

# Table Talk – October 2009

*District 21*

*South County Unit 500*

*ACBL*

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
FEC – Fremont Easybridge Club WEZB –Hayward Easybridge Club FBC –Fremont Bridge Club BC – The Bridge Club, Ashland TBC –Tutoriale Bridge Club <b>Save the Date – Holiday Party- Dec 13.</b>				1	2 <b>Unit 500</b> Swiss Teams 11:30 <b>MBC</b>	3 <b>TCBC</b> Charity Club Championship Swiss Teams
4	5 <b>RBC</b> Club Appr	6 <b>FEC*</b> <b>MBC</b> Club Appr Swiss Teams	7 <b>TBC*</b> <b>LBC</b> Club Apprecia- tion	8 <b>WEZB*</b> Club Appr	9	10 <b>TCBC</b> Unit Championship
11 <b>TBC</b> On-going Seminar Bridge Game	12 <b>FBC*</b> Club Appr	13 <b>FEC</b> ACBL-wide Interclub Champ	14	15 <b>BC*</b> Club Appr	16	17 <b>TCBC</b> Club Appr
18	19	20	21 <b>TBC</b> Club Champ.	22	23	24
25	26 <b>RBC</b> Club Appr Swiss Teams	27 <b>FEC</b> <b>MBC</b> Club Appr	28 <b>LBC</b> Club Appr Swiss Teams	29 <b>WEZB</b> Club Appr Swiss Teams	30	31 <i>Halloween</i> <b>TCBC</b> Club Appr Swiss

Table Talk Volume XXXXIII No.10

Visit our World Wide Web Site at: <http://unit500.bridgeforyou.com>

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:



Know anyone who has not yet joined the ACBL or let their membership lapse? Now is the time to get them involved. The below information is available on the ACBL website.

**Effective January 1, 2010** the requirements for attaining Life Master status will change. The new requirements will not apply to ACBL members in good standing whose dues are current as of December 31, 2009, and who maintain continuous membership in the ACBL until they become Life Masters. What are the new requirements?

As of January 1, 2010, the requirements for attaining Life Master status will change to **500** total masterpoints, of which **250** must be pigmented as follows:

**50 must be gold or platinum,  
50 red, gold or platinum,  
75 silver and  
75 black.**

What does this mean to you?

If you are not a Life Master and your ACBL membership is **not active as of December 31, 2009**, you will be required to fulfill the new Life Master requirements. It also means that if you let your ACBL membership lapse after January 1, 2010, before you become a Life Master, the new requirements will apply to you.

These requirements *do not apply* to **people who are ACBL members as of December 31, 2009 and maintain continuous membership in the ACBL until they achieve Life Master status**. These players will attain Life Master status upon earning **300 points**, of which **150** must be pigmented as follows: **25 gold, 25 red or gold, 50 silver and 50 black**.

Unit 500 also rewards its members with discounted unit sponsored events. **MARK your CALENDARS!** Our Holiday Party will be **December 13<sup>th</sup>** at the Marina Community Center. As always, we will have a catered meal. The flyer will be out next month.

See you at the tables,

Mary Ramos,  
Unit 500 President

Note: Joyce Morrison is the Board Member responsible for hospitality (“sunshine”) and she mails condolences from Unit 500 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 about such players. Telephone 510-728-1029 (leave a message if she’s not at home) or via email at [joycebobmorr2K9@SBCglobal.net](mailto:joycebobmorr2K9@SBCglobal.net)



## The South County News

by Jim Solomon

### New Home for Tri-City and Fremont Easybridge Clubs

The Tri-City Bridge Club of Fremont and the Fremont Easybridge Clubs are moving to new quarters at the beginning of this month. Their new home will be the Merrill Gardens of Fremont, at 2860 Country Drive (zip: 94536). See those clubs' pages within this issue of *Table Talk* for details.

### New Sunday Bridge Seminar and Game at Tutoriale

The Tutoriale Bridge Club of Castro Valley will initiate a Sunday game on the 11th of this month. Seminar-type lessons will begin at 1 p.m., followed by a two-hour game. Consult the Tutoriale page for details.

### Members on the Move

Last month we welcomed **Arkadi Goulakov** of Fremont as a new member of our unit. This month we welcome him back as a reinstated ACBL member, and the same for **Wes Clark** of Castro Valley. And we bid farewell to **Chuck Wong**, who's transferred to the Palo Alto unit.

### Moving up the Masterpoint Ladder

Congratulations to **Norma Bozzini**, who's now a Bronze Life Master (500+ masterpoints). **Sarah Chen** has become a Regional Master (100+ MPs), and **Vicky Santos** has moved up to the rank of Club Master (20+ MP).

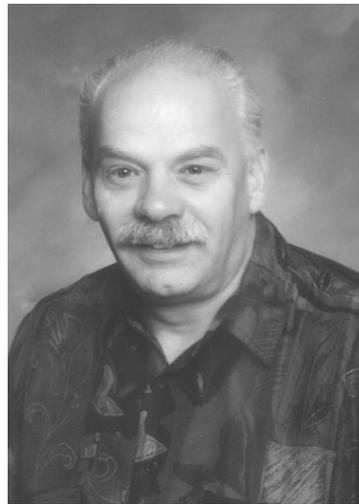
### Passing On

#### Dan McCracken

Dan McCracken succumbed to cancer some four months ago. According to his friend and colleague, Charlie Conrad, Dan played bridge all his life but didn't join ACBL until two years ago, when he decided to become an accredited bridge teacher. He taught several series of classes and was very well thought of by his students. Dan was instrumental in the growth and fellowship of the Friday Senior Bridge Club in Castro Valley; he also played in many other social bridge clubs. His most notable bridge achievement was in last year's All-Western Regional, where he led his team to a 5th-place finish in the B/C/D Swiss Teams. Everyone will remember his smile and the way he made everyone happy to have him around. He was noted for his smile, which, along with his positive attitude, he retained over many years of illness.

# Profile of Gary Peck

Gary Peck was born in New York City and was raised Long Island, New York until just before his 18<sup>th</sup> one year left to finish high school, his Dad quit his Empire State Building, sold their home on the Island, assets in a Vermont ski resort and purchased a Hunt and business in Idaho. It was kind of like the Beverley reverse.



in and around birthday. With plush job at the liquidated his Outfitting Hillbillies in

Though Gary worked three years for his father during the hunting seasons and spent his winters around his Mom's home in Florida; he eventually came to California in the early 70's and hitch-hiked across the country several times. He attended Chabot College in 1971 and in the Spring of '72 he received Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior, a move that changed the course of his life. He mentored under a pastor at Neighborhood Church in Castro Valley for a couple of years and entered Simpson Bible College, San Francisco in 1974. Reluctantly, he never finished Simpson, but became involved with the Chaplaincy at Juvenile Hall where he has been serving since the mid 80's.

Gary has three children from his first marriage; Jesse, Ryan and Aimee. Many may know the twins, Ryan and Aimee, because they caddied for several years at Santa Clara, Palo Alto & Sacramento Regionals; as well as the International Team Trials when held in S.F. several years ago. Ryan presently works as an Alameda County Deputy Sherriff in the San Lorenzo area.

Gary met Sharon eleven years ago at a Christian Singles Dance in Danville and married in 2001. She has three grown girls with families of their own in Mississippi, Arizona and Martinez, CA. The marriage provided Gary with six wonderful grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Gary and Sharon play softball weekly as weather permits and Sharon just received a Gold Medal at the 2009 U.S Senior Games for Women's Softball.

While in high school, Gary's Dad taught him the basics of Bridge, so he could fill in as a fourth when needed. In 1989 or 1990 he attended Jim Bachelor's game at Ashland and even scratched. He started to attend the local clubs regularly and later traveled, competing in the Spingold, Red and Blue Ribbon Pairs at the Nationals. He is a Silver Life Master and three of his favorite partners are Srikanth Kodayam, Zac Cohen and Jean Barry.

Thanks, Gary, for sharing your story with us. We will see you at the Unit 500 games.

## 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 that you played in *outside* of our district, please get in touch with me, at <mailto:LSJ63@ix.netcom.com> LSJ63@ yahoo.com or 510-538-9889.

### South County/Hayward Sectional, Centennial Hall, Hayward, August 7–9

In bracket 2 of the Sunday Swiss teams, the team that came in third included **Jo Ann Teixeira**, not Ann Conrad.

### Great Western Summer Fun STaC II, August 24–30

Almost all of our South County clubs held STaC (Sectional Tournament at Clubs) games at the end of August, and all but one of those contributed pairs to the overall awards in the Western Conference. The top South County masterpoint winners were **Doug Burke & Kevin Schoenfeld**; their 68.72% performance in the Wednesday morning game at the Lakeside BC catapulted them to second place overall among the 389 pairs playing in the ACBL's Western Conference that morning (and first in the B strat), netting each of them 13.02 silver points from that game alone.

Event	# of Pairs	Club	Pair	Percent Score	Place	Total Points
Monday Morning Special Pairs	12	Fremont Centerville BC	<i>Marolyn Lorish/ Gerry Jones</i>	61.84	2nd in A	2.00
			<i>Michael Rose/ Steve Brosamer</i>	52.63	4th in A, 3rd in B	1.13
Monday Afternoon NLM Pairs	181	Redwood BC	<i>Bill Beeson/ Asha Apte</i>	67.18	1st in A	8.19
			<i>Evy &amp; Bob Lemon</i>	64.49	3rd in A	4.61
			<i>Joan Taugher/ Theresia McNulty</i>	63.99	7th in A	3.03
			<i>Lynne Humphrey/ Trisha O'Connor</i>	62.80	8th in A	1.09
Tuesday Morning Open Pairs	419	Marina BC	<i>Don Schrump/ Virginia Herring</i>	66.67	4th in A	7.26
			<i>Allan Harris/ Sherard Wood</i>	65.53	6th in A, 3rd in B, 1st in C	9.59
			<i>Marty Holtz/ Charlie Conrad</i>	64.20	11 in A, 6th in B	3.21

Event	# of Pairs	Club	Pair	Percent Score	Place	Total Points
			<i>Bill Rasnick/ Meg Andrews</i>	60.80	16th in B	1.52
Tuesday Morning San Jose Swiss Teams	12 tables	San Jose Bridge Center, Campbell	<b>John Rollin</b>	75 Victory Points	4th in A	1.55
Tuesday Evening NLM Pairs	86	<b>Fremont Easybridge Club</b>	<b>Nuno Rebelo/ Vicky Santos</b>	71.82	1st in A, 1st in B, 1st in C	5.35
Wednesday Morning Open Pairs	389	<b>Lakeside BC</b>	<b>Doug Burke/ Kevin Schoenfeld</b>	68.72	2nd in A, 1st in B	13.02
			<b>Darrell Fung/ Gary Peck</b>	65.31	4th in A	7.12
			<b>Marv Griebrok/ Chrystal Newell</b>	61.29	9th in B	1.45
			<b>Martha Eddleman/ Anne Lindl</b>	60.58	11 in B, 4th in C	3.55
Thursday Morning Open Pairs	326	<b>Ashland BC</b>	<b>Kunio Okui/ Gary Peck</b>	64.35	14th in A	1.83
Thursday Afternoon Open Pairs	894	Palo Alto BC One Club	<b>Jay Magid</b>	68.78	4th in A	8.64
Saturday Afternoon Open Pairs	597	<b>Tri-City BC</b>	<b>Rajan Jeyakumar/ Venkat Sivasankaran</b>	67.04	7th in A, 4th in B	6.15

### All-Western Regional, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Santa Clara, September 1–7

This year's All-Western was all that we've come to expect: well organized, well directed, challenging, held in a pleasant playing space and hotel, and a combination of a lot of fun and a fair amount of bridge frustration. Unfortunately, it wasn't the usual standout week for South County members, with none of our heavy hitters breaking into the top 100 masterpoint winners. (The only two to make it into the top 150 were **Charlie Conrad** [121st] and your faithful correspondent [141st]). One of the highlights of the week for me was the first round of the final day's (Labor Day) Flight A/X Swiss Teams competition, when my team sat down against the team of Wold/Tchamitch/Hampson/Jacobus/O'Rourke, with about a zillion masterpoints among them—and, by God, we almost beat 'em!

The premier event of this tournament is the grueling two-day, four-session All-Western Open Pairs—*open* in the truest sense of the word in bridge terms: not stratified. At the end of Sunday's fourth session, a number of our members had distinguished themselves: **Andrew Gumperz** was in 10th place, **Steve & Sarah Chen** were 13th, and **Mark Dean** came in 29th. In other pairs events during the week (some Open, but all of those stratified), **Kevin Schoenfeld & Doug Burke** placed 16th overall and 4th in strat B in the two-session Wednesday Open Pairs, and on the day **Elias Nassoura** came in 9th in strat B and third in C in the two-session Senior Pairs. That afternoon **Dottie Reid & Tina Chen** played in the Intermediate/Newcomer 299er Pairs and placed 4th overall (and first in strat C). **Doug** scratched overall (6th in strat B) in the Thursday Open Pairs, and **Carol Ackerman** won the Morning 99er Pairs (first overall, first in B, and first in C!). Your faithful correspondent managed a

second in strat B in the Friday Open pairs, and not far behind (5th in B, and 2nd in C) were **Charlie Conrad & Bob Hamilton**.

**Bin Liang & Song Wang** won the one-day, two-session stratified open pairs on Saturday (not the All-Western event), also capturing firsts in strat B and their own strat C; **Alan Davis** placed third overall in that event, and **Bill Cubley** was 6th in B. **Nuno Rebelo & Vicky Santos** swept the Saturday Afternoon 99er Pairs (first overall and first in the B and C strats). In the Sunday Open Pairs, **John Rollin** won strat B and was 3rd overall, and **Jim Kelsey & Kunio Okui** were in the A strat. That afternoon in the I/N room, **LaVonne Addison & Jo Callahan** played to 2nd overall (and 2nd in B) in the 299er Pairs, and **Nuno & Vicky** tied for fourth overall in the 99er Pairs.

What about team events, you ask? Well, in Wednesday Evening's Swiss Teams, **Vince De Pasquale & Virginia Herring** placed 5th in strat B. In the Thursday/Friday Morning Swiss, your faithful correspondent was on a team that won the B and C strats and managed a 7th overall. In the Saturday Evening Swiss, **Jey (Rajan) Jeyakumar, Kunio Okui, & Richard Feinberg** tied for 5th overall. On the final day of the tournament, a team that included **Jun Shi** came in 15th overall and 3rd in the X strat of the A/X flight of the Stratified Swiss competition. In flight B/C/D **Terry Kellerman, Chrystal Newell, Venkat Sivasankaran, & Jey** were second overall (very nice!); **Marty Holts & Joe Parker** tied for 11th in strat B; and the team of **Valerie Byrne, Ann Conrad, Charlie, & Bob** were 3rd in the D strat. In that morning's 299er Swiss, **LaVonne, Jo, Nuno, & Vicky** placed 2nd overall and were first in strat B.

One arena in which South County members distinguished themselves was bracketed knockout team events. **Stephanie Singer's** team won Bracket 2 of the Annie Oakley KOs, and **Amy Wu's** team was second in that bracket; grab that gold, ladies! **Darrell Fung's** teams won bracket 2 of the Doc Holiday Compact KOs. The Davy Crockett KOs, which concluded on Sunday (the second-to-last day of the tournament) proved to be a rich vein: **Marty, Joe, & Charlie** won bracket 2; **Stephanie's** team won bracket 4; and **Bill Beeson & Sherard Wood** made to the semifinals of bracket 5, earning themselves some of those precious gold masterpoints.



## **Terry Terzian Bridge Games**

CLUB APPRECIATION games are special games offered to sanctioned clubs by the ACBL each October. They carry full SECTIONAL RATING, making them among the highest point games clubs can offer their players during the calendar year. As an added bonus, CLUB APPRECIATION SWISS TEAMS GAMES award 5% GOLD POINTS to all contestants, up to a maximum of 0.25 per player. Below is the complete schedule of CLUB APPRECIATION games for my three clubs. Regular table fees apply to the pair games; in the SWISS TEAMS games, table fees will be \$8.

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Regarding the CLUB APPRECIATION SWISS TEAMS game scheduled for Monday, October 26 at Redwood BC: separate OPEN and NLM sections will be offered, as always. In addition, a separate, regular NLM section will be offered for those pairs not wishing to participate in the Swiss Teams game. There will be a sign-up sheet at the club for the NLM CLUB APPRECIATION SWISS TEAMS game.

- Oct. 5 Club Appreciation Pairs game - RBC
- 6 Club Appreciation Swiss Teams game - MBC
- 7 Club Appreciation Pairs game - LBC
- 26 Club Appreciation Swiss Teams game -RBC
- 27 Club Appreciation Pairs game - MBC
- 28 Club Appreciation Swiss Teams game - LBC

# **Fremont Bridge Club**

**Mondays, 10:30am**

**Centerville Community Center**

**3355 Country Drive,**

**Fremont, CA 94536**

**Phone 510-790-0496**

**Web Site: <http://billhodges.bridgeforyou.com>**

**Email: [hodges5894@yahoo.com](mailto:hodges5894@yahoo.com)**

**Special Game: Mon. October 12, Club Appreciation Game!**

Our **Monday Morning game continues**. We have the best refreshments around and very friendly players. So all we need is you. We have a very special game this month scheduled for Mon. October 12th. It will be a Club Appreciation Game and a small amount of the winners master points will be gold points. Results for all my games are uploaded to the web site.

**Amy Wu and JT Wang** are doing quite well at the bridge table in Fremont. In late August/ September they've won both times they've played. Otherwise winners are spread evenly.

**Bridge Lesson?** Did you know that after a player opens the hand and the next two players pass, it's up to you to "balance" and keep the auction open? The bidding would go One Heart " Pass " Pass to you. Bids are shaded about a trick, where a double can now be made with about 10 evaluated points, and a simple overcall would be less than 10 points. A balancing notrump would be 11-14 points. Partner of the balancer needs to bid cautiously and wait and see what balancer does next. Balancer should consider passing when long in opener's suit.

# THE BRIDGE CLUB

ASHLAND PARK COMMUNITY CENTER,

OPEN, STRATIFIED

ACBL DUPLICATE BRIDGE

THURSDAYS, 10:30AM

1530 167TH AVENUE , SAN LEANDRO, CA 94578

ACBL Director: Bill Hodges

Phone: Home: 510-790-0496

Email: [hodges5894@yahoo.com](mailto:hodges5894@yahoo.com)

Web: [billhodges.bridgeforyou.com](http://billhodges.bridgeforyou.com)

## **Special Games in October, 2009:**

We have a Club Appreciation Game Scheduled for October 15th. It has very high master point awards with no increase in table fees.

**Three months have passed** since I started managing this game. I appreciate all of you who play in the game. Thank you so much to everyone who helps out and bring refreshments. Let me acknowledge the double winners the last five weeks (Aug 27 - Sep 24) Carl Highley, in the A: section and Marcelle Granger and Sherard Wood in the B Section. Congratulations to you all!

**Did you know** that some people play that the way to show partner a limit raise to after interference overcall is to cue bid the overcalled suit? So it would go 1H - 1S - 2S! If partner was the overcaller it might go 1H-1S-P-2H! Pretty slick, yes?



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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** Penthouse, 3rd Floor, Merrill Gardens of Fremont  
Newcomer Lesson and Game (0-20 MP): 5:45-9:15 p.m. 2860 Country Drive at Paseo Padre Pkwy.  
Intermediate Stratified/Limited (0-200 MP) Game: 6:15-9:45 p.m. Fremont 94536

### Hayward Weekes Park Easybridge Club

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

**Thursday Afternoons** Weekes Park Community Center  
**Intermediate** Lesson and Stratified/Limited Game 27182 Patrick Avenue  
(0-200 MP): 12:30-3:30 p.m. Hayward

**Big news** for our Fremont game: we've moved! Our new Tuesday evening home is the Merrill Gardens of Fremont, a senior residence at 2860 Country Drive at Paseo Padre Parkway. This apartment-style retirement community (formerly the Country Inn) offers a number of amenities, including its third-floor penthouse, which will be our playing space and which is accessible by elevator. Parking is available on the street (please don't park in the lot) or by other arrangements. We'll see you there.

All of this moving, just when our new players were getting used to our old home at St. James'. At our Tuesday evening game we were pleased to welcome **Carol Ackerman, Ujwal Ranadive, Johnna & Bill Laird, Lina Gordanier**, and the return of **Deepa Thairani, Jean Wood, and Debbie Jones**, the latter with husband **Dennis** accompanying. They've begun the first series of Easybridge lessons, and we look forward to all of them joining our other games soon.

We have a slew of special games on tap in October, many of them because this month is ACBL's Club Appreciation Month.

- We'll kick things off in Fremont on Tuesday evening, the 6th (our first night in our new Merrill Gardens home), with a Club Appreciation Championship (C.A.C.) Swiss Teams game. With that fast approaching, it's not a moment too early to let me know who'll comprise your team, whether you and your regular partner are looking for teammates, or whether you need help finding a team.
- On Thursday afternoon, the 8th, in Hayward we'll hold a C.A.C. pairs game.
- On Tuesday evening, the 13th, the ACBL is holding an Interclub Championship game, and our Fremont club will be participating. Several of our players have placed high in this national competition (in April three of our pairs were in the big money nationally, including **Jo Callahan & LaVonne Addison**, who placed 2nd overall among the 120 pairs playing), and there's no reason why history shouldn't repeat itself this time.
- On Tuesday, the 27th, we'll offer a C.A.C. pairs game in Fremont.
- On Thursday, the 29th, we'll hold a C.A.C. Swiss teams game in Hayward. Players, form your teams!

In our STaC (Sectional Tournament at Clubs) game at the end of August, **Nuno Rebelo & Vicky Santos** turned in a spectacular 72% game, placing them smack dab at the top of the Tuesday Evening NLM Pairs across ACBL's Western Conference and the 86 pairs competing. On Tuesday, Sep. 22, we held our quarterly Club Championship game in Fremont, and the **Addisons—LaVonne & Les**—prevailed over all with a 64% game; **Nuno & Vicky** were first in the B strat, and newcomers **Debbie & Dennis Jones** were first in C.

Over the last reporting period (late August–late September), our top masterpoint winners in the Fremont Easybridge Club have been **Nuno & Vicky**; each will receive half a free play at an Easybridge game of their choosing. At Weekes Park the top MP earners were **Victor De Grande & Les Addison**; they'll also receive half a free play at one of our games.

You'll find complete results and special announcements for our games at our Unit 500 Easybridge website:  
<http://jimsolomon.bridgeforyou.com>.

# Tri-City Bridge Club

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

Saturdays at 1 p.m.



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

Club website: <http://jimsolomon.bridgeforyou.com>

**Big news:** the Tri-City BC has moved! Our new home is the Merrill Gardens of Fremont, a senior residence at 2860 Country Drive at Paseo Padre Parkway. This apartment-style retirement community (formerly the Country Inn) offers a number of amenities, including its third-floor penthouse, which will be our playing space and which is accessible by elevator. Parking is available on the street (please don't park in the lot) or by other arrangements. We look forward to seeing you there.

We'll begin the month on Saturday, Oct. 3rd, in a big way, celebrating our move to new quarters with our Fall Swiss Teams Festival; it'll also be a Charity Club Championship game, with lots of extra masterpoints. (At our summer edition of this game, all but one of the eleven teams entered won masterpoints, and the average masterpoint award per player on those ten teams was 1.50!) If you're reading this before the 3rd and haven't formed your team yet, please get in touch with me right away to let me know who's on your team, whether you and your partner are looking for teammates, or whether you'd like to find a team to play on.

You might want to keep your team intact until the end of the month, when we'll be holding another Swiss teams game. October is ACBL's Club Appreciation Month, and we'll be showing our appreciation to you in big time. On Saturday, the 31st, we'll end the month with a Club Appreciation Teams game, which features gold! ACBL allows us to award you and your teammates 5% of your masterpoints for the day as gold points, up to a maximum of .25 points; the remainder of the points will be black points, awarded as if this were an event in a sectional tournament. (If you don't need it to make Life Master, we can dispense the gold to you in leaf form, to apply to your Halloween costume.)

In between we'll be presenting you another Club Appreciation Championship game, this a pairs game, on Saturday, the 17th. The Saturday before that, the 10th, we're pleased to be hosting a Unit Championship game. At both we'll award black masterpoints, the first at 100% of a sectional tournament and the second at 85%, and not for a penny extra in table fees. (The only game of the month for which you'll need extra shekels is our Swiss Teams Festival on the 3rd—an extra buck.)

Over the past month we also held a bunch of special games. In our STaC game on August 29th, **Venkat Sivasankaran & Jey Jeyakumar** had a stellar 67% game, claiming first in both our A and B strats, and went on to place 7th in A and 4th in B among 597 pairs playing in the ACBL's Western Conference that afternoon. In our Unit Championship game on Sep. 12th, these gentlemen did it again—first overall; **Bin Liang & Darrell Fung** were first in the B strat, and **Stephanie Singer & Bob Hamilton** were first in C. The following Saturday was a Club Championship game, which ended in a tie at the top, between—guess who?—Jey & Venkat, and **Dave & Joyce Denyven**. (Thanks to Sharon Tarpinian for ably directing that game in my absence.)

Our top masterpoint winners over the last reporting period (late August–late September) were (no surprise here) the pair of **Jey Jeyakumar** and **Venkat Sivasankaran**. They'll each receive half a free play at a game of their choice.

For more detailed results of all games, as well as announcements about special events and late-breaking news, visit our club website: <http://jimsolomon.bridgeforyou.com> (note that the website is currently under reconstruction).

**CHARLIE CONRAD PRESENTS:**

# Another new bridge game!!

Announcing my newest offering for bridge players – **seminar-type lessons, followed by a short bridge game.**

**Who:** Everyone is encouraged to attend the seminars. The game is open to players with under 600 master points. Others are encouraged to kibitz the game.

**What:** I'll be giving a 1-hour seminar and discussion on a basic bridge topic, aimed at novice to intermediate players. Questions and comments will be encouraged. Each topic will relate to players who are fairly new to the game and to those who may have forgotten some of the basics. We'll discuss some modern conventions and defensive signals, but the focus will be on disciplined improvement of everyone's bridge game.

After each lesson, we'll have a 12-14 board game (about 2 hours) for players with less than 600 master points. ACBL allows these short games to award master points at a reduced rate. Some of the hands will be pre-dealt with the day's topic in mind, and some will be randomly dealt.

**When:** Sunday afternoons (starting October 11), 1-4 pm.

**Where:** Tutoriale, 20660 Redwood Rd, Castro Valley 94546

**Why:** Maybe I'm having too much fun with my Wednesday game, or maybe I just want to give everyone information that will help them play better and enjoy the game more.

**Cost:** **The first three lessons will be FREE!!** Game fees will be \$4. After the first three lessons, each lesson will cost \$4 and each game will cost \$4. Players who come for both lesson and game will pay \$7.

Lesson 1 will concentrate on general principles of playing the hand as declarer. Lesson 2 will involve defensive play and standard signals. Lesson 3 is about basic bidding. After these three, we'll narrow our focus to specific areas, such as notrump openings, finesses, Stayman Convention, and others. The whole series will last 8 to 10 months, with a few breaks for holidays, tournaments, and other unforeseen circumstances.

I'm expanding the master point limit to 600 to get a larger crowd than my Wednesday games, because I think everyone can use a discussion of the basic points of bridge. Also, if needed, some experienced players can participate without making their partners ineligible for awards.

Please contact me at 510-329-5916 or [cconrad313@aol.com](mailto:cconrad313@aol.com) for more information.

## 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: Bill Hodges (790-0496)**

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### Fremont Bridge Club (FBC)

Centerville Community Center, 3355 Country Drive, Fremont 94536

**Monday 10:30 Open/Stratified Director: Bill Hodges (790-0496)**

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### Fremont Easybridge Club (FEC) (0-20/0-200 MP)

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

**Tuesday 6:15 pm (5:45 Lesson) Newcomer (0-20MP), Stratified/Limited (0-200 MP)**

**Director: Jim Solomon 538-9889**

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### Hayward Weekes Park Easybridge Club (WEZB) (0-200MP)

Weekes Park Community Center, 27182 Patrick Avenue, Hayward 94544

**Thursday 1:00 pm (12:30 Lesson) Stratified/Limited (0-200 MP)**

**Director: Jim Solomon 538-9889**

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### Lakeside Bridge Club (LBC)

San Lorenzo Park Recreation Center, 1970 Via Buena Vista, San Lorenzo 94580

**Wednesday 10:30 am Open/Stratified Director: Terry Terzian 581-4424**

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### Marina Bridge Club (MBC)

Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd, San Leandro 94579

**Tuesday 10:30 am Open/Stratified & 199er Director: Terry Terzian 581-4424**

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### Redwood Bridge Club (RBC)

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

**Monday 1:00 pm Open/Stratified & Non-Life Master Sections (12:45 Lesson)**

**Director: Terry Terzian 581-4424**

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### Tri-City Bridge Club (TCBC)

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

**Saturday 1:00 pm Open/Stratified Director: Jim Solomon 538-9889**

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### Tutoriale Bridge Club (TBC)

Tutoriale Center for Education, 20660 Redwood Road, Castro Valley

**Wednesday 10:30 pm Limited (0-300MPs) Director: Charlie Conrad (329-5916)**

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### 2008 Unit 500 Board of Directors

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