



— THE FRIENDLIEST BRIDGE CLUB —



TABLE TALK



MEET THE MASTERS



Baum Harris
Sapphire Life Master

Baum Harris has always been an entrepreneur. From his first endeavor after college through his current company started just five years ago, Baum knows how to succeed! Success followed him to the bridge table as he has the seventh highest masterpoint total in the unit with 4,663 and counting!

Baum recalled, "After college I went to Europe for three weeks and ended up staying three years." He travelled all around and, after a year, bought a Volkswagen bug to do so. When he returned to the United States, he brought the car back with him and sold it for more than he

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EVENTS AUGUST 2021

In-Person Games

Monday	12:30 p.m.	Open*	\$10
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	0-99	\$5
Tuesday	12:30 p.m.	Open*	\$10
Wednesday	12:30 p.m.	Open*	\$10
Thursday	12:30 p.m.	Open*	\$10
Friday	12:30 p.m.	Open*	\$10
Saturday	12:30 p.m.	Open*	\$10

* Limited games possible, if enough players participate

Club-Championship Rated Games - Aug. 10 -14
Upgraded Club-Championship Rated Game - Aug. 16-21
North American Pairs - Saturday, Aug. 28



Unit 557 Unit Game
Sunday, 22 August
12:30 p.m.

BBO VIRTUAL GAMES

All-Western – 99ers "Nite Club" Monday-Thursday

Competitive/ACBL Virtual Clubs, Search for VACB905265.
Select 0-99 or 0-20 All-Western 99er NiteClub

- 6:20 p.m. 19ers.
- 6:30 p.m. 99ers. (0-20 players are welcome too!)
- 8:00ish Zoom "Post-Mortem" for both games



Alliance Bridge Club schedule available at
www.alliancebridgeclub.com

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How are we doing

Good news! Although in-person attendance is down 50% from pre-pandemic levels, we *are able to pay our bills*. Whew!

Thank you to the players, volunteers, teachers and directors who support the club by paying to play. Long Beach Bridge Center also receives revenues from ACBL, Alliance and the All-Western 99ers Nite Club. ACBL partnered with Alliance to create Virtual Club games. These on-line clubs generate income so face-to-face clubs can survive.

ACBL Visitor Policy for Virtual Clubs

Your online club, as an invitational club, is not required to allow anyone into your Virtual Club game who is not a member. For Virtual Club games, a member is someone who appeared on the particular club's list of previous players. You may, however, allow non-member players into your Virtual Club Games with the following stipulations:

1. You may allow anyone who has played in your club since January 1st, 2019, who was left off your initial list of members.
2. You may allow your members to play with a visiting partner, but the number of visiting players should be kept to less than 15% of your field, on average (the ACBL will consider weekly numbers in the aggregate, not individual games).
3. You are not to solicit outside players to find a partner and come play at your club. You may communicate with your members to tell them they are welcome to bring a guest partner but "selling" this too much may jeopardize your ability to stay under the allowed threshold.
4. Guest pairs are allowed but will count as two visitors. This should be used for circumstances such as a couple that moved away from your area a couple of years ago or for limited point pairs looking for a game because their options are limited.

See acbl.org/clubsupportonlinegames for more information.

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.



Last month's little darling:
Rita Vanlierop





- Proof of vaccination required. Bring card to club or text/email a copy to Sharon at (714) 624.3455 or akiba1708@yahoo.com
- Masks are required for everyone.

Updates available on
longbridgebridge.com



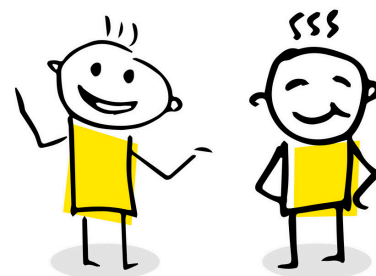
ATTENTION: NEWCOMERS, NON-LIFE MASTERS, AND NERVOUS PLAYERS

Not ready to swim with the (card) sharks? Looking for a slower game with fewer boards? Ask Sharon Biederman or the daily director to create a limited game for your group. We need at least 8 players to create this section. Bring friends, have fun and play bridge!



UNIT 557 UNIT GAME Sunday, 22 August 12:30 p.m.

Proof of vaccination required.
Mask rule will follow local guidance.



Need a Partner?

Let Susan Bibby and Colleen Gardner help you. Email them at susanbibby@gmail.com or novcol@me.com (Colleen.)



Proper Mask Etiquette



Thank You for Wearing Your Mask

As of July 17, 2021 Long Beach Health and Human Services Health Order for Control of COVID-19 requires masking indoors in public setting and businesses regardless of vaccination status.

Long Beach Bridge continues to mandate full vaccination status for all players, volunteers, and directors. Thank you for you continued compliance with these policies.

Guide to face covering can be found at:
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html

SAY HELLO TO...



Tom Zimmerman

Tom Zimmerman, a former poker player, first thought about learning bridge several years ago when a friend asked if he would like to play together. Tom said sure and picked up a bridge book, saw all the memorization – and changed his mind!

A few months ago, he decided to read a book by Audrey Grant and taught himself to play bridge. This reporter told him about the LBBC classes, explaining how each lesson is followed by a game that reinforces the lesson.

Tom likes this approach and has already made an entry on his calendar to join OLLI in October and sign up for Hank's Bridge 1 class.

Tom, retired from a 30-year career in logistical support at Toyota, enjoys playing billiards and hopefully soon will add duplicate bridge to his list of accomplishments. We look forward to seeing him at class in the fall.

by Bonnie Shok



Sectional Master

Regional Master

June Status Changes

Darrel Manson

Jane Manson

Janice Fischer

OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF



Verna Baccus
Sapphire Life Master
1930 - 2021

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paid for it. That gave him the idea for his first business. At that time Volkswagens were in demand in the United States. For the next two and one-half years, he bought them retail in Europe, shipped them from Holland, and resold them here at a profit. He added, "I was the largest gray marketer of them at that time, reselling over 500 cars."

Baum settled in Miami in 1986. He explained, "Other than my son, I knew no one in town. I saw an ad about learning to play bridge so I did. One and a half years later,

I knew over 100 people. Not only is bridge intellectually challenging, it is terrific for social networking."

He moved to California in September 1988 he continued to network via bridge, playing at clubs throughout the area. He added, "Soon I knew over 1,000 people and 99% of my social life was with these people."

Baum eventually came to Long Beach Bridge and started playing here regularly. His business was Tax Resources renamed Taxaudit.com, so he prepared the club's tax returns. When George Welsh and Irma Johnson wanted to sell the club in the 1990's, Baum knew its value and was surprised by the low offers they were receiving. One day at the club during a break, Loren Hilf told Baum that, if he had a partner, he would buy it. Baum said, "Let's do it" and they did! Baum sold his interests in the club to Loren a couple of years later. Baum's company, Tax Resources, was the largest partner with TurboTax who was in turn owned by Intuit. Having grown the company from three to over 200 employees, Baum sold the business to its employees in 2012.

One of Baum's favorite bridge memories was a Knockout team event during the Las Vegas Nationals in the 1990's. Baum recalled, "I teamed up with Big Bob, 400 pounds and a decent card player, plus a friend of his who brought a partner. We made it to the final round. Down 45-5 Victory

Points at the break, we were determined to beat them and we did—scoring 95-0 after the break and winning the National C flight that day!"

Baum's advice is "learn the basics of bridge before you add all that conventions stuff." Having served on both the unit and district boards, he has been frustrated with ACBL's marketing strategy. He explained, "Their biggest potential market is the Baby Boomers—people retiring and looking for something to keep themselves occupied." Bridge Brigade/Long Beach Bridge has adopted his philosophy, working with OLLI to develop new bridge players.

In addition to bridge, Baum was an avid bicyclist. He and Larry Slutsky rode from Long Beach to San Diego and Santa Barbara to Long Beach, as well as other 100+-mile rides. Today he enjoys traveling, dining out, hitting the golf ball, and exercising regularly at the gym.

Baum's current business endeavor is UI Medical, which can be understood by viewing their website at quickchange.com. Walmart recently started stocking the product, and it is used in most major hospital chains in the country. Baum keeps saying he's going to retire, but we'll believe it when we see it.

Baum recently changed his permanent address to his Palm Desert home, which triggered a change in his unit. However, J. Baum Harris will always be an honorary member of Long Beach Bridge and Unit 557!

by Lillian Slater



Something's Different ...

Did you notice that Table Talk looks a little different this month? We have updated our logo, font and color scheme to reflect ACBL's 2021 Brand Guide. Oftentimes, outsiders confuse ACBL as an organization that designs structural bridges or specializes in the card game spades. ACBL now spells out their name and adds the four card suits, minimizing confusion among those unfamiliar with the ACBL. The design aspects dually serve as an homage to when the classic game evolved into contract bridge during the art deco era while inviting a new group of 21st century players to join our community.

We have chosen to align Table Table with this vision.



Featuring Our Fill-In's Leo Dittmore

Leo Dittmore has a strong bridge heritage as his parents and grandparents were bridge players. As a result, he started playing social bridge in junior high and has continued through the years. He was self-taught from experiences at the table and from "reading Alfred Sheinwold's book, 5 Weeks to Winning Bridge, along with his newspaper column."

Leo also had a regular bridge game at the company where he worked providing computer security for healthcare. However, as colleagues moved away or took other jobs, that game eventually fizzled so he started looking for another one and found Long Beach Bridge in 2015.

After a few lessons from Bob Mault, he was thrown into the Open game on Wednesday nights—his only opportunity to play while he was still working. Leo had planned

to retire soon any way, but the pandemic hastened his decision. Since the club reopened, Leo has been playing regularly, often as a fill-in. He laughingly added, "My wife is happy I have something to do that gets me out of the house." Even with masks on, you'll recognize Leo, as he is the one keeping his personal score on his phone.

Leo will be absent from our bridge tables during August as he and his wife take a trip to South Africa where they're spending a week in Cape Town and going on several safaris.

Thanks, Leo, for helping ensure we don't have sitout rounds in our Open games. See you at the table in September! by Lillian Slater



TABLE TALK

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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