



The New Deal



2nd Quarter 2007

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A key 2007 goal for the Board is identifying and attracting new club members. Two outstanding examples of what can be done are the Spring Bridge Open House and the new 99er Game.

The **Spring Bridge Open House** on April 19th at SCBC was an outstanding success. Muriel Prolo and Mary Peterson developed the idea as an outreach to the many women's groups who play bridge but don't come to the SCBC. The organizing committee (Nancy Wainer, Peggy Kiefer, Dolly Bass, and Debby Goodell) planned the open house for several months and contributed their time, food and expertise to the event. Many of the 30 attendees will be coming back to the club as players.

Nancy Driscoll has proposed and the club owners have endorsed a new **99er Game** at 10 am on Thursdays beginning on September 20th. This limited MP game is an entry point for newer players or rejoining players. There will be fewer boards and a lower table fee so that the game finishes in two hours. Nancy Wainer's lessons on Thursday will continue to be held in the afternoon.

Rising Stars 299er Sectional was a terrific success. Nancy Driscoll's experience showed in organizing and running the event as tournament chair. Dolly Bass organized hospitality which was uniformly hailed as outstanding. The event drew 76 tables, and okay that's not Gatlinburg, but it's a significant increase over last year and generated a positive contribution to the club in only its second year.

John Oppenheimer and Al Crane, a new partnership put together for this tournament, took 1st place in the Saturday 99er Pairs. Marge Clancy and Gloria McCammon were the overall matchpoint winners with 3.56 points for the tournament. They won the Saturday 299er Pairs and placed 2nd in the Sunday Swiss. They won't be 299ers for long with that kind of performance!

Electronic distribution of the newsletter begins with this issue. 55 members have already signed-up. To add your name and reduce the amount of paper and postage we use, go to our website and click on the little envelope.

2007 STaC week was another well-attended set of games. Feedback indicated people especially enjoyed the potluck at the Saturday Unit Game. On behalf of the entire club, a sincere thanks to all those who supported the Unit and brought food. Unit games are an important source of income for the club. Congratulations to Charlie Pender who led all SCBC players for the entire week with 25.7MPs! The list of STaC week MP winners can be found by clicking on the Western Conference logo on our home page.

If you regularly review the Unit's Income/Expense report, you'll begin to see expenses exceeding income such that the club appears to be running in the red. With the change to the investment strategy from all bonds to a balanced portfolio of stock funds and bonds, our interest income drops as the percentage of bonds decreases to the target allocation. The board decided not to show unrealized gains/losses from the portfolio on the Income/Expense report as this would not be solid accounting practice. This means that until the portfolio is reallocated at the end of the year, our expenses exceed our income. The Net Worth statement is a better snapshot of where we are. It does show unrealized gains/losses, since it totals the current value of the investment portfolio and the checking account.

The Board welcomes Lois Henry and Diana Schilling, who graciously stepped in as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively, when Vicki and Virginia resigned due to personal reasons.

—Ken Llacera

S'MORE PLEASE — Bridge Camp has been so successful that it is continuing through July and August. Beginning in September the format will shorten and move to Thursday afternoons with lunch at 12:30 followed by lessons and playing hands. Check the unit website or Nancy's site (www.santacruzbridge.com) for dates and details.

TUESDAY EVENING MENTOR NIGHTS will now be held once a quarter instead of monthly, with a potluck prior to the game. Line up your favorite partner for the September game but the *free* part is over for mentors: same table fee for everyone.

IT'S BACK! The Wednesday night Open Pairs game returns beginning September 19 at 6:30 pm. Robin Evenden will be the director. The restart kicks off with an ACBL Wide Instant Matchpoint Game (9/19). One of those rare opportunities to win a Gold point at the club! The following Wednesday (9/26) is a Club Championship awarding double points. Look for ongoing Wednesday pm games in our monthly calendar.

99ER NEW GAME Nancy Driscoll will direct a new 99er game starting Thursday, September 20. The game will run for two hours each Thursday (10 am to noon) and is designed to provide a friendly and less competitive atmosphere for players to play and learn the exciting game of duplicate bridge. Nancy has been playing bridge for over 35 years and is a silver life master and ACBL-certified teacher and director. She loves working with new players. For more information, call Nancy at 477-9561.

Unit 550 Directors and their Games

Bernie Bertonis 247-3343 bernie@cruzio.com	Monday evening open game
Robin Evenden 462-5367 robinde@juno.com	Wednesday evening and 2nd Saturday Unit game
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
Nancy Driscoll 477-9561 BRD258@peoplepc.com	Thursday morning 99er Game

**For the most current
calendar, please:**

- *Click on Calendar at
www.santacruzbridge.org*
- *Then click on the month you
want to see*

Key Functions for 2007	
299er Sectional	Nancy Driscoll
Open Sectional	Dick Wasserstrom
Judiciary	Ann Ottenberg
Sunshine	Diana Schilling
Newsletter	Pam Benz
Webmaster	Ken Llacera
Forum Editor	Jeanne Boss
District Reps	Ken Llacera and Bill McIntosh
Club Director Liaison	Mary Peterson
Education Liaison	Nancy Wainer

Unit 550 Board of Directors

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

Special thanks to

Barry Samuel who helped us obtain the Simpkins
Swim Center for the Rising Stars 299er Sectional in
2007 and 2008. His assistance allows the club to net
more income from this sectional.