

Table Talk – April 2013

District 21

South County Unit 500

ACBL

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> RBC 10:40 Improve your slam bidding	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> RBC 10:40 Keycard Blackwood 101- Pt 1	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> RBC Unit Game (no class)	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> SFP Club Championship	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> RBC Club Championship	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> RBC 10:40 Keycard Blackwood 101- Pt 2	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> UNIT 500 Lasagna Pairs @ MBC SFP <i>CLOSED</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> MBC Club Championship	<p>SFP – San Felipe Park Bridge Club ABC – Ashland Bridge Club on Thursday's has been discontinued.</p> <p>SAVE THE DATE –Unit 500 Sectional, July 19-21, 2013!</p>			

Table Talk Volume XLVII No.4

<http://unit500.bridgeforyou.com/>

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:



Get Ready! Make your plans now to attend our **Unit Pairs Event on April 26th** at the Marina Community Center. We will serve lasagna, salad, bread and dessert at 11:30. No work on your part, just come and enjoy our Italian luncheon. We'd like to see a big turnout! Flyers and sign-up sheets are in the clubs now.

Congratulate the Winners! Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney winners will receive their awards just before game time on April 26.

Our **Special Events Calendar** dates and locations are subject to change. We do try to avoid this but it still happens. So if you are making plans for any unit game, double check it. If you have any questions, contact Susan or me.

Our Sectional Tournament has a new name! We are now the **Castro Valley Sectional**, being held at Transfiguration Hall in Castro Valley on July 19, 20 and 21 of this year. Mary has prepared our flyer and ad for the *Forum*.

The **badge order** has arrived so if you placed an order, please see Zoe or Jan. If you missed out, we will be doing this again soon.

The **Friday Game at San Felipe** has been operating for over a year now. Players find a friendly atmosphere, with nice refreshments. We'd like to see a few more players each week, so you might want to give it a try and support Charlie and Barbara. The game is on Fridays at 10:30, 2058 D Street, Hayward.

The Wednesday **Redwood Club** now includes a lesson before the game, at 10:40. Terry is covering subjects close to our hearts – such as slam bidding (and how to avoid a bad slam!) These lessons are very worthwhile. Thanks, Terry.

With Jim Solomon moving away, I will be taking over the **Hayward Easybridge Club**, Weekes Community Center, 27182 Patrick Avenue, Hayward. We have a lesson at 11:00, with the game following. If you plan to come, I'd appreciate an email: phil-jan@comcast.net. Charlie and I are still working on a location for our Saturday Easybridge game and we will let you know as soon as plans are made for it.

I would like to remind you that email addresses and phone numbers are listed on the unit web site <http://unit500.bridgeforyou.com>. Please check to be sure yours is correct. We'd like to keep this current. If you would like to add your name or make a change, please send a note to our **Webmaster Bill George** at williamcgeorge@gmail.com. It is a good source for finding partners when needed. Check it out!

Happy Easter to you all and many blessings, Jan Hollowell



Note: Ann Vargas is the Board Member responsible for hospitality. She mails condolences to the families of unit members who have passed away and get well cards to those who are ill. Please let her know when you hear of such players. Phone 510-886-5333 (leave a message if she's not home) or email Iwalk4fun@aol.com.

The South County News – April 2013

By Charlie Conrad

Big changes have been going on in the past month:

For starters, we will soon have a Saturday game, featuring both a regular game, run by Terry and me, and an Easybridge! game with Jan in charge and me assisting. Opening Day will feature low card fees and massive amounts of food and other goodies. *Watch for the big announcement at all the clubs!!*

And on Thursday, March 28, I announced the closure of the long-running Thursday morning game at Ashland. We've been having only a few tables at Ashland and San Felipe for the past several months. So we decided to combine the two clubs at San Felipe on Friday mornings. Table fees will continue to be \$6 per person for the entire month of April.

Tournament Results:

Joyce and Dave Denyven placed second in Flight E in the Saturday Afternoon 3000/+ pairs at the El Cerrito Sectional.

Kevin Schoenfeld finished 16th in the Red Ribbon pairs and 3rd in the Wednesday A/X Pairs at the St Louis National Tournament.

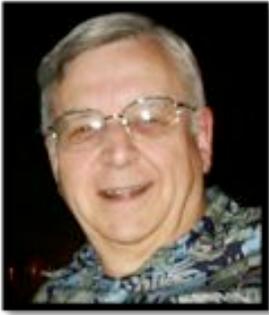
Note: If you place in a tournament, please notify me, especially if the Tournament is out of the SF Bay Area. I look through the results and report what I see, but I can't always find everything interesting.

The next big unit event will be the lasagna feast pairs event on Friday, April 26. This is a change from the event originally announced for April 12. Sign up at your local clubs.

Fremont Bridge Club

Fremont Bridge Club made the transition to playing in Hayward just great. We want to give a big THANK YOU to Vince for telling some locals about the game. It has grown already. In light of this, I am extending the contest for a new name. If you submit a name for consideration, you will receive 1/2 free game and if your name wins, you will receive one free game. So get on those creative thinking hats and give me a "run for my money"! The new deadline for suggestions is April 15th.

The game is on Mondays at 10:30 AM in
South Hayward, just off Industrial Parkway, W
Call 510-599-6308 for directions



SAN FELIPE BRIDGE CLUB

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

Directors: Charlie Conrad and Barbara Dabney

Note: the Ashland game has been discontinued.

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

FRIDAY MORNINGS AT 10:30

**CARD FEES REDUCED!! \$6 PER
PLAYER!!**

SPECIAL GAMES in APRIL!!

- Unit Lasagna Pairs game at Marina April 26th. Sign up at clubs.
- Club Championship at San Felipe April 19th

Easybridge! Saturday games will resume this month. Look for a major announcement!!

Come with or without a partner. If you need a partner, please e-mail or call Charlie. (510) 329-5916 or cconrad313@aol.com
Coffee, tea, and snacks provided!!

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

For announcements and game results, please see our website:
<http://charlieconrad.bridgeforyou.com>



Hayward Easybridge! Club

Manager/Director: Jan Hollowell -510-783-8678

<http://janhollowell.bridgeforyou.com>

Thursday

Newcomer Lesson (0-20 MP) 11:00

Intermediate Lesson (0-300 MP) 11:30

Easybridge! Stratified Game 12:00-3:30

On March 7th our players enjoyed competing in a unit game. Kate Hare and Pam Fisher placed first, with second place going to Gerry Fisher and Gwen Vallio and third place to Drayton Swartz and Dottie Reid. All three pairs were within one point of the other – a very close finish. Bob Doherty and Ann Vargas found first place, with Frances Lamparter and Shirley Robinson in second in the C strat.

March 14 found the pair of sisters in first place again, Kate and Pam. Second place was awarded to two pairs – Drayton and Dottie, Gerry and Gwen. This time newcomers Suzanne and Jeff Hall took first in C strat. A.J. Adamson and Phyllis Beyrer captured third in the B strat.

March 21 - Club Championships are always fun, with generous masterpoints, Kate and Pam continued on their hot streak with first place, Drayton and Dottie in second, Alta Jo and Phyllis in third, and Suzanne and Jeff placing fourth (as well as first in the C strat.) Second in C strat were Frances and Shirley.

We finished up this month with a Farewell Party for Jim Solomon who is moving to another unit. He has been the teacher and friend of these Easybridge players for seven years. He will be greatly missed, although we hope to keep in touch. He will be directing games in the San Luis Obispo area and has extended an invitation to visit his games. Jim was thanked by, not only his club, but with a gift of thanks from Unit 500. The players outdid themselves with a beautiful table of food. Thanks to you all!

Guess who came in first again on March 28th – Kate and Pam, second place to Drayton and Dottie, third to Perry and Solita Julien, and fourth to Jeff and Suzanne, as well as first in C strat.

The monthly free game award goes to Kate and Pam with congratulations!

Sponsored by the Hayward Area Recreation and Parks District (HARD)

Weekes Park Community Center

27182 Patrick Avenue, Hayward 94544

Profile of Jim Solomon



Jim Solomon has been an active member of our unit for many years, enjoying the role of player, teacher and director. We are sorry that he is moving away and we must say goodbye to this important member of Unit 500.

While most players learn the game of bridge and sit back to enjoy it, Jim mastered it, becoming a Silver Life Master and made it a focal point of his life. He has taught two Easybridge! classes a week, as well as directing games and subbing where needed. His desire to teach others and share his knowledge and enthusiasm for the game has always been evident.

Shortly after joining Unit 500, Jim became one of the first teachers of Easybridge! in this area. He also qualified to teach the Audrey Grant series, achieving a triple ACBL teaching accreditation. He has taught over two hundred and fifty new players in the past six years. His students go on to become regular players in all of the games in our unit. His aim has been that his students learn to be players who are not only competent and enjoy the game but also are aware of the proprieties of the game, including good bridge manners. Almost all of them have become ACBL members, and some have already become vital new members in our Unit 500 open games. Many have also become regular participants in District 21 and national tournaments.

Jim served on the Board of Directors of Unit 500 for five years, always ready with his laptop to research new ideas and share needed information. He served as our Education Chairperson, encouraging the promotion of the game of bridge. For the past ten years Jim has written monthly articles for *Table Talk*, the Unit 500 newsletter, and for the past seven years has authored the South County contribution to the District 21 *Contract Bridge Forum's* monthly Unitscope.

Jim comes from a background of service to our country and to fellow humans. He served in the Peace Corps in Ethiopia and Eritrea for two years and in the U. S. Army for four, mostly in Thailand. He went on to study over a dozen languages and then speech-language pathology. He was awarded a fellowship at the Mayo Clinic, taught at Cal State Hayward, and worked as consulting diagnostician and therapist for the Kaiser Permanente patients in Southern Alameda County with speech, language, and swallowing problems. He speaks many of the languages he has studied, and his bass voice can be heard singing in baroque choral groups. We have been fortunate that this man of many talents has chosen to devote his time to the development of new bridge players in our area.

Jim was nominated by our unit for the Goodwill Award in 2010 and chosen by District 21 to receive this honor. This award is given to players who promote bridge, encouraging new players with patience and knowledge and by sharing their love of the game. Jim has given generously of his time and talents to Unit 500. Now he will be moving on to another Unit and we thank him and wish him all the best.

Submitted by Jan Hollowell



Castro Valley Sectional



Unit 500 South County Sectional

July 19, 20, & 21, 2013

Transfiguration Church Hall

4000 E. Castro Valley Blvd, Castro Valley
Spacious Hall with lots of Onsite Parking

Friday, 10:30 a.m.

Stratified 299er Pairs
Stratified Open Pairs

Friday, 3:30 p.m.

Stratified 299er Pairs
Stratified Open Pairs

**PAIR GAMES ARE SINGLE
SESSIONS**

Open pairs strata:

A: 1750+, B: 750-1750, C: 0-750

299ers strata:

0-50/50-100/100-299

(Attendance Permitting)

Strati-Flighted Pairs

A/X plays separately

A/X = 0-3000/3000+

B/C/D = 0-750/750-1250/1250-2000

(any player over 2000 must play A/X)

Saturday, 10:30 a.m.

Stratified 299er Pairs
Strati-Flighted Pairs
A/X and B/C/D

(A/X plays separately)

Saturday, 3:30 p.m.

Stratified 299ers
Strati-Flighted Pairs
A/X and B/C/D

(A/X plays separately)

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. & TBA

“The Jay Magid Memorial”

Bracketed Swiss Teams

Teams must play both sessions

Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Single Session Stratified Pairs

**Mid-chart allowed in Flight A/X
and top bracket of Swiss Teams**

**Continental breakfast each morning!
Refreshments provided all three days**



Information/Partnership: Mary 510-427-7366

Website: www.unit500.bridgeforyou.com

Directions: Transfiguration is on the left (across the street from Safeway & Petco)

580 (from Oakland) take Grove Way/Crow Canyon Rd. **exit 37**, left at light onto Grove Way then right onto E. Castro Valley Blvd. then **left at 2nd light** into Transfiguration parking lot.

580 (from Pleasanton) take Castro Valley **exit 37**, right at light onto E. Castro Valley Blvd. then **left at next light** into Transfiguration parking lot.

880 take 238/580 toward Stockton, then follow **“580 from Oakland”** directions.

SOUTH COUNTY UNIT 500

Cordially invites you to our April
PAIRS EVENT – single session

Award Presentations: *Ace of Clubs & Mini-McKenney winners*



**Friday, April 26,
2013**

11:30 AM -

Lasagna

(vegetable lasagna will be
available)

**followed immediately by the
game**



*At the Marina Community Center
15301 Wicks Blvd., San Leandro*
Home of Marina Bridge Club

Fees Include Lasagna, Salad,
Bread & Dessert!

**Table fees for paid-up South County members are only
\$7**

Table fees for all others are \$9

**Both OPEN and NON-LIFE MASTER stratified sections will be
offered.**

Pre-registration of teams is required.
Please sign up at your local club by **April 21**.



For partnership assistance, please contact:

Terry Terzian, Unit Director

(510) 581-4424 - nicecardshark@aol.com

Or Jan Hollowell – phil-jan@comcast.net

BRIDGE BITES

from The American Contract Bridge League

NICE LEAD, PARTNER!

By: Brian Gunnell

	♠ AK865 ♥ A6 ♦ 9753 ♣ 53	
♠ J43 ♥ QJT87 ♦ QJ ♣ KT8	North West East Declarer	♠ 54 ♥ 54 ♦ KT8642 ♣ AJ642
	♠ QT972 ♥ K932 ♦ A ♣ Q97	

N-S Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	4♠	4NT
Pass	5♣	5♠	All Pass

There are other ways to bid the North hand, but our North was obviously a paid-up member of the Bid-What-You-Think-You-Can-Make Club. East's 4NT showed the minors, then North pushed on to 5♠, in this case bidding what he *hoped* they could make.

As West, what would be your choice of opening lead? Outside of the trump suit, Declarer does not appear to have an obvious source of tricks. West has the Hearts under control and East has long minors so, with no side-suits that can be set up, it's reasonable to assume that Declarer will be relying on ruffs to bolster his trick total. That's right, an opening trump lead seems to be called for.

Over to Declarer. He can count five natural trump tricks, plus the ♥AK and ♦A. That's eight tricks and, to get to eleven, he needs three ruffs in one hand or the other. Of course, the trump lead and the 3-0 split put a dent in those hopes, but Declarer is not done yet. Ruffing three Diamonds in hand won't work, that will run into an overruff by West. So Declarer's plan is to ruff two Hearts and a Club in Dummy.

The opening trump lead is won in Dummy, and that is followed by ♥A, ♥K, and a Heart ruff. Now a Club is led from Dummy, East ducks and Declarer's Queen is taken by the King. Back comes another trump, won in hand by Declarer, who next ruffs his last Heart in Dummy. A second Club is led and, again, East must duck, hoping that West has the Ten, and can continue with another trump. East reasons that Declarer probably does not have the Ten (if he did, he would surely have finessed it on the first round), so she boldly ducks. West wins his Ten, and the third round of trumps is the one that dashes Declarer's hopes.

"Nice lead, Partner!"

"Nice Club ducks, Partner!"

Visit www.acbl.org for more about the fascinating game of bridge or email marketing@acbl.org

San Felipe Park Bridge Club

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

Friday 10:30 am Open/Stratified

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

Fremont Bridge Club (FBC)

Call Director for location

Monday 10:30 am Open/Stratified

Director: Barbara Dabney 599-6308

Hayward Easybridge Club (HEC) (0 - 300 MP)

Weekes Park Community Center, 27182 Patrick Ave, Hayward

Thursday 1:00 pm (12:30 Lesson) Stratified/Limited (0 - 300 MP)

Director: Jim Solomon 538-9889

Marina Bridge Club (MBC)

Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd, San Leandro 94579

Tuesday 10:30 am Open/Stratified

Director: Terry Terzian 581-4424

San Leandro Easybridge Club (SLE) (0-50 MP)

On Hiatus

Saturday 12 noon Presentors: Charlie Conrad 329-5916; Jan Hollowell 783-8678

Redwood Bridge Club (RBC)

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

Monday 12:25 pm Open, 999er & Non-Life Master Sections (12:10 Lesson)

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

Director: Terry Terzian 581-4424

2013 Unit 500 Board of Directors

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