

What's New in District 22

(Continued from Page 13)

details, a map and directions. Call 760 747-6092 to sign-up or email Bill Sperry wrsperry@gmail.com

Need a partner? Email Maureen Fischer at mfischer@san.rr.com

Unit 549 will be hosting unit games on May 26, June 23 and July 28 at The Lake San Marcos Pavilion, 1105 La Bonita Dr, Lake San Marcos, 92078. Go to www.SD-Bridge.com for details, a map and directions. Unit games are \$7.00 per person and include loads of snacks. Game time is 1:00 p.m. Call 760 747-6092 to sign-up or email Bill Sperry wrsperry@gmail.com

Need a partner? Email Maureen Fischer at mfischer@san.rr.com

March 24 Unit Game Winners

Open game winners were Ken Matson - Chuck Ward, followed by Alan and Debbie Gailfus; Tom Nolan - Nikki Gilberg, Ethel Warner - Liz Nixon tied with Bill & Nancy Sperry, and Nina Laughbaum - Beverly Latham. Non-Life Master section winners were Suzanna McDowell, followed by Jac-ey and Bonnie Humes, and George Blair - Thelma Shipley.

Members reaching new levels of achievement in Unit 549 are: Junior Masters: Sue Compton, Ann Damsbo, Kathryn Kolb. Club Master: Harriet Landon. Regional Master: Beverly Wilson.

Congratulations to all of our Achievers!
Tim Flaherty Goes Platinum!

Unit 549 congratulates our very own Tim Flaherty for becoming a Platinum Life Master (10,000 masterpoints)! Tim started his duplicate bridge life in 1967 at Mann Spacecraft Center in Houston, Texas. He was a naval flight officer who performed two tours to Vietnam that included 221 support missions. Tim calls assisting in the rescue of two marine aviators out of Haiphong Harbor on December 24, 1972 a "proud highlight."

Tim now resides in San Diego and can be seen at North County Bridge Center every day. He also plays online nightly and was the ACBL's online player of the year in 2007 and 2008 and briefly was Bridge Base

Online's Ace (top masterpoint player). Tim has served on the board of directors of Unit 549. Congratulations for your outstanding achievement.

Unit 549 Club News

Players of the Month at NCBC for March were open - Tim Flaherty; Under 1500 - Chuck Donaldson; Under 750 - Angela Jaraicie; Under 300 - Miriam Saner; Under 100 - Art Foeste and Future Master - Kay Barker. Congrats to all. The May Birthday Game will be May 17 at NCBC. All May babies, this is your chance for a free play.

Calling all NLMs! Tuesday and Friday Mornings we are holding weekly morning games for NLM players. It will include a light breakfast and will cost \$8.00. Call Lee or Amy to sign up.

Also call Lee or Amy at 760 747-6092 - or go to www.sbridge.com - for the up-to-date class schedules and the dates of the mega-point and club championship dates.

Lake San Marcos DBC at Grandon

Special events at LSMDBC in May: LSMDBC will host Great Western Spring STAC games on Wednesday, May 9 at 12:30 p.m. and May 11 at 6:30 p.m. May 11 will be the Monthly Pot-luck, and it's a STAC game too!

Also, there will be a club championship May 16 and a charity game on May 23.

More points! Don't miss the fun.

At Lake San Marcos DBC the Charity supported in March was San Marcos Senior Center.

Top five MP winners for March were Kay Haralson, Rochelle Gerlich, Betsey Illes, Nina Laughbaum and Carolyn Swanson. Way to go Top Five! The Wednesday game includes a light lunch before the 12:30 p.m. game; Plus, Jean Holt will give a brief Chalk Talk. The cost is \$5.00 for lunch, chalk talk and game. For information call Jean at 760 734-4518 or Nina at 760 736-9386. The Lake San Marcos DBC hosts an open game on Wednesday, and once a month Potluck on Friday night.

Get all of the Unit 549 news including the Unit 549 Calendar of Events, Unit Newsletter and game results: www.sbridge.com

Santa Ana

By Jay Helekar

I was asked recently how our club has managed to rebuild itself so successfully. I explained that it takes a lot of people who sacrifice themselves for the better of the group.

It takes a *Renata*, who teaches the newbies and keeps our stomachs full of delicious food. It takes a *Sheila*, who finds everyone a partner and gets all the games organized. It takes a *Jerry*, who can perform any task that is asked of him without ever a thought of himself. It takes a *Lori* and *Bob*, who are taking the lead on getting our advertising going into the local community.

It takes a *Susan* and *John*, who bring great new ideas, and who are helping us run our website. It takes a *Gladys* and a *Marcella*, who are leading the charge to make all the phone calls. It takes a *Tom* and a *Carol* and a pair of *Weinsteins* and a pair of *Shuirmans* who open up their houses to us. It takes a *Dorothy* and a *Marie* who keep getting better, and a *Sandy*, who is already good.

And ... finally ... it takes *everyone* who supports our games. And we thank all of them for it.

With members like that, how could we fail?

Prayers going out to Fred. We are all in your corner.

Santa Maria

By D. Jackson

Greetings from 33,000 feet somewhere above Reykjavik, en route from London. Thanks to our club's excellent communications system, I think I have all the news that needs to be reported.

Lots of multiple winners in March. Three-time winners were John Arbogast, Robert and Jean-Allen Faust, Barbara Basila, Jan Pettis; two time winners were Vi Dallesandro, Diana Jackson, Joyce Gehlhaar, Richard Ristine, Marie Sheehy. Other winners were Bonnie Hales, Bill Allen, Dave Hickey, Don Kerr, Irene Schlekau, Peggy Johnsen, Bruce Scott, Bob Clark, Marilyn Bullock, Karen Bogard, Mary Goodspeed, Kay Rowland, Judy English, Dianne Bouquet, Cheryl Fosdick, Robert Skiewicz, and Yoli Medina.

The 199er games were won by Janice Scott, Trish Aldred, Alice and Roger Flocken, and Pete and Pat Avotins.

Returning from vacations were Jan Pettis from a Mexican cruise, Barbara Basila from Phoenix, the Scheithauers from Salt Lake, and the Bullocks from Hawaii.

Congratulations to Trish Aldred for achieving the rank of Regional Master and to Marie Sheehy for achieving the rank of Sectional Master.

Enough bridge news for now, because here comes the drinks cart: See you all at the Jo Boyd Santa Maria Strawberry Sectional May 4-6!

www.acbldistrict22.com/543/

Southern Gold Coast

By Jean Jolin

One of the most appealing aspects of our club, the Bridge Academy II in Thousand Oaks, is its bright, colorful and eye-catching appearance as you walk in the door. The credit for this warm and festive welcome is due to Dee Minazzoli, who generously gives her time and talent to decorate the club for each and every holiday.

Dee's gracious efforts go far beyond the holiday décor; she is well known for the mouth-watering and attractively displayed food she frequently brings. According to Dee, "Bridge offers me the opportunity to share my other joy: food preparation." We are grateful recipients of her largess. Dee's main dishes, appetizers, salads and desserts always cause a scramble to the serving table. Her recipes are in demand. It's rumored that some men have considered leaving home for her meatballs.

Many of us can thank Dee for our healthy potassium and vitamin C levels due to the pounds of bananas and oranges she kindly donates.

Dee has deep roots in Southern California. She has lived in the same home with the same husband, Art, for 44 years - truly remarkable by today's shifting standards. She has played party bridge with the same

group of friends for 43 years. She began playing duplicate at our club just seven years ago, and has become a very active and valued member. She served as hospitality chair on the unit board from 2007 to 2009. Dee plays several times a week, and is enjoying her status as a Sectional Master.

Like many others, Dee is looking forward to spring and the upcoming Thousand Oaks Sectional, "April Showers," which will be held from April 27-29 at the First Neighborhood Community Center in Westlake Village. As a friendly welcome, a complimentary continental breakfast will be served each morning.

To encourage newer players, those with 99 points or less who play in the morning will have a free afternoon game. More information can be found on our web site: www.acbldistrict22.com/532

The April tournament manager is Joe Conti, who truly is the "man to go to" in order to make things happen. Joe can be easily found and recognized by his thick, white, curly head of hair, which may be likened to his abundance of energy.

In his position as president of the unit board of directors for the past five years, this dynamo has spear-headed and organized many successful sectionals. He has found sites, negotiated contracts, ordered food, enlisted volunteers, transported equipment and has physically set up and taken down the tables and chairs.

In addition to our two sectionals each year, Joe, working with Teri Atkinson, vice-president of District 22, has been the prime mover behind the newly sanctioned Ventura Halloween Regional, which will be held for the third year this October.

Joe's assent and influence in the bridge world is truly remarkable. Although he has played cards since the tender age of five, Joe did not start playing bridge until nine years ago, when he was almost 70. He wasted no time; in 2005, Joe became a Bronze Life Master and ranked fifth in the country among those achieving that category; he earned more points than any new Bronze LM west of the Mississippi.

Since 2002, Joe has accumulated an amazing 2,410 masterpoints; he will soon be a Gold Life Master. I

n recognition of his accomplishments, Joe has been named a member of the ACBL's National Goodwill Committee.

Joe does not credit his meteoric rise to any particular mentor; he has played with many partners and learned from all of them. With any partner, however, Joe is a force to be reckoned with at the bridge table. It often appears that he has a complete mental picture of every hand when he makes his thoughtful bids. He may have developed this skill reading blueprints in his LBB (Life Before Bridge) role as a building contractor.

One of Joe's recent games was a 70.44% one with Jim Lessel at the Bridge Academy.

Another accomplishment of note was Mary Jo Isaacs' rapid recovery from knee surgery. After having her second knee replacement, Mary Jo was back in the game after just three weeks. Roberta Leavitt, who also had a recent knee replacement, is recovering at home and is also ready to pick up some cards.

Congratulations to those holding and playing the right cards in the March 25 unit game. *N/S* winners were: Teryl Burke - Ron Westwood, Linda McAfee - Al Koch, Gabriella Amadeo - Joe Conti. *E/W* winners were: Gerri Knilans - Hal Knilans, Avanash Bahadur - Linda Beutel, Freddie Straus - John Clark.

Ventura

By Evelyn Fox

March was another busy month in Unit 547. The Mini-McKenney and the Ace of Clubs awards for 2011 were given. The Mini-McKenney winners are those that have earned the most masterpoints for the year.

The Ace of Clubs is awarded to the players that have won the most masterpoints at the club level for the year. This year the first place winners of the Mini-McKenney awards are: Anne Conn (0-5), Chris Gillmon (5-20), Lorraine Salvatore (20-50), Nan Ritter (50-100), Buki Burke (100-200), Bob Dingle (200-300), Dick Daskais (300-500), Peter Klopp (500-1000), Linda Gruber (1000-2500), Bob Gruber (2500-5000) and Alex Kolesnik (5000-7500). The first

VISALIA SECTIONAL

May 18-20, 2012

The Lakes Clubhouse, Visalia, CA
ACBL Sanction #S1205088

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, MAY 18	SATURDAY, MAY 19	SUNDAY, MAY 20
10 A.M. Stratified Pairs (NLM, LM<1250,1250+)	10 A.M. Stratified Pairs (NLM, LM<1250,1250+)	10 A.M. & TBA Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams
99er Pairs (0 - 100)	99er Pairs (0 - 100)	(2 Sessions)
3 P.M. Stratified Pairs (0-300, 1250, 1250+)	3 P.M. Stratified Pairs (0-300, 1250, 1250+)	Flight A (0-Unlimited) StratBC(NLM,LM<1250)

Director - Nancy Boyd
Chair - Lorna Cheng 559-625-3731
ping8@juno.com

Hospitality - Andi Sigmund 559-733-9490
Partnership - Keith Lindersmith 559-732-3750
k.lindersmith@att.net

Accommodation:
Holiday Inn 559-651-5000
Lamp Liter Inn 559-732-4511
La Quinta Inn 559-739-9800
Hampton Inn 559-732-3900

Entry Fees per session
- ACBL members \$10
- Unpaid or Non ACBL members \$11
Sunday \$100 per team -- add \$2/non-member
(Includes lunch for 4, \$5 per extra lunch)

Directions: Hwy 99 to Hwy 198 East. Third exit (Akers Street), left at light onto Akers going North. Go past the fourth light (Goshen Ave.), first left into "The Lakes". Tell the guard you are attending the Visalia Sectional Bridge Tournament. Left again after the gates, please observe speed limit of 15 m.p.h., clubhouse is the last building on the left. Park in marked spaces or parallel on street.