

Table Talk – December 2010

District 21

South County Unit 500

ACBL

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Save the Date: RBC -New Year's Day Game and Party TCBC – Closed New Year's Day			1	2	3	4 TCBC Charity Club Championship
5	6 RBC FBC	7 MBC FEC	8 RBC	9 BC HEC	10 UNIT 500 Holiday Party MBC	11 TCBC
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> ◀-----Western Conference STaC-----▶ </div>						
12	13 RBC Holiday Potluck	14 MBC Unit Game	15	16 BC Holiday Party	17	18 TCBC Unit Game
19	20 FBC <i>CLOSED</i>	21 FEC ACBL Membership Championship	22 RBC Club Championship	23 HEC <i>Relocation back to Weekes See back pg for address</i>	24	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i> TCBC <i>CLOSED</i>
26	27 FBC <i>CLOSED</i>	28 FEC <i>OPEN</i>	29	30 HEC <i>OPEN</i>	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>	

Table Talk Volume XXXIV No. 12

<http://unit500.bridgeforyou.com>

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:



December is here and soon we will ring in 2011. We hope we have fulfilled our mission to help you enjoy the wonderful and challenging game of bridge

Last month I thanked the directors/owners, board members as well as Jim and Bill – each of these share their talents throughout the year. There are numerous members (too many to name) who volunteer their help and support, please know that you are appreciated. Last, but not least, I want to thank all our unit members. Without your membership our unit would not exist.

Silver bells will be chiming and silver points will fill our clubs. December 6-12 is the Great Western Holiday STAC week and all our clubs are participating. STAC is a sectional tournament played simultaneously in clubs throughout several Districts instead of in a single location. This presents the opportunity to play at your local club game but receive more silver points than participating in a sectional. Have a great game and reap the silver rewards. Good Luck to all!



One Last Reminder: Our Unit 500 **December 10 (Friday) Holiday Party** is a STAC game that not only awards inflated silver points but begins with a hot catered meal. **Come, join the party!** We will also hold our annual membership meeting and board election. We do need to get a head count for the catered meal so please use the sign-up sheets. This year we are scheduling a **single session pair's game**.

Meal: 12:00PM (Marina Community Center)

Game: approximately 12:30 (directly after the meal)

As a thank you for supporting Unit and Club Games during 2010, the meal will be *complimentary* to all paid-up Unit members - all others will pay far less than the actual cost of the meal.

I want to wish you and your family a joyous and blessed holiday season,

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

The South County News

by *Jim Solomon*



Unit 500 Annual Holiday Party and STaC Game Coming Up!

Time to purchase the batteries for your flashing Christmas earrings or necktie, and do get them installed by Friday, the 10th. That's the day of our annual holiday party and general meeting, to be held again at the Marina Community Center in San Leandro, the commodious home of the Marina Bridge Club. A catered buffet luncheon will begin at noon, and the meal is free to all current members of Unit 500, one of the many benefits that we offer our members during the year. If you're not a member yet, it's not too late to join ACBL (or switch your membership from another unit); otherwise you'll be asked to pay \$7 for the meal (which is considerably less than its actual cost—and our way of thanking you for your support of our clubs during the year).

After the meal, around 12:30, we'll hold a brief meeting (our annual general meeting), which will include elections for our board of directors. All board members whose terms expire at the end of this year are running for re-election, but if you'd like to serve on the board and wish to run, please contact board president Mary Ramos and let her know of your interest (510-537-4355; mar5210@comcast.net).

And then the cards come out! Along with the holiday party, we'll celebrate the season with a Silver Point (STaC) game, as part of Sectional Tournament at Clubs week. The game will be a single-session pairs event, and, attendance permitting, we'll offer separate open and Non-Life Masters sections (both stratified). If you need a partner for the game, we can help: contact Issi Stefani (925-485-3285), Jan Hollowell (phil-jan@comcast.net), or director Terry Terzian (510-581-4424; nicecardshark@aol.com).

Members on the Move

Welcome to **Pashi Vakiva**, a Walnut Creek resident who's transferred to South County from the Diablo Valley Unit (#499).

Moving up the Masterpoint Ladder

Valerie Byrne has advanced to NABC Master (200+ masterpoints), **Arnold & Cynthia George** and **Roy Grady** are now Club Masters (20+ MPs), and **John Sullivan** has become a Junior Master (5+ MPs). Congratulations to you all!

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.

Diablo Valley Sectional, Pine Valley Middle School, San Ramon, November 13–14

South County members made some nice showings in the second 2010 iteration of this tournament. In the Saturday Open Pairs, **Bin Liang** came in second in the B strat and 13th overall. In the morning Side Game, **Bonnie Janzen** was first in B and second overall; in the afternoon, it was **Charlie Tonelli & Jean Wood**'s turn: third in B and tied for fourth overall. On Sunday, **Jim Kelsey**'s team won Bracket 2 of the Bracketed Swiss Teams.

East Bay Fall Sectional, Holy Redeemer Center, Oakland, November 19–21

Kaye Folsom & Jerry Brown began things in this semiannual tournament with a second place showing in strat B of the Friday Afternoon Open Pairs. On the Non-Life Masters side of the room **Jean Wood & Charlie Tonelli** grabbed first in both the E and F strats and were second overall; **Mary & Mike Lubin** were third in E and sixth overall. In the B/C/D Pairs on Saturday morning, your faithful correspondent, playing with Tri-City regular Gloria Darke, came in first overall. **Prakash Karamchandani & Bill Cubley** tied for third in the B/C/D event, and in the afternoon, they were fifth overall, and **Sam Srinivasan & Sreedhar Vaidun** were third in both C and D. In the NLM pairs that morning, Charlie & Jean again scratched, with a fourth in strat G. In the Barbara Harmon Sunday Bracketed Swiss Teams, now memorializing Barbara Harmon, **Jianming Zhang & Bo Xiao**'s team won Bracket 5.

The Bridge Club in Fremont

Monday 10:30 a.m.

Centerville Community Center
3355 Country Drive, Fremont
Bill Hodges Director 790-0496



Fremont's Monday game has dwindled to three tables most Mondays. We mourn its impending demise after its long history and are looking for some saviors. As few as four to six fairly regular additional players will put enough life into the club to give us the chance to recover while we seek other new ACBL members to join us. We need you and hope you will come to some of our games.

We are all getting older and don't care for long drives, but, I know there are players in the area who love the competition of duplicate bridge or just a good game of bridge. Join us whenever you can. You won't regret coming. We're a **friendly crew** and Bill serves **great snacks**. The game is stratified, so anyone can win even though we have some great players.

Bring a partner or come alone; but bringing a partner is encouraged. Several of our fairly regular players don't always schedule partnerships far in advance and can be enticed to come if called. So check with Bill. He may have some suggestions.

The Centerville Community Center will be closed the last two weeks of December. There will only be two games in December. The Dec 6th game is a STAC game, so silver points will be awarded. The last game of the year will be on December 13.

The club will be open each Monday in January but the fate of the club depends on finding more players. We hope you will be one of them.

Best wishes for the holidays and New Year.



Unit 500 Easybridge Clubs

Manager/Director: Jim Solomon 510-538-9889 LSJ63@yahoo.com

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

Fremont Easybridge Club

Penthouse, 3rd Floor, Merrill Gardens of

Fremont

Intermediate Lesson: 5:45–6:15 p.m.
Fremont 94536

2860 Country Drive at Paseo Padre Pkwy.

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

Hayward Easybridge Club

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

Thursday Afternoons
Center

Southgate Community

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

26780 Chiplay

Intermediate Lesson and Stratified/Limited Game (0–300 M): 12:30–4:00 p.m.
94545

Hayward

The Hayward Easybridge Club is on the move again. While the Southgate Community Center is being renovated and repaired (particularly the restrooms), we'll be moving back to the Weekes Park Community Center, where the club began its bridge life. The Southgate renovation will take some five months, and our last game there will be on December 9th. The following week, the 16th, we'll take up residence at Weekes, the address of which is 27182 Patrick Ave. in Hayward.

That game at Southgate on Thursday, the 9th, will be a special one in another sense: it'll be a silver masterpoint game, held as part of the ACBL Western Conference's Holiday STaC week—Sectional Tournament at Clubs. Here's your chance to win those hard-to-come-by silver points without having to drive to a tournament. The game will feature predeal (preduplicated) hands and, at the end of the game, hand records. There'll be an extra charge for the game, the Western Conference's standard \$1.50 silver point fee.

The Fremont Easybridge Club will also be participating in STaC week with its own silver point game on Tuesday evening, the 7th. Two weeks later, on the 21st, we'll be holding our annual Club ACBL Membership Championship game; extra masterpoints, no extra charge (but no masterpoints if you're not a current ACBL member).

Both clubs will be open over the holidays, with games in Fremont on the 21st (as noted above) and 28th and in Hayward on the 23rd and 30th. Both clubs will be closed the first week of January, for the regional tournament in Monterey.

Last month in Fremont, on November 2nd, we participated in another of ACBL's Interclub Championship games.

Jonathan Sloves & Joanne Baumgardner had an exceptionally good game and ended up not only first at our club but third overall and first in the B and C strats among the 176 pairs in 13 clubs who competed in this event; at the national level they won 6.30 masterpoints, adding to the 0.48 they won in Fremont. **Jean Wood & Charlie Tonelli** were atop both strats B and C in Fremont for this game and also seventh in B and fifth in C nationally. Charlie & Jean won first place overall (and in strat B) in our quarterly Club Championship game on the 16th of November; **John Sullivan & Bill Laird** came in first in the C strat.

In Hayward last month we held our quarterly Club Championship on November 11th; **Charlie Tonelli & Jean Wood** were first overall and first in the B strat, and first in strat C went to **Solita & Perry Julien**. Perry & Solita repeated that performance a week later in our annual Club ACBL Membership Championship game; first place overall went to **Joanne Baumgardner & Pam Fisher**.

With all of those first overalls, it's no surprise that **Jean** and **Charlie** were our top masterpoint winners for the last reporting period for both the Fremont and Hayward clubs. For that impressive achievement they'll each receive half a free game at each club when they choose.

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>

We have three games this month, all big, and all beginning at our new starting time of 12:30:

- Dec. 4: our Holiday Swiss Teams Festival, which will also be an ACBL Charity Club Championship game: lots of extra masterpoints available, for only an extra buck. If you're reading this before that date, please contact me to let me know who's on your team, whether you and your partner are looking for teammates, or whether you're looking to hook up with a team. Starting time: 12:30.
- Dec. 11: our Holiday STaC game—Sectional Tournament at Clubs. This is a good opportunity for you to win those hard-to-come-by silver points, and if you have a particularly good game, you can win a lot of 'em. Take advantage of the typically large turnout on Saturday afternoons in the Western Conference (the more pairs playing, the larger the overall awards). There'll be an extra charge of \$1.50 for this game (the Western Conference STaC fee). Starting time: 12:30.
- Dec. 18: Unit Championship (a.k.a. unit game), our fourth and last of the year. Once again, extra masterpoints available for all strats, but for this one no extra cost to you. Start at 12:30.

The following three Saturdays, the 25th and January 1st and 8th, we'll be dark for, respectively, Christmas, New Year's Day, and the Monterey Regional. We'll begin our 2011 program on Saturday, January 15th. For the 1st, especially if you love bridge more than college football, we recommend the special game at the Redwood Bridge Club (see Terry Terzian's notice in this issue of *Table Talk*).

November began with a special game: on the 6th: our annual ACBL Club Membership game; the winners were **Bill Cubley & Prakash Karamchandani**. At the end of the month, on the 27th we held our last quarterly Club Championship game of the year. First place overall went to **Jim & Pat Leary**; **Bob Locke & Wayne Miller** were first in the B strat, and **Jo Baumgardner & Carol Ackerman** were first in C.

The top masterpoint winners for the last reporting period were **Pat & Jim Leary**. Each will be the recipient of half a free game on a future Saturday 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>. 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.

NEW YEARS DAY GAME & PARTY!!

Saturday, January 1, 2011

Game time: 12 noon

(finished by approx. 3:45 PM)



Redwood Bridge Club

Aitken Senior & Community Center
17800 Redwood Road, Castro Valley



This will also be a **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP** game-
lots of points for the winning! Separate **OPEN** and
NLM sections, attendance permitting.

Make plans to join us as we ring in the New Year
playing the game we all love. 😊

Players, please bring “finger foods” to share and
we’ll munch as we play. Holiday punch served. 😊

Happy New Year to All

Terry Terzian, Director

SOUTH COUNTY UNIT 500

Come join us for our spectacular Holiday Party!

The Annual Membership Meeting will also take place

Silver Point (STAC) Single Session Pairs Games... plus a delicious meal!



Friday, December 10, 2010

(Marina Bridge Club)
Marina Community Center
15301 Wicks Blvd., San Leandro



Meal: 12:00PM

**Game: approximately 12:30
(directly after the meal)**

Separate Open and Non-Life Master Sections will be offered, attendance warranting.
Both Sections will be stratified.

Table fees for paid-up Unit 500 Members: *only \$6*

(plus the required ACBL sanction fee of \$1.50).

The table fees for all others will be \$7 + \$1.50 ACBL fee

Our catered meal will be served at 12:00 PM.

As a **THANK YOU** to Paid-up **Unit 500 Members**, the meal is *Complimentary*.

As a **THANK YOU** to all others who have supported our club games,
the meal is **only \$7** (far less than the actual cost).

Sign up sheets are available at all club games

Please make plans and sign up by December 6th for our
Holiday Party

Need a Partner? – contact Isie Stefani 925-485-3285 or Terry Terzian 510-581-4424
Or Jan Hollowell at phil-jan@comcast.net

Terry Terzian, 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: Bill Hodges 790-0496

Fremont Bridge Club (FBC)

Centerville Community Center, 3355 Country Drive, Fremont 94536

Monday 10:30 am Open/Stratified

Director: Bill Hodges 790-0496

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 (0-20MP), Stratified/Limited (0-300 MP)

Director: Jim Solomon 538-9889

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

Southgate Community Center 26780 Chiplay Avenue, Hayward through Dec. 9

Weekes Community Center, 27182 Patrick Ave, Hayward as of Dec. 16

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 11:00 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

2010 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

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