

President's Message



As East/West, I moved to the next higher table and said "hello" to my two friendly opponents from Petaluma, Mr. Doberman and Mrs. Pekinese. After bidding to 4S, the dummy, Mrs. Pekinese, tabled the dummy. On Trick two, my partner, Mrs. Collie, said to me, "Was that an Ace or a 2S?" "That was the 2S", I said.

Mr. Doberman, who is a director at their local club, called the game director. By asking if I played the Ace or the Two could be illegal information.

The moral of this story: 'If you missed the played cards, simply say "Cards Please", rather than asking about a specific card'.

* September 14 Team Play Seminar in Lafayette

* September 23 and 24 Diablo Sectional at Rossmoor Gateway Clubhouse

Have fun, play nice, bid and make all your 7NTs.

Sam Earnhardt



...from the Editor

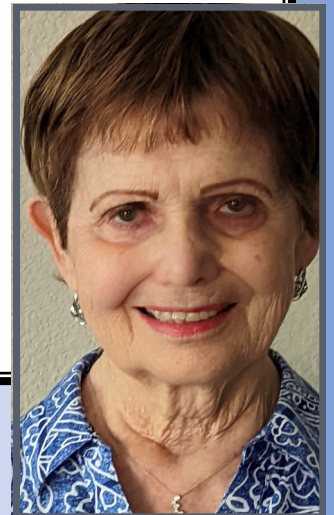
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Life seems to be back to normal for most of us. Hardly anybody wears masks anymore. A feeling of complacency seems to be all around us. But then - a friend recently told me that he attended the last two Nationals and contacted Covid at both of them, and wasn't going to the Nationals again anytime soon. We need to live our lives, but we also need to be careful.

Stay healthy!

Judy Keilin
Editor



Unit 499 eDeclarer

Published monthly

Editor: Judy Keilin

Publisher: Mary Krouse

Submit articles to Jkeilin@pacbell.net

Volume 143

July 2023

Deadline for August is July 21



Mary Krouse, Publisher

To submit a letter to the editor, send it to Judy Keilin at Jkeilin@pacbell.net

Be sure to visit the unit website for more information on our clubs and events, as well as archives of our newsletters.

diablovalleybridge.com/ccbc

Milestones and New Members

MILESTONES

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS (5)

Elizabeth Ames

Harriet Kantor

Nina Ricks

Jolene Silverfoote

NEW CLUB MASTERS (20)

Richard Lin

Eileen Tarrab

NEW SECTIONAL MASTER (50)

Melanie Pereira

NEW REGIONAL MASTER (100)

Jeri Ram

NEW NABC MASTER (200)

Gloria Marchick

NEW ADVANCED NABC MASTER (300)

Patti Kogan

NEW LIFE MASTER (300/500)

Karen Corburn

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER (500/750)

John Mount

NEW MEMBERS

Melissa Moehle

Anna Marie Ayres

Raymond Pazzio

Let's welcome them when we meet
them at the tables.

NEW LESSONS

Declarer Play

This is an eight-week course that focuses on the play of the hand and improves your ability to make your contracts. This class assumes introductory-level bridge skills. Accompanying book available for purchase.

Date: September 11- October 30 (8 Sessions)
Day and time: Monday Mornings (10am-12pm)
Location: Creekside Commons - 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette
Instructor: Deb Rechnitz
Cost: \$135

Commonly Used Conventions

This eight-session course takes a more in-depth look into Stayman, Jacoby Transfers, Weak Two-bids and Strong Two Club Openings. It will also explore rebids and how to handle competitive interference. Accompanying book available for purchase.

Date: September 11- October 30 (8 Sessions)
Day and time: Monday Afternoons (1pm-3pm)
Location: Creekside Commons - 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette
Instructor: Deb Rechnitz
Cost: \$135

Introduction to Bridge

This course is open to new players who have never played before and those who haven't played for awhile and are looking for a refresher. Whether you want to just play socially or play with groups at the Bridge club, this class will help you understand and get maximum enjoyment out of the game using a hands-on learning approach developed by top teachers and players. Accompanying book available for purchase.

Date: September 7th - November 2nd (8 Sessions)
(No class October 5th)
Day and time: Thursday Mornings (10am-12pm)
Location: Walnut Creek Rec Center - 1375 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek
Instructor: Deb Rechnitz
Cost: \$135

WHAT'S THE CONTRACT?

Of course I've never said that. Who, me? Even the simplest bridge hands can ignite a brain freeze. A lot of us who play, often forget something important.

Let me count the ways. So give yourself a break, keep on playing.

Well, can you believe it's July already! Every year this special day, the Fourth of July, was set aside as Americans Independence Day, which represents the Declaration of Independence and the birth of the United States of America.

I hope we can all have a blast, as the 4th of July commands barbecues, drinks, food, and friends. That's if we're lucky. OK, celebrate at home. Get take-out ribs, baked beans, and a salad. Now, with the virus behind us, you can party, or better yet, gather some friends for a home game of bridge. If all else fails, eat with your doggie or kitty, and make no bones about it. DO NOT give them any leftover bones of any kinds. Enough already!

What a game! I'm so grateful for the perseverance of Mark and Lynne Humphrey, for their commitment in continuing to provide us with the Pro/Am games. It's soon to play out. In the next issue, I'll write more about that.

DID YOU KNOW?

Unit 499 includes eight individual clubs dispersed around Contra Costa County.

Each of our Board members does their best to serve Unit 499. This is a group that *works hard for no money*. They've also been busy planning bridge-related activities to support the clubs, and encourage new members to join us in this brain game.

Two of our Board Members serve in other capacities. Jackie Zayac on the National ACBL Board. Anne Hollingsworth is President of the ACBL District 21 Board. *Go Girls!*

Need a Partner? Go to Google Groups for partnerships, and give it try.

Hey, got an idea? Call or talk with a Board Member; or you can e-mail our President, Sam.earnhardt@gmail.com.

Please take care. Happy Fourth.

Ciao Bella,

Lisa Assoni
The ShortCut Cook



is

a

Play a Hand with Me

Play A Hand With Me

July, 2023

North

S K4

H AK8

D 8753

C 10543

West

S 3

H 97632

D AK109

C KJ8

East

S QJ107652

H _____

D J6

C 9762



South

S A98

H QJ1054

D Q42

C AQ

3S 3N all pass

This deal demonstrates both bidding and play.

I chose to bid 3N over East's opening preempt because I know how aggressive he is and I also know that it is likely that my partner would not have enough to balance. I hoped my partner had his share of the outstanding points and he sure did.

West started with the two top diamonds and continued with the 10 which I won and started to cash the hearts. When East showed out I now know West held 1 or 2 spades, 5 hearts, 4 diamonds and 3 or 4 clubs.

At this point the play is quite easy, cash the 5 hearts and then the A and K spades and play the diamond from dummy forcing West to lead a club into my A and Q making 4 for 97%. Without this endplay, making 3 was 88%.

Several pairs were in 4 hearts, most of them going down.

There is another important point here. I cannot make my contract if West had led his partner's suit.

Jerry Weitzner

jweitzner@sbcglobal.net

Club News

This section is for club owners and managers who wish to submit news about their games. Please go to our website for information about all our clubs, game times, and to check on the latest results.

blovalleybridge.com

[Dia-](#)

Overtricks by the Bay

193 Griffith Lane
Brentwood

OVERTRICKS BY THE BAY has officially started at its new location at the Brentwood Senior Center. Game time is 9am on Tuesdays. Table fees will be \$5 to start and \$4 after a short period.

Mark Marty (thatsafire@gmail.com) or
925-487-7832)



Blackhawk Duplicate Bridge

Blackhawk Country Club
Contact Lilah Newton at
925-648-3154
lilahnewton@yahoo.com

The Blackhawk Ladies' Duplicate Bridge club is having another Unit game on July 26 at 9:30 in the main dining room of the country club. We are inviting our gentlemen friends for a great lunch and fun day of bridge. For more info contact Lilah Newton or Sharon Tarpinian.

Reservations are required.

Lilah Newton lilahnewton@yahoo.com 925-648-3154

Sharon Tarpinian enchantment-s@comcast.net 925-736-2461

Lilah Newton



DANVILLE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Veteran's Hall



The Danville game is held every Friday at 9:30am, excluding holidays.

The game is limited to players with less than 2500 points, and meets at the Veterans Hall in Danville. Entrance to game is on Prospect Avenue.

Michael Gosnell

ROSSMOOR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Gateway Clubhouse, Rossmoor

The July 15 1pm open game will be an IMP Pairs scoring game.

If non residents need entry to Rossmoor, they should EMAIL Addie Mattox at Amattox@earthlink.net in advance. Guards at the gate may request to see your driver's license so it helps to have it handy.

Masks are not required, but all players should have them in case someone requests they be worn. This is an ACBL rule.

Table fees are: \$5 for residents; \$9 for non residents

No perfume or scented lotions should be worn.

Kit Miller



Carol Griffin

As always **Drop-In** bridge continues all year round at the Lafayette Community Center every Wednesday from 10-noon. This is a relaxed place to come and play bridge with help from either Carol or Debbie and place to make friends and possibly discover new bridge partners! No reservations nor partners required.

During the Summer, Carol is offering two 6-week classes on Thursdays at the Lafayette Community Center: **Slam Bidding** and **Cue Bidding** from July 20 to Aug 24. Please call them for more details: Lafayette Community Center 925 284-2232

Also at the Lafayette Community Center 925 284-2232-Thursdays

Rusty Bridge from Sept 7 - Nov 9 from 10am-noon -

The Diamond Series (Play of the Hand) from Sept 7 – Nov 9 from 1-3pm



At the Orinda Community Center 925 640-5032 - Tuesdays

She is also offering two other 10-week courses:

The Heart Series (Defense Part I) from Sept 5-Nov 14 from 10 am-noon

Rusty Bridge Part II (a little more advanced bidding review) from 1-3pm

Please call the community centers for more details.

Carol Griffin

Contra Costa Bridge Center

cbridgecenter@gmail.com • diablovalleybridge.com/ccbc

July News

Special games in July – lots of them – see below.

July 4 (Tues) – no game. Enjoy the holiday

Special bonus NAP flight C (0-500) qualifying game on **Saturday, July 8** on BBO at 10:00AM. Extra MPs (1/2 red). Extra \$1.

July 13 (Thurs) – Unit game. Lots of extra MPs. Extra snacks. No extra charge!

Weeks of **July 10-14 and 17-21**– NAP qualifying games flights A, B & C – Monday Open game in Orinda and Wednesday and Friday open games on BBO. Extra MPs (1/2 red). Extra \$1.

Week of **July 24-28** – Club championships – we will have club championship games for all in-person games. Lots of extra MPs with no extra charge!

CCBC continues its hybrid schedule with bridge games in person in Orinda and on-line on BBO. **CCBC is now hosting games on Mondays (open at 11:15), Tuesdays (299er at 10:00) and Thursdays (999er at 10:30) at the Orinda Masonic Hall, 9 Altarinda Road.** Games continue on BBO on Wednesday (open at 10:00) and Friday (open at 10:00).

Reminder: Tuesday's 10 AM bridge game in Orinda is a 299'er game, with the following features:

- 1) A mini-lesson will precede each game, with a review of a couple of hands from the prior week.
- 2) 18 boards will typically be played.
- 3) Each player will have the opportunity to ask 2 bidding questions during the game.
- 4) Games will be stratified by Master Point level; so players are competing with others with comparable experience.
- 5) A player may come with a partner or as a single. (Singles can count on being matched with a partner.)
- 6) Mentoring will be encouraged. An experienced player in the 200-299 MP range playing with one in the 0-50 range will play for free.

Full Schedule

Monday 11:15 Open **in person** \$9

Tuesday 10:00 299er **in person** \$8

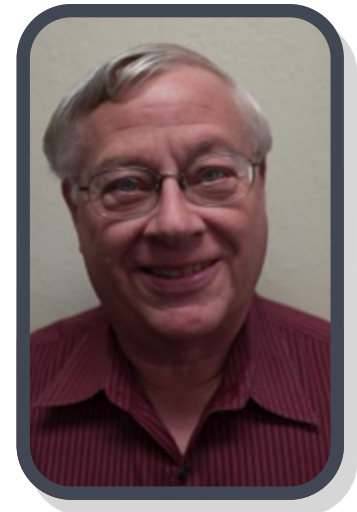
Wednesday 10:00 Open **Online** \$5

Thursday 10:30 999er **In Person** \$9

Friday 10:00 Open **Online** \$5

Thank you for your support of CCBC!

Michael Kruley



Lamorinda Bridge Club



Lamorinda Bridge Club (LBC)

Please note: New class sessions will begin August 7 as follows:

Mondays:

9:30am - 11:30am	Defense
1pm-3pm	Single Topic Seminars
7pm – 9pm	Bidding in the 21st Century

Wednesdays:

7pm – 9pm	Play of the Hand
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Game Schedule through July:

- Tuesdays: 3:00-5:30pm, Supervised Play; 14-16 boards with Master Points Awarded; three questions allowed per player. **This is Limited 499 game;** \$10 table fee.
- Tuesdays: 7-9:45pm Open Game; 18-21 boards; \$10 table fee.
- Optional Potluck Supper 5:45-6:45pm, \$5.
- Fridays: 10am - 1:15pm, Limited 499 Game; \$10 table fee.

As in the past, reservations will be required for all Face-to-Face duplicate games. Wearing masks will be optional. (All games are awarded Master points and have hand records available and posted on the results page.)

For July 1 – July 24

Please make your Game Reservations with Melinda Matson Hall:

Cell: (925) 330-2435; Email: melindamatsonhall@gmail.com

Melinda will be our Director for Club Games during this period of time.

For the last week of July we will be home, so please contact Winnie!

To sign up for classes, please contact Winnie via email, and I will get back to you by email or phone.

Questions:

Please contact Winnie at 925-683-1908 or winnie@wjasper.com.

Lamorinda Bridge Club, 183 Corliss Drive, Moraga, CA 94556

Or

Melinda Matson Hall

Cell Phone: (925) 330-2435; Email: melindamatsonhall@gmail.com

Please leave the equivalent of three parking spaces open in front of the house directly across the street from us. Thank you!