

Our Bridge World

This is the first edition of a newsletter produced by Unit 529, the Modesto chapter of the ACBL. We share the mission of the American Contract Bridge League in promoting and sustaining the game of bridge and serving the bridge-related interests of our members.

Yes, our covert mission is to recruit more duplicate players, but we are happy to support the enjoyment of bridge anywhere and any way you want to play it. We know some of you will come over to the dark side and join us eventually.

To that end, we intend to publish this newsletter at least monthly, to bring attention to all the wonderful people who play bridge in our area. This is supposed to be fun. We want to note personal accomplishments unrelated to bridge such as a milestone birthday or important event in one's life, surprising facts about the people we play with, amusing stories about us or upcoming local bridge events.



The back of Joyce Rudesill's head, Judy Remmers, Vicki MacClyment and Barbara Page. Having fun at bridge.

Here is what's happening...

We have multiple goals and have several projects underway. This list is the very tip of the ice berg.

- I have formed an education committee. We are trying to form a Youth Bridge League in the Modesto and Ceres schools. We will make all our efforts available to our members in the Sonora area as well. We hope to have something to show for this by next year.
- We are raising our community profile promoting beginning, intermediate, social and duplicate bridge. Rita O'Hare has been adding information about lessons and games to local community calendars and will field any inquires these generate.
- We have plans to improve the web site. Adding more features that show what we are doing and more information about what is coming up.
- We are exploring a mentor program for new duplicate players
- We are organizing a new beginning duplicate game in the evening for those who cannot play on Sunday. This game will be for beginning duplicate players only.

Getting to know each other with fun facts

Here is a sample of the kind of thing I hope you will find in this section.

Did you know...

- Ray Adams was an expert in Russian linguistics working for the Army in West Berlin. He is so knowledgeable about West Berlin, he writes a blog about it which can be found at <http://rayscoldwarberlinblog.com/>
- Roy Carnahan also worked for the US government as a Spanish voice interceptor. He was stationed on a Navy vessel off the coast of Cuba. Bueno.
- Chris Barkley is an expert on some fantasy literature. She has written a book about Stephen Donaldson and recently had a series of lectures on Tolkien translated to Portuguese.
- Joyce Rudesill is an avid birder when she's not inside playing bridge.



Ray Adams

Parking In the very west end of the lot, where it says "Authorized Parking Only", you are authorized to park. Where it says "No Parking" by the cyclone fence on the north side of the lot, you may park. Where it doesn't say anything about not parking on the east side of the building to our west, don't park. If you are confused, (and who could blame you?), do what we all do with any little question, ask Jan, the one who knows all.

Happy Bridge I have been trying to get pictures of happy bridge players. I hear people laughing like mad all over the place, but by the time I turn around to take a picture it is all over. Happy pictures will appear here.

Here are some things to laugh about:

Bridge as usual . . . Thursday's duplicate game was interrupted by an announcement that there was a gas leak just outside the card room. Peter explained to the group that PGE suggested we leave the building and that they would be there in an hour or so. Peter asked the group if anyone wanted to leave, asking for a show of hands. No one volunteered to leave. One person did take the opportunity to ask that more time be added to the clock to compensate for the interruption. And the game went on. . . Peter's comment "I guess we'll all go to heaven together" um that's not where I think everyone is going.



Joan, Pat & the back of John Kimbal's head
Playing bridge on John's birthday.

Other News

Yes, that was our own Louise Kantro on the cover of Monday's Modesto Bee. The community novel project is very lucky to get her. Okay, you read, you already knew that but. . . Did you know she comes from a pedagogical family? Louise taught at Modesto City High School. Her son, David, teaches at Davis. Her sister, Chris, is retired from Palomar Community College and her mother, Virginia, taught English at Mesa Community College. Of course, such an intelligent family, they all play bridge.

Connie Arnold and Judy Remmers qualified at the local level to compete in a district level North American Pairs competition (NAP). In Walnut Creek, at the district level, they competed against 24 other pairs. Against this well-qualified group, they came in second (they were edged out of first by the merest sliver of a point). This strong performance won them a \$300 stipend to fund their way to Dallas to compete in the National North American Pair competition. GOOD LUCK! We are already very proud of you both.

UNIT GAME FEB 6th!! Judy is making chili and corn bread for the unit game on Feb. 6th. I will make a salad. We need someone or ones to make desserts. Any offers?

Lee Maddocks is teaching **beginning bridge** at MJC. The first class is March 16 at 6:30. It goes for 8 weeks with a week off over spring break. Sign up at the door or www.MJC4life.org. Lee's phone is 209-548-9999.

Today's editor

This issue was written by Libby Longstreth, the newly elected and somewhat overwhelmed Unit 529 president. I am pictured at the right with sweet Jean Chitwood. I expect future issues will be written by others. I am open to any comments or suggestions from anyone about anything. If you have any of these things or just want to be on our email list, email me at Libby10@sbcglobal.net.

