicate Bridge - Maryann Houston • 1721 Main St., # 101, Ramona, CA 92065  
 (760) 789-1132 • houston6805@sbcglobal.net • www.facebook.com/acblramonabridge  
 Lake San Marcos DBC - John Coulombe, Director, Nina Laughbaum, Manager  
 1105 La Bonita Dr., Lake San Marcos • (760) 751-0406 or (760) 736-9386

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Club Championship Ramona Bridge CLOSED	<b>2</b> Ramona Bridge CLOSED BCNC Open Pairs - 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Junior Fund	<b>3</b> BCNC 0-99 MP Game - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund Lake San Marcos DBC 10:30 AM Mega Point Game	<b>4</b> BCNC Supervised Play - 9:30 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	<b>5</b> Ramona Bridge 9:30am - Open & 0-499er Game BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund	<b>6</b> BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Barometer Game Junior Fund
<b>7</b> NO GAMES TODAY	<b>8</b> BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund Ramona Bridge 6 PM Open Game (Potluck 5:30 PM)	<b>9</b> Ramona Bridge 2:00pm & 4:00pm Lessons BCNC Open Pairs - 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Junior Fund	<b>10</b> BCNC 0-99 MP Game - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund Lake San Marcos DBC 10:30 AM Mega Point Game	<b>11</b> BCNC Supervised Play - 9:30 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Club Championship Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	<b>12</b> Ramona Bridge 9:30am - Open & 0-499er Game) BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Membership Game & BCNC 3rd Anniversary-Lunch 11:45 AM (Reservations Required)	<b>13</b> BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Barometer Game Junior Fund
<b>14</b> NO GAMES TODAY	<b>15</b> BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund Ramona Bridge 6 PM Open Game (Potluck 5:30 PM)	<b>16</b> Ramona Bridge 2:00pm & 4:00pm Lessons BCNC Open Pairs - 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Junior Fund	<b>17</b> BCNC 0-99 MP Game - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund Lake San Marcos DBC 10:30 AM Mega Point Game	<b>18</b> BCNC Supervised Play - 9:30 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	<b>19</b> Ramona Bridge 9:30am - Open & 0-499er Game BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund	<b>20</b> BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Barometer Game Junior Fund
<b>21</b> NO GAMES TODAY	<b>22</b> BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund Volunteer Appreciation Day Lunch 11:45 AM Ramona Bridge 6 PM Open Game (Potluck 5:30 PM)	<b>23</b> Ramona Bridge 2:00pm & 4:00pm Lessons BCNC Open Pairs - 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Junior Fund	<b>24</b> BCNC 0-99 MP Game - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund Lake San Marcos DBC 10:30 AM Mega Point Game	<b>25</b> BCNC Supervised Play - 9:30 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	<b>26</b> BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM NO AFTERNOON GAME TODAY	<b>27</b> Unit 549 Sectional Lake San Marcos Conference Center
<b>28</b> NO GAMES TODAY	<b>29</b> BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund Ramona Bridge 6 PM Open Game (Potluck 5:30 PM)	<b>30</b> Ramona Bridge 2:00pm & 4:00pm Lessons BCNC Open Pairs - 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Junior Fund	<b>31</b> BCNC 0-99 MP Game - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Junior Fund Lake San Marcos DBC 10:30 AM Mega Point Game	<b>Unit 549 Board Members:</b> <b>President</b> - Art Foeste; <b>Vice-President</b> - Jill Roberts; <b>Secretary</b> - Dorothea Williams; <b>Treasurer</b> - Ken Watson; <b>Membership Chair</b> - Sheila Latus; <b>Electronic Contact</b> - Sheila Latus; <b>Disciplinary Chair</b> - Sheila Latus; <b>Recorder</b> - Liz Nixon; <b>Tournament Chair</b> - Trish Frinell; <b>Hospitality</b> - Hazel Turner & John Coulombe		

BOLD games denote Mega-Masterpoint Games.

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