



Volunteer Profile



Christine Frumen

Christine Frumen is the retiring editor and chief reporter of Table Talk for the past two years. Her colorful and informative newsletters will remain part of Long Beach Bridge's history. In addition to publishing Table Talk and acting as a director, Christine served as unit president for two and one-half years and produced the unit newsletter for another seven. She also creates the eye-catching flyers for our NLM tournaments.

Christine was introduced to bridge over 50 years ago in New Jersey when she and her husband took bridge lessons through adult education. While their husbands were at work, she and some other wives in the neighborhood put on a pot of coffee and played bridge. The dummy would hold the baby, her daughter Dara. Christine continued to play off and on over the next few years.

When she moved to Southern Ca-

Table Talk

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Special Events - December 2019

Great Western STaC	Mon. - Sat., 9-14
Extra points. \$2 extra fee.	
Holiday Party	Sunday, 15
Unit and Club & Potluck	
11:45 a.m. potluck	
12:30 p.m. game	
Birthday Monday	Monday, 16
ACBL Wide Intl. Fund Game	Monday, 16
12:30 p.m Extra points. \$2 extra fee.	
50/50 red/black	
81.80% sectional rating	
Steve's Picnic Lunch	Saturday, 21
Swiss Team Sunday	Sunday, 22
Club Closed – Christmas Day	Wed. 25

lifornia in 1987, Christine hadn't played in 15 years. Two years later, she discovered the Long Beach Bridge center where Barbara Dicker asked her if she played Stayman and then spirited her off to her first tournament in San Diego—where she revoked multiple times. From this inauspicious beginning, Christine played on and on and on, achieving Ruby Life Master this year! She has played at Long Beach the past 30 years and fondly recalls the days when she played seven days a week, day and night, and sometimes even morning games.

Christine's favorite convention is KISS, Keep It Simple and Standard (American). Her advice to newer players is, "Keep playing. Don't be afraid to play in the Open Section. You'll learn by watching others and

by having them beat you up." Although you know Christine from bridge, one fun fact that will surprise you is that she was a cheerleader for Joe Namath (in high school in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania)!

By Lillian Slater



Thank you to all the volunteers who make this club the friendliest bridge club. Special mention this month to Chuck Laine who designed and built our new card shoe shelf. Also, please thank directors Steve Rowe, Christine Frumen, Nancy Toussaint, and Sean Lui who stepped in to fill in for Alan Flower. Get well soon, Alan.

News from Unit 557



NLM Tourney - Success!

Unit 557 held its annual NLM Veterans Day tournament at Long Beach Bridge on November 9-10. Players came from the valley, South County, and Pacific Palisades as well as from the Agile and the Beverly Hills Barrington clubs. Everyone enjoyed our welcoming environment and friendly competition. Eighty players earned Silver points!

The afternoon's session merged the 0-50 and 51-500 game. Nonetheless, with stratification, many still earned points. Special congratulations to these winners: Jane Manson, Darrel Manson, Rita Vanlierop, Jan Vanlierop, Mary Mauck, Eric Kaplan, and Diana Parmeter! It's stressful to have to compete up, especially in a tournament!

Sunday Swiss had eight teams, less than last year's 12. A Los Angeles team won but Long Beach teams placed second and fourth. Bridge Brigade is planning activities to increase Swiss team participation in future tournaments and at Long Beach Bridge's monthly team game.

The tournament couldn't be successful without its many volunteers. Sean Lui stepped in as director at the last minute so a special shout out to him! Lillian Slater served as tournament chair with Ardie Laine as the partnership contact. Jenny Ernest, Judy Cook, and Sandra Schlosser came early and stayed late both days to help set up and clean up. Judy did all the shopping for the tasty snacks, while the other four baked homemade goodies. Thanks also to Rosalie Storc for the beautifully presented and delicious breads she baked and

Bridge Brigade

Classes Start 6 January 2020

Find the class that is right for you

Bridge 1 - Bidding

Wednesday, 9:30-11:30a.m.

Instructor: Hank Dunbar

Bridge 2 – Competitive Bidding

Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Hank Dunbar

Bridge 3B – Special Bids and Card Play, Beginning

Monday, 9:30-11:30am

Instructor: Hank Dunbar

Bridge 4B – Defense

Monday, 9:30-11:30a.m.

Instructor: Rob Preece

Bridge 4C – Advancing Player Workshop

Wednesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rob Preece

Bridge 5B – Bidding Workshop/Intermediate

Monday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Dalia Hernandez

Bridge 6 – Card Play, Int/Adv, Rotation 003

Wednesday, 9:30-11:30a.m.

Instructor: Steve Ramos

Go to <http://web.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/centers/olli/> to sign up

November Birthdays



Left to right. Pamela Cole, Phyllis Greenstein, Colleen Gardner, Dalia Hernandez, Phil Schuster, Jane Reid, Peggy Waite

brought both mornings. Rob Preece and Hank Dunbar presented a mini-lesson before each day's competition began.

Finally, thanks to our awesome caddies on Sunday. They spent the whole day moving boards and even started cleaning up while we were still playing. Thank you, Dalia Hernandez, Fern Dunbar, Hank, and Rob! Your contributions to promoting bridge are greatly appreciated!

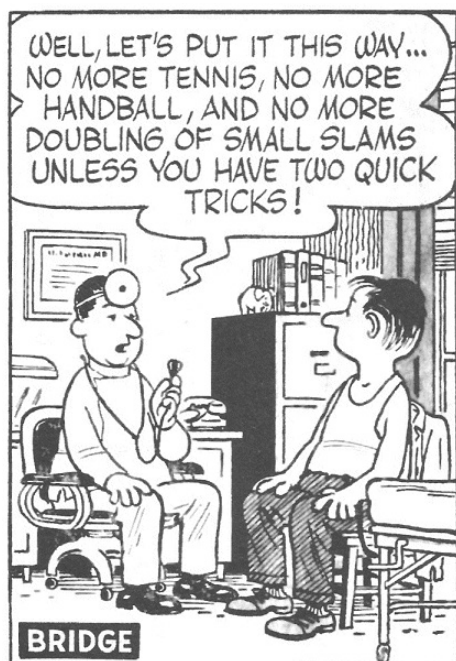
We hope to see more of you at next year's Veterans Day weekend tournament. The unit is also planning a one-day NLM Pairs tournament for Sunday, April 5, 2020. Profits will be shared equally between the unit and the club.

We especially want to increase the participation of our newer players in tournaments, so any and all suggestions are welcomed!

By Lillian Slater

Halloween Party - Monstrously Good Time






Do you lie awake at night wondering how you can help Long Beach Bridge? We always need help with clean up and making sure the air conditioner is turned off at the end of the day. We are planning a card shoe clean up day. **See Sharon Biederman** if you are interested in helping. Interesting in being a contributor to this humble newsletter? Articles, photos, and gentle constructive criticism always welcome. **Text or email Ardie** - 562-254-0099 or ardeaux1@gmail.com.


Bucket List

- ☒ Bungee jumping
- ☐ Run with the bulls
- ☐ Learn Bridge

AHHHHH

SHOULDA
PICKED
BRIDGE





A bucket list item you can do now!

Monday Night Bridge, Not Monday Night Football!

Mentors' Club in 2020

When you think of the Long Beach Bridge Club, remember all the good friends you have made. Think of the mental stimulation and the giggles and laughter. Think of your triumphs (and how satisfied they make you feel). Think of your defeats (and your unwavering determination to do better). You smile and know you have received a lot of good memories over the years. Now it's time to give back to the club. As 2020 approaches, it's time to make New Year's resolutions. Why not join the newly forming Mentors' Club! A dedicated few Life Masters have been mentoring a few newer players at the current Monday evening game. In an ideal world, a newer player is paired with a mentor, and they play together every Monday evening. However, I know people have lives outside of bridge (oh, really?) and cannot commit to every Monday night. But can you spare one or two Monday evenings a month to play 15 or 16 boards from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and encourage a newer player in the fun and ever challenging game of duplicate bridge? A list of Life Masters (or near Life Masters) along with phone numbers and/or emails is being collected at the front desk. Nancy Toussaint will keep the list updated and newer players can get a copy in order to call someone to be their mentor for a specific Monday night. Who know, you may become addicted to this friendly little Monday night game and come more often! All the mentor play for FREE. As this program develops, there may be other benefits for the Mentors Club members. It seems like a Win-Win evening!

For Newer Players: What's Next?

You've taken lessons for a year or so. You enjoy supervised bridge on a regular basis. You REALLY like the Pro/Am games that are offered. What's next in your duplicate bridge journey? Consider finding a partner and coming to the beginner's' back room 7-9 p.m. Wednesday game. Play 12-15 boards with your peers. OR.....you can "kick it up a notch" and come to the Monday night game! Simply call someone from our new Mentors' Club list and ask them to play on a given Monday night. There is a short lesson for you at 6:00pm and then the game of 15 or 16 boards with your mentor partner. Masterpoints are awarded. The mentors are friendly, helpful, and experienced. What about bidding nonperfect hands? What about aggressive defense? There are unlimited nuances to learn in bridge. This great growth experience in bridge is only \$10.00. You will gain confidence and your game is guaranteed to improve in this safe and friendly environment. Come as often as you can. Play with the same or different mentors----your choice. The mentors are Life Masters, or near Life Masters. The mentees have about 0-100 points. Will "play more duplicate bridge" be your new year's resolution?

By Nancy Aasen Toussaint

