



The New Deal



2nd Quarter 2007

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Money issues rather than masterpoints dominated the bridge agenda as 2007 began.

The club's (SCBC) current investment policy for the Dolores Abrams endowment only returned 3.57% from 2003 to 2006. As a result, the endowment shrunk \$20,000.

To address this issue, an ad hoc committee reviewed the club's financial goals and investment policy. Their recommendations were presented to the Board at the February meeting and approved. They were that:

SCBC adopt the financial goal to provide an inflation-adjusted endowment value after 20 years.

SCBC implement an investment objective to maintain a conservative, balanced portfolio that generates a 9% return.

The complete Financial Committee report and action plan is posted on the Unit bulletin board and on our website. At the website, click Club Info and then under 2007 Unit Info, click Financial Committee Recommendations.

Dolores would be pleased to know that the club is working hard to extend her endowment to the future bridge players of Santa Cruz county.

The second financial issue is the increase in rent. Fortunately, the Club Directors came to the Board with a gracious proposal to pay an additional \$300 per month when combined with an increase of \$1 in table fees, beginning April 1st. The Board and the Club Directors have collaborated to keep the table fees low, which is why our table fees have not been raised in eight years.

The third issue was funding the **Club Improvement Project**. We decided to ask for donations. Your response was overwhelming. It's wonderful so many players felt strongly enough about our club to generously contribute.

The improved look of the club will enhance your bridge experience and help us attract and keep new players. For example, the **SCBC Spring Luncheon for Social Players**, a new event, scheduled for April, is an outreach to bridge players who don't frequent our club or may not even know what duplicate bridge is.

By the time you read this, the **Rising Stars 299er Sectional** will have occurred. This year Nancy Driscoll, the tournament chairperson, has arranged trophies for the overall winners. Jim Slinger is giving a lesson between sessions on Saturday and Dolly Bass is

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

handling hospitality. Results will be posted to our website. We wish everyone playing success and fun at our first 2007 Sectional event.

—Ken Llacera

BRIDGE DAY CAMP—HOW COOL IS THAT?

Nancy Wainer is conducting a Bridge Day Camp on the first Thursday of April, May and June. The session will include a 12-board sanctioned NLM game offering extra masterpoints along with analyses of the hands that are played. Two lessons, handouts, lunch and morning nibbles will also be included. Camp begins at 10 am and should finish about 2 pm. Cost is \$11 for the whole deal. The April Camp is filled but is taking a waiting list so if you want to attend in May or June, contact Nancy ASAP. The group is limited to 9 tables and reservations are required. Details are available on Nancy's website www.santacruzbridge.com or call her at 465-1234.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT NEWS—In April, Wednesday nights will be a continuation of the Club Series, with the Bidding Basics and Play. This consists of 8 hands, played and discussed and is for new players who have taken the Club Series. Cost is \$7.00 per night and no signup is required.

In May and June, Wednesday nights will be the Diamond Series if Robin receives enough signups. Otherwise, Robin will direct an *open game* starting at 7 pm. To find out whether the May/June Wednesdays are classes or open games, please check the white board near the directors' desk or go to the calendar online nearer to those dates.

FLOWERS AND SUCH—Warm spring thanks to Mary Peterson, Pam Benz and Stef Kearns for the work in our *front yard*. We've got showy planter boxes, new and rejuvenated geraniums, new river rock, and some spectacular new green-year-round perennials. Stef is about to do some tree pruning. We also plan to spruce up the area below the big sign at roadside.

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