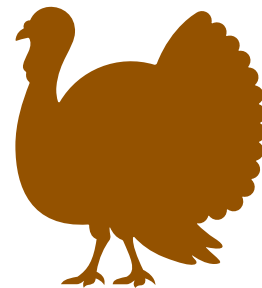


SANTA CRUZ BRIDGE CENTER
 UNIT 550, DISTRICT 21
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 PHONE: 831-603-2448
 WEBSITE: santacruzbridge.org
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NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Thankful, grateful, fortunate, blessed

Happy Thanksgiving

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

JAN MARTINDALE
 TORI SHAFFER
 EVELYN TAYLOR



Member Accolades

Ann Elder - Junior Master
 Linda Downing - Regional Master
 Gina Brown - Life Master

Congratulations

70% games....

Oct 14 to Nov 10
 Nov 1st:

Diana Bailey - Linda Owens 72.2%
 NewComer Game

Nov 6th:

Richard Pearce - Susan Pearce
 70%
 499er Game

Nov 7th:

Jim Miller - John Shurtleff 70.37%
 BBO - 750 game

Newcomer NEWS GAME 0-49ers

The November **Newplicate** game played November 1st was another **smashing** success. Participants enjoyed another fabulous lunch prepared by Chef Heather MacGregor. Her menu of Cream pumpkin soup, Marinated carrot sandwiches Salad, and mini lavender cheesecakes was **OUTSTANDING**.

This lovely luncheon was followed by a mini-lesson and newcomer bridge game.

The December game is scheduled for Dec 6. Chef Heather's Lunch will include: wild rice with delicata squash and cranberries, a watercress salad with radish and olives and a mini pear streusel pie and ice cream. All for \$8.00, Yum! Luncheon is to be followed by a mini-lesson and newcomer bridge game for \$5.00.

....come join the fun.



Santa Cruz
 Unit 550

Member's Corner

WANTED: MENTORS AND MENTEES...

Every second and fourth Thursday of the month the Unit holds Mentor/Mentee games with one or both partners having less than 750 points. Please contact the center via email: info@santacruzbridge.com. If you are interested, we will try to find you a partner.

Getting to Know....

Jim Miller

Jim was born, and grew up in Los Angeles. As a child and young man, math was his favorite subject. He attended college at Loyola University graduating with an Electrical Engineering degree. Using his engineering prowess, Jim found a job with the FAA. Later, after obtaining his Masters, at San Jose State, he took a position with NASA in 1962.



Jim met his wife Diane during a visit to Squaw Valley in 1962. He says he met her in a bar, but it was really the ski lodge in the old Olympic Village. Jim and Diane were married for fifty-nine years. Together they had four children. Jim, working as an engineer and Diane, as homemaker. When their children were old enough, she returned to teaching. Diane worked at Challenger Pre-School in San Jose. Jim and Diane moved to Los Gatos soon after they were married, and Jim joined IBM. They moved to Santa Cruz in 2000 where they lived until, sadly, Diane passed away in June 2021.

During his lunch hour, while working for NASA, Jim's bridge learning began. He and some friends started a bridge group during their lunch hour. They played Goren, 4 card majors and no conventions, party bridge style. The bidding was a lot simpler back then, he says. As fatherhood became his main priority, Jim took up running instead of sitting at lunch. In 1970, he took a hiatus from bridge until 2021.

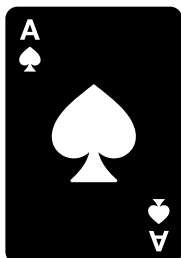
Jim has lived in Santa Cruz for twenty three years now. He became a member of the Santa Cruz Bridge Club in 2022. His first experience at the bridge club, was memorable, never having played duplicate. Everything about bridge had changed since the 1960's. He was still opening a NT with 16-18. Just to get the basics back was a challenge, let alone the conventions. He says it was a whole new card game.

Jim enjoys the social aspect of bridge. After Diane passed away, he wanted more social connections and interactions in his life. He gets that with bridge. Competing in the Open Games was intimidating the first few times he played. However, the opposing players were so helpful, and understanding. He thought, "Gosh, this is nice; where else can I get three hours of entertainment for \$10.00 these days?"

Jim's advice to beginners is, not to be intimidated, you aren't going to win a lot in the beginning. You have to have a lot of humility. It's a little painful to lose, but you learn so much.

Funniest thing? Jim says he can't think of a funniest thing that happened to him in bridge. Just recently though, he had a humorous situation. He was playing with in the Open Game with some very strong opponents. He attempted to preempt with a long minor but a four card major in his hand as well. Jim didn't make the contract. On the very next hand, again he opened the bidding preempting with a minor, holding a four card major. Twice in a row he did it! He was embarrassed. The sympathetic opponents said, that's okay Jim, guess you are just a slow learner.

Recently, Jim has a new lady friend in his life, Renae. He feels fortunate to have a wonderful person to whom he can share his golden years.



Mark your calendars:

Winter StAC week
Monday, December 4th through Sunday,
December 10th

Sunday Brunch November 26th

Menu

Pumpkin Pie English Muffin Bake.

Pear Ginger Scones

Pumpkin Sage Soup with Gruyere Cheese

Salad of Shaved Brussel Sprouts, Persimmon and Apples

Sweet Potato Cranberry Bundt Cake

Mimosas 🍷🍾



After brunch happiness

This fall-themed brunch is served at approximately 11:15am. Playing in the game is not required; the brunch is optional. Brunch cost: \$10. Please reply "Yes" or contact Carol Avenmarg at cavenmarg831@gmail.com if you will be brunching with us. **Advance sign-ups are required for brunch; reservation deadline is Thursday, October 26. Please include any dietary restrictions such as vegetarian or gluten free.**

If you have questions or need a partner, please contact us at info@santacruzbridge.org.



****BBO** 749er Game Tuesday Evenings at 6:30. Followed by a Wednesday Morning Free Review with Ken Llacera

More fun with face to face...

MONDAY NIGHT - 6:00 P.M. 499er game, just like old times. F2F and FUN.....

Tuesday - 10:00 A.M. OPEN game

****Tuesday Eve BBO** - 6:30 P.M.

 **WINE DOWN WEDNESDAYS**   6:00 P.M.

evening **open** game.

Friday - 10:00 A.M. OPEN game

THURSDAY - the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month 10:00 A.M

MENTOR MENTEE GAMES.

  **SUNDAY Brunch** (optional) begins at 11:15 and 12:00

Open game on the last Sunday of the month. Enjoy an amazing brunch menu prepared by Chef Heather

and a game with friends   

Check our website calendar for updates:
santacruzbridge.org

**COME ON
DOWN TO THE
BRIDGE
CENTER...**

**EVERYBODY'S
HAVING A
GREAT TIME**

