

North County Inland, Unit 549

acblunit549.org

TABLE



TALK



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ACBL UNIT 549

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I know when the first week of January has arrived without even looking at the calendar. That is the week that I can't find a parking spot at the gym, and the place is packed. January is also the time we reset the calendar, vow to make this the year we actually follow through on those resolutions and hear from our government about the state of the state and the state of the union. So with that in mind here is how I see the state of play in North County.

The Unit itself is in great shape. We held our Holiday Party, Winter Sectional, NLM Sectional and supported Interfaith and Lungevity without any change in our financial position. We found a new home for our unit game that has been met with great approval. We started communicating with every unit member that we have an e-mail address for. And we have a great board that has a lot of energy and is working hard for all of our members. We've gotten a running start for 2019 with our Winter Sectional and our Audrey Grant seminar this month.

The unit is comprised of three clubs. There is one in San Marcos, one in Ramona and one in Escondido. The San Marcos is steady as you go with a well attended game every Wednesday at 11:30. In Ramona we had one club close in September and another one get started in October. As with any startup, there is a lot of work to be done, but they are up to the task and enjoying their bridge.

Our Escondido club is our backbone. During 2018 there were 3,502 tables of bridge played at the club which makes them the 19th most active club in California and the 120th most active club within the ACBL. This is something we should all be proud of. The club board is working hard to keep a strong duplicate bridge community with bridge lessons, a good mentor program, a number of "limited" / NLM games, and a lot of celebrations.

We look forward to seeing you at our many bridge events this year.

Upcoming Unit 549 Events - Mark the Dates!

Saturday, February 23rd - Unit Game - Seven Oaks Community Center - Rancho Bernardo

Unit 549 News

The new Board of Directors met in January to officially select its officers for the coming year. Officers and Chairpersons for 2019 are as follows: President, Art Foeste; Vice-President, Alan Turner; Secretary/Recorder, Dorothea Williams; Treasurer, Ken Matson; Hospitality, Joan Gershman/John Coulombe; Tournament Chair, Trish Frinell; Membership Chair/Publicity, Noel Wiedner; Education Liaison, Hazel Turner; Disciplinary Chair, Jill Roberts.

Now that that piece of business is done, the board is happily working toward presenting another terrific year of unit games, the next of which will be on February 23rd at the Seven Oaks Community Center. Remember, there is always a free lunch served at our unit games, so come hungry!

The December unit game, which was our member appreciation game, with no card fees and a holiday banquet, had a great turnout of 21 tables. The Unit Board was gratified to receive lots of compliments on the lunch provided! Not to brag, but it really was a very nice spread! AND, everyone had a really good time as well.

Results for the Open Section are as follows:

- **The top four winning pairs in the N/S position** were: Alan Gailfus – Debbie Gailfus (with a 74.10%), Rick Kerbel – Fran White, Ethel Warner – Jeanne Griffin, and Jean Holt – Liz Nixon.
- **The top four winning pairs in the E/W position** were: Richard Gold – Dorn Bishop (with a 72.95%), Herbert Lu – Sifang Shen, Frederick Parker – Lawrence Sherman, and Jean Jantz – Doris Nizzi.

Results for the NLM Section are as follows:

- **The winning pairs in the N/S position** were: Ramakant Asaravala – David Greenwood, and Sheila Slayton – Sandra Hrstich
- **The winning pairs in the E/W position** were: Larry Gach – Marvin Schwedock (with a 70.50%), Ronique Nilson – Susan Holbeck, and Toni Lien – Robert Miner.

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

Welcome New Members to Unit 549: Marc and Mari Jarvis.

Members attaining new levels of achievement:

New Junior Masters: Alison Hout, and Roz Mennella

New Club Masters: Joan Gershman, Paul Stevens, David Valiulis, and Deepak Vora.

New Sectional Master: Maxine Graves

Congratulations from Unit 549 to all of the above for achieving these new levels of excellence. They will be rewarded with a free play at the next unit game.

Unit 549 Club News

Bridge Club of North County

You've probably noticed that we have a new "Volunteer Recognition" bulletin board at the club. Because we are a non-profit organization, and because we have no employees, we rely on volunteers to perform most of the tasks necessary to run our business. Obviously, this is a large undertaking, and requires many hours of volunteer help. The bulletin board is our way of acknowledging the time donated by so many of our club members to keep the business functioning properly, and to make our club an attractive and inviting place to spend time playing bridge and socializing. We always need more help. Next time you're at the club, scan the board's category headings, and if you see something that you could help us with, we'd be delighted to hear from you. Contact Dorothea Williams at dorotheaw@cox.net or send a message directly to the club (email address below).

Our weekly bridge workshop series on defense continues with the following topics: Jan 24 – Third Hand Play, Jan 31 – Second Hand Play, Feb 7 – Defensive Signals, Feb 14 – Developing Defensive Tricks, Feb 21 – Interfering With Declarer, Feb 28 – Making a Plan. This list will also be posted on the "Club News" bulletin board and on our website for your convenience. The fee is \$5 per session. No sign-up is required. You don't need to be enrolled in any class to participate in the workshops, and you can come whenever a topic is of interest to you. If you have any questions regarding either classes or workshops, please do not hesitate to email Hazel at hazelturnerbridge@gmail.com

If you are interested in a more personal learning experience, we have a new program for that option. It is offered for the Tuesday morning Open game. This is a "golden opportunity" for newer players who would like to "play up" with a more experienced player and for experienced players who would enjoy helping a newer player transition into more advanced games. Mentor players are invited to play free, junior partners pay their own regular game fee. Partnerships will be arranged according to MP levels. Neither partner will be obligated to a long-term relationship – individuals decide how long they will play together.

Players interested in participating in this new program - both new players, and mentor players - are asked to contact Dorothea Williams at dorotheaw@cox.net to sign up or to get additional information.

There will be lots of opportunity to earn extra MPs in February. The week of the 4th through 9th every session will be a Membership game with 81.8% sectional-rated black points. Then, beginning on Saturday the 16th and through

Friday the 22nd, every game will be a Club Championship, which is 63.6% sectional-rated black points. The club will be closed on February 23rd for the Unit 549 monthly game. Don't forget that Saturdays are always Pizza Days, so you get a free lunch along with your afternoon bridge game.

The monthly **Birthday Celebration** will be on Wednesday, February 13th. If you haven't registered for your birthday free play voucher, be sure to sign the Birthday Log at the club or contact Dorothea Williams at dorotheaw@cox.net so you don't miss out. The vouchers, which must be used during your birthday month, are available to you on the 1st day of your birthday month. You should try to be at the club on the celebration day during your birthday month so we can help you celebrate!

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 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 December: Marilyn Florin, Tim Flaherty, Doris Nizzi, Sue Compton, and Michael Haubenstock.

Top Five NLM 150-499 Players for December: Leo Muller, Dorothea Williams, Carol Nelson, Nancy Shirley, and Ken Patrick.

Top Five 0-149 Players for December: Madelyn Trainor, Alan Turner, Margo Lewis, Mary Thead, and Susan Kilkenny.

Also, in December we had **three winner pairs with greater than 70% games**:

Leo Muller and Joyce Fox on Monday December 3rd, 73.75%

David Greenwood and Ram Asaravala on Wednesday December 5th, 75.56%

Margie Berend and Fred Kaufman on December 10th, 72.5%

Our winner for the title **"Player of the Month"** for December is Tom Nolan, who is the epitome of a player's player. Reasons given for his nomination are the following assets: "He's always cheerful, helpful, and courteous", "He loves bridge and gives of his knowledge and expertise at every opportunity", "He's the most ethical player I know!", "He's such a gentleman...", "He's a very good mentor/teacher, and is very patient with beginning/intermediate players", "He's wonderfully upbeat under any and all circumstances....is always smiling", "He does many small and helpful tasks to help out whenever he can", "He's an all-around great guy!"

David Primuth was selected December's **"Student of the Month"** by his Supervised Play mentors. Among the reasons given for his selection were: He's a serious learner

who works at improving his bridge game, he comes often to Supervised Play, and has volunteered to fill in when needed in the 0-149 game.

Congratulations to all of these outstanding players. Their pictures will be posted on the *STARS* bulletin board throughout the month of January.

Lake San Marcos Duplicate Bridge Club

Top Five Open Players for December: Rima Sharron, John Sharron Jr., Diana Fritz-Maes, Gary Beed, and Meena Sethi.

Top Five NLM players for December 0-499: Stewart Walker, Mike Skow, George Wilkinson, David Blumenberg, and Ron Anson.

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).

Bridge in Ramona

Bridge in Ramona's Temporary Planning Committee (TPC) is busily working on creating a set of by-laws for our club. There sure is a lot of basic business "backbone" to create when you start a new business, but we're loving it!

Since we had our first game in September of '18, we've held 128 open games over 24 days of operation (remember we only play twice a week). We typically run between 4 and six tables each game. We're really focusing on building up our attendance numbers and saving money to buy a dealing machine, which will save so much time and effort in prepping for games. One will cost about \$4500, so it might take us until July to save up enough money... but hey, with extra donations, it might be sooner!

Our ACBL sanctioned games are held at St. Mary's in the Valley Episcopal Church, 1010 12th Street. Our current schedule has two Open Pairs games: Thursday night from 6:00 to 9:00 PM and Friday morning from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM with a break for (bring your own) lunch. If you would like to join us, please email: bridgeinramona@gmail.com to make a reservation. Our game fee is \$7.

For more information contact Maxine McNamara at wildrose@barneymc.com or 760-788-6189.



February 2019

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
 Lake San Marcos DBC - John Coulombe, Director; Nina Laughbaum, Manager
 111 Richmar Ave, San Marcos, CA 92069 • (760) 715-5896 or (760) 736-9386
 Bridge in Ramona - Maxine McNamara
 Information: (760) 788-6189 • wildrose@barneymc.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Unit 549 Board Members: President – Art Foeste; Vice-President – Alan Turner; Secretary/Recorder – Dorothea Williams; Treasurer – Ken Matson; Tournament Chair – Trish Frinell; Hospitality – Joan Gershtman/John Coulombe; Membership Chair/Publicity – Noel Weidner; Education Liaison – Hazel Turner; Disciplinary Chair – Jill Roberts					1 BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM	2 BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day Local Charity
3 NO GAMES TODAY	4 BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM MEMBERSHIP GAME	5 BCNC Supervised Play Open Pairs 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM MEMBERSHIP GAME	6 BCNC 0-20 MP (\$5.) 0-149 MP Games 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM MEMBERSHIP GAME Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	7 BCNC WORKSHOP (\$5) 1:00 PM DEFENSIVE SIGNALS Bridge in Ramona 6:00 PM	8 BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM MEMBERSHIP GAME Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM	9 BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day MEMBERSHIP GAME
10 NO GAMES TODAY	11 BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Local Charity	12 BCNC Supervised Play Open Pairs 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Local Charity	13 BCNC 0-20 MP (\$5.) 0-149 MP Games 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Local Charity BIRTHDAY RECOGNITION Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	14 BCNC WORKSHOP (\$5) 1:00 PM DEVELOPING DEFENSIVE TRICKS Bridge in Ramona 6:00 PM	15 BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Local Charity Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM	16 BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP
17 NO GAMES TODAY	18 BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	19 BCNC Supervised Play Open Pairs 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	20 BCNC 0-20 MP (\$5.) 0-149 MP Games 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	21 BCNC WORKSHOP (\$5) 1:00 PM INTERFERING WITH DECLARER Bridge in Ramona 6:00 PM	22 BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM	23 549 Unit Game Open & NLM Pairs 12:30 PM Lunch 11:45 AM 7 OAKS COMMUNITY CENTER
24 NO GAMES TODAY	25 BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM	26 BCNC Supervised Play Open Pairs 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM	27 BCNC 0-20 MP (\$5.) 0-149 MP Games 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	28 BCNC WORKSHOP (\$5) 1:00 PM MAKING A PLAN Bridge in Ramona 6:00 PM		