

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

For the first time in a long time I actually feel good about where we are in our return to almost normal. Units 549 and 539 just held a joint NLM Sectional at Seven Oaks and we had a total of 30 tables over the two sessions. At our last Unit 549 NLM Sectional in 2019 we had 36 tables over the two sessions. This is a stronger turnout than other units have been experiencing. More importantly we have gotten a lot of very positive feedback from those who played.

I'd like to give a shout out to our partners in this event. Our efforts were truly joint and coordinated. Mary Rea surprised us with some great decorating and her food team provided a great lunch option and bridge snacks.

Our future is "Oasis". Oasis is a San Diego non-profit whose mission is to ensure that adults 50+ have opportunities to pursue vibrant, healthy, productive and meaningful lives. Their focus is on lifelong learning, health and wellness and community involvement. They recently purchased the old 24 Hour Fitness building in Rancho Bernardo, a large building with great access and lots of parking. They see duplicate bridge and bridge education fitting nicely into their commitment to the 50+ community. We see a forever home with dedicated space for our club and unit games, lots of parking and a group with a database and marketing program committed to adult learning. Alan Turner made our relationship official two weeks ago and we will be sharing space, and a commitment to duplicate bridge. We will be moving in as soon as renovations are complete in about 7 months.

The Bridge Club of North County recently received notification from the IRS that they have been granted 501(C)(3) status. What that means is, any donations made to the Club are tax deductible just like any other charitable donation you make. So as you plan those charitable contributions at the close of the tax year please consider the Bridge Club of North County and help us with our move to Oasis.

Our unit game on November 19th is also our annual business meeting where we conduct the election of board members. We currently have 2 openings on our board and we are looking for a couple of people who want to be part of our bridge future. Serving on the Board doesn't involve a big time commitment (about 90 minutes a month), just an interest in keeping duplicate bridge viable in North County. If you are interested you can e-mail either me or Alan Turner. Or you can just tell us in person.

Mark your calendar, October 22nd is our next unit game. If you enjoy some good competition in a great venue with some friendly people, this is where you want to be. And we'll throw in a really good lunch. The game starts at 12:30 pm at the Seven Oaks Community Center, with lunch at 11:45 am. There will be a separate non-life master section which usually exceeds 7 tables. Call your partner and make plans to join us.

Art Foeste