

## North County Inland, Unit 549

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

TABLE



TALK



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ACBL UNIT 549

***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

That sonic boom you thought you heard a couple of weeks ago wasn't a sonic boom at all, it was the Unit Board breathing a big sigh of relief. As most of you know, we aren't using the facilities at Lake San Marcos any more because they raised their rates beyond our ability to pay. Our last event there was the Winter Sectional in January and we have been scrambling ever since to find a venue we could afford for next January's Winter Sectional. Actually, afford is only one of many factors. We need easy access, lots of parking and enough space to accommodate card tables and chairs for 160 people. After many fits and starts, the Board reluctantly agreed that we would use the First Presbyterian Church facilities in Oceanside, the same place that Unit 531 uses. Unfortunately, that fell through also, which left us between the proverbial rock and a hard place with time running out.

Well, Jill Roberts, with a little divine guidance, found the Women's Club of Escondido facility, which meets all of our criteria for cost, parking, size and ease of access. The facility is located at 751 N. Rose St, which is very close to where Hwy 78 and Broadway intersect. We are in the process of signing a contract for January 18th and 19th, 2019 which will be the dates of our Winter Sectional.

The Board also had two other major action items at the July 9th meeting. Liz Nixon and Sheila Latus have both left the Board and we would like to offer our thanks and appreciation for all of the hard work and direction they have provided for many years. And good fortune has been running our way lately. Alan Turner and Noel Weidner have volunteered to join the Board and they were added as members.

Our costs have been going up, and I was told to blame it on the treasurer for not making those numbers look better. But, based on those increasing costs, the Board voted to raise the unit game fee from \$9 to \$10 starting with the August unit game. If there is an upside to this, it will be that making change while collecting game fees will be much easier!

Art

## Upcoming Unit 549 Events - Mark the Dates!

**August 4 – Unit 549 NLM Sectional - Seven Oaks Community Center, Rancho Bernardo**

**August 8 & 11 – BCNC-Club Championship Games**

**August 13-18 and 27-31 – NAP Qualifying Games - 50% Red/50% Black Masterpoints**

**August 20-24 – BCNC - STaC Games**

**Saturday, August 25 – Unit Championship Game at BCNC**

### Unit 549 News

**Alert!** The date is coming up fast now - Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> is the annual Unit 549 NLM Sectional. If you haven't yet booked a partner and made your plans, do it now! The event will be held at the Seven Oaks Community Center in Rancho Bernardo. The address is: 16789 Bernardo Oaks Drive, San Diego, CA 92128. If you are unfamiliar with this venue, we've included a location map on our flyer. You can view the flyer and print the map on our website at: [acblunit549.org](http://acblunit549.org). Remember that Sectionals are opportunities to win Silver points!

**Heads Up! Save These Dates:** The Unit 549 Winter Sectional is officially set for January 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> 2019. The following Friday and Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, the Unit will be hosting Audrey Grant classes. Details on both of these events will be coming soon, but in the meantime, mark your calendars for these very special events.

**Unit Game:** We had a wonderful turnout for the June 23<sup>rd</sup> unit game – a total of twenty tables. It was the first time in a very long time that we had no leftover food! It was so nice to see almost all the tables in use.

Results from that game are as follows:

- The top four winners in the Open section N/S: Carol Cicotte & Remo Gritz, Paul Landrum & Valerie Gwin, Jean Holt & Liz Nixon, and Jill Roberts & Hazel Turner.
- The top four winners in the Open section E/W: Rick Kerbel & Fran White, Marilyn Florin & Bunny Schmidt, Alberdina & Manoochehr Bahmanian, and Jane Petering & Cheryl Rodzach
- The top four winners in the Non-Life Master section were: N/S – Katherine Wilkey & Katherine Balog, and Judy Astamendi & Debby Wunderle; E/W – Ronique Nilson & Charlotte Bluestein, and Alan Turner & Noel Weidner.

Congratulations to all the winners, and thanks to everyone who played.

Our next unit game is on August 25<sup>th</sup>. 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.). An exception to this schedule will be November 17<sup>th</sup> (a 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday) due to scheduling conflicts. Please make a note of this now to avoid confusion later. Lunch is always included in the game fee and will be available at 11:45 AM, with the game starting at 12:30 PM.

Due to increasing costs for facility rental, sanction fees, and advertising (printing), our game fees will increase in August to \$10. The fee in July will remain \$9.

**Welcome new members to Unit 549:** Cynthia Brocklesby, and Kathleen Yezarski

**Members attaining new levels of achievement:**

**New Junior Masters:** Suzanne Lichter, and Nancy Neal

**New Club Master:** Paula Book

**New NABC Masters:** John Coulombe

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

### Unit 549 Club News

#### Bridge Club of North County

We're going "green". Say, what?? In the past, the club has provided styrofoam cups for coffee & tea. There have been many complaints that these cups are not eco-friendly, and we should stop using them. We've taken heart and decided to try more nature friendly vessels. In the future, the club will not be providing styrofoam cups in favor of using actual washable/reusable cups. **What does this mean to you?** A large number of cups have been added to the cupboard above the coffee pots. You may use any cup in the cupboard except the ones with someone's name on them. If you prefer, you are invited to bring a cup from home, put your name on it, and store it at the club for your personal use. Unfortunately, we do not employ dishwashers, so you are responsible for washing and returning any cup you use to the cupboard.

It has been brought to our attention that many of our players are not using the Alert procedure accurately, if at all. This is a particularly daunting aspect of duplicate bridge play for newer players. It's not just the when, why, and how of the Alert requirement, but the insufficient or non-existent explanation by many who use complex and unfamiliar systems, and by newer players who may not be aware of, or have forgotten, the necessity for an Alert. There should be no secrets at the bridge table. Everyone is entitled to whatever information is needed to understand the bidding. Everyone should be aware that a failure to Alert can have penalty consequences. For a full explanation of Alert Procedures, please visit the ACBL website at: [acbl.org](http://acbl.org) Scroll to the bottom of the Home page and under the Tournaments section, choose: Charts, Rules and Regulations. On that page, scroll down again and select the green button that says Alert Procedures.

Our new \*STARS\* bulletin board is finished and we've actually posted winners for May and then June. Because we haven't posted pictures of MP winners in the past, and because we've haven't had a "Player of the Month" or a "Top Student" recognition, the bulletin board is creating quite a stir. Connecting names with faces has made those wins more personal somehow and I've even overheard players congratulating the winners (players that they didn't even know) when they next see them after viewing the board.

The Player of the Month is chosen by ballots cast by players throughout the month (or the Board of Directors in the event of a

tie vote). If you didn't participate in the selection for June, there is plenty of time to cast a ballot for your favorite player in July. Any player can nominate any other player for this honor. The criteria to be noted are those that make the ideal bridge partner or opponent: friendliness, bridge ethics, helpfulness, attitude, etc. NOT skill level or MP wins. Ballots can be obtained from the front pocket of the ballot box next to the bulletin board. When you've filled out your ballot, just drop it in the slot on the top of the ballot box. The Student of the Month is selected by recommendations from our bridge teachers and mentors.

The new Club Directory is now available for anyone to use in contacting other club members. A bound copy can be found hanging from the Community Corner bulletin board. If you'd like your own personal copy of the directory, an e-version can be obtained by contacting Arline Kennedy at the address below. The directory will be periodically updated. If you were not included in the current version and would like to be added to the next iteration, there are forms at the club for you to fill out and sign. If you don't see the form at the club, please ask a director for one. Questions concerning the directory should be addressed to Arline Kennedy at [arlinek@gmail.com](mailto:arlinek@gmail.com).

**Workshops:** The weekly series of workshops in support of the Easybridge!2 lessons continue to be very popular. The Thursday afternoon workshops (which began June 21<sup>st</sup>) start at 1:00 PM and last approximately 2 hours. Each workshop covers a single topic as follows: July 26th – Negative Doubles; August 2nd – Rule of 11/Card Reading; August 9th – Getting to Game; August 16th – Cue Bids; August 23rd – Balancing. The fee is \$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 is of interest to you. If you have any questions, please email Hazel at [hazelturnerbridge@gmail.com](mailto:hazelturnerbridge@gmail.com)

**News Flash!** We are adding a Newcomer Game on Wednesday mornings at 9:00am beginning on July 25<sup>th</sup>. Newcomer games are intended for players new to duplicate bridge who have fewer than 20 masterpoints. These games play fewer boards in a session and are monitored by an instructor. Players are allowed to ask questions and receive “on the spot” help with bidding questions, player protocol, etc. The games are ACBL sanctioned and winning players do earn masterpoints. The player fee will be \$5. If you are interested in playing in this game, please contact our Education Coordinator, Alan Turner, at [alanturner2009@gmail.com](mailto:alanturner2009@gmail.com)

**Mentoring:** In addition to the Workshops, BCNC offers mentoring sessions every Monday and Tuesday morning at 9:00 AM. Intended for beginning and intermediate levels of expertise, but organized by table according to their skill level, players bid and play hands which are then discussed with the mentor who critiques the hand, and provides alternative strategies on bidding, play of the hand, and defense. 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 Vic Pitcock for further information and to sign up at [kcoctip.rotciv@att.net](mailto:kcoctip.rotciv@att.net) BCNC is looking to expand its “call in/fill in” list for the Monday

and Friday morning 0-499 games. Anyone who is called in plays free, and is eligible to earn MPs. Generally, if you are on the list, you could get a call at about 9:00am asking if you could come in to play. You are not obligated to do so every time you get a request. If you are interested, please send an email to [kcoctip.rotciv@att.net](mailto:kcoctip.rotciv@att.net) requesting that your name be on the call-in list.

August is going to be an exciting month in terms of masterpoint awards. The week of the 6<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> are Club Charity games (local charities). We have two full weeks of NAP qualifying games (13<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> through 31<sup>st</sup>). These are 81.8% sectional rated games that give half red/half black masterpoint awards. AND, five days of STaC (20<sup>th</sup> through the 24<sup>th</sup>), which give Silver masterpoints. Additionally, Saturdays are always Pizza Days (except the 25<sup>th</sup>, when Unit 549 has its game at the Club).

Also, don't forget there will be an Upgraded Championship Game on July 30<sup>th</sup>. This is a super megapoint game (81.8% sectional rated black points). Be sure to mark this one on your calendar!

Please do check the Calendar of Events on our website for exact dates of the various club games and activities (you can print a copy for easy reference). 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.

**Top Five Open Players for June:** Joe Houde, Sue Compton, Doris Nizzi, Doris Cubeisy and Rex Latus.

**Top Five Non-life Master 150-499 Players for June:** Ken Patrick, Lindy Patrick, Dorothea Williams, Ayoub Jaraicie and John Coulombe.

**Top Five 0-149 Players for June:** Mel Cohn, Leo Muller, Sue Halfaker, Susan Van Cott, and Larry Gach. Congratulations to all of these winning players.

The Board of Directors for BCNC welcomes two new members: Alan Turner and Trish Frinell. With these additions, the board is now fully staffed.

## Lake San Marcos Duplicate Bridge Club

**Top Five Open Players for June:** Rick Norton, Sam Jordan, John & Rima Sharron, Pat Hawkins, and Jean Holt.

**Top Five Non-life Master players for June 0-499:** Sally Ackerman, Betty Abersold, Susan Cronenwett, and Nancy Busher.

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 11:30 AM. Snacks and coffee are provided. The cost is \$8.00. For further information call John Coulombe at 760-715-5896, or Nina Laughbaum at [760-736-9386](tel:760-736-9386).

## ACBL Ramona Duplicate Bridge

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

Game times are: Sanctioned Monday 6:00pm – 9:30pm (5:30 Potluck), “Open Door Bridge Game Monday 6:00pm – 9:00pm (5:20 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](mailto:houston6805@sbcglobal.net) for further information about classes and additional bridge activities.



# August 2018

## North County Inland, Unit 549

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

Bridge Club of North County (BCNC) - 2320 S. Escondido Blvd., Escondido, CA 92025  
 (760) 807-9396 • [bridgeclubofnco@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeclubofnco@gmail.com) • [bridgeclubofnorthandcounty.org](http://bridgeclubofnorthandcounty.org)  
 ACBL Ramona Duplicate Bridge - Maryann Houston • 1721 Main St., # 101, Ramona, CA 92065  
 (760) 789-1132 • [houston6805@sbcglobal.net](mailto:houston6805@sbcglobal.net) • [www.facebook.com/acblramonabridge](http://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
<b>Unit 549 Board Members:</b> <b>President</b> - Art Foester; <b>Vice-President</b> - Jill Roberts; <b>Secretary/Recorder</b> – Dorothea Williams; <b>Treasurer</b> - Ken Matson; <b>Membership Chair / Disciplinary Chair</b> - Sheila Latus; <b>Tournament Chair</b> - Trish Frinell; <b>Hospitality</b> - Hazel Turner, John Coulombe & Barbara White			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
			BCNC 0-20 Game - 9:00 am Cost \$5.00 BCNC 0-149 MP Game - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	BCNC WORKSHOP 1 PM RULE OF 11-CARD READING \$5.00 Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	Ramona Bridge 9:30am - Open & 0-49er Game BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM	BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Game 50/50 Red/Black Pizza Day Unit 549 NLM Sectional - Seven Oaks Community Center, Rancho Bernardo
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
NO GAMES TODAY	BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Club Charity (both games) Ramona Bridge 6 PM Open Door Game (Potluck 5:30 PM)	Ramona Bridge 2:00pm Lesson BCNC Supervised Play 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Club Charity (both games)	BCNC 0-20 Game - 9:00 am Cost \$5.00 *BCNC 0-149 MP Game - 9:00 AM *BCNC Open Pairs - 12:30 PM *CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	BCNC WORKSHOP 1 PM GETTING TO GAME \$5.00 Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	Ramona Bridge 9:30am - Open & 0-49er Game BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Club Charity (both games)	BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP Pizza Day
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
NO GAMES TODAY	BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Game - 50/50 Red/Black (both games) Ramona Bridge 6 PM - Open Door Game (Potluck 5:30 PM)	Ramona Bridge 2:00pm Lesson BCNC Supervised Play 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM NAP Game - 50/50 Red/Black (both games)	BCNC 0-20 Game - 9:00 am Cost \$5.00 *BCNC 0-149 MP Game - 9:00 AM *BCNC Open Pairs - 12:30 PM *NAP Game - 50/50 Red/Black Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	BCNC WORKSHOP 1 PM CLUE BIDS \$5.00 Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	Ramona Bridge 9:30am - Open & 0-49er Game BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Game - 50/50 Red/Black (both games)	BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Game 50/50 Red/Black Pizza Day
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
NO GAMES TODAY	BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM StAc (both games) Ramona Bridge 6 PM Open Door Game (Potluck 5:30 PM)	Ramona Bridge 2:00pm Lesson BCNC Supervised Play 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM StAc (both games)	BCNC 0-20 Game - 9:00 am Cost \$5.00 *BCNC 0-149 MP Game - 9:00 AM *BCNC Open Pairs - 12:30 PM *StAc Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	BCNC WORKSHOP 1 PM BALANCING \$5.00 Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	Ramona Bridge 9:30am - Open & 0-49er Game BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM StAc (both games)	Unit 549 Championship at BCNC Lunch 11:45 AM Game 12:30 PM
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	
NO GAMES TODAY	BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM - 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Game - 50/50 Red/Black (both games) Ramona Bridge 6 PM - Open Door Game (Potluck 5:30 PM)	Ramona Bridge 2:00pm Lesson BCNC Supervised Play 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM NAP Game - 50/50 Red/Black (both games)	BCNC 0-20 Game - 9:00 am Cost \$5.00 *BCNC 0-149 MP Game - 9:00 AM *BCNC Open Pairs - 12:30 PM - *NAP Game - 50/50 Red/Black Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	BCNC TO BE ANNOUNCED Ramona Bridge 6pm Open Game	Ramona Bridge 9:30am - Open & 0-49er Game BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Game - 50/50 Red/Black (both games)	

NAP Games are 50/50 Red/Black Point Games  
 COVERING POWAY, SAN MARCOS, RAMONA, RANCHO BERNARDO, VALLEY CENTER, RANCHO SANTA FE & ESCONDIDO