

Table Talk – October 2017

District 21

South County Unit 500

ACBL

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 SFP Regular Game 7-9pm	4 RBC Club Appreciation Pairs	5	6	7
8 RBC NAP 12:00	9	10 SFP Closed	11	12	13	14
15	16 RBC Club Appreciation Pairs	17 SFP Regular Game 7-9pm	18 RBC Unit Game	19	20	21
22	23 RBC Unit Game	24 MBC Club Appreciation Pairs SFP Regular Game 7-9 pm	25 RBC Club Appreciation Teams	26	27	28
29	30 MBC Club Appreciation Swiss Teams	31 MBC Club Appreciation Swiss Teams SFP Closed				

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

Table Talk Volume LI No.10

President's Message

Charlie Conrad

Last Friday's Unit game, with food from Rigatoni's, wasn't as well attended as usual. There were a couple of competing events. Those who played were treated to a wonderful meal and a great game of bridge. Many slam hands in the E/W direction.

Save the date: Sunday, December 10 will be our annual holiday party and election of board members. We have two members retiring, so we're looking for new members. If interested, please contact me.

There is a new annual District 21 Regional in Sparks, NV, October 9th to 15th. Room rates are reasonable, and winter should hold off until the tournament has ended.

Beginning bridge classes: Right now I'm holding classes on different plays and conventions. The class meets at my house on Tuesdays from 7 – 9 pm.

Julie's new doctor is in Arizona. He convinced her insurance company to pay for the treatments. The chemo will be much less, and her new medication will be in the form of pills. She's doing very well and will celebrate her 50th birthday this month.

Our **Unit finals for the North American Pairs** will be at Aitken Center Sunday, October 8, at noon. To enter you must have qualified at a club game anywhere in ACBL. Check the score sheets from any NAP games you played in this summer. If you see a Q next to your name, you qualify to the unit level. **You are only allowed to play in one unit-level game!** There are other games in different units for you to play in if you can't make it to ours. See the District 21 web site for more info. District finals are in January.

See you at the bridge tables.



What's News in South County

Kate Hare

The Sept 29th Unit Game and Lunch was a mixed success. For the first time the Board of Directors purchased food to go from Rigatoni's Restaurant in Castro Valley. The three entrees were delicious and very well received by the players. Jeff Lamparter and Bob Bauman picked up the food and it arrived piping hot. It was cheerfully served by them and other members of the board. The crowd shared a cake to celebrate the Unit 500 players, Drayton Swartz, Jean Wood, Terry Gardner, Andy Sass and Don Bierman, who earned their Life Master within the last twelve months, and Kevin Schoenfeld who attained Gold Life Master last month. The board members present did an expert job, working together to give the attending players a very nice lunch. The only problem with this otherwise great event was the attendance. There were only eleven and a half tables, barely half the number attending the Salad Lunch and Game the month before. The diminished participation was partly due to other special bridge events in the area, unfortunately scheduled for the same day.

It is time to mark your calendars for the next Unit-sponsored event. The Annual Meeting and Holiday Luncheon, catered by Ruggies Catering, will be held on Sunday, Dec 10 at the Marina Community Center.

Other news that's fit to print is available in the News section on the home page of the Unit 500 Website. Bill George does a terrific job keeping the information current. He updates the page regularly throughout the month.

TOURNAMENT TRAIL: The Santa Clara All Western Championships is very popular with Unit 500 players and many of them had a very successful tournament this year. Youth player **Brent Xiao** ranked among the Top 100 Players. He had two first place wins. His brother **Rory** had a first place in Side Pairs, playing with his dad, **Bo Xiao**. **Bo** had another first in the ABC Open Pairs with partner **Zianming Zhang**. Some of the early highlights were posted last month but they deserve reiteration. **Kevin Patterson** & partner placed 1st overall in the 299er Pairs. **Frederick Tierney, Jr.** had three first place wins, one of them with partner **Daniel Claassen**. **Vandana Vidwans** & partner had a first in ABC Open Pairs. **Trudie Sinclair** and team ranked first in KOs. Unit 500 players who ranked in the top 50% and their total MP earnings were: **Brent Xiao** (29.88), **Fred Tierney, Jr.** (23.88), **Bo Xiao** (19.75), **Ethan Liu** (15.06), **Rory Xiao** (14.75), **Vandana Vidwans** (13.36), **Y Chen** (12.94), **Carla Francis** (12.44), **Charlie Conrad** (11.28), **Daniel Claassen** (9.69), **Mike Stambaugh** (8.47), **Joan Clark** (7.63), **Kevin Schoenfeld**

(6.53), *Drayton Swartz* (5.90) and *Ashraf El Sadi* (5.34). The names of all of the players who brought home points can be seen on the results page at acbl.org.

The Santa Rose Sectional was also held in September. One of the 126 players who came home a winner was *Vandana Vidwans*, who earned 2.16 silver masterpoints. The Stockton Sectional had an extra draw this year. The annual tournament was held on the Riverboat Klamath, which appealed to many Unit 500 players. In the 38 table Stratified Swiss Game, *Carla Francis* and team placed first in C. The team of *Linda Duchscherer, Andy Sass, Drayton Swartz & Mike Stambaugh* took third in C. In Open Pairs, *Rory Xiao* & partner placed first in C. Other winners from Unit 500 who brought home silver were: *Vandana Vidwans, Kevin Patterson, Olga Swartz, Sarah Simmerman, Don Bierman* and *Charlie and Ann Conrad*. Congratulations to all!

** 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**

NEW MEMBERS AND MEMBERS ON THE MOVE: Last month was a good month for membership. Welcome, *Shree Garga, Sidney Ho* and *Christine Van Hulle*, new members to ACBL and Unit 500. Welcome also *Louise Doying* and *Shuo Zhang* who transferred their memberships to South County. Farewell to *Harvey Rosenberg* who transferred his membership to Diablo Valley.

The membership of Unit 500 has dropped in recent years. There was an increase to 205 in September thanks to the new members mentioned above. More new members are welcome. If you have any ideas to increase membership please share your thoughts with any of the board members. They would be happy to hear from you. Their phone numbers are listed on page 7.

ADVANCEMENTS: There were several changes in rank last month: *Kevin Patterson* (Club Master), *Joan Roe* (Sectional Master), *Mike Stambaugh* (NABC Master), and as a result of their performances at the Santa Clara Regional, *Andy Sass* and *Don Bierman* (Life Master). Congratulations to all!

COMING UP: Unit 500's unit-level North American Pairs Qualifying Game will be held at the Aitken Community Center on Sunday, Oct. 8 at noon. The Annual Meeting and Holiday Game will be at the Marina Community Center on Sunday, Dec 10. Please watch for the sign-up sheet at your local club.



Hayward 500 Bridge Club

Sarah Simmerman

September has come and gone but bridge is still alive, especially at the Hayward 500 Club.

We had lists of winners (everyone who plays is one!) and lots of new people, who we hope will come back.

Our winners include Bill Hammerback and Kristine Chen, Anne Hermann and Karen Seltzer,

Linda and Sidney Ho, and Barbara Dabney and Marion Michel. Congrats to all of you.

Welcome to our new folks: Sidney Ho, Kristine Che, Debra Jones, and Ray Tsiang. We look forward to seeing you often.

Upcoming events include a Unit Swiss on November 9th, so start lining up teammates now.

Our game time is still 11:30 am, with a short lesson at 11:00 am.

We still provide snacks, but you are invited to bring them, too.

Please let us know if you need a partner any time.

Sarah's show begins October 5 (a free preview) and every weekend through first weekend in Nov. Show time is 8:00 pm on Fri and Sat and 2:00 pm on Sundays. The first weekend is sold out. Please help us sell out the rest. Guaranteed laughter and toe tapping music!!

See you there.

Sarah, Barbara, and Don



SAN FELIPE BRIDGE CLUB

**At my home
20340 Hunters Knoll
Castro Valley**

Director/Presenter: Charlie Conrad

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

Tuesday evenings 7-9 pm

We're now holding lessons on different conventions and plays. We don't have enough students to hold a full course, so we're concentrating on the following subjects.

October 3, Stayman Convention
October 10, Closed for Sparks Regional
October 17 and 24, Standard Declarer Plays
October 31, closed for Halloween

Please e-mail or call Charlie. (510) 329-5916 or
cconrad313@aol.com Refreshments provided!!

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.



NAP Unit-Level Game
Sunday, October 8, noon
Aitken Community Center
Fee: \$11 per player

Unit 500 will hold a North America Pairs Game for players who qualified in clubs during the summer of 2017.

This stratified, single-session game will qualify players in flights A, B, and C for the District 21 finals. All flights will play together in this game, with qualification based on comparison with other players in your flight.

This game will pay all red masterpoints.

For information, please contact the Director, Charlie Conrad cconrad313@aol.com or (510) 329-5916.

Note: If you have already played in any Unit-level game this year, you are not eligible to play in this game. And if you play in this game, you are not eligible to play in another unit-level game in 2017.



Unit 500 Bridge Clubs

San Felipe Park Bridge Club (SFP)

Contact Charlie Conrad for address
Tuesday: 7 – 9 pm, Beginner/Novice
Directors: Charlie Conrad 329-5916

Hayward 500 Bridge Club (HBC)

Weekes Park Community Center, 27182 Patrick Ave., Hayward
Thursday: 11:30 am (11:00 Lesson) Stratified/Limited (0 - 499 MP)
Presenters: Sarah Simmerman 569-8721, Barbara Dabney 599-6308,
Don Bierman 501-3458

Marina Bridge Club (MBC)

Marina Community Center, 15301 Wicks Blvd., San Leandro
Tuesday: 10:30 am Open/Stratified
Director: Terry Terzian 581-4424

Redwood Bridge Club (RBC)

Kenneth Aitken Community Center, 17800 Redwood Road, Castro Valley
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

2017 Unit 500 Board of Directors

Anna and Bob Bauman 727-1244, Don Bierman 501-3458
Charlie Conrad 733-5311, Linda Duchscherer 427-3331,
Carla Francis 582-5288, Robert Hamilton 881-0581, Kate Hare 865-4143,
Jeff Lamparter 581-1710, Mary Ramos 537-4355, Andy Sass 656-7347,
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