

SILICON VALLEY UNIT NEWS

January 2026



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

If you wanted to read about the [New Year's Eve celebration in Rio de Janeiro](#), this the wrong e-mail. This e-mail is about Bridge. It's just I, Unit 507 President, [Mich Ravera](#).

The San Jose Bridge Club's Game time is Wednesday at 11:00 AM at the Campbell United Methodist Church at 1675 Winchester Blvd. in Campbell. [Pre-registration](#) is required. If you have any questions, especially about hands from the Wednesday game, use our website's new "Ask a Teacher" feature.

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, jonnar@aol.com, (408-960-5908).

At the Monterey Clambake Regional held January 5-11:

- Pairs Winners included Mike Cailean, Shailesh Naik, Carol Reid, Judith Gouvea, and Karen and Preston Kauk
- Section Tops went to Roy Tsai, Linzhi Hu, Michael Callahan, Ilya Sherman, Li Zhang, Jay Wang, Murat Alaybeyi, Henry Koransky, Jane Michaels, Daren Kuo, Luen-Jyh Luo, Annette Powers, Bruce Dau, Richard Reitman, Elenalani Lam, Andrew Lazarus, Linda Rocha, John Stremel, Kathryn Barnard, Bharat Kamdar, Shailesh Shah, Jung Hu, Kathy McKenzie, Sadik Arf, and Luen-Jyh Luo
- Team Winners included Anne Wilson, Li Zhang (twice), Bharat Kamdar, Prabhat Mishra, Michael Callahan, Luen-Jyh Luo, Jung Hu, William Watson, Yul Inn (twice), Joanne Cornbleet, and Michele Liu

At the Land of Enchantment Regional held January 12-18 in Albuquerque, NM:

- Yul Inn and Cheryl Mandala were on THREE winning teams.

At the San Francisco January Sectional held January 17-18:

- Andrew Sinclair was on a winning team
- Section Tops went to Roy Tsai, Youfeng Wu, Weilong Shen, Kapil Bhalla, and Wanwan Ren

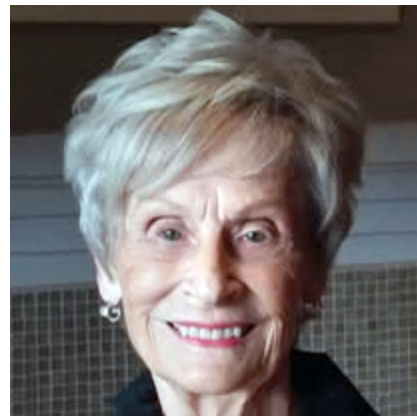
If you would like to join a Mentor Chain, contact [me or Milind Girkar](#). For additional information [click here](#). Preference is given to Unit 507 members, but we'll try to help, especially if you play in a Silicon Valley club.

We welcome Mihran Dars, James Eby, Julia Fung, Aaron Kleinman, Ron Kleinman, Nivedita More, Karin Pendl, Thyag Thyagarajan, Ping Wen, and Dean Zhou to our game, our league, and our unit. We also welcome Shu Wu and Sivakumar Budaraju as Junior Master; we congratulate Russell Segal for earning Club Master; Joanne Nelson as an NABC Master; Weilong Shen as an Advanced NABC Master; Bob Viersen for achieving Life Master and also advancing to Bronze Life Master; Zag Kadah for advancing to Gold Life Master.



**Gold Life Master
Zag Kadah**

We also bid a sad good-bye to Maxine Lubow,
who passed away on November 9th.



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, February 10, 2026. Most 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.

Some twenty years ago, I embarked upon a “system study” with my frequent partner. His idea was that since various systems are legal, even if some of them are uncommon, we should try to play them. Since we were playing two or three times per week, three to six months of play gave us a good sampling of the methods. What actually came up, what rarely did, what actually worked, and, of course, what didn't? What required thought regarding defense? What would give the opponents trouble? And even, what gave the opposition an advantage? One thought: If inverted minors were such a good idea, what about inverted majors? If transfers work over 1NT, why not over overcalls? Preempts? Doubles? 1♣? Well, as the new year begins, we'd do well to remember Jeff Roman's admonition about conventions: Do they solve a problem that comes up fairly frequently and will you remember to use them? And, with that thought, I'll see you at the tables!



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