



Table Talk

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Volunteer Profile



John Kilmer

John Kilmer is a jack-of-all trades and the master of most. He explained, "I was the Facilities Manager of a church in Victorville before I moved to Arizona, so I can do most things needed." In March 2018, John returned to California to become a caregiver for his mother, the enthusiastic and sweet Mary Josephine Guzzetta. Before, when he talked to her from Arizona, he would laugh at her long descriptions of the bridge club with its lessons and games.

John preferred poker, having been a professional poker player before it became popular and featured on TV. In the mid-1980's, after his service in the army, John started playing poker for fun at the Landmark casino in Las Vegas. After one game, an older

man approached him and offered to sponsor him to play professionally. After a midnight-5 a.m. mentoring session, John was ready and the man staked him \$10,000. He played his first professional game at the Binion's Hotel Casino downtown. After four hours he cashed out with \$50,000. John was excited and pleased, having just earned \$20,000; however, his mentor wished he had stayed in longer. Thereafter, John played in high-stakes games and small tournaments every other month. He explained that, "to be successful in poker, you need to know

the cards, know the opponents, and watch for tells." John played poker professionally for two years but then decided "family was more important."

After he moved here, John would bring Mary to her classes at the bridge club and wait for her at a back table in the room. Sharon Biederman noticed that and suggested he exchange maintenance work for classes, and so he did! John has become an integral part of the club's maintenance "crew." Even before the renovations were begun,

Special Events September 2020

Online Schedule Daily Games

ALLIANCE games are held at www.bridgebase.com.

7:00 a.m.	\$7	0-299 Blue
7:00 a.m.	\$7	Open
8:00 a.m.	\$7	0-499 Green
8:30 a.m.	\$8	0-1000 Pink
10:00 a.m.	\$8	0-299 Blue
10:00 a.m.	\$8	Open
10:30 a.m.	\$8	0-99 Red
11:30 a.m.	\$8	0-1000 Pink
12:30 p.m.	\$8	0-299 Blue
1:00 p.m.	\$8	Open
2:45 p.m.	\$8	0-499 Green
4:00 p.m.	\$7	Open

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he had started resurfacing the club's 55 bridge tables. Then, during the improvements, he finished the tables, found/installed brackets for the new cupholders on the tables, installed new thermostats, and helped install new white boards.

John has now been playing bridge for two and a half years. He said, "It's a challenge every time I play. No hand is exactly like another. The language of bidding to communicate with my partner both fascinates and stymies me." John is able to apply a lot from his poker experience to his bridge game. He admits that "I can be a little aggressive since I see things others don't from my years of playing poker."

His advice to newer players is "don't give up. It's easier than you think if you give it time." For himself, he added, "It's not about the points; it's playing for fun. I hope I bring enjoyment to the table when I play."

John has continued playing



Bridge Trophy for John's Tourney

bridge during this shelter-at-home period. He runs a weekly two-table, 18-board duplicate bridge game on the patio of one player's home. His players wear their masks to the game but then use a barrier John constructed so they can play without masks. He even creates a trophy that he awards to each week's winner.



John's Bridge Table Barrier

John has four children—a daughter who is a Jet Blue attendant, a son who still lives in Arizona, a stepson, a stepdaughter, and eight grandchildren, the oldest of which is 17. Before COVID, John would visit his Arizona family at least once every three months.

John added, "I like to help our community. I can do small jobs for people and save them some money as I am less expensive than a contractor." John, we appreciate your positive attitude and help at the club! You would be a valuable addition to anyone's Speed dial as a resource for to-do projects around the house. We look forward to actually playing at the redone-and-improved tables once the club is able to reopen. Thanks again, John!

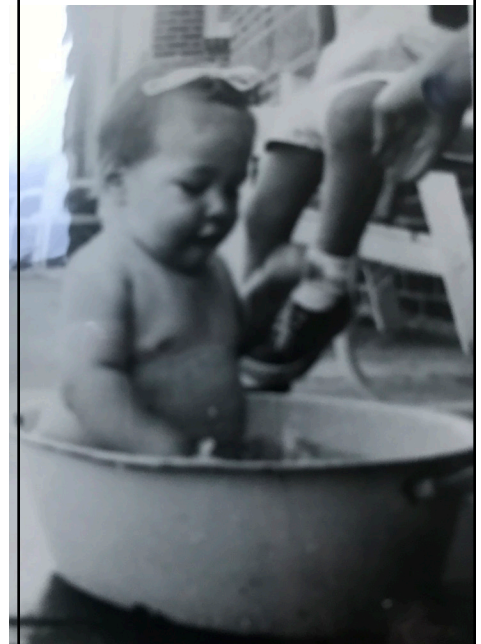
by Lillian Slater



Who is this little darling?

Go to our Facebook page - Long Beach Bridge for the answer.

Were you a cute kid? Of course you were! Be the next little darling. Send photos to: ardeauxl@gmail.com.



Last month's little darling:
Nancy
Toussaint



Bridge Brigade Go Fund Me

\$240 of \$2,500 goal

Please consider donating to Bridge Brigade to continue our bridge education programs.

<https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/bridge-brigade-go-fund-me>

Unit 557 Masterpoint Races

As of August 6, 2020

Mini-McKenney

0-5	Darrel Manson	12.59
	Jane Manson	11.68
	Yvonne Kroneberger	10.05
5-20	Linda Lane	23.25
	Jan Van Lierop	15.38
	Rita Van Lierop	15.16
20-50	Melanie Smothers	50.81
	Beth Mary Byrne	11.51
	Rick Gonser	8.49
50-100	Ted Dowe	47.24
	Carolyn Byrnes	38.75
	Judith Cook	25.81
100-200	Ardis Laine	67.03
	Sandra Schlosser	57.61
	Barbara Wallace	30.43
200-300	Lillian Slater	95.14
	Kathleen Pecarovich	19.36
	Ellen Kice	17.66
300-500	John Hagman	20.23
	Larry Olson	15.73
	Russell Gray	15.19
500-1000	Robert Bakovic	78.99
	John Galligher	67.82
	Colleen Gardner	54.89
1000-1500	Dalia Hernandez	49.94
	Alan Olschwang	47.76
	Thomas Felice	45.02
1500-2500	Paul Pettler	60.54
	Judith Jones	49.67
	Al Appel	46.20
2500-3500	Kay Tseng	103.50
	Jo Melis	67.35
	Cliff Goodrich	67.23
2500-5000	Jackie Hess	128.59
	John Petrie	47.08
	Bill McClean	42.92
5000-7500	John Melis	124.61
	Mark Tang	75.74
	Mark Leonard	66.16



Ace of Clubs

Overall	Jackie Hess	121.12
	John Melis	112.75
	Kay Tseng	92.07
0-5	Darrel Manson	12.59
	Jane Manson	11.68
	Yvonne Kroneberger	10.05
5-20	Linda Lane	20.25
	Jan Van Lierop	15.38
	Rita Van Lierop	15.16
20-50	Melanie Smothers	40.61
	Beth Mary Byrne	8.94
	Rick Gonser	8.49
50-100	Ted Dowe	44.49
	Carolyn Byrnes	29.91
	Judith Cook	22.02
100-200	Ardis Laine	53.32
	Sandra Schlosser	36.63
	Barbara Wallace	29.90
200-300	Lillian Slater	78.35
	Kathleen Pecarovich	19.36
	Ellen Kice	17.66
300-500	Russell Gray	14.17
	Linda Dillon	13.78
	John Hagman	11.90
500-1000	Robert Bakovic	74.67
	John Galligher	51.91
	Lynn Danielson	39.46
1000-1500	Dalia Hernandez	35.33
	Sharon Biederman	34.86
	Alan Olschwang	30.26
1500-2500	Paul Pettler	43.61
	Judith Jones	38.67
	Joyce Henderson	36.80
2500-3500	Kay Tseng	92.07
	Jo Melis	60.98
	Cliff Goodrich	47.91
2500-5000	Jackie Hess	121.12
	John Petrie	32.58
	Bill McClean	28.80
5000-7500	John Melis	112.75
	Mark Leonard	56.66
	Mark Tang	25.98

Martha & Phil Schuster Celebrate 70th Wedding Anniversary!



Can playing
bridge lead to a
long and happy
marriage?
We're not
sure but read
this charming
article in Long
Beach Press
Telegram.



<https://www.presstelegram.com/2020/08/09/rich-archbold-how-phillip-and-martha-schuster-stayed-married-for-70-years/>



July Status Changes

Junior Master

Susan K Fitzpatrick

Life Master

John S Hagman

Silver Life Master

Robert B Bakovic



John Hagman



Bobby Bakovic?

Supervised Play Available On-Line

Fern and Hank Dunbar will be offering supervised play every Monday and Tuesday 9:30 to 11:30 a.m beginning Tuesday, September 1 and running through Tuesday, September 29, excluding Monday, September 28. Games will on [BBO](#) and the "supervision" will be on [Zoom](#). September 1 is free. All future lessons will be \$5 per session. No partner? Email Hank or Fern with your request and your username. They'll try their best to find you a partner. whdunbar@verizon.net. Hank 562-335-0662

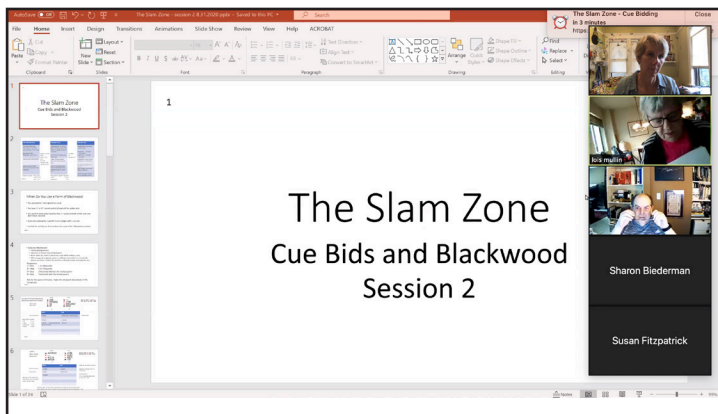
The first day only, go to "competitive", then go to "free tournaments," which will be hosted by WHD01.



Bridge Brigade Classes Go On-Line!

We can't let a little pandemic get in the way of bridge education. Our crackerjack crew of teachers put their heads together and developed a monthly program aimed at novice and intermediate players. These classes use a combination of Zoom and Shark Bridge. The first session is a two-hour live lecture on Zoom. Students are able to see the instructor's lecture materials as well as each other. Those who wish to remain faceless can choose the "video off" option. All participants are able to ask questions but are encouraged to stay on mute otherwise. Shark Bridge allows the instructors to create hands so the students can practice the techniques learning in the lesson. All students play the hands simultaneously, then the discussion resumes on Zoom at the completion of each hand. Each two-session class is only \$10 paid to [Bridge Brigade](#).

Classes will start on the fourth Monday of each month at 9:30 a.m. Past topics included Fun with Finesses and Slam Zone. September's topic is Help Suit Games Tries. [Zoom](#) and [Bridge Base Online](#) (BBO) are available free. You must have a Shark Bridge account to participate in the second session. Instructors will rotate between Rob Preese, Sharon Biederman, and Dalia Hernandez with an occasional guest appearance from John Jones.



"Zoomers" During Slam Zone Class



Shark Bridge Hand During Finesses Class



Betti Harris

Ruby Life Master.
Our condolences to
the family of Betti
Harris.

Memorial Service

September 14
1:00 pm

Forest Lawn
Cypress, CA
Outside Service
for COVID-19
precautions



Ray Mack

May 31, 1934 –
August 16, 2020

Ray was one of
the founding
owners of South
Bay Bridge Club
and served as a
manager of the
South Bay Bridge
Club during
his retirement.
He achieved the
rank of Diamond
Life Master. Our
condolences to
the family of Ray
Mack.

ACBL Unit 557 Update

Unit 557 will be postponing the nominations and elections until the membership can return to our clubs.

Tips for Playing in Alliance Games

1. Join BBO - It's free to join and there are several free play options. Playing for masterpoints - well, that's going to cost you. www.bridgebase.com

Become a member (free!)

2. Add \$ to BB\$ - No free lunch and no free masterpoints. If you play in Alliance Club games, a chunk of your fee goes to Long Beach Bridge. Yay!

Log off Help BB\$ ardeaux1 4

3. BBO needs to know your ACBL number. You want your points going to the correct person, right? Click on ACBL World and add your ACBL number.

ACBL Instant Tournaments Add your ACBL number About

4. Have you played at Long Beach Bridge at least two times from Jan 1, 2019? If not, you need to ask for permission to play as a guest. Go to Alliancebridgeclub.com and register as a guest.



5. Where do I find the games? Games are listed on BBO two hours before game time. If Alliance Bridge Club games do not show when you click Virtual Clubs, click on All Tournaments. In search, type Alliance and voila!

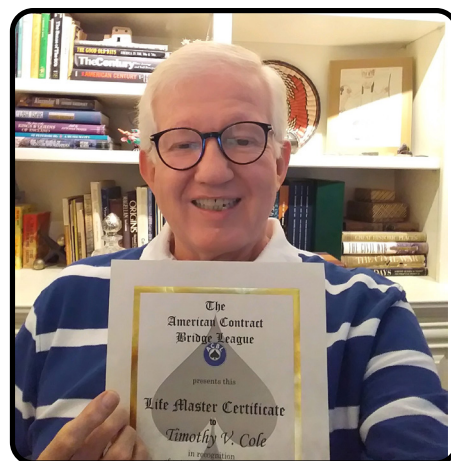
Back	Home	All Tournaments	Log off	Help	BB\$	ardeaux1
Pending	Running	Complete				
Host	Title	Type	Start	Entries	Entry Fee	
yacbz26064	ALLIANCE SILVER Pink-1000 2:30p/11:30a #2627	Pairs	29	27	10 BBS	
yacbz26064	ALLIANCE SILVER Blue-299 3:30p/12:30p #2665	Pairs	89	3	10 BBS	
yacbz26064	ALLIANCE SILVER Open 4pm/1pm #2675	Pairs	116	0	10 BBS	

6. Does your partner meet the criteria to play in Alliance games? If not, you need to register them as a guest. See Step 4.

7. Still have problems? Never fear, gentle telephonic advice is available from BBO veteran, Renee Hoffman at 562-301-5949.

My Path to Becoming a Life Master

I have been a member of ACBL since around 1994. I played at the Long Beach Bridge Center on Monday and Wednesday nights for around eight years, but had to give up the night games



Life Master Tim Cole

because a job change meant I worked longer hours. After retirement around 2012, I started to play once more at the club and started heading to tournaments.

Last December, at the regional tournament in Palm Springs, my regular Long Beach partner and I were playing in knockouts (both of us were less than 2 gold points from life master). In the third round, I opened 2 clubs, but she passed (she said she was distracted and didn't see my bid!). I think I had three clubs in my hand, and of course we got a bottom board. If we had just gotten to game on that hand, our team would have moved to the fourth round, and both of us would have gotten our Life Master status.

In February (before the "lockdown"), we played in the regional in Costa Mesa, California. In our Swiss team event, we received about 1 gold point...which advanced my partner to Life Master. However, I was still 0.82 of a gold point short.

Last month, Vera Dodson, my Whidbey Island partner, and I played in the ACBL Summer Tournament online (my first experience with BBO). Together, we earned 1.68 gold...and the long awaited prize was mine!

By Tim Cole



Table Talk

Editor
Contributors

Ardie Laine
Tim Cole
Renee Hoffman
Lillian Slater

Article Submissions

We welcome articles, ideas, and photos pertaining to our club. We reserve the right to revise submissions. Contact Ardie at ardeaux1@gmail.com