



# Summer Sunshine Newsletter

July - August 2025

[santacruzbridge.org](http://santacruzbridge.org)



A Warm Hello to our new members

Craig Canada

Charlene Ducey



**70% GAMES 6-15  
thru 8-3**

Cindy Sedey - Larry  
McAdams 70.22% 6/15



Dog Dates of August



Summer STaC games

8/18 to 8/24

August Brunch 8/24

All Western Regionals in

Santa Clara

8/25 thru 8/31

## HITTING NEW MILESTONES

### NEW CLUB MASTER

Vi Gassman

### NEW CLUB MASTERS

Christina Kobland

Mary Graves

Cindy Sedey

Lesley Xu

### NEW SECTIONAL MASTER

Eric Stolzberg

### NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Andrew Calciano

Marilyn Calciano

Jared Boggs

### NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTERS

Russell Farkouh

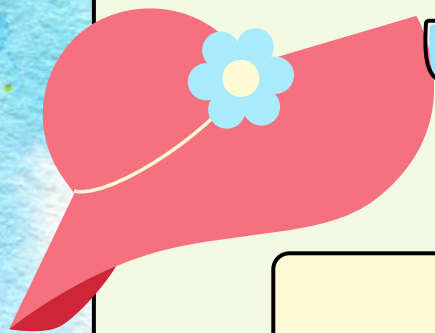
Jacci Sterling

### NEW SILVER LIFE MASTER

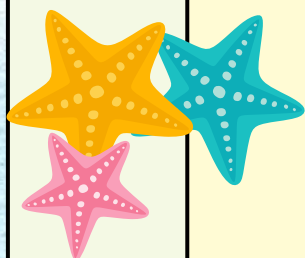
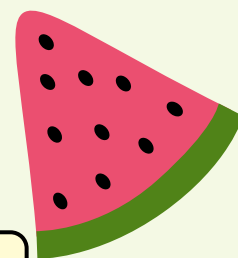
Ken Martin

Santa Cruz Bridge Center 2450 17<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 200  
Santa Cruz, CA. 831-603-2448

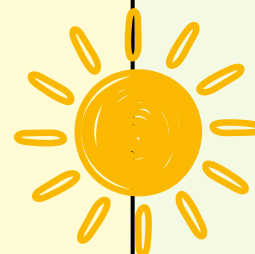




# Upcoming ACBL Silver Quest Games at the SCBC



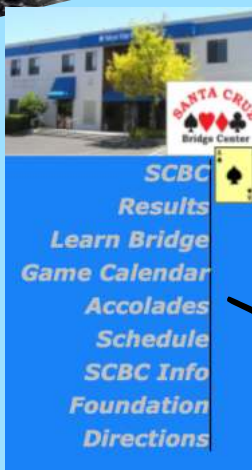
♣ August 21 – 24, 2025  
♣ October 27 – 28, 2025  
(Contract Centennial Games)



## Tech tok



Do you want to know  
your status in the  
ACBL yearly races?  
Our website has our  
unit races posted!



On the web page  
[santacruzbridge.org](http://santacruzbridge.org)  
To the left, find this  
blue box and select  
Accolades. Use your  
mouse to select  
the which race (both  
come up).

Click the Mini-McKenney  
and or the  
Ace of Clubs to see  
where you are in the  
points race. To view  
District races visit [d2l.org](http://d2l.org) Click on the Mini-  
McKenney and or the Ace of Clubs race to see  
where you are in the points race.

|                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| ♥ Mini-McKenney | <a href="#">2025</a> |
| ♥ Ace of Clubs  | <a href="#">2025</a> |

## ACE of CLUBs MINI-McKENNEY Annual MP Races

Did you know the ACBL  
conducts two year long  
Masterpoint competitions?  
The Ace of Clubs (MPs won at  
SCBC) and the Mini-McKenney  
Races. Each race is grouped  
into 14 categories ranging  
from 5 to 10,000. Players are  
placed into a category based  
on their MP total at the  
beginning of the calendar year.

The races are conducted on a  
National, District, and Unit  
basis. You can find your name  
in the list and see how you are  
doing compared with others in  
your group. Kinda fun if you're  
into competition.



## Member's Corner

Getting to know.....

# David Harken



One of the nicest people in our bridge center, is David Harken. He has been a member of the center for seventeen years. David was born in the Midwestern state of Iowa, the youngest of three children. After high school he attended and graduated from the University of Iowa. He earned a BA in psychology and accounting. After graduation from college, David served in the Army; he served for two years during the Vietnam conflict. Upon his return home he reregistered himself in college taking several accounting courses. David used his accounting skills to earn a position in the financial department of a well-known advertising company in Chicago where he met and married his lovely wife Bette. David's job transferred the couple to Omaha, Nebraska. They raised their two children, Anna and Nick, in Omaha. David enjoyed his work, "advertising is fun, I got to work with and creative people, both in the headquarters in New York and in Omaha." After serving at the company for thirty two years, he retired to a life filled with family, golf, and bridge. Just this year David retired as the treasurer of the Santa Cruz Bridge Center after serving on the Board of Directors for eight years.

David and Betty moved to Aptos seventeen years ago after retiring. Betty had an aunt who had moved to Santa Cruz, and they fell in love with the Central Coast.

David's high school English teacher, Mr. Dillon, introduced David and some friends, to the game of bridge. Mr. Dillon invited a number of students to his apartment on occasion to learn and play the game.

David has been playing bridge since he was seventeen. He played a bit in college at the fraternity and then many years with Bette's brother and his wife, her parents, and friends. They all played social bridge. After retirement they took duplicate lessons in Omaha for a year. With the move to Aptos, they joined the Bridge Center. They have been members at the Santa Cruz Bridge Center since 2008.



David says he is happiest about playing bridge when his defensive and bidding strategies actually work in a game. David's advice to beginners is to learn the fundamentals.



A few years ago, David was playing in the Monterey Clambake, with his partner "Splinter Boy". The opponents of the next round were a forty-year old man and his very young partner. The partner had to sit on his knees to reach the table. David thought to himself, "this is going to be a great round for us." The partner was a youngster who made his diamond bid and played very nicely. It turned out the round was a to be a sound beating by the pair. The youngster turned out to be the youngest person to earn his Bridge Master Level at age eight! It was both a fun round and an aggravating one as his partnership was stopped in their tracks. Another bridge lesson learned "don't underestimate your opponents".



## Missing our friends....



**Carol Avenmarg** was a great friend and an amazing bridge player. She began playing bridge at age three! She attended Stanford at age fifteen. While raising five children Carol worked as an accountant. "She was passionate about her children and grandchildren, friends, wine, and playing bridge - not always in that order." \*

As an athlete she pursued her love of skiing and bike riding. Carol was also a number one fan of both the Forty-niners and Giants sports teams.

Carol was our Unit President, Game Director, and was instrumental in restarting our Monday and Wednesday night games after COVID. Together with Nancy Wainer and Heather MacGregor, Carol promoted and directed the newcomer games and the Sunday Brunch games.

In Carol's honor two memorial games were held at the Center. The 'wine down Wednesday game on June 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday Brunch on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Good memories were shared with those in attendance by her friends and partners at the bridge center. We are going to miss her... but as Carol would say, "oh well".....

\*from her obituary in the Santa Cruz Sentinel







**Jim Miller** was a fixture at the bridge center. Jim was eager to learn the game. A former engineer, he understood the logic and puzzles of bridge. Jim was at every game he could attend. He worked hard at learning the game. Jim petitioned the Board to have a daytime 499er game for those unable to attend on Monday nights. As he once he said, "what else can you do for three or four hours for \$10?" **Please take a moment to read the lovely letter from Jim's son to our members.** It is posted on the coffee room bulletin board. Jim was truly a gem.



**Daphne Morrissey** will be missed at our games too. Daphne was a newer player, who enjoyed the game of bridge and the camaraderie at the Bridge Center. She was a lot of fun to be around.



**Daphne and Jim at  
the 2024  
Halloween Party**







# **Red, White, and Blue Party July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025**

The Events Committee Held a Red White and Blue Party on July 2<sup>nd</sup> During Wine Down Wednesday Game.

Hot dogs were provided by the committee and Members provided pot luck side dishes and dessert. The game drew enough players to fill seven tables. Another successful event.



**Grab your favorite partner**



**Santa Cruz Surf's Up  
Sectional  
October 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>**



SANTA CRUZ BRIDGE CENTER 2450 17<sup>TH</sup> AVE. SUITE 200

831-603-2448

SANTA CRUZ CA 95062

santacruzbridge.org



Santa Cruz  
Unit 550



# SURF'S UP



## OPEN SECTIONAL IN SANTA CRUZ

**OCT 18TH AND 19TH 2025**

JOIN US AND START PLAYING IN THE SURF TODAY!

|   |                |   |              |                 |                |
|---|----------------|---|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <br><b>Saturday<br/>Oct 18</b> | <b>10 AM</b>   | <b>Stratified Open Pairs</b><br>Two Sessions: Play either or both.<br>Overall and session awards    | <b>0-750</b> | <b>750-2000</b> | <b>2000+</b>   |
|   |                | <b>I/N Pairs</b>  | <b>0-100</b> | <b>100-300</b>  | <b>300-500</b> |
|   |                |   |              |                 |                |
|   | <b>2:30 PM</b> | <b>Stratified Open Pairs</b>  | <b>0-750</b> | <b>750-2000</b> | <b>2000+</b>   |
|   |                | <b>I/N Pairs (min of 5 tables)</b>  | <b>0-100</b> | <b>100-300</b>  | <b>300-500</b> |
| <br><b>Sunday<br/>Oct 19</b>  | <b>10 AM</b>   | <b>Open Swiss Teams</b><br>Two sessions with short break<br>seven board matches, <b>20 VP</b> scale | <b>0-750</b> | <b>750-2000</b> | <b>2000+</b>   |

*Stratification is determined by pair/team average and may be adjusted depending on attendance. Eligibility for events based on masterpoint total of top player, specifically, I/N events limited to players with less than 500 MPs.*

**Pairs: \$15 per person/session; Swiss Entries: \$120 per Team**  
**\$4 additional per session for lapsed ACBL members**

**Directions: CA 17 South:** CA-1 South, Exit Soquel Ave (Exit 439), left on Soquel Ave at end of ramp, 2nd right onto 17th Ave, and left into parking lot.

**CA 1 North:** Exit 41st Ave, left onto 41st, right on Gross Rd, first street after the overpass, right at Stop sign to Soquel Ave, left at 17th Ave and left into parking lot.

Director.....Jo Levy Sanction #2510387

**Contact Information:** Tournament Chair.....Josh Karter 831-423-3525

Partnerships.....Lester Loops 650-380-5460

Tournament preregistration is strongly suggested as registered players have seating priority.

Use this [link](#) to access the SCBC Event Registration.

Visit the Santa Cruz Bridge Center website [santacruzbridge.org](http://santacruzbridge.org) to register.

**Sandwiches Available for Purchase Both Days**

**Continuous Free Coffee and Snacks**

**Please, No Smoking within 20 feet of entrance**