

North County Inland, Unit 549

acblunit549.org

TABLE



TALK



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ACBL UNIT 549

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I've been on the Board for six plus years, and we are coming off the most amazing month that I can remember. It started with our Winter Sectional, which was held at a new location, the Escondido Women's Club. There is always a little apprehension when you change locations, combined with our new venue being a little smaller than the San Marcos facility, but all is well that ends well. We had a good turnout and did something most units are having trouble doing, we made a little money. And Scott Campbell, our ACBL director, thought the new venue worked better than the San Marcos facility.

The next weekend, we did our annual Audrey Grant seminar. Before the doors even opened, I knew this was going to be a financial success. We had 111 people registered for the first day, 126 registered for the second day, and we had a larger number of people coming from outside our area than I would have expected. I believe the longest commute was from Santa Barbara. Our challenge was making sure we could arrange the Seven Oaks Community Center so everyone was comfortable, we had enough food and that parking was reasonably convenient.

I worked both lunches, and then hung around and took the temperature of some of the attendees about how they liked things. While my sample wasn't large, it was random. To a person they all had very positive things to say about Audrey's presentation, the facility and the food. We also surveyed the attendees and confirmed my results. The one thing we did discover was that people would like that food line to move faster. And Audrey herself thought the two day event was great, really liked the community center and is interested in doing this again next year.

I would like to thank the Board for all of their hard work in making both of these events a big success. They did a lot of heavy lifting both figuratively and otherwise. An extra shout-out goes to Alan and Hazel Turner, who did most of the organizing for the Audrey Grant seminar. They even made it a family project and recruited their son Stuart to do some of that heavy lifting and then work as our parking steward.

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend our March unit game on the 23rd. It will be our annual Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs award recognition game.

Art

Upcoming Unit 549 Events - Mark the Dates!

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

Unit 549 News

Our Winter Sectional was a great success this year! Over the two days of play we had 117 tables. A total of 443.68 masterpoints were awarded to 160 players. The highest number of MPs awarded to a single player was 20.70 to Mark Itabashi of Murietta, CA. There was one game score over 70%, which took place on Saturday afternoon in Open Pairs: Alex Fowlie, of San Marcos, CA, and his partner, Marjorie Michelin, of Laguna Woods, CA had a 71.01% game. Kudos to them! Obviously, there were too many winners overall to be listed here, but the final tally is available on our website at acblunit549.org. The feedback from players regarding the new venue was positive overall – especially as to the ample parking available. The board is excited to begin plans for a repeat performance next year.

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

Welcome New Members to Unit 549: Firoz Nilam, Krishna Parkhani, and Delynn Kelly.

Members attaining new levels of achievement:

New Junior Master: Sifang Shen

New Club Master: Howard Birndorf

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

FLASH NEWS! You asked for it and you got it...Based on considerable input from club members, the Tuesday morning game will be changed from an Open Pairs game to a 0-499er. AND, a new section for 0-499 players will be added to the Saturday afternoon game roster. This means that on Saturdays we will have two concurrent games – Open Pairs and 0-499. These changes will go into effect on March 1st. That gives you plenty of time to rearrange your current schedule to take advantage of these new game offerings.

In conjunction with these new game offerings, and due to lack of interest, the board has cancelled the new mentor/mentee opportunity we have been offering for the Tuesday morning games.

Friday, March 1st will be our annual **“Volunteer Appreciation Day”** when the club formally recognizes the contributions of all its volunteer members. A free lunch will be provided for all players that day, however, you’ll need to sign up so we can determine how much food to order. There will be a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board behind the director’s desk. Those who play in the morning are invited to stay for lunch – those who play in the afternoon should come a little early to have time to eat before the afternoon game starts at 12:30.

While we’re on the subject of volunteers, we always need more of them. Next time you’re at the club please take a look at the **“Volunteer Recognition”** bulletin board. This will give you an idea of how much work our volunteers actually do. 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. What could you do to help? Scan the categories on the boards 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).

There will be two weeks of extra point games in March. We will be having STaC games from the 4th through the 9th. Every session will be a STaC game awarding silver points. Then, beginning on Monday the 18th, through Friday, the 22nd, every game will be an ACBL Charity game with sectional-rated black point awards. The club will be closed on

March 23rd for the Unit 549 monthly game. Don't forget that Saturday games (starting March 1st) will be having two sections (Open and 0-499) and are always Pizza Days, so you get a free lunch along with your afternoon bridge game.

The monthly **Birthday Celebration** will be on Friday, March 15th. 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 January: Tim Flaherty, Marilyn Florin, Bunny Schmidt, Penny Berman, and Rick Sontag.

Top Five NLM 150-499 Players for January: Ken Patrick, Margie Berend, Bejai Higgins, Lindy Patrick, and Judy Astamendi.

Top Five 0-149 Players for January: Madelyn Trainor, Noel Wiedner, Henrik Lund, David Greenwood, and Debby Wunderle.

Our winner for the title “**Player of the Month**” for January is Jan Sperla. Reasons given for her nomination are the following assets: “She is always there with a friendly smile”; “She’s always helping out”; “She takes the initiative to get things done”; “She is ethical”; “She has such a positive attitude”; “She is overall delightful and an asset to the club.”

Christine Bristol was selected January’s “**Student of the Month**” by her Supervised Play mentors. Among the reasons given for her selection were these: she comes often to Supervised Play, she attends the Thursday workshops, she works hard on learning to improve her bridge game, and she is very enthusiastic!

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

Lake San Marcos Duplicate Bridge Club

Top Five Open Players for January: Rima Sharron, John Sharron Jr., Lorraine Gordon, Diana Fritz-Maes, and Gary Beed.

Top Five NLM players for January 0-499: Stewart Walker, Mike Skow, Ilene Brodsky, Ronald Anson, and Sharon Singleton.

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

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.

March 2019

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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 Volunteer Apprec. Day Lunch Sign Up Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM
						2 499er NLM and BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day
3 NO GAMES TODAY	4 BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM STaC	5 BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM Open Pairs 12:30 PM STaC	6 BCNC 0-20 MP (\$5.) 0-149 MP Games 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM STaC Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	7 Bridge in Ramona 6:00 PM	8 BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM STaC Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM	9 499er NLM and BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day STaC
10 NO GAMES TODAY	11 BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM	12 BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM Open Pairs 12:30 PM	13 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	14	15 BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM BIRTHDAY RECOGNITION Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM	16 499er NLM and BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day ACBL Charity
17 NO GAMES TODAY	18 BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM ACBL Charity	19 BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM Open Pairs 12:30 PM ACBL Charity	20 BCNC 0-20 MP (\$5.) 0-149 MP Games 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM ACBL Charity Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	21	22 BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM ACBL Charity 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	27	28	29 BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM	30 499er NLM and BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day
31 NO GAMES TODAY	BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM	BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM Open Pairs 12:30 PM	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	Bridge in Ramona 6:00 PM	BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM	499er NLM and BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day