



Newsletter Vol. 9/No. 1

January 1, 2010

President's Message

A big thank you to all the members and volunteers who made 2009 a record breaker. A special thanks to my fellow Board members who gave so much of their time and effort.

We broke the club record for number of tables for the year. Most of this is owed to Sally Pelmeur and her Easy Bridge lessons and classes. Sally is a gifted teacher.

Also, a big thanks to Andy DeLeon for being our Unit Manager. We had a big increase in rent and common area charges and also experienced a severe drop in interest rates for our CDs. In spite of all this, we still saw our cash position increase by 11%!

We remodeled our bathrooms and purchased a new dealing machine. The dealing machine set up includes hand records showing "deep finesse" possibilities. Take advantage of these... they are a great learning tool for everyone.

Enjoy our beautiful club and I wish everyone a chance to bid 7 NT!

Richard M. Leach

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Membership

by Sandy Busby

Milestones:

Junior Master: Kenneth Hill, Diana Schmitz, Bertrand Weiedberg, Sharon Weidberg

Club Master: Trudi Hanscom, Jeffrey Hecht, Janet Lee Thorpe, Emely Moeller, Jean Takahashi

Sectional Master: Judie Adams, Tom Snooks

NABC Master: Dae Leckie

Life Master: Kathy Braeunig, Linda Jonas, Ron Livingston, Sharon Rippy, Jack Rippy

Bronze Life Master: Joe FioRica, Calvin Hecht, Catherine Cram, Richard Leach, Ana McClean, Stanley Sirott, Ruth White, Ardelle Wolf

Silver Life Master: Faye Smith, John Winslow, Bill Perdue, Jacob Weisberg, Darlene White,

Gold Life Master: LaVerne Fabrick

Diamond Life Master: George Bartunek, Gale Senter

Happy Birthday – January Birthdays

Jette Anderson, Mahindokht Ayati, Susan Benon, Sandra Busby, Anne Bussey, Evelyn Crook, LaVern Fabrick, Allie Giles, Lisa Hanson, Jess Herrera, Barbara Hill, Bill Hill, Mark Itabashi, Elroy Iverson, Sandra Leach, Sue Matson, James McCarthy, Nettie McLean, Joseph O'Brien, Thurman Rock, Susan Schrieber, Fausta Vitali, Frank White and Harold McBee!

New Members

No new members this month

Transfers Into Our Unit: Al and Judy Bongarzone, Edward Reyno

January 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					NO GAMES Happy New Year!	2 Free Lesson 11:45 AM Open Charity 12:30 PM
3 No Game	4 \$4.99 499'er Game Open Charity 12:30 PM EZ Bridge III+ 7:00 PM	5 Open & 299'er Charity Games 12:30 PM	6 EZ Bridge I 9:30 AM Open Game 12:30 PM Charity Swiss Teams 6:30 PM	7 Open & NLM Charity Games 12:30 PM	8 Open & 99'er Games 12:30 PM Charity Pairs 7:00 PM	9 Free Lesson 11:45 AM Open Charity 12:30 PM
10 No Game	11 \$4.99 499'er Game Open Charity 12:30 PM EZ Bridge III+ 7:00 PM	12 Open & 299'er Charity Games 12:30 PM	13 EZ Bridge I 9:30 AM Open Game 12:30 PM Charity Swiss Teams 6:30 PM	14 Swiss Teams Open & 299'er Charity Games 12:30 PM	15 Open Game 12:30 PM Charity Pairs 7:00 PM	16 Free Lesson 11:45 AM Open Charity 12:30 PM w/NLM Section
17 Unit Game 1:00 PM	18 \$4.99 499'er Game Open Charity 12:30 PM EZ Bridge III+ 7:00 PM	19 Open & 299'er Charity Games 12:30 PM	20 EZ Bridge I 9:30 AM Open Game 12:30 PM Charity Swiss Teams 6:30 PM	21 Open & NLM Charity Games 12:30 PM	22 Open & 99'er Games 12:30 PM Charity Open 7:00 PM	23 Free Lesson 11:45 AM Open Charity 12:30 PM
24 Charity Swiss Teams 1:00	25 \$4.99 499'er Game Open Charity 12:30 PM EZ Bridge III+ 7:00 PM	26 Open & 299'er Charity Games 12:30 PM	27 EZ Bridge I 9:30 AM Open Game 12:30 PM Charity Swiss Teams 6:30 PM	28 Open & 299'er Charity Games 12:30 PM	29 Open Game 12:30 PM Charity Pairs 7:00 PM	30 Free Lesson 11:45 AM Open Charity 12:30 PM
31 No Game						

Regular Daily Game Schedule

Monday	12:30 PM	Open & 499'er Stratified Charity Games
Monday Evening	7:00 PM	EZ Bridge III+
Tuesday	12:30 PM	Open & 299'er Stratified Charity Games
Wednesday Morning	9:30 AM	EZ Bridge I
Wednesday	12:30 PM	Open & 99'er Stratified Games
Wednesday Evening	6:30 PM	Swiss Teams Charity Game***
Thursday	12:30 PM	Open & 299'er Stratified Charity Games
Thursday*	12:30 PM	Open & NLM Charity Swiss Teams – 3 rd Thursday <i>USUALLY</i>
Friday	12:30 PM	Open & 99'er Stratified Games
Friday Eve.**	7:00 PM	Open Stratified Charity Game
Saturday**	12:30PM	Open Stratified Charity Game 3 rd Saturday – Additional NLM Game
Sunday*	1:00 PM	3 rd Sunday <i>USUALLY</i> - Unit Game 5 th Sunday – Special Unit Game 4 th Sunday <i>USUALLY</i> – SWISS Teams Charity Game***

Notes on the Regular Daily Schedule

- * Be sure to check the website for any date changes.
- ** These games are sometimes canceled for local tournaments. Check the website.
- *** Swiss Teams are handicapped when applicable.

A light lunch is provided for all games.

Website – The website has an up-to-the-day listing of **Special Events** for the current month.

Award Winners!

Photos courtesy of Dan Glasgow



Bronze Life Masters are front row left to right: Joe FioRico, Faye Smith, Calvin Hecht, Ardell Wolf,
Laverne Marano, Jacob Weisberg
Back row: Richard Leach, John Winslow



Diamond Life Master Gale Senter



Life Masters Jack and Sharon Rippy



Life Masters are left to right Linda Jonas, Kathy Braeunig., Myrna Silverman, Ron Livingston, Marie Tanner



*Andy deLeon, Volunteer of
The Year*

...a note from Jacob Weisberg reads “Thanks Andy for making sure that our club uses all of the opportunities given us by ACBL for the kinds of games that bring us maximum number of points. That’s one of the things we said about you when we awarded you the Volunteer of the Year Award at the Annual Meeting.”

*Susan Benon Party Giver
Extraordinaire!*

The Holiday Party was a hit! A morning of Bridge, a sumptuous luncheon at Ferrantelli’s, followed by an afternoon card session. Susan Benon is an outstanding organizer and we thank her for handling this event. A note from John Kissinger reads “the party went really well. It was great to simply walk back for the second session (between showers, too!). I think everybody had a good time. Kudos to all that were involved in the planning and execution.”



January Special: \$4.99 for 499'ers

Monday afternoon offers a 499'er game...anyone with fewer than 500 points is eligible. The January games, to start things off, will cost \$4.99 Take advantage of the January Special!

Check The Board First!

By Jacob Weisberg

Whether you're East/West or North/South, please check to make sure that the board from which you're about to withdraw cards **IS THE BOARD YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO PLAY**. How would you know? Well, if you've got a private score you can see the progression. If you're N/S then you know the boards that you are about to play should be higher numbered than the boards you just finished playing... **PLAYERS MOVE UP, BOARDS MOVE DOWN**...which means the boards came from a higher numbered table. It's everyone's responsibility. Why do I bother writing this? Because we're having instances where the wrong boards wind up at the wrong table. The culprits are **CHAIRS!!!** Chairs? Right, chairs. Some folks place a chair between their table and the table to which they are passing boards. Sounds good, except sometimes a well meaning player from another table comes by and places some boards on the chair. Now a player takes those boards and begins to play, **NEVER** looking to see what the board number is. This can cause problems and in some cases has raised some ire. So, please, before you begin to play, make sure that these are the boards you're supposed to play.

The Etiquette of Passing The Boards

By Jacob Weisberg

Does that title say "etiquette"? Yes it does. Is Jacob the writer? Yes he is.

Scenario#1 – The Director has called the move and pairs are supposed to move to the next higher table and boards go down. There are sometimes players who have not completed all of their boards. Do the players at the next table have the right to expect their boards in a timely manner? **ABSOLUTELY!** The round's been called and it's the responsibility of the players to move the boards to the next table. But the players are involved in playing the hand. True, but their tardiness should not be a problem for the other players. So some players ask, "Can we have a board please?" As nice as that. And some people regard that as an intrusion, an imposition, and even get upset about the folks who are asking. Their response leaves etiquette behind.

Here's my view of the etiquette. If you're behind and the round's been called, even if it disturbs your train of thought, you owe it to the other players and to the game to pass one or more boards. **DO IT WITH GRACE**. The other folks are not culprits. So in Jacob's etiquette book, the folks who ask do so with a **PLEASE** and the folks who are behind smile and say "of course."

Scenario #2 – This is different. Some pairs are really fast. They finish a round before it's over and if the next table is free, they move and expect the boards to be given to them early. **THEY HAVE NO RIGHT TO THAT EXPECTATION**. They're fast. They're early.

Lessons and Classes

Classes by Sally Pelmeur (949-855-8953 or sallypelmeur@cox.net)

Easybridge I - Wednesday Mornings

9:30 - 11:45 AM...No Partner Required

New beginners' class starts Wednesday, January 6th. If you have a spouse/friend/distant relation who absolutely needs to learn the wonderful game of bridge, send (or bring) them to Dana Harbor Bridge Center at 9:15 AM on the 6th...if they come at 9:30 AM they won't have time for a donut!

Easybridge III+ – Monday Evenings

7:00 - 9:30 PM...No Partner Required

January 4 – A New Bridge Personality For The New Year

January 11 – How Assertive Are You? Take the Test

January 18 – Leap Over Small Hands In a Single Bound

January 25 – Have fun...but Respect Your Elders

Paid to Learn with Ginnie Blitzman

Instead of paying for a bridge class, how about getting paid to take one? The Saturday classes in January and February will culminate with a test which will be rewarded with free plays for the top scorers. This offer is open to all and classes will be geared to all levels of play. Topics will not be given in advance. Test questions will come directly from the lessons and must be answered according to the lessons. There will be conventions, play of the hand, leads, and yes, procedures/laws. You must attend five of the seven classes (plus the test) to be eligible for free play. The dates are: January 2, 9, 16, 23,30 and February 6, 20, test on February 27th.

Mentor Program...by Ann Cressman

Welcome to the 2010 Mentor Program. "Be a Mentor – Get a Mentor." This program is designed to help players become more confident in the wonderful and challenging game of bridge.

We are implementing a two tiered program, like 2009. Intermediate novices will mentor newer players. Intermediates will then be eligible to be mentored into the Open Game. Sign-ups will begin in January and the program will run through July. It is available to all club members with less than 300 master points. Those over 300 may qualify as a mentor. Mentors/mentees will be matched the beginning of February. Please do not make your own partnership arrangements.

Pairs are encouraged to play together six times between February and the end of July. Dates to play are arranged between the two players. Mentees pay the regular card fees of both players. Mentors do not pay. They are giving their time, experience and knowledge to encourage the mentee.

We look forward to your participation again this year. To our newcomers, a big welcome. We want to include all of you in this wonderful program. Please sign up on the clipboards at the director's table any time in January.

If you have any questions, please contact me at anncressman@gmail.com.

Charity Games

What are Charity Games and why do we have so many? We like to be philanthropic...but we also get two or three times the number of points when it is a Charity Game. Funds collected are split between ACBL's national charities and local organizations. We currently support Second Harvest (a food bank). Recipients are decided upon by the Board of Directors. Our club sends upwards of \$1000 a month to charities. A consideration for the new Board will be whether to have the Open Game be a Charity Game (extra points) and the 299'er game be STac (silver points).

Publicity

Please report tournament results for publication in this Newsletter and in the Contract Bridge Forum. Email Kathy Braeunig or Jennifer Porter for The Forum and Lee Mequet for the Newsletter. It inspires the rest of us to know how well you're doing!

Website

Our website address is www.danaharborbridgecenter.org Go there to get latest information and other helpful items. For example, the entire Player's Education Series is there along with Game Results, this Newsletter, Local Restaurants, Bridge Links and more.

Editor's Note

Beginning this month I will serve as Newsletter Editor, replacing Ginnie Blitzman who had done an outstanding job. We welcome contributions...Letters to the Editor, Opinions, Jokes, Pictures...no Scandal or Gossip! Once a month look for the calendar, awards, club information and changes, Board decisions, etc. Sharon Donoff will continue her interesting personality bios and we will look for input from everyone else. Send material to leemequet@hotmail.com. or look for me in the Club room. Lee Mequet

EMail Notice

Each month we send this Newsletter to all who wish to receive it. If an email comes back undelivered the address is deleted from the list. Therefore, if you are not getting the Newsletter or email notices and wish to, please send your current email address to Sandra Busby at sandbuz@aol.com.

Kitchen

If anyone would like to join the Kitchen Committee, or has any helpful suggestion, please speak to our Food Service Chairperson, Carol Armstrong at 949-218-4339.

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