

SILICON VALLEY UNIT NEWS

November 2025



If you wanted to read about the harrowing story of the 1989 Bay Bridge collapse, you've opened the wrong e-mail. This is about another kind of Bridge. It's just I, Unit 507 President, [Mich Ravera](#).

The North American Bridge Championships start Thanksgiving Day, Thursday November 27 at the [Marriott Marquis, San Francisco](#) and continue until Sunday, December 7. This is your chance to see or play against the best players and earn **Platinum**, **Gold**, and **Red** Masterpoints.

If you have any questions, especially about hands from the Wednesday game, use our website's new "Ask a Teacher" feature.

The club is holding lots of special point games in December, some of which are partly funded by your Unit Dues. Thanks to Lynn for asking and to the Unit Board for agreeing! These include Unit Championships on December 3 and 31; A Club Championship on the 10th, a Stardust Game with 25% **Gold** on the 17th. The club is closed Christmas Eve the 24th. Game time is 11:00AM at the [Campbell United Methodist Church](#) at 1675 Winchester Blvd. in Campbell and [Pre-registration is required](#).

The Villages in San Jose has a Friday Afternoon game (complete with a lesson before). Because you have to get past a gate, you'll need to register. So, text or email the names of both partners by Thursday, noon to: Jonna Robinson, (408-960-5908).

At the Silicon Valley Unit Holiday Party, Michael Fleisher and Marolyn Imaoka took top honors with nearly a 70% game. Carolyn Drozdiak and Linzhi Hu won a double section top. Other section top winners included Stuart Goodgold, Mark Pensler, Joseph Chui, Brenna Wundram, Louise Kirkbride, and Craig Hom.

At the Palo Alto Sectional in Mountain View Oct 23-26, 2025: Pairs Winners included Michael Bodell (who also had a section top), Kathryn Walker, and Li Zhang (who was also a teams winner) with Tops going to Henry Koransky and Jane Michaels. Teams winners included Andrew Sinclair, John Miller, and Lynn Shannon.

This fall the ACBL will be holding a Best Practices teacher training workshop at the San Francisco NABC on Friday-Sunday, November 28-30. District 21 will reimburse half of your costs for attending if you pass the certification and subsequently teach a class in the district within 90 days of completing the class. Details about the class: <https://www.acbl.org/portfolio/teacher-certification/> The District will also reimburse half your costs for director training. Courses take place on Zoom. To qualify for reimbursement, you must successfully complete the course and subsequently direct a game in the District within 90 days of completing the class. Details about

the training: <https://www.acbl.org/portfolio/director-courses/> Contact [Max Schireson](#) to register for either reimbursement offer prior to attending the course.

If you would like to join a Mentor Chain, contact [me](#) or [Milind Girkar](#). Preference is given to Unit 507 members, but we'll try to help, especially, if you play in a Silicon Valley club.

We welcome Richard David, Kelly Heuschkel, Oscar Li, Suresh Mohan, and Jay West to our Game, our League, and our Unit.

We also welcome Michael Nagel as Junior Master and recognize Reena Abrol, Celeste Brandt, and Judith Gouvea as Club Masters; Craig Hom as Sectional Master; and congratulate Betsy Wagner and Jan Pfiffner for achieving Life Master.

For games held in nearby Units, results, online games, and to find teachers and lessons, [check out our website](#).

Contact either [me](#) or [Ray Yuenger](#) to guide you through the process of becoming an ACBL club director. The Unit will even pay for it!

Our regular monthly Unit 507 Board meeting is usually held on the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 PM. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, December 9, 2025. Almost all of the meetings are open to all Unit 507 members. If you [contact me](#), I will send you an invitation and a meeting packet, a day or two ahead of the meeting.

You don't have to join a mentor chain in order to help newer Bridge players or to learn from older ones. If you don't mind answering questions, at the beginning of each round when you see players whom you don't recognize from the days "when rocks were soft," simply just say the two words "Ask Me." If you are a newer player and recognize players from the winners' list, just say the two words "Tell Me." And, with that thought, I'll see you at the tables!

Some Recent Life Masters: John Wainwright and Betsy Wagner.

