



## Charter History of ACBL's Ventura Unit, Unit 547

Included in this file are photocopies of four (4) documents that granted the initial charter for Unit 547 in 1972, and also a single document that modified said charter (by expanding the geographical area) in 2003. Clarification of the 2003 modification was requested in 2008—details to be listed later in this paper. Neither Unit 532 (Southern Gold Coast, centered in Thousand Oaks) nor Unit 547 were completely satisfied with the new boundary line and in late 2014 a joint request to redraw the border was submitted to the ACBL. On January 20, 2015, ACBL granted the request. Again, details appear later in this paper.

### Notes:

The cover letter issued in 1972 came from Greenwich, Conn., then the Headquarters of the ACBL.

The 1972 Ventura Unit Charter notes that the ACBL was incorporated in 1937 in the state of New York.

The first 1972 map, covering the state of California, shows Ventura (Unit 547), its western neighbor, Santa Barbara (Unit 542), and its southern neighbor, Oxnard, now renamed Southern Gold Coast (Unit 532).

The 2<sup>nd</sup> 1972 map, zooming in on Unit 547, the Ventura Unit, shows the geographical boundaries in greater detail.

The 2003 Charter update lists additional zip codes to be included in the Ventura Unit's geographical boundaries.

In 2008, Tom Ciacio, then the Manager of Unit-owned games, wrote to the ACBL asking for a complete definition of the Unit's boundaries. Patty Taylor responded with a list of Zip codes that comprise Unit 547. This list was the consecutive numbers running:

93001 – 93067

These Zip codes define a large geographic area, the northern portion of which is in the Los Padres National Forest. Concentrating on cities and towns, the area runs from Carpinteria east past Ojai to slightly beyond Fillmore and to the south to the Conejo Grade in Camarillo and then eastward along Highway 34 and the 118 Freeway to include Moorpark and Simi Valley.

In 2014, Units 532 (Southern Gold Coast) and 547 (Ventura) jointly submitted a letter (signed by the Presidents of each Unit) requesting redrawing the border between the two Units. If approved:

Camarillo Springs, Mission Oaks, and Camarillo would be officially part of Unit 547, Simi Valley, Moorpark, Piru, and Fillmore would officially be part of Unit 532.

A snippet from that letter gives the configuration of each Unit in terms of both cities/towns and zip codes:

This means the configuration of Unit 547 will now be:

Ventura (93001-09), Camarillo (93010-12), Carpinteria (93013-14), Oak View (Ojai area; 93022), Ojai (93023-24), Oxnard (93030-36), Port Hueneme (93041, 43, 44), Pt. Mugu (93042), Santa Paula (93060-61), Summerland (93067).



The configuration of Unit 532 will now be:

Thousand Oaks, Newbury Park, Fillmore (93015-16), Moorpark (93020-21), Piru (93040), Simi Valley (93062-65 plus 93094 and 93099), plus other communities which have been assigned to Unit 532.

On January 20, 2015, Cindy Wages of the ACBL staff responded as follows:

Dear Mr. [Gary] Morgan,

Thank you for your message. We are going to make the changes we received from you and Mr. [Joe] Conti. This action will not affect existing members, only new members and members that change their addresses. However, any member who wishes to change their unit affiliation need only contact us in writing or by e-mail with their request and we will be happy to change their unit.

I will let you know if we have any questions as we proceed. Please let me know if you need further assistance.

Sincerely,

**Cindy Wages**  
**Club and Member Services**

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In the Spring of 2020 face-to-face bridge was shut down due to CoViD. For Unit 547 in-person bridge resumed in July of 2021. But before that happened, Unit 532 dissolved and its members were transferred into Unit 547. Many of those members lived closer to the San Fernando Valley Unit than to the city of Ventura and opted to transfer to Unit 561. Nonetheless, Unit 547's boundaries now include:

Thousand Oaks, Newbury Park, Fillmore (93015-16), Moorpark (93020-21), Piru (93040), Simi Valley (93062-65 plus 93094 and 93099)



AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

125 GREENWICH AVENUE, GREENWICH, CONN. 06830 • (203) 661-5090

Ralph R. Cohen  
*Assistant Executive Secretary*

February 4, 1972

DEAR UNIT PRESIDENT:

Enclosed is the Unit Charter for your Unit.

The geographical area mentioned in the Charter has been carefully checked in this office. However, it is possible that we may have overlooked something in our examination.

Please check the area described and if you feel that there is an error or an omission, please write this office and we will check the matter out. The area should correspond with the maps mailed to you on March 25th, or with any amendments which your Unit Board has agreed to since that time.

I trust that you will find your Charter in order.

Sincerely,  
  
Ralph Cohen

RC:art  
Encl.

The BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the

# American Contract Bridge League, Inc.

does hereby grant to

## Ventura Unit 547

a Unit Charter for the following geographical area:  
per attached map

Such Unit shall have all and singular the rights, privileges and perquisites of a Unit of the AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE, INC. as provided by its By-Laws and Regulations and Certificate of Incorporation granted by the State of New York on December 23, 1937.

Issued by authority of the Board of Directors of the AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE, INC. this  
Tenth day of January 19 72.



ATTEST:

*Richard L. Goldberg*  
Executive Secretary  
AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE, INC.

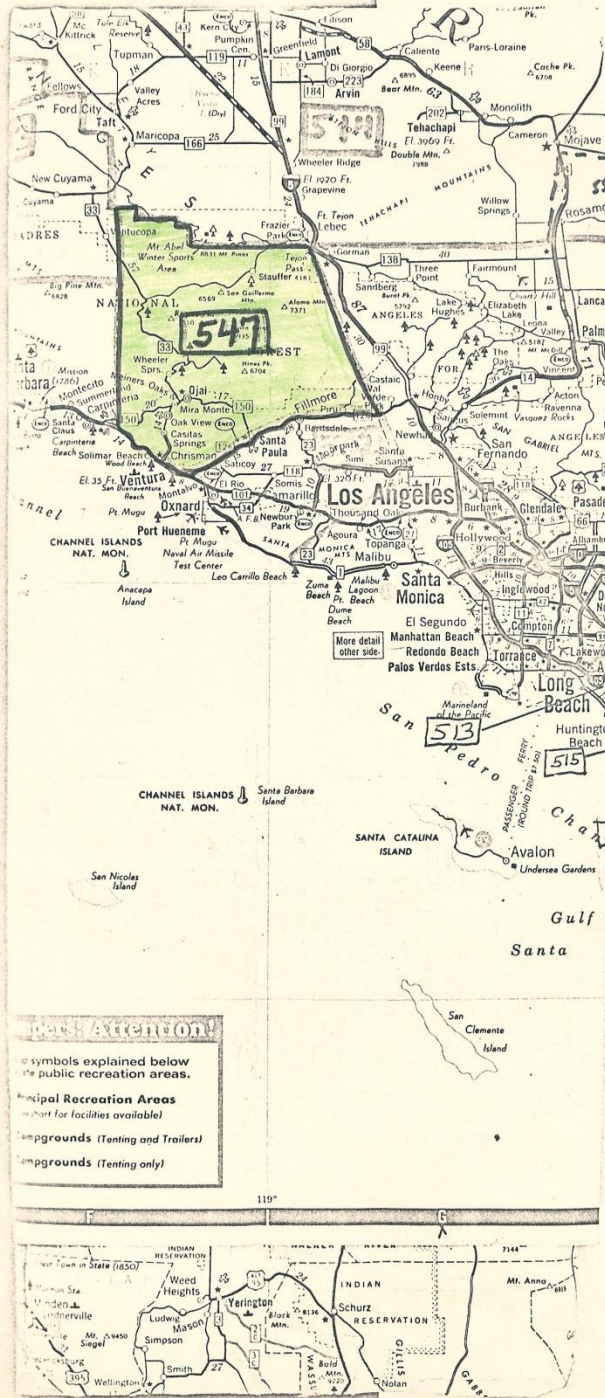
*Ben X. Dean*  
President  
AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE, INC.



CALIFORNIA NO. 6564







# American Contract Bridge League, Inc.

## Ventura Unit #547

is hereby granted a Unit Charter for the following geographical area:

*per attached map, including zip codes 93030, 93031, 93032, 93033, 93034, 93035,  
93036, 93041 and 93043*

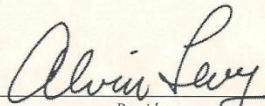
Such Unit shall have all and singular the rights, privileges and perquisites of a Unit of the AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE, INC. as provided by its By-Laws and Regulations and Certificate of Incorporation granted by the State of New York on December 23, 1937.

Issued by authority of the Board of Directors of the AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE, INC. this  
1st day of December 20 03.

ATTEST:



Chief Executive Officer  
AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE, INC.



President  
AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE, INC.





**Ventura Unit 547**  
**American Contract Bridge League**

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**666 Walcott Ave.**  
**Ventura, CA 93003**  
Gary Morgan, President  
November 3, 2014

Cindy Wages  
Club and Member Services  
American Contract Bridge League  
6575 Windchase Blvd  
Horn Lake, MS 38637-1523

Dear Ms. Wages:

Unit 547 and Unit 532 have identified certain towns and cities in Ventura County which are not really “connected” with the units to which they are assigned. An example is Simi Valley, a city which is roughly 20 miles from Ventura and assigned to Unit 547. Yet Unit 532’s boundaries fall between the two cities. As a result, the two units have conducted a study of the zip codes assigned to Unit 547 according to the email from Patty Taylor at ACBL headquarters to Unit 547 Manager Tom Ciacio on December 11, 2008, with a copy to Cindy Wages. A copy of that email is attached.

Based on that study, Units 532 and 547 jointly propose that the following cities and towns (and zip codes) be moved **from** Unit 547 **to** Unit 532:

Fillmore (93015-16)  
Moorpark (93020-21)  
Piru (93040)  
Simi Valley (93062-65 plus 93094 and 93099)

Units 532 and 547 also jointly propose that the following cities and towns (and zip codes) be moved **from** Unit 532 **to** Unit 547:

Camarillo (93010-12)

This means the configuration of Unit 547 will now be:

Ventura (93001-09), Camarillo (93010-12), Carpinteria (93013-14), Oak View (Ojai area; 93022), Ojai (93023-24), Oxnard (93030-36), Port Hueneme (93041, 43, 44), Pt. Mugu (93042), Santa Paula (93060-61), Summerland (93067).



The configuration of Unit 532 will now be:

Thousand Oaks, Newbury Park, Fillmore (93015-16), Moorpark (93020-21), Piru (93040), Simi Valley (93062-65 plus 93094 and 93099), plus other communities which have been assigned to Unit 532.

Both Unit Boards of Directors have approved these modifications and, with the signatures of the two Unit Presidents below, hereby request that the ACBL make these adjustments and forward confirmation to both Unit Presidents.

Sincerely,

Joe Conti, President  
Unit 532  
Player Number: nnnnnnn

Gary Morgan, President  
Unit 547  
Player Number: nnnnnnn

1 Attachment