

Table Talk – December 2015

District 21

South County Unit 500

ACBL

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 RBC Closed
6	7 RBC STaC	8 MBC STaC	9 RBC STaC	10 HEC STaC	11 SFP STaC	12 HEC STaC RBC STaC (Tentative)
13 MBC Unit Holiday Party 12:00	14 RCB Holiday Potluck 11:15	15 MBC Charity Game	16 RBC Charity Game	17	18 SFP Unit Game	19 HEC Club Championship RBC Closed
20	21	22	23	24	25 SFP Closed	26 HEC Closed RBC Closed
27 RBC Unit Swiss Teams 11:00	28	29 RBC Inter- Club Champion- ship	30	31		

*For possible last minute changes to game times and locations, please check the unit's web site <http://unit500.org>

Table Talk Volume XLIX No. 12

President's Message November 2015

Charlie Conrad

Hope you all had a great time on Thanksgiving. Ann and I had a wonderful visit with relatives and friends.

We had a great Unit-Level NAP game on the first of November. I was amazed that we had 16 tables after a dozen or fewer tables in previous years. Those of you who qualified are encouraged to play in the District NAP Finals in January and February. Details are in the *Contract Bridge* Forum and on the District 21 website.

Holiday season is upon us. Check the club pages and unit calendar on our website www.unit500.org for closures around Christmas. On Sunday, December 13, we'll hold our annual catered Holiday Party and election of unit board members. Flyers and sign-up sheets are in all the clubs. We currently have a number of openings on the board. The nominating committee has given me a great list of very qualified new board member candidates. We'll be electing the new members at the short business portion of the Holiday Party.

December will have STaC games for everyone to earn silver points, and January will find many of us at the Regional in Monterey, fighting for all those Gold and red points.

FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION: The Reno NABC will be held March 10-20 next year. You should get your reservations at Circus Circus, Silver Legacy, or El Dorado as soon as you can. Room rates have dropped below \$100 per night. I expect our unit to be well represented. So I've signed us up to cover the prize desk on March 8th. We need three people for each of three 1-hour slots that day. That's nine people at one hour each. This will not interfere with the games. Please let me know if you'll be able to help out.

Many of you have heard that District 21 will not have its usual Regional in February or March next year. This will probably be replaced by a new Regional in early November at a new site to be announced soon.
Happy bridging.

What's News in South County

Kate Hare

December will be a busy month for Unit 500. The 14th Annual Western Conference Holiday Sectional Tournament at Clubs (STaC) will take place Dec. 7-13. This is the last of three tournaments during the year where you can earn silver points at your local clubs. All regular clubs in Unit 500 will participate in the tournament during that week, with the possible exception of the Saturday game at Redwood Bridge Club. On the Sunday, Dec. 13th, Unit 500 will hold the Annual Holiday Party and General Membership Meeting. This game will not award silver points but the masterpoints will be plentiful and the catered lunch will be complimentary for unit members. The short membership meeting prior to the game will include election of the board of directors.

TOURNAMENT TRAIL: The two tournaments within driving distance were attended by a few Unit 500 players last month. The NLM Sectional in Walnut Creek was so popular that many players were turned away on Saturday morning and had to pre-register for the Saturday afternoon games. There was plenty of room for all players at the Sunday Swiss Game. *Terry Gardner, Drayton Swartz, Andy Sass & Jonathan Sloves* were 2nd overall. *Dottie Reid, Linda Duchscherer, Shailesh Shah & Kate Hare* were 5th in B.

At the East Bay Fall Sectional on Saturday morning, in the A/X Pairs, *Rajan Jeyajumar & Jim Kelsey* were 11th in A. In the B/C/D Pairs, *Rory & Bo Xiao* were 4th in D. In the afternoon A/X Pairs, *Ming-Xiang Li & partner* were 3rd and *Vandana Vidwans & partner* were 4th in X. In the B/C/D Pairs, *Brent Xiao & partner* were 2nd and *Rory & Bo Xiao* were 3rd overall. *Barbara Dabney & Sarah Simmerman* were 4th in D.

On Sunday, in the Swiss Games, Bracket 1, *Ethan Liu* and team were 5th in A. In Bracket 2, *Stan Green* & team ranked 1st overall. In Bracket 3, *Kaye Folsom, Jerome Brown* & team ranked 3rd. In Bracket 5 the team of *Sarah Simmerman, Shailesh Shah & Kate Hare* ranked 1st. Congratulations to all the winners!

BIG WIN: *Darrell Fung* and partner had a big game at East Bay Bridge Club on Friday, Nov. 10th: 74.16%! Hopefully, this huge game is big enough to make the *Bridge Bulletin* list of big winners. Congratulations, *Darrell*.

** Please let me know if you place at a tournament or have a big win. Send an email to kate.p.hare@gmail.com to share your accomplishments**

ADVANCEMENTS: There were a few changes in the ranks last month. **Barbara Dabney** is now a NABC Master and **Drayton Swartz** and **Andy Sass** are both Advanced NABC Masters. Congratulations to all!

NEW MEMBERS AND MEMBERS ON THE MOVE: Farewell to **Jeri Ram** who transferred her membership to the East Bay Unit.

IN MEMORIAM: Long time Unit 500 member, **Bob Brazil** passed away at the end of October after a long illness. He will be missed by all who knew him. Condolences to his family and friends.

ETIQUETTE AND PROTOCOL: Continue to be considerate of your partner and your opponents. One important consideration is to do your part to make sure the club runs smoothly. It is in everyone's best interest to volunteer, according to their ability, for the chores that need to be done. Helping in the kitchen before and after the game, picking up chairs and tables, putting away bidding boxes and boards are things that need to be done. Everyone doing a little insures that a few people are not left to do a lot. If you feel unsure about what you should do, you can always ask the director what needs to be done.

COMING UP: The NAP District Finals will take place in late January and early February, depending on Flight. Check the District 21 website for details on dates, times and locations.

TRIVIA QUESTION: Warren Buffet is the answer to last month's trivia, "Which famous investor is the passionate bridge player who plays in tournaments in person and on-line?" There were several correct answers, but the lucky winner drawn was **Duane Duchscherer**. **Duane** plays, sometimes with his wife Linda, at unit sponsored events.

This month's trivia question: This famous person is less well known for his bridge game than his role as the inept Agent 86 in the 1980s TV comedy, Get Smart, but during the 1990s he organized many games at the Playboy Mansion. Who is he?

If you know the answer to this question, or think you know, send an email to kate.p.hare@gmail.com or write your answer on a note and give it to me by December 15th. Be sure to include your name with your entry. One winner will be selected by a random drawing from all correct answers. Any player who reads this is eligible to participate.

The prize is one free regular game at the Unit 500 club of your choice. The winner and answer will be announced in the January Table Talk. Good Luck!



Easybridge! Clubs

Sarah Simmerman

Happy Holidays to One and All!!

November and December are short bridge months because of the Holidays. We are still going strong, though. December 10 and 12 are STaC games. This is a perfect opportunity to earn some Silver and to compare with others in the Western Conference, not just our Unit 500. We extended the limit to include any Non-life Master with fewer than 500 master points, so come on down.

Congratulations to our winners last month: Ann Vargas and Valerie Wood, Carol Alliger and Maria Elliott, Barbara Dabney and Ronnie Bendheim, Olga Swartz and Barbara, Christine and Robert Kahn, Gwen and Gerry. Great job!

Congratulations to everyone, as you are winners because you play.

Hope to see you soon.



SAN FELIPE BRIDGE CLUB

**San Felipe Park Community Center
2058 D St., Hayward CA**

Directors: Charlie Conrad, Barbara Dabney

THERE'S A GREAT BRIDGE GAME WAITING FOR YOU!!

Open game SFP - FRIDAY MORNINGS AT 10:30

Special GAMES IN December!!

- STaC game December 11.
- Unit Game December 18.
- Closed Christmas Day.
- If you bring a new player to San Felipe game, both of you qualify for half of a free play the next time you play.

*There will be a special unit championship game on Friday January 1 at 10:30 am
(Details and signup sheets at club soon)*

If you need a partner, please call Charlie. (510) 329-5916 or email cconrad313@aol.com Or call Barbara (510)599-6308. Coffee, tea, and snacks provided!!

All player masterpoints are averaged among pair or team members for the purpose of stratifying the game.

For announcements and game results, please see our website:
<http://unit500.org> Put your pointer over Results and then down the menu to San Felipe, then click. You can see all our results there.

Unit 500 Bridge Clubs

San Felipe Park Bridge Club (SFP)

San Felipe Park Community Center, 2058 D Street, Hayward, Ca 94541

Friday: 10:30 am Open/Stratified

Directors: Charlie Conrad 329-5916; Barbara Dabney 599-6308

Hayward Easybridge! Club (HEC)

Weekes Park Community Center, 27182 Patrick Ave, Hayward

Thursday: 11:30 am (11:00 Lesson) Stratified/Limited (0 - 299 MP)

Saturday: 12 noon (11:00 Lesson) Stratified/Limited (0-299 MP)

Presenters: Charlie Conrad 329-5916; Jan Hollowell 783-8678

Marina Bridge Club (MBC)

Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd, San Leandro 94579

Tuesday: 10:30 am Open/Stratified

Director: Terry Terzian 581-4424

Redwood Bridge Club (RBC)

Kenneth Aitken Community Center, 17800 Redwood Road, Castro Valley 94546

Monday: 12:00 pm Open & Non-Life Master Sections (11:45 am Lesson)

Wednesday: 11:15 am Open/Stratified & Non-Life Master Sections

Director: Terry Terzian 581-4424

2015 Unit 500 Board of Directors

**Bob Bauman 727-1244, Charlie Conrad 733-5311, Linda Duchscherer 427-3331,
Zoe Foster (925) 735-1932, Carla Francis 582-5288, Kate Hare 865-4143, Jan Hollowell 783-8678,
Susan Lampert 278-5322, Mary Ramos 537-4355, Andy Sass 656-7347,
Isie Stefani (925) 485-3285, Ann Vargas 886-5333, Jean Wood 432-1482**

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