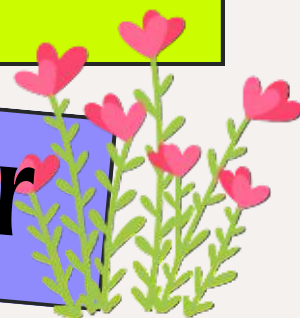


# March/April Newsletter

WELCOME SPRING

## Santa Cruz Bridge Center



### Rising Stars Tournament

The Santa Cruz Bridge Center held their annual 750 Rising Stars Tournament March 9th and 10th at the Mid-County Senior Center.

Many thanks to the team of Farol Henderson, Lester Loops, Robert Johnson, John Wesosowski, Jared Boggs, Diana Schilling and Ken Llacera, working tirelessly to bring the games to fruition. Thanks to Lynn Yokel for directing, she was outstanding as always.

There was a better turnout for Saturday morning and afternoon than for our Swiss teams event on Sunday. Still a great time was had by all.

### Tournament Winners Saturday A.M.

#### Saturday Morning

Bill Roman and Monica Bacon-Proctor

66.13% 1.26 Silver

Jan Pfiffner, and Kathy Vita

62.63% 0.88 Silver

Leslie Davidson and Linda Downing

Betsy Allen and Michael Kerner

58.31% 0.88 Silver

James Miller and Nancy Pringle

55.48% 0.69 Silver

Nancy Mohan and Alok Mohan

54.30% 0.49 Silver

Ann Ahmadi and Ahmad Ahmadi

52.81% 0.63 Silver

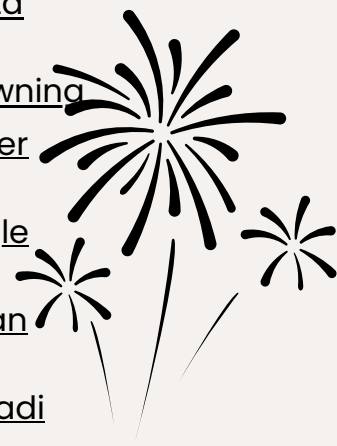
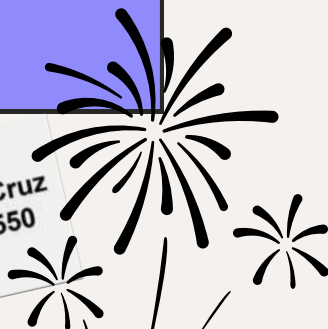
Ginny Arguello and Joanne McLoughlin

52.68% 0.44 Silver

**Unit 550**  
**Santa Cruz Bridge**  
**Center 2450 17th Ave.**  
**Suite 200 Santa Cruz**  
**Ca 95062**  
**Phone: 831.603.4228**  
**Website:**  
**[santacruzbridge.org](http://santacruzbridge.org)**



Santa Cruz  
Unit 550





# Tournament Winners Saturday P.M.\*\* and Combined



- Lester Loops and Robert Johnson  
68.75% 2.44 Silver (250.5 Combined)
- Linda Downing and Karen Aldridge  
60.71% 1.14 Silver 131.14
- Sue Comporato and Betsy Wagner  
60.12% 1.38 Silver (226.37 Combined)
- James Miller and Nancy Pringle  
54.46% 1.84 Silver (237.48 Combined)
- Bill Roman and Monica Bacon-Proctor  
53.87 % 3.25 Silver (259.19 combined)
- Betsy Allen and Michael Kerner  
53.27% 1.83 Silver (241.02 Combined)
- Lawrence Zito and Dennis Rubida  
52.68% 0.82 Silver
- Charles Wilson and Carolyn Wilson  
50.89% 0.40 Silver (215.13 Combined)
- Ann Ahmadi and Ahmad Ahmadi  
48.21% 1.13 Silver (218.2 combined)
- Angela Chiang and Edith Chiang  
46.43% 0.48 Silver (206.84 Combined)
- Jan Piffner and Kathy Vita  
38.99% 1.26 Silver 219.49 (Combined)

\*\* Listed by percentages for the P.M. game



## Sunday Swiss Team Winners

- Gina Brown, Carol Cowen, Marilyn Calciano, Andrew Calciano 2.17 Silver
- Jacci Sterling, Lori Pelc, Robert Johnson, Farol Henderson 1.63 Silver
- Lester Loops, Janet Loops, Matthew Nathanson, Leslie Davidson 0.60 Silver
- Kathy Vita, Jan Piffner, Karen Aldridge, Linda Downing 0.36 Silver
- Betsy Wagner, Sue Comporato, David Gin, Brad Carson 0.36 Silver



# Member's Corner

## getting to know... Jim Slinger

Jim grew up in rural Wisconsin, in a close knit family with great parents and two brothers. Jim's father was a successful farmer and a pillar of their community. Jim moved to Madison to attend the University of Wisconsin. He says moving from the rural Wisconsin to the urban Madison, was not a big change, but leaving home was. He was eager and ready to attend college. Jim majored in Physics, switched to Math, then to Philosophy earning his B.S. degree. He then entered the Philosophy PhD program at UW, Madison. Jim iterates the transition from physics to math to philosophy is not unnatural or surprising. He preferred theoretical concepts to experimental research.

Jim earned his PhD in Philosophy in 1970. For 35 years (1969-2003) Jim was a philosophy professor at CSU Fresno. His primary interest is on logic and evaluating reasoning processes of all kinds, with an emphasis on the role of language in reasoning.

Jim, an avid outdoorsman, chose CSU Fresno for his philosophical career because of its proximity to the Sierras. Jim, with his climbing background, held the distinction of being the youngest person (at the time) age 14, to climb the Grand Teton by the Exum route. In 1961, Jim hiked the John Muir trail, and later, at age 70, became the oldest person in recent years to climb Kilimanjaro by the Western Breach route! CSU Fresno fit his lifestyle perfectly.

Jim says he has two avocations, the first is bridge and the second is kayaking/canoeing. Jim has made thirty plus three week long trips on arctic rivers, virtually all north of the Arctic Circle. Filmmakers from Los Angeles made a 14 minute documentary of these trips a few years ago, still accessible by googling 'Noatak: Return to the Arctic'.

Jim learned to play bridge in the college dorm. He taught himself more by reading books on bridge, than playing. His first duplicate game came in graduate school. In total, he has been playing bridge for about sixty years.

Jim met the wonderful Susan Bertken through a type of book club. Together since 1998, they married in 2006. He became a SCBC member in 2003, when Dolores Abrams was directing games.

Jim is happiest calculating the best strategy for a positive outcome of the boards. His calculations certainly have propelled him to play a fair amount of bridge at very high levels. Some of his achievements in the Main National Championships, which attract the top players from all countries include: In Pairs events, he qualified for the National Finals in the North American Open Pairs 5 times, with best finishes being 3rd and 8th. In team events, Jim's team made the round of 16 in the Vanderbilts, the round of 32 in the Springgold and the final 30 teams of the Reisinger. Each of these are the premier team events in the U.S.. However, Jim's most thrilling experience in team play, was winning the Sacramento Regional Sunday Swiss in 1971. Not one member on their team was a Life Master! The team went 8-0 against players who had won National Championships.

Jim's expert advice to our beginners? Number one is: HAVE FUN.

Number two is: read books. Jim recommends ACBL introductory series: [Diamond](#), [Club](#), [Heart](#), [Spade](#) by Audrey Grant.

Jim's favorite and funniest story? Easy, he says, playing with a new partner in a Regional Swiss, his team was 4-3 going into the last round in the evening. Everyone was ready to go home.

Jim's partner opened 1 NT, RHO, (a particularly boisterous person), doubled. Vulnerable, Jim, with 9 HC and a 3-0-5-5 shape, heart void, bid 2 Diamonds hoping for more bidding. LHO passed, and partner bid 2 Hearts. Hmm..., Jim realizes his partner thought he was transferring. Having values, he tried to escape, and bid 3 Clubs. Partner bids 4 Hearts thinking he was inviting to game in hearts! Jim tried again, bid 5 Clubs! Partner's bid: 5 Spades. She was headed to 6 Hearts, if not 7, and he could tolerate spades, so he passed, LHO passed, and the auction was over. All of a sudden RHO loudly bursts out— "What? What? What's happening here?" "Well, said Jim, my partner bid 5 Spades, and it was passed out." "NO! NO!, it didn't, I DOUBLE. I DOUBLE!" [This is occurring when there are no bidding boxes and no Directors close by.] "When did you Double?" was Jim's astonished retort. "Right now! I double, I double!" she blurted. Her partner said nothing helpful except, "yes, dear". Of course, they should wait for a Director, but then it would be one word against another. Jim responded, "Well, if you have the right to bid now, I get a bid too." "Yes, Yes, of course", she said. So I bid 6 Clubs. This time my partner passed. The woman Doubled (really doubled). Jim and his partner played 6 Clubs Doubled, Vul., +1540. First time during the round the woman was quiet. Jim says, "The only time in my life that 3 passes did not end the auction."...



## Newcomer News

The March 6 newcomer game hosted 8 tables of enthusiastic players with two students from Nancy's beginner class taking home their first masterpoints and winning by bidding a slam. Heather's lunch was delicious as always and was finished off by cupcakes with edible playing cards inserted in the icing. 10 students from the beginner class practiced their bidding skills in the classroom during the game. Hopefully, they will be joining the players in the coming months.

The April 3rd newcomer game had 5 tables. Mary Kelly and Larry Frank earned a 69.44 % game. The luncheon was another crowd pleaser.



**Saint Patrick's Day Lunch and Game March 17, 2024**





## St. Patrick's Day lunch and game

The March 17th game was a terrific success! Thanks to the Events Committee and especially



Hat's OFF to



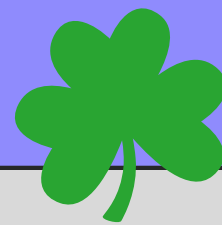
Lani Ray and Linda Downing who cooked a fantastic Corned Beef. Many thanks to all those contributing to the Pot luck as well.

All together nine tables played 27 boards after delicious meal!



## Events Committee:

*Barb Tidmore  
Judy Osborn  
Linda Downing  
Lani Ray  
Janet Loops  
Daphne Morrissey  
Barbara Rodrigues*



*Your events committee presents...May day*



**Wine down Wednesday with**



**Hors d'oeuvres pot luck**



**BRING YOUR FAVORITE  
PU PUS TO SHARE AND  
CELEBRATE MAY DAY  
WITH US!!**



Munching starts at 5:30 P.M. game begins at 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday evening May 1st.



**Our membership is Kickin' It**

### **70% Games**

**Jan 27 through March 27**

March 6, 2024

Janet Loops and Lester Loops 72.8 %

March 11, 2024

Eric Stozberg and Mark Riley 71.9%

April 5, 2024

Charles Pender and John Hullman 72.68%

### **Member Accomplishments**

**Mary Kelly - New Junior Master 5+**

**Matthew Nathanson -New Club Master 20+**

**Anthony Nelson - New Club Master 20 + points**

**Farol Henderson - New NABC Master 300+ points**

**John Wesolowski - New Bronze Life Master -**

**750+ points**

**Ken Llacera - New Diamond Life Master**

**5000+ points**



The following page please find SCBC's results of:

**The Mini- McKenney and The Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs,**

ACBL Masterpoint Races 1st, 2nd and 3rd places

Places 4th through 10th can be found on the ACBL

website : [ACBL.org](http://ACBL.org)

# Mini-McKenney

## **0 to 5 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race**

Christina Kobland 2.82 pts

Lawrence Frank 1.60 pts.

Daphne Morrissey 0.69 pts.

## **20 to 50 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race**

Anthony Nelson 8.02 pts.

Katherine Stone 3.98 pts.

Richard Pearce and Susan Pearce 3.24 pts.

## **100 to 200 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race**

Jared Boggs 11.54 pts.

James Miller 11.15 pts.

Janet Loops 7.21 pts.

## **300 to 500 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race**

Lester Loops 30.33 pts.

J. Xavier Prochaska 30.21 pts.

Gina Brown 27.10 pts.

## **1000 to 1500 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race**

Richard Hill 20.79 pts.

John Hullman 10.86 pts.

Carol Avenmarg 10.63 pts.

## **2500 to 3500 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race**

Robin Evenden 16.25 pts.

Nancy Wainer 12.32 pts.

Lani Ray 7.30 pts.

## **5 to 20 Mini -McKenney Masterpoint Race**

Matthew Nathanson 8.02 pts.

Charles White 0.3 pts.

Jeanne Jorgensen 0.22 pts.

## **50 to 100 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race**

Shamim Formoso 8.39 pts.

Nancy Pringle 4.27 pts.

Renee Flint 2.49 pts.

## **200 to 300 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race**

Leslie Davidson 14.74 pts.

Judy Osborn 7.15 pts.

Carol Cowen 5.09 pts.

## **500 to 1000 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race**

Annemarie Moller 38.23 pts.

John Walker 31.59 pts.

Angie Millslagle 20.28 pts.

## **1500 to 2500 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race**

Peter Andrews 38.02 pts.

Janet Tainty 13.40 pts.

Joanne Wicker 9.04 pts.

## **3500 to 5000 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race**

Ken Llacera 44.95 pts.

Heather MacGregor 32.14 pts

Ken Gamble 31.88 pts.

## **7500 to 10,000 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race**

James Slinger 15.50 pts

# Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race

## **0 to 5 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

Daphne Morrissey 0.69 pts.

Cindy Sedey 0.68 pts.

Karen Jelcick 0.50pts.

## **20 to 50 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

Richard Pearce and Susan Pearce 3.24 pts.

April Johnson 1.86 pts.

Katherine Stone 1.84 pts.

## **100 to 200 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

James Miller 4.48 pts.

Janet Loops 4.06 pts.

Barbara Tidmore 2.84 pts.

## **5 to 20 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

Matthew Nathanson 3.37 pts.

Charles White 0.30 pts.

Mary Martin 0.17 pts.

## **50 to 100 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

Nancy Pringle 2.32 pts.

Chris Tainty 1.71 pts.

Shamim Formoso 1.66pts.

## **200 to 300 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

Leslie Davidson 5.17 pts.

Judy Osborn 2.99 pts.

Victoria Bell 2.33 pts.



**300 to 500 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

Lester Loops 14.36 pts.  
Gina Brown 5.13 pts.  
David Harken 4.14 pts

**500 to 1000 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

Robin McDuff 11.91 pts.  
John Walker 9.92 pts.  
Robert Johnson 8.27 pts.

**1000 to 1500 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

John Hullman 10.05 pts.  
Joanne Bruno 6.96 pts.  
Carol Avenmarg 6.66 pts.

**1000 to 1500 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

Joanne Wicker 7.93 pts.  
Diana Schilling 3.89 pts.  
Janet Tainty 3.65 pts.

**1500 to 2500 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

Lani Ray 7.30 pts.  
Neil Joseph Smyth 5.89 pts.  
Nancy Wainer 5.12 pts.

**2500 to 5000 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

Ken Llacera 14.34 pts.  
Ken Gamble 13.62 pts.  
Heather MacGregor 6.32 pts.

**7500 to 10,000 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs**

Jim Slinger 6.30 pts.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**Sunday Brunch Continues to be a real crowd pleaser. Come join us for food and Fun April 28th**

**Mimi Dutch Pancakes with Fresh fruit and maple syrup**

**Candied Sausage**

**Asparagus Bread Pudding**

**Raisin Bundt Cake**

**Mimosas**

