

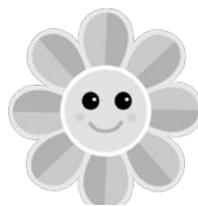
Table Talk – April 2011

District 21

South County Unit 500

ACBL

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
FEC: Fremont Easybridge Club HEC: Hayward Easybridge Club BC: The Bridge Club, Ashland					1	2 TCBC Charity Club Championship
3	4	5 FEC Charity Club Championship	6	7 BC, HEC Charity Club Champion- ship	8	9 TCBC Unit Game
10	11 RBC Club Champion- ship	12 FEC ACBL Interclub Championship	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 FEC Charity Club Championship Swiss	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 BC, HEC Unit Game	29 UNIT 500 MBC Lasagna Pairs	30 TCBC Charity Club Championship Swiss



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

My first meeting of the board was especially enjoyable since I was presented with *a gavel* for bringing the meeting to order! It is engraved with the name of our unit and will be passed down now to future Presidents. Thank you so much to the board for this thoughtful gift. Mary added that I might have an unruly member now – I wonder who that could be??



I received a lovely note from Michele Klurstein, the daughter of **Joyce deRoco**. She wrote that the three cards we sent (with many personal messages) really made a difference in her mother feeling loved at the end of her life. She said her mother's devotion to bridge filled her life for many years – and it was because of people like you. She asked that I tell everyone who signed the cards that it gave her mom encouragement to fight.

Early last month, we lost another of our top players, **Bill Hodges**. Bill had directed at Ashland and Fremont for the past two years, keeping alive two struggling clubs. He will be greatly missed by his many friends. New directors, Charlie Conrad and Barbara Dabney are now directing in these locations.

Get Ready! Make your plans now to attend our **Unit Event on April 29th** at the Marina Community Center. We will serve Lasagna and Salad at 11:30. ***Congratulate the Winners!*** Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenney winners will receive their awards just before game time. Sign-up sheets are in the clubs now. By the way, we have been especially pleased to see so many non-life masters attending our special games. Keep it up!

Email addresses and phone numbers are being updated on the unit web site <http://unit500.bridgeforyou.com>. We'd like to keep this current. It is a good source for finding partners when needed. Check it out!

Also, we are now beginning preparations to publish a new phone directory for Unit 500. **Hildegard Leslie** has been doing this project since 1995 and we are very appreciative. (Please see separate article in this issue.)

Another of our projects, **Zoe Foster** will be taking orders for name badges. Please see her about the design and cost. We have had many requests for players to wear badges. As new players come to our clubs, this will be another part of welcoming them and helping them learn our names.

We have a new Membership Chair. **Wayne Bennett** has been appointed to this position and will be working to keep our current members as well as encouraging new membership. We are continuing our policy of welcoming new members with three free games. If you have any concerns or suggestions Wayne will be happy to listen.

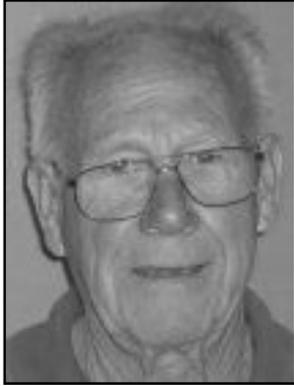
See you at the tables,

Jan Hollowell, Unit 500 President



Note: Joyce Morrison 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 510-728-1029 (leave a message if she's not home) or email -joycebobmorr2K9@sbcglobal.net.

In Memory of Bill Hodges



Bill will be missed by many as a friend and director in our game of bridge. The following was written by one of our players:

Bill was so good to all of us in Fremont. He was always there for me personally. He went about quietly "letting his light shine". He played bridge with the best of us and those of us who are not so good at bridge. He was non-judgmental and always had a smile - even as he was dying of cancer. I am thankful he died quickly and peacefully, but he will be dearly missed. Bill did not give us a chance to say good-bye so I am taking this opportunity to bid him a fond farewell. We give thanks for his life and I know he is resting in peace. Good-bye, Bill and may the light you reflected shine upon you forever.

Published in Inside Bay Area on March 3, 2011

William C. Hodges July 1, 1930 - March 1, 2011 Resident of Fremont Bill passed peacefully in his home with family by his side from a short battle of cancer. Bill enjoyed many careers in his life including being a Master Bridge Member of ACBL and Director of two Bridge Clubs, in Fremont and San Leandro. He spent many years in the home remodeling industry as well as being a long time practicing Attorney in the Bay Area. He was loved and will be missed by his wife, children, and grandchildren.

Bridge Profile - Bill Hodges – Published in Table Talk in August 1997

One of that rare breed, a native Californian, Bill Hodges learned bridge the hard way. As a boy in 1945, he started playing Culbertson rules under his parents' instruction. He made the 3rd at the table and there was no 4th, with the dummy an unknown quantity. "Makes for a certain risk factor," he grins, "and it adds zip to the game".

He began playing Duplicate in 1955 in Berkeley, and came into contact with many fine players, among them Ernest Noffzinger at the Berkeley Tennis Club, and Mike Lawrence (who was a devotee of the Sheinwold system) at the Staten Street Club. A member of the ACBL from 1955-1960, Bill played in several regional competitions, and fondly remembers one at the Palace Hotel. When he dropped out of the ACBL in about 1961, he lost the masterpoints that he had accumulated, but started to amass them again on returning to the game a few years ago. "Accumulation of points is not a major interest of mine," he remarks, "but winning in competition surely is!"

Chess, gardening, reading, and music are interests of Bill's besides Duplicate. In discussing his love of music, he fondly mentioned "Valse Triste" by Sibelius which was used as introductory music for the radio serial, "I love a Mystery". Bill also commented on the many other classics which were theme songs for radio shows or movies. "Those magnificent organs in the old movie houses introduced a lot of us to real classical music", he adds wistfully.

Getting more young people interested in playing Duplicate is a major concern of Bill's. "When we were young and busy with family and careers, we played bridge at night," he says, "but now I guess they're tied to the TV". He feels that the bidding boxes and disappearance of "smoked filled room" with "players lecturing each other on how to play" have contributed to making Duplicate Bridge stay a challenging and stimulating game.

(Editor's Note-Bill is "great fun" to play with and against.)

- Submitted by Dorothy Klausner



Lasagna Pairs Coming Up

Remember where you stowed that red-checked tablecloth, the one you got out for our Pizza Swiss game two months ago? Well, pull it out and bring it along to adorn your table for our annual Lasagna (or, for purists, Lasagne) Pairs game coming up on Friday, April 29th, in San Leandro. See the flyer in this issue of *Table Talk* for details.

Members New and on the Move

Welcome to **Ron** and **Barbara Gross** of Livermore, who for half a year have been making the weekly trek from their home in Livermore to attend our Bridge Basics classes and play in the Fremont Easybridge Club and have just become members of ACBL and the South County unit.

Moving up the Masterpoint Ladder

Bob Bauman (that'd be Bauman *père*), **Sreedhar Vaidun**, and **Susan Ward** have ascended to Club Master status (20+ masterpoints), and **Rosemary Lake** and **D. B. Singh** are now Junior Masters (5+ MPs). Congratulations to all of you!

Members on the Mend

Jean Wood is recovering from a break and associated bruised tendons and ligaments in her left foot. We hope to see her back at our games early this month.

In the Money on the Tournament Trail *by Jim Solomon*

Note: The information that appears in this column is gleaned from my reviewing the results for sectional and regional tournaments in District 21, as well as the occasional national championship. To make sure that I haven't overlooked your name (and performance), or to let me know of tournaments in which you played *outside* of our district, please get in touch with me, at LSJ63@yahoo.com or 510-538-9889.

Santa Cruz Rising Stars 299er Sectional, Harbor High School, March 19–20

In the final-day Swiss teams event at this tournament for aspiring Life Masters, **Arnold & Cynthia George**'s team placed third in the B strat.

THERE'S A GREAT BRIDGE GAME WAITING FOR YOU AT

ASHLAND BRIDGE CLUB

Come join us for fun duplicate game!! We have a friendly crowd and great eats!!

Directed by Charlie Conrad, Certified ACBL Club Director, Accredited ACBL Bridge Teacher, and Bronze Life Master.

We play every

Thursday, 10:30 am to 2 pm

The Ashland Bridge club meets at

Ashland Park Community Center
1530 167th Avenue
San Leandro, CA 94578

Currently we have an open section with experienced players willing to make suggestions to help improve your game. If we can get enough participation, we'll add a Non-Life Master section so less experienced players can enjoy bridge with and against their peers.

You can come with or without a partner. We'll always have an extra player for you. If you'd like Charlie to find you a partner, please call him at (510) 329-5916.

Table fees are still \$7 per session.

We're going to have several special games in the near future:

- ACBL Charity Fund Game on April 7th. Many extra master points. (Donation \$1)
- Unit Game on April 28th. Extra master points at no extra cost.
- STAC (Sectional Tournament At Clubs) game on May 6th. Silver points for everyone who places!! (Extra Charge \$1.50)
- Special Charity Game in memory of former director Bill Hodges on May 12th. (Suggested donation of \$1 or more which will go to the American Cancer Society at Bill's family's request)
- Club Championship Game on May 19th. Extra Master points at no extra cost.

And in June through August, we'll have red point North American Pairs games!!

We invite everyone to come join us for regular club games and these special games.



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Unit 500 Easybridge Clubs

Manager/Director: Jim Solomon 510-538-9889

Website: <http://jimsolomon.bridgeforyou.com>

Fremont Easybridge Club

Tuesday Evenings Fremont

Intermediate Lesson: 5:45–6:15 p.m.
Padre Parkway

Intermediate/Newcomer Stratified/Limited (0–300 MP) Game: 6:15–9:45 p.m.
Fremont 94536

Penthouse, 3rd Floor, Merrill Gardens of
2860 Country Drive at Paseo

Hayward Easybridge Club

Sponsored by the Hayward Area Recreation and Parks District (H.A.R.D.)

Thursday Afternoons

Patrick Avenue

94544

Weekes Park Community Center
27182

Newcomer Lesson and Stratified Game (0–20 MP): 12:00–3:30 p.m.

Intermediate Lesson and Stratified/Limited Game (0–300 MP): 12:30–4:00 p.m.

We have special games galore on tap in April, most revolving around this being ACBL Charity Month. We'll also be holding a Unit Championship game in Hayward, and in Fremont we'll be participating in an ACBL Interclub Championship game. Here's a complete rundown:

- Tuesday, Apr. 5, in Fremont: ACBL Charity Club Championship pairs game
- Thursday, Apr. 7, in Hayward: ACBL Charity Club Championship pairs game
- Tuesday, Apr. 12, in Fremont: ACBL Interclub Championship game
- Tuesday, Apr. 19, in Fremont: ACBL Charity Club Championship Swiss teams game
- Thursday, Apr. 28, in Hayward: Unit Championship game

Last month's special games began with a Club Championship in Hayward on March 3rd. We had a tie for first place overall, between **Terry Gardner & Dottie Reid** and **Jean Wood & Charlie Tonelli**; **Maria Elliott & Merle Saracco** were first in the B strat. A week later we held an ACBL International Fund Championship game; first overall, as well as first in strats B and C, went to **Shirley Robinson & Bettie Benz**. Our first special game in Fremont was a Unit Championship game on the 8th, won by **Cynthia & Arnold George**; newcomers **Ron & Barbara Gross** were first in C. The following week we participated in the ACBL-wide Charity game; **Nuno Rebelo & Vicky Santos** were first overall with a 72% game, which will likely place them in the ACBL-wide results when they're posted sometime next month. The Georges also had a very commendable 66% game, which gained them first in strat B; the Grosses were the strat C winners.

Last month I announced that the winners of our Fremont ACBL Junior Fund game were Joanne Baumgardner & Carol Ackerman. That's still true, but Carol's last name is not Baumgardner (as I mistakenly called her), and they're not sisters—or any other relation, except very successful partners.

High masterpoint winners in Hayward last month were **Terry Gardner & Dottie Reid**; in Fremont it was **Arnold & Cynthia George**. Each will receive half a free play in a game at their respective clubs.

Tri-City Bridge Club

Merrill Gardens at Fremont
2860 Country Drive at Paseo Padre Parkway
Fremont 94536



Jim Solomon
Club Manager & Director
LSJ63@yahoo.com
510-538-9889

Saturdays at 12:30 p.m.
Open and 299er games, attendance permitting
(both stratified)
Club website: <http://jimsolomon.bridgeforyou.com>

April is ACBL's Charity Month, and we'll recognize this with two Charity Club Championship games. The first, a pairs game, will be held on April 2nd. We'll end the month, on the 30th, with a team game, which will also be our Spring Swiss Teams Festival. These will be extra masterpoint games and will cost an extra \$1, going to the ACBL Charity Fund. In April we'll also be hosting a Unit Championship pairs game, on the 9th, with lots of extra masterpoints at *no* extra cost. All of these games, as well as our regular club games on the 16th and 23rd, will begin at 12:30 p.m.

Since our last report we've held three special games. Our Winter Swiss Teams Festival, which was also an ACBL Junior Fund Championship game, occurred on February 26th; **Glenn Boyce** and teammates **Kathy Von Dohre, Patricia Perry, & Chris Stack** were the winners. Our Winter Club Championship game, on March 12th, was won by **Bo Xiao & Yanong Han; Rajan Jeyakumar & Venkat Sivasankaran** were first in the B strat. On March 26th we held a well-attended Swiss teams event in support of the ACBL Educational Foundation; Bo & Yanong were first again, teaming with **Steve & Sarah Chan; Charlie & Ann Conrad, Bob Hamilton, & Valerie Byrne** were first in strat B.

No surprise, then, that for this reporting period our high masterpoint earners were **Bo Xiao & Yanong Han**. For that accomplishment each will have waiting half a free play in a game of their choice. Congratulations to you both!

For more detailed results of all games, as well as announcements about special events (including the complete schedule for our special games in 2011) and late-breaking news, visit our club website: <http://jimsolomon.bridgeforyou.com>. You can find abbreviated game results also on the ACBL website: go to www.acbl.org, click on "Club Game Results" in the list on the left side of the home page, and proceed from there.



SOUTH COUNTY UNIT 500 PHONE DIRECTORY

Work has started on updating our unit phone directory. Your input is requested to make the information as reliable and up to date as possible.

Lists will be available at club games in the coming weeks for you to check and correct your data. Computers do strange things sometimes, so even if your information was correct in the last directory, you should check the listing and indicate that it is still correct. This also lets us know which of the non ACBL players still are playing at our clubs and wish to be listed. We have even considered deleting the names of players who do not confirm their information.

We invite all players to list their numbers whether or not a member of Unit 500. New players, be sure we have your phone numbers as ACBL doesn't always provide them.

If you have information about players who have moved from the area or are no longer playing bridge at the clubs, we would appreciate hearing from you. Send a message to flounder6.1@juno.com or call Hildegard 797-4820.



Name Badge with Card Design and magnet

Our most popular item, name badge, 3" x 3/4", Includes 2 lines engraved and 2 piece magnet fastener

Price: \$11.00

Unit 500 will be preparing an order for name badges. Choices are Black with white lettering, Red with white lettering or White with black lettering. All will show the Ace of Spades as the front card. They have a magnet fastener.

If you would like to place an order, please see Zoe Foster. We would like to get the order completed by April 20. Price is \$11.00 payable at time of order.

SOUTH COUNTY UNIT 500

Cordially invites you to our April
“Lasagna” PAIRS EVENT – single session

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



**Friday, April 29,
2011
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 sections will be offered.

Both sections will be stratified

Pre-registration is requested. Please sign up at your local club by **April 25.**

For partnership help, please call:

Isabel Stefani (925) 485-3285

Jan Hollowell – phil-jan@comcast.net

or

Terry Terzian, Unit Director
(510) 581-4424
nicecardshark@aol.com



Schedule of Games & Locations

The Bridge Club, Ashland (BC)

Ashland Community Center, 1530 167th Avenue, San Leandro 94578

Thursday 10:30 am Open/Stratified

Director: Charlie Conrad 329-5916

Fremont Bridge Club (FBC)

Centerville Community Center, 3355 Country Drive, Fremont 94536

Monday 10:30 am Open/Stratified

Director: Barbara Dabney 599-6308

Fremont Easybridge Club (FEC) (0-20/0-300 MP)

Merrill Gardens of Fremont, 2860 Country Drive at Paseo Padre Parkway, Fremont 94536

Tuesday 6:15 pm (5:45 Lesson) Newcomer (0-20 MP), Stratified/Limited (0-300 MP)

Director: Jim Solomon 538-9889

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

Weekes Parks 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

Redwood Bridge Club (RBC)

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

Monday 12:30 pm Open/Stratified & Non-Life Master Sections (12:15 Lesson)

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

Director: Terry Terzian 581-4424

Tri-City Bridge Club (TCBC)

Merrill Gardens of Fremont, 2860 Country Drive at Paseo Padre Parkway, Fremont 94536

Saturday 12:30 pm Open/Stratified

Director: Jim Solomon 538-9889

2011 Unit 500 Board of Directors

Bill Beeson 468-3590, Wayne Bennett 483-4889, Charlie Conrad 733-5311, Zoe Foster (925) 735-1932, Carla Francis 582-5288, Jan Hollowell 783-8678, Susan Lampert 278-5322,

Joyce Morrison 728-1029, Mary Ramos 537-4355, Isie Stefani (925) 485-3285,

Marilyn Tott 888-9368 and Ann Vargas 886-5333

District 21 Contract Bridge Forum Unitscope Reporter: Jim Solomon 538-9889

Table Talk Editor: Carla Francis 582-5288

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