



The New Deal



1st Quarter 2007

Santa Cruz Bridge Center 720 E Capitola Avenue Capitola, CA 95010

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 2006 board has a significant list of accomplishments: completing a member survey which helped guide positive changes in the club operations; planning and running our first 299er Sectional; upgrading our website; renewing the club's facility lease; implementing a slow play policy; providing cold drinks at a reasonable charge; and a free play offer for new & returning players. We want to extend special THANKS to the outgoing board members who worked so diligently on our behalf: Wayne Boss, Sam Badawi, Jerry Goodell, and Diana Schilling.

There are four new board members for 2007 who are serving for their first time: Vicki Kuhlmann, Carol Maggipinto, Charlie Pender, and Mary Peterson. They will make very effective and energetic board members. Listed elsewhere is your complete 2007 board and others who have volunteered their time for key functions.

The club's membership increased this past year. Nancy Wainer reports an increased number of new players in her beginning bridge class. Of course, we are always recruiting new players. If you have any suggestions to increase the number of people playing bridge at our club, please contact a board member or a director. One game which did not have sufficient support was the Wednesday night Open Pairs game. Bernie has decided to end the game after December. It is our expectation that beginning bridge lessons will be given in that time slot. Watch for details on our website. And be sure to tell your friends who have wanted to learn bridge, especially those working during the day, about Nancy's classes and this new learning opportunity.

Did you know that besides the up-to-the-minute calendar and schedule for our games, our website shows all game results and travelers, news updates, a Hall of Fame (under Accolades) listing all our Life Masters and above, a picture gallery and tournament links? www.santacruzbridge.org ought to be in your Favorites so you can visit our site easily and often. If you have any questions about the site, including how to set up a favorite, contact me and I'll be happy to guide you through it.

Nancy Driscoll and Dick Wasserstrom are heading up two key 2007 unit tournaments: the March 24-25 299er Sectional and the Surf's Up Sectional later in the year. Please let them know if you can assist in any way to support these two important club events. We also need volunteers to help with our Saturday unit games and hospitality. If you are able to do a little or a lot to help the unit, please contact any member of the board. Thanks!

—Ken Llacera

UNIT 550 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ken Llacera - President
Joyce Martin - 1st Vice President
Barbara Shepardson - 2nd Vice President
Vicki Kuhlmann - Treasurer
Virginia LeRoy - Secretary
Mary Peterson (Membership Chair), Charlie Pender (Facilities Chair), Elena Laborde-Bishop, Carol Maggipinto - At Large Members

SPECIAL THANKS TO ...

Pam Benz who continues to do our newsletter, directory and labels; **Jeanne Boss** who was our 2006 Forum Editor; **Ann Hackwood** who sent sunshine notes on behalf of the club; and **Nancy Driscoll** who recently cleaned up the bidding boxes and auction cards.

BRIDGE ETIQUETTE—Q: Is north the only player who can handle the boards? I was reprimanded when I was sitting East-West and moved the new boards to the center of the table so they were ready to play. **A:** There is nothing in the rules that forbids any player from touching the boards. From a practical point of view, North or South usually passes the boards to the next table and North turns a board face down after it has been played so the players won't take hands out from different boards. *No player should reprimand another.* It would be a breach of etiquette for North to demand that no one else touch the boards.

—From Better Bridge, Dec/2005 via Debby Goodell

WEDNESDAY RECAP—Starting in January, **Nancy Driscoll** will give some time after every Wednesday noon game to answer questions regarding play of a hand, questions from a particular auction, and such.

WISHES—We'd like to laminate the 1C auction cards. Does anyone have a laminating machine? Would you like to do the job? If you are this hero[ine], contact a board member.

TIPS—Virginia LeRoy shares this poem to help with Takeout Doubles:

A misshaped double is nothing but trouble.
Responding to Partners Takeout Double, jump if 10 or
you're in trouble.

TUESDAY NIGHT GOOD NEWS—The next Mentor Game is January 9. Bronze LM mentors play free with an NLM. January 26th will be an *open game* with a mixer before the game at 5:45. And Nancy Wainer is starting beginning and defense lessons on January 11. See her website at santacruzbridge.com for details.

Unit 550 Directors and their Games

Bernie Bertonis 247-3343 bernie@cruzio.com	Monday evening open game
Robin Evenden 462-5367 robinde@juno.com	2nd Saturday Unit game & Wednesday evening
Sherry Gilbreath 438-7222	Mon/Wed afternoon & Friday morning open games
Mark Hasey 427-2112 markhaze@juno.com	Thursday evening open game & Sunday afternoon NLM
Bill McIntosh 408-842-4886 wmcmc@earthlink.net	Tuesday morning open and Saturday special games
Nancy Wainer 465-1234 n_wainer@yahoo.com	Tuesday evening NLM