



Santa Cruz
Unit 550

Santa Cruz Bridge
Center
2450 17th Avenue, Suite 200
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
831-603-2448

JULY - AUG
2024

santacruzbridge.org

SCBC BRIDGE NEWSLETTER



The monthly Sunday game and brunch is our most popular game, typically attracting enough folks to fill 7-8 tables.

Much thanks is owed to Chef Heather MacGregor, volunteers Lani Ray and Gary MacGregor, together with Carol Avenmarg, director. Generally, the brunch is held on the last Sunday of the month. It's an open game, but all player levels are welcome. Come join us!



Chef Heather and Director Carol

Congratulations!

5/31-

New Junior Masters:

Marilyn Walker
Steve Whittaker

Congratulations!

70% Games May 26th -July 11th

John -Shurtleff and Jim Miller 83.33%** June
25th. **limited tables
Carol Avenmarg- Robin McDuff 74.44% July
3rd

NEWCOMER NEWS

Our newcomers just keep racking up the masterpoints! A usual newcomer game has 6 - 7 full tables! Some of the newcomers have been branching out to play in the 499er Monday Night game and the Open Wednesday night game! They are coming in leading the pack against seasoned players some evenings!

Newcomer games are the first and third Wednesday of each month. The first* has an optional luncheon prepared by Chef Heather; for the month of July, the luncheon* will be on the 17th. Menu includes spanakopita, Mediterranean salad, and sour cherry baklava, available for \$8. Email lunch orders to Nancy Wainer by 7/13 at nmlbridge@yahoo.com.

NEW BEGINNER CLASSES

Bette Harken will instruct Beginning Bridge Classes
at the Santa Cruz Bridge Center
Wednesday mornings 9:30 - 11:30
beginning August 7.

First class is free.

Following classes \$ 10 each.

To sign up or for more information:

Contact Bette Harken

Email: bdharken@comcast.net

Cell: 831-332-5542

CONTINUING BEGINNER CLASSES

Nancy Wainer will be conducting summer classes for the continuing beginner group on Monday, July 29th and Monday August 12th at 12:30 p.m. for more information, contact Nancy at nmlbridge@yahoo.com.



Member's Corner

Getting to Know...

Eric Stolzberg

Some of our members may not know Eric, but he is a long time member. He and his partner, Mark Riley, most often play in the evening games. He is gregarious, fun and relaxed at the bridge table.

Born in Hollywood, Eric grew up in Pasadena, CA; he attended John Muir High School. After high school, Eric headed to the University of Oregon; he knocked around a bit there, hoping to get into the boat building trade school. As things didn't work out in that direction, Eric tried Evergreen State, in Washington, studying architecture.

In 1976, Eric moved to Santa Cruz. He and a childhood friend started building homes from recycled wood. They started in the Aptos Hills. They traveled all over the state taking down structures, recycling the wood, windows and doors. This experience put him on a path to rebuild homes and building spec homes. He and another friend partnered to build an office building after the 1989 earthquake.

Eric has a love of outdoor adventures; he and his wife met through family and friends who also share a love of the outdoors. They have one child.

Eric started playing bridge in junior high school. He always loved playing cards, especially hearts. This was a natural progression into bridge. He learned to count the cards and had good card sense. Also Eric's parents played social bridge and he learned from them as well.

Eric took a class from Nancy Wainer, back when the club was over near Capitola Avenue. He partnered with an older player who dumped him because she didn't want to learn any conventions, but he did. Eric and his wife, together with Mark and his wife, began playing social bridge together. Their wives quit because they found they really didn't care for the game. Mark and Eric soldiered on and remain partners to this day.

When Eric's mother moved to Dominican Oaks, he and she started up a small bridge group and he taught a few of the residents to play bridge.


Overall, Eric has been playing bridge off and on for twenty years since he joined the Santa Cruz Bridge Club.

Eric loves the competition bridge gives him; also, bridge is less luck and more skill.



His advice to new players? Don't take the game too seriously. It's good for your brain, it's a thinking game, plus it's fun, just enjoy it.

He doesn't have a funny story or incident, per se. Eric relates that he and Mark love to tease the opponents at the bridge table. It's really fun when the ops take it seriously. You can learn all kinds of things about people, he says. At the end of the day, it's just a game.





Announcing every third Wednesday evening game will be BYO Appetizer



Beginning this month, July 17th
Bring your favorite appetizer to share during
the wine down Wednesday! munching and
wine begins at 5:30, game starts at 6:00




Calling all wannabe Mentors and Mentees

Due to the dropping attendance at the
bimonthly Thursday ProAm games, the
board wants to change it up.

The board is changing the masterpoint
counts needed to be mentors and limited
mentee MPs.

Mentees may have no more than 300 MPs. If
you have over 300 MPs, please volunteer to
mentor.

Please let us know if you're interested.



Questions? Call Lester Loops 831-479-8471
or info@santacruzbridge.org

LET'S REMEMBER OUR

🙄 table etiquette

1.

GOLDEN RULE: BE KIND and COURTEOUS

2.

DON'T criticize your partner or even worse, the opponents. If you have nothing nice to say, don't say it

3.

DON'T come to the table wearing **strong perfume** or smelling of cigar/cigarette smoke

Chew or pop gum

4.

DON'T snap cards (or play them in any obnoxious way). It ruins them in the dealing machine.

5.

DON'T delay the game by:

- a. *'Postmorteming'* i.e. reviewing boards before the round is complete or holding up the next or round to rehash boards
- b. Writing in your scorecard when it is your turn to bid or play

6.

DON'T fumble with the bidding box

7.

DON'T hold your finger on the played card so partner will see it.

8.

DON'T Eating with your fingers and then touching the cards or put the cards up to your mouth!! In the era of COVID let's be considerate

These common sense ideas are from Larry Cohen www.larryco.com : Card Snapping and Other Annoyances 01/28/2016

Nancy's Fun Quiz Can you figure out these bridge terms?

"Don't go hombre"

Babies love my carrots

Upside down teenagers

Feeble duos

Large palms - twice

Italian hotel room entry

Capitola craft store

Shut that door with gusto

An undesirable male sexual trait

Not a closing follower

Charlie McCarthy Charlie McCarthy

Order pizza for home two times

Watch dog's warning

Dark colored furniture material

A group of yodelers

Rumpelstilskin's talent

Out cold in the ring

Answers to Nancy's Quiz

...How many did you get right?

"Don't go hombre" - **Stayman**

Babies love my carrots - **Gerber**

Upside down teenagers - **Inverted Minors**

Feeble duos - **Weak Twos**

Large palms - twice - **Big hand doubles**

Italian hotel room entry - **Roman Key Card**

Capitola craft store - **Michael's**

Shut that door with gusto - **Grand slam**

An undesirable male sexual trait - **Principle of Fast Arrival**

Not a closing follower - **Opening leader**

Charlie McCarthy Charlie McCarthy - **Double Dummy**

Order pizza for home two times - **Take out double**

Watch dog's warning - **Ruff**

Dark colored furniture material - **Blackwood**

A group of yodelers - **Swiss Teams**

Rumpelstilskin's talent - **Spingold**

Out cold in the ring - **Knockouts**

