North County Inland, Unit 549 acblunit549.org



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ACBL UNIT 549

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm sitting here at the base of the Beartooth Mountains, just outside of Red Lodge, Montana. Spring has come late this year, and it was wet and cold just like southern California. There is a lot of snow in the mountains for this time of the year, which makes them all the more beautiful as that snow glistens on this bright sunny cool morning. And my task this morning is to write about duplicate bridge. I can't think of a better place to do that.

I played bridge twice last week, and at the Thursday game, I met a couple who are up here from Kingman, Arizona for a couple of months. I'm assuming they are pretty good bridge players, because they won the day. How fortunate we are that we can be away from home and still get our bridge fix in a sanctioned environment.

There will not be a unit game next month. The Board decided to use the July date for our annual Non-Life Masters (NLM) Sectional. Our NLM group has experienced a lot of growth and enthusiasm over the past year. Their interest and level of activity in our unit truly is the future. We encourage all you Non-Life Masters to put July 27th on your calendar, find a partner, and come and play bridge at the sectional level. The games will be stratified, so you will be scored against players at your level.

The next unit game will be August 24th. And now it is time to enjoy those mountain views and a cup of coffee.

Art

Upcoming Unit 549 Events - Mark the Dates!

Thursday, July 4th - 4th of July Celebration at BCNC (see article below for details)
Saturday, July 27th - Unit 549 NLM Sectional - Seven Oaks Community Center - Rancho Bernardo

Unit 549 News

Good golly, Miss Molly (where have I heard that before?). Continuing the saga of record-breaking unit game attendance, we actually did top May's record-breaking table number in June...it was by just one more table (33), but it was 4 more players! We are "over the moon" about all the new players we're seeing. Perhaps when the space issues for some San Diego clubs gets settled, we'll see a drop, but meanwhile we're delighted to be entertaining our new bridge friends. We're hoping that, now that they've found us, they decide to make us a habit!

The top four MP winners in each direction of the Open Pairs game were as follows: N/S Madhao Saste – Shelley Basson, Alan Gailfus – Debbie Gailfus, Rex Latus – Sheila Latus, and Lynn Wells – Janice Wells. E/W Michael Skow – Art Foeste, Tim Flaherty – Joe Houde, Richard Cohen – Ben Moraine, and Donald Davidson – Ben Domurat.

The top four winners in the NLM section were: N/S John Coulombe – Dorothea Williams, Ann Schafer – Bill Schafer, Judy Friedman – Verena Hommel, and Nisha Goyal – Prem Sehgal. E/W Bejai Higgins – Noel Wiedner (who had a fantastic win at 75.19%), Lloyd Kelly – Delynn Kelly, James Kaspar – Firoz Nilam, and Lynne Jaseph – Nina Norden.

You can view a complete list of all players and winners on the unit's website at *acblunit549.org*.

Congratulations to <u>all</u> the winners and a big "Thank You" to all the many people who played.

Alert! There will be no unit game in July (but keep reading for a nice SURPRISE below). Instead, our annual Non-Life Masters (NLM) Sectional has been scheduled for Saturday, July 27th (which would have been our unit game day). 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*

Surprise! For those of you who normally play in the Open section of our unit games, the Bridge Club of North County in Escondido is planning to be open on the 27th to accommodate you – and, they're making it a pizza lunch day, so you'll still get a free lunch with your game – just like unit game days!

Welcome New Members to Unit 549: Dominick Addario, Kathleen Owen, and Susan Rowe.

Members attaining new levels of achievement:

New Junior Masters: Sandy Gilman, Krishna Parkhani, and Jiawen Wu.

New NABC Master: Patricia Uttley. New Bronze Life Master: Mark West.

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

Unit 549 Club News

Bridge Club of North County

ALERT! Come join us for a 4th of July Celebration at BCNC. There will be a free traditional lunch of Hot Dogs, potato salad, watermelon and, of course, apple pie - plus all the other "fixins" that make the 4th an "American" holiday. We'll have drawings for prizes (big surprises), and an afternoon of bridge. What could possibly be more fun? Need a partner? We'll find one for you – just give us a call or send an email with your request. Reservations will be required for this event so we know how much food to order. There will be a sign-up sheet posted on the wall behind the director's desk, or you can email the club to register. Lunch will be available at 11:30. Game starts at 12:30.

We have a jam-packed calendar of mega-point opportunities in July. We will be offering two full weeks of NAP (North American Pairs) qualifying games: July 1st through 6th and July 15th through 20th. All of these 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 nationals. The NAP finals are always held at the ACBL Spring 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.

The monthly **Birthday Celebration** will be on Monday, July 8th. If you have a July birthday, please come that day and we'll help you celebrate with a cake - the rest of us will just celebrate birthdays in general!

From July 8th through the 13th we will be having a full week of STaC games. This is a great opportunity to earn Silver points right in your home club, plus you have the opportunity of competing against many other club players across our district, which increases the potential award significantly.

Attention Please! We plan to be open on Saturday, July 27th to accommodate the Open game players displaced from the unit's regular monthly game in July due to Unit 549's annual NLM Sectional. If you're one of those Open game players, come on down! Saturdays are our Pizza days, so you'll still get a free lunch with your game – just in a different location.

Plus all of that, there is a club championship game on the 30th, and many local charity events throughout the rest of the month.

Don't forget that our club has many learning and skill promoting opportunities.

We offer a number of "limited" masterpoint games that provide 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.

When you've attended a few of the introduction games, and feel confident with the process, you can move into the 0-149 game, also on Wednesday morning. This game is the next step up into competitive duplicate bridge.

Then, when you're ready, we offer 0-499 games on Monday, Tuesday and Friday mornings at 9 a.m. and Saturday afternoon at 12:30 p.m. It's all available for you to progress in your own time – no pressure. We aim to make your continuing bridge journey a very positive one!

Please do check the Calendar of Events on our website for exact dates and times 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 May: Tim Flaherty, Marilyn Florin, Joe Houde, Dorn Bishop, and Andrew Loh.

Top Five NLM 150-499 Players for May: Ayoub Jaraicie, Susan Van Cott, Ken Patrick, Jack Stanley, and Sue Halfaker.

Top Five 0-149 Players for May: Deepak Vora, Govind Shah, Madelyn Trainor, Lou Coviello, and Mel Cohn.

A special congratulations to the following pairs for **70+% games:** Deepak Vora and Krishna Parkhani who had a stellar STaC game on May 8th, turning in a 71.23% result; Jean Jantz and Lorraine Gordon who had a 71.52% game on May 31st.

Our winner for the title "Player of the Month" for May is Dan Higgins. Some of the reasons given for Dan's nomination are as follows: "He is always polite, pleasant, and easy to get along with"; "He's fun to play with"; "He's really easy going and a great club member"; "He frequently compliments others on their play"; "His advice, when given, is always constructive"; "He is kind, funny, and an awesome player"; "He's very friendly and an all-around nice guy!"

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

The following is a list of upcoming classes, tutoring sessions, and workshops that are currently available for registration:

- *Bridge Basics 2—Competitive Bidding, beginning Saturday, July 27th at 9 a.m.
- * Bridge Basics 3 Popular Conventions, beginning Saturday, September 28th at 9 a.m.
- * 2 Over 1 Game Force, beginning Thursday, September 26th at 1:00 p.m.

For more information, or to register for any of the above classes, please email <u>hazelturnerbridge@gmail.com</u>

Lake San Marcos Duplicate Bridge Club

Top Five Open Players for May: Samuel Jordan, Rick Norton Jr., Lorraine Gordon, Yoko Jordan, and John Sharron Jr/Rima Sharron (tie).

Top Five NLM players for May 0-499: Ilene Brodsky, Susan Cronenwett, Judy Friedman, David Blumenberg, 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 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.

Bridge in Ramona

We participated in the World-Wide Bridge Tournament on Friday, June 7th. Final results were not published in time for this article, but the interim posting had our own Marilyn Kalabsa and Henry Tileston listed as #103 out of 3558 pairs competing—they turned in a 64.03% game. BIG congratulations to them!

The club will be closed July 4th and 5th.

We are enrolled in the ACBL-wide International Fund Game, July 8 (a Monday afternoon). Overall winners of this game will earn gold points. Club level awards will be half red/half black. To participate we need 5 tables. There will be a special sign-up sheet.

Our regularly scheduled games on July 11th and 12th will be STaC games The masterpoint awards will be SILVER for these two games.

Our regular games are held at St. Mary's in the Valley Episcopal Church, 1010 12th 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 periodically schedule special games—like the World-Wide Bridge Tournament and STaCs. If you would like to join us, please email: bridgeinramona@game.com to make a reservation. Our game fee is \$7.

For more information about our club or upcoming events, please contact Maxine McNamara at <u>wildrose@barneymc.</u> com or 760-788-6189.

July 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

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