

Table Talk



4782 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY
LONG BEACH, CA 90804
562.498.8113

EMAIL: MANAGER@LONGBEACHBRIDGE.COM
WWW.LONGBEACHBRIDGE.COM
FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM: LONGBEACHBRIDGE.

Meet the Masters



Phyllis Parker

**May 1925–April 2021
Diamond Life Master**

Phyllis passed away shortly before her 95th birthday. With 6,635.01 masterpoints, she is the second highest player in our unit and was scheduled to be featured in this month's Table Talk. Phyllis' family is donating her bridge books to Long Beach Bridge.

Fern Dunbar recalled, "Many of you don't know that Phyllis was an excellent bridge teacher at Long Beach Bridge and one of her 'students' and longtime partners was Bob Mault. Surprisingly, she didn't start to play bridge until she was 50. Hank and I took our first 2/1 class from her. Her mentor was Eddie

Kantar. Phyllis was one of our first Diamond Life Masters. For that accomplishment, her good friend Cayce Blanchard arranged for Eddie to come to the club and play in our unit game with Phyllis. Did they win that day? **OF COURSE!**"

Chuck Laine added, "The first time I broke 60% in a club game was with Phyllis. She got me thinking that maybe I could be good at this game. I appreciated her instructional tips many times over. But sometimes it was, 'YOU PLAYED THE CLUBS ALL WRONG!' I will miss Phyllis."

Many of the newer players remember her always reminding us to "lead before writing" our contracts on our score sheets.

Thanks for the memories, Phyllis!
We send our condolences to her family.
by Lillian Slater



Events May 2021

Online Schedule Daily Games

ALLIANCE games are held at www.bridgebase.com.

7:00 a.m.	\$7	0-299 Blue
7: a.m.	\$7	0-199 Lt. Blue (M)
7:00 a.m.	\$7	Open
7:30 a.m.	\$7	0-499 Green
8:30 a.m.	\$7	0-1000 Pink
10:00 a.m.	\$8	0-199 Lt. Blue
10:00 a.m.	\$7	Open
10:00 a.m.	\$8	0-399 Gray
11:30 a.m.	\$8	0-1000 Pink
12:30 p.m.	\$8	0-299 Blue
1:00 p.m.	\$7	Open
2:45 p.m.	\$7	0-499 Green
4:00 p.m.	\$7	0-199 Lt. Blue (M)
4:00 p.m.	\$7	Open

SWISS TEAMS

10:00 Saturday	- 20 Boards	7 min	\$7
1:00 Sunday	- 20 Boards	7 min	\$7



Club Master
NABC Master
Bronze LM

March Status Changes

Cindy R. Cox
Hashim Mahmood
Lynn J. Danielson

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: ardeaux1@gmail.com.



Lynn Danielson

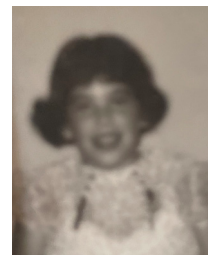
We want your stories!



Tell us the tale of your path to Life Master. What are you doing to survive the pandemic? Send an email to Ardie at ardeaux1@gmail.com or call/text at 562-254-0099



Last month's little darling: Melanie Smith



When Is the Club Opening?

Updates on club opening will be announced on longbeachbridge.com



John Jones

New District 23 Director
 Kevin Lane has resigned as District 23 Director. Having served a few

years as the First Alternate Director, John Jones has assumed the position with a new email of District23Director@acbl.org. Kevin promised his continuing assistance, which is much appreciated by John who will serve until the end of this year. At that point, the configuration of ACBL's Board of Directors will change. The 25 directors who guide ACBL policy will be collapsed into 13 Regions. District 23 and District 22 (the rest of Southern California) will be combined into Region 11. Anyone wishing to run for the four-year term as Region 11 Director needs declare his or her candidacy in writing by May 31. See page 63 of the April ACBL Bridge Bulletin for details if you are interested. John also noted that online cheating has been rampant during the pandemic. There have been more players suspended or put on probation during this time than over the last 20 years combined. John added, "So, don't cheat!"

Our Sympathies to the Family and Friends of



Phil Schuster
Gold Life Master
1928 – 2021

Phil Schuster always had a smile on his face and a positive comment when welcoming players to his table. Jon Yinger was his partner twice a week for at least 10 years

and said, “Phil was fun, smart, and an excellent bridge player. I learned a lot from him!” From their time together, there have emerged several “Schuster-isms” that have been immortalized by Jon and shared with others.

The main Schusterism involves what to lead when defending a 3NT contract when the opponents didn’t try to find a Major fit. Jon explained, “Phil believed that you should lead your shortest Major in that situation assuming that, since you don’t have that suit, your partner does. It works 85% of the time!”

Jon added, “Phil also taught me that if we opened but then got overcalled by 1NT, if I had a

long Major but not many points, I would transfer him into that major. Again, it works most of the time.”

Newbies always felt welcomed and supported at Table 11. Jon recalled, “Phil would go out of his way to encourage newer players. If they made a mistake, he would forgive it and let them correct it. He also gave them tips about the play of the hand or defense.”

Jon ended by saying, “Phil always told me, ‘Count, count, count.’ He was a genius at counting other people’s hands using the bidding, which then told him what I had. I will really miss him and our partnership when we get back to the club.”



Peggy Waite
Ruby Life Master
Circa 1940 – 2021

Table Talk has become the Long Beach Bridge’s replacement of the director’s white board during the pandemic. Our white board communicated illnesses, deaths and memorial plans for our members. Many of us are saddened that we can not mourn together. We encourage anyone who would like to share memories about our departed friend to pass them along so we can all read them. Send an email to Ardie at ardeaux1@gmail.com or call/text at 562-254-0099

Table Talk

Editor

Ardie Laine

Contributors

Renee Hoffman

Rob Preece

Bonnie Shok

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

Say Hello to...



Dawn Shelley

Dawn Shelley grew up with a card playing grandmother and her aunt who was an expert bridge player. Dawn had a single goal, to someday be able to partner with her aunt. When Learn Bridge in a Day came to Long Beach, Dawn's aunt pointed her in our direction and, in one day she found she at least could handle the basics. She partnered with her aunt and has also joined games in the club as well as the Peninsula.

Between practicing her Baha'i faith, reading and helping out with twelve grandchildren, Dawn squeezes in a little bridge as well. Perhaps one of those grandchildren will take up Dawn's example and partner with their grandmother. Before retiring, Dawn worked as a teacher in alternate education in Orange County, helping kids who had been expelled, incarcerated, or suffered from health problems that made traditional schooling impossible. She's been happy that bridge has given her a chance to make new friends.

by Rob Preece



Liz Musch

Liz Musch played cards with her family, primarily Canasta, and is ready to advance to duplicate bridge. She's heading to Paris soon where she spends part of each year, but is looking forward to meeting new people and starting bridge lessons at our club when she returns in October.

Born in Holland and growing up in Indonesia, Liz earned her undergraduate degree at USC and her graduate degree from Tufts University. Her career began in New York and expanded to global responsibilities, growing big brands internationally. She is now semi-retired, serving on various boards and consulting.

Liz fell in love with Paris when she was in her twenties and her son, an architect, lives there year round.

In addition to travel, Liz enjoys the ocean, sailing, swimming, movies, and reading. She is hoping to soon add bridge to this list.

by Bonnie Shok



Frank Varga Turns 100 Years Young!



Mary Guzzetta Celebrates Her 80th Birthday!