



# What's New in District 22

(Continued from page 13)

unit game, there was a 499er tournament co-hosted by the club and the unit, and a STAC week that included a special celebration of the 10th anniversary of Bridge Academy II being at its current location. And we even got some rain at the end of the month.

The unit game was held on November 9 and drew 10 full tables. N/S pairs were led by Bill Carlson - Sara Wilson, with Tammy and Noel Purkin finishing first in B and the author and Gloria McHugh first in C. E/W pairs were paced by Connie Vinson and Michael Neuser, who were first in A, B and C. Thanks to everyone who came out to support the unit.

The very next weekend the club and unit put on the first ever 499er sectional tournament held at Bridge Academy II. The event drew 45 tables over five separate pair sessions with players vying for silver points. Although we had a tremendous turnout from our members, there were also players from as far away as Santa Barbara and Pasadena. When the dust had cleared, Gordon Whitehead and Skip Calvert emerged

as the top point winners for the weekend. This event would not have been possible without the great participation from our members, so thanks to all who came out for the tournament.

This past month also saw the 10th anniversary of Bridge Academy II at the 77 Rolling Oaks Drive location. In honor of this event, the club held a special game with prices rolled back to 2004 prices. The low price, the lure of silver points and the chance to celebrate this significant milestone yielded 15 full tables. Topping the N/S pairs were Steve Gross - Ellen Anten; Richard Plotin - Mark Peters were first in B, with Mary Little - Arden Kay first in C. Meanwhile, Carolyn Reynolds and Helene Ross were first in A, B and C for E/W pairs. Thanks to all who came out, but special thanks to Gene Crubaugh for moving the club we all know and love to its current location. It continues to be a great success.

We had a number of members advance in rank during the month. Arla Crane advanced to Junior Master, while Pippa Young became a Sectional Master. Helen Yamashiro moved into the Regional Mas-

ter category, with Gordon Whitehead advancing to Advanced NABC Master. Finally, George Siegel became a Diamond Life Master during November.

Congratulations to all for reaching these new milestones.

November saw two 70% games, making a total of 32 such games so far this year. That is just one fewer than the total for 2013. Diane Gunther and Jan Richter posted the first 70% game early in the month. Around mid-month, Gerri and Hal Knilians repeated the feat. Join me in congratulating both pairs for these excellent performances.

And to end on a sad note, I must pass along the news of the passing of Lil Maffey. Lil played an integral role at the Bridge Academy II as a director and member. She was a wonderful person with a great sense of humor. She will be missed.

## Ventura

By Jody Fickes Shapiro

The New Year always prompts a bit of reminiscing, and I want to share a great story from Maurine Moore, one of our long-time members. She writes: "John Leming, (also a long-time member of Ventura's Unit 547), loved to have fun at the bridge table. I clearly remember when he was running a suit with a 4-4 fit, he won the last trick with the three in the dummy and a two in his hand, eliciting a startled squawk from my partner.

"Shortly before John died, this hand surfaced when he was playing with our club's president, Gary Morgan:

John  
 ♠ 9  
 ♥ K97  
 ♦ AK  
 ♣ AK108652

Dick  
 ♠ KQ103  
 ♥ AJ42  
 ♦ QJ1086  
 ♣ —

Maurine  
 ♠ A8765  
 ♥ 1062  
 ♦ 97  
 ♣ J74

Gary  
 ♠ J42  
 ♥ Q85  
 ♦ 5432  
 ♣ Q93

All Vulnerable. Dealer: East

"Sitting East, I passed, as did Gary. My partner, Dick Daskais (West) bid 1♦. John (North), promptly bid 3NT, the final contract.

"Dr. Peter Bendorf, now deceased, once told me, "Always lead your partner's suit. If you don't have any, steal one!" That was good advice, but this bidding sounded very suspicious to me. So instead, I led a spade. Dick had a hard time suppressing a smile when his 10 took the first trick, and we both had a difficult time keeping a straight face when the hand was over ... and the opponents were down 2!

"Before you guys got here," John lamented, "we had a 70% game going."

"Bids like that are a lot of fun when they work, and I admired John for making it."

## Pacific-- Continued from page 1

Valley.

We've got the popular Gold Rush Pairs lined up from Wednesday through Saturday, and this year (listening to our customers ...) we've got the accompanying Open Pairs stratified at 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+!

Maritha will be offering her terrific Intermediate/Novice "Boot Camp" again, with loads of free activities, speakers, "ask the expert" tables, starting with a reception and lesson on Monday.

Also: "2 for 1" entries Tuesday through Friday nights, free lunch on Sunday, IMP Pairs on Friday, and great hospitality throughout.

See schedule in this issue or online at [pacificsouthwestregional.com](http://pacificsouthwestregional.com) And don't forget to ask for the special bridge rate of \$112, plus \$5.00 Hotel Service (normally \$14.00) which includes free Internet,

morning room coffee, free local calls, USA Today, etc. And \$10.00 off per day when staying six or more!

0-5 MPs ACBL members Play Free on Tuesday!) I/N Reception Monday 10:30 a.m. I/N Lesson with Maritha 11:30 a.m. Monday Charity I/N Pairs single sessions 2:00 & 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.

Flighted Open Pairs are now 0-1500, 1500-3000, 3000+.

Flighted IMP Pairs on Friday

Partnerships: Jim Andrews [jimand1@cox.net](mailto:jimand1@cox.net) Caddie chairman: Marge Van Hemert [mvanhemert@cox.net](mailto:mvanhemert@cox.net)

So this year is the 69th anniversary of our first San Diego regional, and the 36th to be held at the Town and Country. (I wonder how many tournaments have such a long relationship with their venue.)



Unit 549 Winter Sectional  
 January 16 and 17, 2015  
 Lake San Marcos Conference Center  
 1105 La Bonita Drive, San Marcos

Friday: All Charity Games - Regionally rated events

10 am: Stratified Open Pairs

(0-750, 750-2000, 2000+)

Stratified Non Life Master

(0-100, 100-300, 300-500/NLM)

(ACBL members 25 or fewer points play for free)

Knockouts

2:30 pm: Pair Events, as above

Swiss Teams

Knockout events may be handicapped

Saturday (non Charity events)

Same Schedule and Stratification, as above

Partnerships:

Art Foeste ([artfoeste@gmail.com](mailto:artfoeste@gmail.com)) or go to [ACBLUnit549.org](http://ACBLUnit549.org)

Tournament Manager:

Jill Roberts (858)485-7640 or [jillroberts78@gmail.com](mailto:jillroberts78@gmail.com)

Director In Charge: Scott Campbell

Sanction #: 1501092

Coffee, Snacks

Lunch available for purchase

\$10.00 per session,

Non- or unpaid ACBL members pay \$13

A note about John Leming: John, a formidable bass fiddle player as well as a tough bridge opponent, had amassed over 5000 masterpoints before he passed away in February, 2014. I am sure there are other members of Unit 547 who could share their own rare moments of glory, when playing with (and against) him.

Evelyn Fox and Joann Bowen also shared memorable bridge table moments, which will appear in future columns.

And by the way, Maurine and her partner, Dick Daskais, had a 75.30% game November 25!

As promised last month, here are more of the masterpoint winners from the Ventura Halloween tournament: Marilyn Brett, Charles Clarke, Ron Westwood, Arline Benzien, Roseann Buckley, Raeann Kerner, Maria Coulson, Joe Gaynor, Sharon Matthews, Mimi Draves, Marsha and Ken Vandiver, Patricia Bostrom, James Kadin, Lee Brown, Pat Torres, K. T. Silver, Christy Kadin, Susan Lang, Carolyn Berenson, Carolyn Koroknay, Valorie Zentil, Ann Dyer, Doug Hahn, Jeff Steward, Kathy Masi, Mary Naumann, Mona Hyman, K. Thomas Parvaneh, Gary Feldman, Rosemary Cruser, Thomas Kline, Nancy Lander and Mark Robinson, Tim and Sally Rea.

Whew! Congratulations and Happy New Year to all of our Unit 547.

Save the Date! Annual unit meeting, January 24, at the Ventura Townhouse.

## Visalia

By Robbie Rouch

With the Loudermilks hosting 16 festive foursomes for the first Christmas party of the season, our table count for the November reporting period rose to 133 for the 13 sessions. The Cederborg stockings were filled with six wins each, including a *Forum* spotlighted 72.22%, while Villa Vejvoda and Alice Pickens were three times the brightest ornaments on the tree.

Reaching the realms of glory twice were Allyson Farrell, Charles Boniske, Howard Arquette, Pat Delamontanya, Paul Schommer, and Robbie, followed on the non-naughty list of winners by Barbara Hill, Bill Martin, Bob Iorio, Bonnie Chan, Donna Nottingham, Donny Graham, Elaine Smith, Esther Perrotta, Gerry Jones, Jacqui McGreal, John Butisbauch, Lavonne Gaston, Lisa D'Arcy, Mary and Mike Florio, and Pam Woods.

And, unlike your apologetic reporter, who failed to herald Porterville tidings for the October period, Santa did not neglect our neighbors to the south, singling out the especially-nice Sharon Patterson with two victories, and remembering also Ruth Wicks, John Bowker, Hector Tellez, Eleanor Foerster, Joan Dinwiddie, David Nicol, Villa Vejvoda, Donny Graham, and Nancy Holley.

And now, acknowledging our Maker, and the reason for the season, we say a fond goodbye to our sunshine chairman, Kay Link, who has gone to be with her Master, and will most likely be constantly petitioning Him for something to help organize.

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