

## North County Inland, Unit 549

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

TABLE



TALK



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ACBL UNIT 549

***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

I'm feeling really good about Unit 549 right now, in fact, I'm feeling better than good. Our Winter Sectional has been a festering problem for the last two years since we lost our space at Lake San Marcos. But thanks to a lot of hard work by the Board we have put that problem behind us for this year. So here is a little sneak preview for next year's Winter Sectional.

The sectional will be held on January 10th and 11th at St. Gabriel's Catholic Church in Poway. The church is on Twin Peaks road, about 3 miles east of I-15, with very easy access from either Camino Del Norte or Ted Williams Parkway. Most importantly, we will have lots of parking close to the venue. The facility itself is almost twice the size of anything we have had in the past and was recently renovated. So when it comes to parking, space and access this is the best we have ever had in our opinion. Now all we have left to do is get a great turnout.

We have also finalized the details for our Audrey Grant seminar next year. It will be held on January 31st and February 1st at the Seven Oaks Community Center. And don't forget that we have a Non-Life Master Sectional coming up on July 27th, also at the Seven Oaks Community Center.

John Coulombe has resigned from the Board and we will miss him dearly. He provided a voice and perspective for those non-life masters when we really needed one. Fortunately, for all of us, he has agreed to keep showing up and helping with the unit game work. And, in case you were wondering, ACBL regulations required that John resign from the Board because he has taken a financial interest in a club.

We had 32 tables last month at the unit game, which has to be a record of some kind. So let's enjoy our success and just assume that it is because we have such a cool place to play bridge with a lot of really nice people.

Art

## Upcoming Unit 549 Events - Mark the Dates!

**Saturday, June 22nd - Unit Game - Seven Oaks Community Center - Rancho Bernardo**

**Saturday, July 27th - Unit 549 NLM Sectional**

### Unit 549 News

Remember last month when I told you not to miss the next month's unit game? Well, everyone really listened – and I think they invited their friends as well! We had 32 tables on April 27<sup>th</sup> – I think that's the largest number we've had in recent history. It was great – the masterpoint awards were the highest I've seen in a unit game in a long, long time. Also, there is a sort of electric energy you feel at games this size that's exciting. If you were there, you know what I mean. If, by some chance, you missed it, you're invited to the next one in June (see details below). Wouldn't it be fantastic to top this last event?

**The top four MP winners in each direction of the Open Pairs game were as follows:** N/S Lawrence Sherman – John Boackle Jr, Avram Ninyo – Susan Ninyo, Christine Denny – Davis Bennett, and Jane Petering – Maria Marshall. E/W Junko Hemus – Jim Johnson, Tim Flaherty – Alex Fowlie, Sam Madison-Jamal – Lynne Feldman, and Alan Turner – Hazel Turner.

**The top four winners in the NLM section were:** N/S Vinod Kapila – Roop Jain, Mary Rea – Jan Janecki, Naomi Brownell – Alexandra Johnson, and David Greenwood – Ramakant Asaravala. E/W Bejai Higgins – Nancy Shirley, Fred Kaufman – Trish Frinell, David Mathison – Prem Sehgal, and Lloyd Kelly – Delynn Kelly.

You can view a complete list of all players and winners on the unit's website at [acblunit549.org](http://acblunit549.org).

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

**Alert!** Mark your calendars now and book that favorite partner... Our annual Non-Life Masters (NLM) Sectional has been scheduled for Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at the Seven Oaks Community Center in Rancho Bernardo. The address is 16789 Bernardo Oaks Drive, San Diego, 92128. There will be two sessions: 10 AM and 2:30 PM with a lunch break. Coffee and snacks will be provided and a lunch is offered for \$7. This game will be stratified by pair average – 500/300/100 (no players with more than 500 masterpoints allowed). The entry fee is \$10 each session – you are not obligated to play in both sessions. Players with 0-20 MPs play free! Additional information and a location map are available at our website: [acblunit549.org](http://acblunit549.org)

Our next unit game is on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, also at the Seven Oaks Community Center in Rancho Bernardo. This is beginning to feel like we've found a home! No reservations are required. Lunch, always included in your entry fee of \$10.00, is served at 11:45 a.m. Game starts at 12:30 p.m.

**Welcome New Member to Unit 549:** Kathleen Rae

**Members attaining new levels of achievement:**

**New Junior Masters:** Liam King, Dr. Paul Woody, and Cher Young.

**New Club Masters:** Audrey Clark, Chung Kim, and Kaison Yen.

**New Sectional Masters:** Geri Seymour and Alexander Walker.

**New Regional Masters:** Nancy Shelmon and Hsin-I Wu.

**New Life Masters:** Dan Higgins and Mark West.

**New Bronze Life Master:** Dan Higgins.

Our congratulations to all of the above for achieving these new milestones. They will be rewarded with a free play at the next unit game.

### Unit 549 Club News

#### Bridge Club of North County

As you know, part of the Bridge Club of North County's mission is to promote, grow, and sustain the game of bridge. To that end, we offer many learning and skill promoting opportunities. The following is a list of upcoming classes, tutoring sessions, and workshops that are currently available for registration:

- **Bridge Basics 1** – An Introduction, beginning Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. This is a series of eight classes that provide all the essential information about the fundamental mechanics of the bridge game. The cost of the series is \$99, which includes the Bridge Basics 1 handbook.
- **Bridge Basics 2** – Competitive Bidding, beginning Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. This six-week course progresses through Preemptive Opening Bids, Overcalls, Takeout Doubles, and Competitive Auctions. The cost is \$89, which includes the Bridge Basics 2 handbook.
- **Bridge Basics 3** – Popular Conventions, beginning Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. This seven-week course provides a thorough grounding in the most common conventions including Stayman, Jacoby Transfers, Strong Opening Bids, Blackwood and Gerber Ace-asking. The cost is \$99 and includes the Bridge Basics 3 handbook.
- **2 Over 1** – Game Force, beginning Thursday September 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. This 5-week course will take you through all the basic steps of the 2/1 Game Force system based on the Audrey Grant/Eric Rodwell book of the same name. If you are thinking of making the transition to this new approach, or you simply want to better understand the 2/1 system used by bridge opponents, this is the course for you. Cost is \$69, which includes the Audrey Grant 2/1 book.

For more information, or to register for any of the above classes, please email [hazelturnerbridge@gmail.com](mailto:hazelturnerbridge@gmail.com)

We also offer a number of "limited" masterpoint games that offer a very congenial and less stressful playing/learning environment. There is a 0-20 game on Wednesday morning that introduces duplicate, competitive bridge and teaches players table etiquette, bridgemate functions, and the general duplicate process along with an opportunity to hone skills learned in the classes. Additionally, there is a 0-149 game on Wednesday morning running concurrently. It is the next step up into competitive duplicate bridge. But don't let the word "competitive" alarm you, because this game has the most friendly, lovely bunch of players. They all make playing bridge the fun game it's intended to be! You will love playing in this game. When you've reached the end of your sojourn in these introductory games, you can step up to the 0-499ers we offer on Monday, Tuesday and Friday mornings at 9 a.m. and Saturday afternoon at 12:30 p.m. It's all good and the people involved will make your continuing bridge journey a very positive one!

Beginning in June, and continuing through July and August, we will again be offering **NAP** (North American Pairs) qualifying games. These games are “flighted” as follows: A (Open), B (-2500), and C (0-500 NLM). The NAP finals are always held at the ACBL Spring National Event. All club games are qualifying events to play in the District Semi-finals. Winners of those district level games receive financial subsidies and go on to play in the national event. Club winners receive MPs 50% Red and 50% Black, at 81.8% sectional rating, and are “qualified” to play at the district level semi-finals. We are offering NAP qualifying games June 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>, and again June 24<sup>th</sup> through 29<sup>th</sup>.

Also, in June, there will be a club championship game on the 12<sup>th</sup>, and both ACBL and local charity events throughout the rest of the month. There are two terrific special event days planned. First, there will be a **Mixed-Up Pairs** game on Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. This game is free to all players and the club will be providing a lite lunch at 11:45. Game starts at 12:30. You must sign up in advance for this game. The purpose of pre-registration is so that the players can be appropriately paired (expert with novice) prior to game time. The purpose of this game is to introduce new players to more experienced players in a friendly, relaxed environment. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board behind the director’s desk, or alternately, you can email the club (see address below) with your request to play.

Second, is “**The Longest Day**” on Friday June 21<sup>st</sup>. This annual charity event raises funds to support research into a cure for Alzheimer’s Disease. All game fees collected by ACBL on this day, plus any additional personal contributions, will be donated to this very worthy cause. MPs earned this day are 63.6% sectional-rated black points.

Our new 0-499 game on Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m. is up to 6 tables now and growing. We’re very pleased with the turnout and really hope this trend continues. If you’re a NLM player and haven’t tried it yet, you’re invited!

Remember that the Saturday game now has two separate sections, an Open and a 0-499er. Saturdays are always Pizza Days, so you get a free lunch along with your afternoon bridge game. What could be better? We’ll be closed Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> in support of our unit, which has their monthly game that day at the Seven Oaks Community Center in Rancho Bernardo. Please do plan to go and play there

The monthly **Birthday Celebration** will be on Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. We always have cake (or pie, or some other tantalizing dessert) during both morning and afternoon games on each celebration day. Schedule yourself to play that day and we’ll 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](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 April: Dot Swanger, Manooch Bahmanian, Carol Reinhart, Marilyn Florin, and Rick Sontag.

**Top Five NLM 150-499 Players** for April: Ken Patrick, Leo Muller, Betty Serepca, Valerie Gwin, and Dorothea Williams.

**Top Five 0-149 Players** for April: Noel Weidner, Deepak Vora, Jack Stanley, Madelyn Trainor, and Mel Cohn.

A special congratulations to Skip Mueller and Sharon Feingold who had a 72.33% game on April 24<sup>th</sup>, and to Jan Waluk and James Kaspar who had a 70.71 game on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Our winner for the title “**Player of the Month**” for April is Al Nadel, our centenarian, who is 101. Reasons given for his nomination are the following assets: “He is always happy and so congenial”, “He always greets opponents with a smile and a twinkle in his eye”, “He is so generous with his advice”, “Because of his newly acquired Patience!”, “He’s a “fixture” at our club & and an inspiration to us all”, “He is HERE!!!”, “He is AL...”.

Wendy Eagle was selected “**Student of the Month**” for April by her Instructor. Among the reasons given for her selection were these: She attends classes and is an avid student, she plays in the 0-20 game regularly, she loves bridge and is working hard at improving her game, and she encourages others.

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

## Lake San Marcos Duplicate Bridge Club

**Top Five Open Players** for April: Rick Norton Jr., Samuel Jordan, Rose Zacharian, Diana Fritz-Maes, and John Sharron Jr/Rima Sharron (tie).

**Top Five NLM players** for April 0-499: Ronald Anson, Susan Cronenwett, Betty Abersold, Valerie Gwin, and Brian Turner/Chas Wick (tie).

Our club will be participating in the ACBL **Longest Day** Event on June 19. We invite everyone interested in supporting Alzheimer’s Disease research to turn out that day because all ACBL table fees will be donated, along with any additional personal contributions, to the **Alzheimer’s Association**

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

We have a very special announcement to make, and although it’s a bit late in coming, it’s quite official now – published in the May edition of the Bridge Bulletin magazine. Our very own James Turlo and Alexander Walker placed 1<sup>st</sup> in District 22 in the ACBL-Wide International Fund game on February 2 with a 63.69% game. Congratulations to them!

Our regular games are held at St. Mary’s in the Valley Episcopal Church, 1010 12<sup>th</sup> Street. The 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. We also have a few special games scheduled – more on those later. If you would like to join us, please email: [bridgeinramona@game.com](mailto:bridgeinramona@game.com) to make a reservation. Our game fee is \$7.

For more information about our club, please contact Maxine McNamara at [wildrose@barneymc.com](mailto:wildrose@barneymc.com) or 760-788-6189.



# June 2019

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 (760) 807-9396 • [bridgeclubofNC@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeclubofNC@gmail.com) • [bridgeclubofnorthcounty.org](http://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@barneyinc.com](mailto:wildrose@barneyinc.com)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Unit 549 Board Members:</b> President – Art Foestie; Vice-President – Alan Turner; Secretary/Recorder – Dorothea Williams; Treasurer – Ken Matson; Tournament Chair – Trish Frinell; Hospitality – Joan Gershman; Membership Chair/Publicity – Noel Weidner; Education Liaison – Hazel Turner; Disciplinary Chair – Jill Roberts						
<b>2</b>  NO GAMES TODAY	<b>3</b>  BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Qualifying (both sessions)	<b>4</b>  BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Qualifying (both sessions)	<b>5</b>  BCNC 0-20 MP (\$5.) 0-149 MP Games 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Qualifying (both sessions) Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	<b>6</b>  BCNC MIXED-UP PAIRS SIGN UP REQUIRED FREE GAME AND PIZZA 11:45 AM Bridge in Ramona 6:00 PM	<b>7</b>  BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Qualifying (both sessions) Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM	<b>1</b>  499er NLM and BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP
<b>9</b>  NO GAMES TODAY	<b>10</b>  BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM ACBL Charity	<b>11</b>  BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM Open Pairs 12:30 PM ACBL Charity	<b>12</b>  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	<b>13</b>  Bridge in Ramona 6:00 PM	<b>14</b>  BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM ACBL Charity BIRTHDAY RECOGNITION Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM	<b>15</b>  499er NLM and BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day NAP Qualifying (both sessions)
<b>16</b>  NO GAMES TODAY	<b>17</b>  BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM	<b>18</b>  BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM Open Pairs 12:30 PM	<b>19</b>  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	<b>20</b>  Bridge in Ramona 6:00 PM	<b>21</b>  BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM ALZHEIMER'S LONGEST DAY Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM	<b>22</b>  549 Unit Game Open & NLM Pairs 12:30 PM Lunch 11:45 AM 7 OAKS COMMUNITY CENTER
<b>23</b>  NO GAMES TODAY	<b>24</b>  BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Qualifying (both games)	<b>25</b>  BCNC Supervised Play 499er NLM 9:00 AM Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Qualifying (both games)	<b>26</b>  BCNC 0-20 MP (\$5.) 0-149 MP Games 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Qualifying (both games) Lake San Marcos DBC 11:30 AM Open Game	<b>27</b>  Bridge in Ramona 6:00 PM	<b>28</b>  BCNC 499er NLM 9:00 AM BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM NAP Qualifying (both games) Bridge in Ramona 9:30 AM	<b>29</b>  499er NLM and BCNC Open Pairs 12:30 PM Pizza Day NAP Qualifying (both games)
<b>30</b>  NO GAMES TODAY						