



TABLE



TALK



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ACBL UNIT 549

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Remember way back when? It's actually getting to the point where that's all most of us can remember anymore. Well, way back when, my parents were part of a social bridge group that got together one Saturday evening a month to play bridge. And I always loved the two or three Saturday evenings a year when it was my parents' turn to host the group. My Mom bought (think Brach's Bridge Mix) or made some really incredible bridge snacks for the evening event. Of course, those snacks were off limits for us kids until Sunday. I'd check in on their bridge game a couple of times during the evening, mostly to see how the snack inventory was holding up. Admittedly, those leftover snacks on Sunday were more interesting than bridge, but I actually cultivated my interest in bridge then.

I started playing bridge in high school, but my serious interest in bridge developed in college. There was always a bridge game or two or three going on in the RathSkellar at the student union, and that posed a problem for me. The big decision for that day was, do I cut the bridge game, or do I cut class? My long college career is a testimonial to that decision.

My partner and I actually got good enough that we started to play duplicate bridge in sanctioned games. And we had a fair amount of success. So at the end of each session, we'd have to hang around to get our master point slip. Remember, this was before computers so everything was done by hand. The director would fill out a slip with your name, ACBL number and relevant sanction information, and put the master point award in a box at the bottom of the slip. It was the players' responsibility to send those slips to the ACBL.

I still have a few of those slips laying around in my memorabilia box, so I can tell you that getting a master point award of .2 or .3 was a big deal way back then. You can imagine how surprised I was when I started playing bridge again and discovered a good day will get you 2 or 3 or 4 master points. Well, the ACBL has taken note of that also. They recently decided to limit the number of "charity" games a club can hold. So if you notice there are fewer games with the larger master point awards that is why.

Upcoming Unit 549 Events - Mark the Dates!

BCNC - Championship Games May 1 and 25

STaC Week May 7-12

Saturday, May 19- Unit Championship Game at BCNC

Unit Game

Our Unit 549 game on March 24th had 16 ½ tables and our new venue is beginning to feel a lot like home! We're so fortunate to have such a nice place to settle into on a permanent basis (plus, it has room for us to grow). The 2017 Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenney awards were given out at this game, and we want to again congratulate the winners. If you weren't at the game and would like to know who won these awards, you can find a list of winners and their categories at the unit website: acblunit549.org

Our next unit game (the May game) is on the 3rd Saturday, May 19th. Please make a note of this – you don't want to miss a great lunch and bridge date because of a calendar snafu.

The top four winners in each direction of the Open Section were as follows:

N/S – Rick Kerbek - Richard Gold, Bunny Schmidt - Marilyn Florin, Gary Beed - Barbara White, and Art Foeste - Jill Roberts. **E/W** – Tim Flaherty - Joe Houde, Lorraine Gordon - Ian Collins, John Neville - Valerie Gwin, and Jean Jantz - Doris Nizzi.

The top masterpoint winners in NLM Section were:

N/S – Sue Halfaker - Susan Van Cott, Fred Kaufman - Donald Mesner, Alexandra Johnson - Naomi Brownell. **E/W** – Ken Patrick - Lindy Patrick, Alan Turner - Joan Gershman, and Julie Watkins - Nancy Watkins.

We congratulate all the winners, and send a big thank you to everyone who played.

Unit games are held on the fourth Saturday of each month at the Bridge Club of North County (BCNC) in Escondido (2320 S. Escondido Blvd.). Two exceptions to this schedule are third Saturdays due to scheduling conflicts – May 19th, and November 17th. Lunch will be available at 11:45 AM, with the game starting at 12:30 PM.

Welcome New Members to Unit 549

Diana Macek, Mary Mitchell, Nancy Neal, Julie Watkins, and Hsin-I W Wu.

Members attaining new levels of achievement

New Junior Masters: Skip Mueller

New Sectional Master: Alan Jacobson

Congratulations from Unit 549 to all of the above for achieving these new levels of excellence Unit 549 awards them a free play at the next unit game.



Unit 549 Club News

Bridge Club of North County

As you know, BCNC is a non-profit organization. This means that every job connected to running the business is performed by volunteers. If you enjoy having a bridge club in North County, and you have even a little time to spare, we need you! There is a volunteer opportunity in every aspect of our operation from business to bridge – sometimes we just need someone to run errands. Think about it...we'd love to have you join our happy volunteer group. Contact Jill Roberts for more information or to become a volunteer. jillroberts@gmail.com

It's Party Time: A special Mexican Fiesta will be held on Cinco de Mayo (Saturday, May 5th). Lunch will be served at 11:45 AM (Guess what's on the menu...). Bridge game starts at the usual 12:30 PM. Sign-up is required for this event to help caterers determine the amount of food to prepare. The sign-up sheet is on the front wall at the club, or you can email your request to: bridgeclubofNC@gmail.com or jillroberts@gmail.com

Silver Points! There will be an entire week of STaC games at the club May 7th through 12th. This is a great opportunity to win lots of silver points because you're competing not just at the club, but across all the clubs participating in STaC Week. Points earned at the club are awarded as usual (except they're silver) and they're yours to keep even if you don't win against the entire field. But, if your results place you in a winning position in the overall ACBL standings, you can win even more silver points. You keep the points won that are the highest number. Club results are posted on our website as usual, but the STaC results are posted on the ACBL website.

During our last STaC week March 19 -23, Ken and Lindy Patrick had a 1st place win with a **70.39% game** playing E/W in the Friday, March 23rd game earning them 2.91 silver points. In that same game, Bob Stinner and Madelyn Trainor, playing N/S won 1st place with a 69.74% game for 2.23 silver points! Way to go!

Cancelled: Due to a lack of interest, the new "Bargain Thursday" afternoon game offer - an \$8 game fee with a free lunch - has been cancelled. We will revert to the regular Open game schedule on Thursday, May 3rd.

The new Club Directory, currently in progress, needs your help in final editing. There is a proof copy of the directory on the front table at the club. If you have consented to be included in the directory, please take a look at the proof and make any corrections to your information that might be needed. Also, it isn't too late to be included if your name is not listed in the proof. You just need to provide your Name, Telephone #, E-mail Address, and Emergency Contact information. There are forms at the club for you to fill out and sign, or alternately, you can provide the information electronically to Arline Kennedy at arlinek@gmail.com. If you don't see the form at the club, please ask a director for one.

EasyBridge! #2, which consists of 10 weekly sessions, starts Saturday June 16th at 9:00 AM. Each session consists of a 20-30 minute lesson followed by about 2 hours of assisted play. To participate in this class, you must have completed EasyBridge! #1 or played some duplicate bridge and have less than 100 masterpoints. The cost is \$119.00 (including the workbook – a \$12 value). You can come by yourself or with a partner. Hazel Turner, a Life Master and ACBL Certified EasyBridge! Instructor will be presenting this series of classes. Additional information is available on the BCNC website (see address below). To enroll, or for more information, please contact Hazel directly at hazelturnerbridge@gmail.com.

Workshops to support EasyBridge!2 will also run for 10 weeks starting Thursday, June 21st at 4:15 pm at BCNC. The workshops last approximately 2 hours covering various topics: June 21st - Opening Leads, June 28th – Finesses, July 5th – Rule of 20. The full list for the 10 sessions will be posted at the club. The fee

will be \$5 per session. No sign-up is required. You don't need to be enrolled in the EasyBridge!2 class to participate in the workshops, and you can come whenever a topic interests you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email Hazel at hazelturnerbridge@gmail.com.

Mentoring: If you're looking for a little help with your bridge game, BCNC has mentoring every Monday at 9:00 AM and Thursday at 9:30 AM. The cost is \$5 and players are invited to stay and play in the afternoon game for an additional \$6. To participate in the mentoring sessions, you must sign up in advance. This is required so that enough qualified mentors can be enlisted to assist each table of players. Contact Sue Compton for further information and to sign up at comptons@cox.net.

Games in May at BCNC are megapoint games supporting the ACBL Grass Roots Fund. There are two Championship games – Monday, May 1st, and Friday, May 25th. Saturdays are Pizza Days (except the 19th, when Unit 549 has its game at the Club).

Check the Calendar for exact dates of the various club games and activities. Go to **our website:** 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. Feel free to contact the club regarding club programs, special games, and partnership help.

Top Five Open Players for March: Marilyn Florin, Bunny Schmidt, Tim Flaherty, Penny Berman, and Sue Compton.

Top Five Non-life Master 0-499 players for March: Ken Patrick, Lindy Patrick, Ayoub Jaraicie, Betty Serepca, and Anne Schafer.

Congratulations to all of these winning players.

Lake San Marcos Duplicate Bridge Club

All of our May games will also be in support of the ACBL Grass Roots Fund and will earn megapoint awards.

Top Open Players for March: Richard Cohen, Vivienne Whitworth, Jeanne Griffin, Minnie Williams, Judy Gruenberger, and Maria Marshall.

Top 5 Non-life Master players for March 0-499: Urmila Gujrathi, Lynn Jaseph, Shiv Tangri, Taj Patel, and George Wilkinson.

Lake San Marcos Duplicate Bridge Club games are held at the San Marcos Senior Center at 111 Richmar Ave. San Marcos, CA 92069. The Wednesday game starts at 12:00 PM. Snacks and coffee are provided. The cost is \$8.00. For further information call John at 760-751-0406, or Nina at [760.736.9386](tel:760.736.9386).

ACBL Ramona Duplicate Bridge

Congratulations to Geof Applegate and Lenore Soderberg for their STaC game on Thursday evening, March 22. They had a 63.02% game which landed them in second place overall for 2.81 silver points, but the 1st place team won by 0.04%. Now, that's a close race!

The Friday Soup/Salad luncheon provided by the club on Fridays has been discontinued. There will still be a break mid-game, but shortened to 20 minutes. You are encouraged to bring your own lunch or snack. Coffee and tea will be provided as usual.

Located at 1721 Main St. Ramona, CA 92065 #101.

Game times are: Monday 6:00pm – 9:30pm (5:30 Potluck), Thursday Night 6:00pm – 9:30pm, Friday mornings: Open 9:30am – 1:30pm; 0-49 9:30am – 12:30pm. ***Tuesday lessons begin promptly at 2 PM at the Bridge Club. Call [760-789-1132](tel:760-789-1132), or email Mary Ann at houston6805@sbcglobal.net for further information about classes and additional bridge activities.

May 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
 111 Richmar Ave, San Marcos, CA 92069 • (760) 715-5896 or (760) 736-9386

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Unit 549 Board Members: President - Art Foestle; Vice-President - Jill Roberts; Secretary/Recorder – Dorothea Williams; Treasurer - Ken Matson; Membership Chair / Disciplinary Chair - Sheila Latus; Tournament Chair - Trish Finelli; Hospitality - Hazel Turner, John Coulombe & Barbara White						
		1	2	3	4	5
		Ramona Bridge 2:00pm Lesson BCNC Open Pairs - 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Club Championship	BCNC 0-99 MP Game - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund Lake San Marcos DBC 12:00 Noon Grass Roots Fund	BCNC Supervised Play - 9:30 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	Ramona Bridge 9:30am - Open & 0-499er Game BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund	BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day CINCO DE MAYO PARTY Grass Roots Fund
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
NO GAMES TODAY	BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM STac Ramona Bridge 6 PM Open Game (Potluck 5:30 PM)	Ramona Bridge 2:00pm Lesson BCNC Open Pairs - 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM STac	BCNC 0-99 MP Game - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM STac Lake San Marcos DBC 12:00 Noon Grass Roots Fund	BCNC Supervised Play - 9:30 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM STac Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	Ramona Bridge 9:30am - Open & 0-499er Game BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM STac	BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day STac
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
NO GAMES TODAY	BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund Ramona Bridge 6 PM Open Game (Potluck 5:30 PM)	Ramona Bridge 2:00pm Lesson BCNC Open Pairs - 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund	BCNC 0-99 MP Game - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund Lake San Marcos DBC 12:00 Noon Grass Roots Fund	BCNC Supervised Play - 9:30 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	Ramona Bridge 9:30am - Open & 0-499er Game BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund	Unit 549 Championship at BCNC Lunch 11:45 AM Game 12:30 PM
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
NO GAMES TODAY	BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund Ramona Bridge 6 PM Open Game (Potluck 5:30 PM)	Ramona Bridge 2:00pm Lesson BCNC Open Pairs - 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund	BCNC 0-99 MP Game - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund Lake San Marcos DBC 12:00 Noon Grass Roots Fund	BCNC Supervised Play - 9:30 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	Ramona Bridge 9:30am - Open & 0-499er Game BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Club Championship	BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day Grass Roots Fund
27	28	29	30	31		
NO GAMES TODAY	BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund MEMORIAL DAY Ramona Bridge 6 PM Open Game (Potluck 5:30 PM)	Ramona Bridge 2:00pm Lesson BCNC Open Pairs - 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund	BCNC 0-99 MP Game - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund Lake San Marcos DBC 12:00 Noon Grass Roots Fund	BCNC Supervised Play - 9:30 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Grass Roots Fund Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game		

BOLD games denote Mega-Masterpoint Games.

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