



— THE FRIENDLIEST BRIDGE CLUB —

# TABLE TALK

## MEET THE MASTERS



**Loren Hilf**

Loren Hilf is a key figure in the history of the Long Beach Bridge center. In addition to that, he is a stellar bridge player with 4,465.46 masterpoints to date, the eighth highest in the unit and a Sapphire Life Master.

Loren learned bridge growing up, "My mother played bridge for years, and I learned a lot watching her. At 13, I started teaching myself more about the game by reading bridge books. At that time Charles Goren was the expert to read and study." Loren laughingly recalled a time he played in a side game against Alfred Sheimwold, another bridge legend, and

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## EVENTS OCTOBER 2021

### In-Person Games

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

\* NLM games possible, if enough players participate.

### **All month Long - More points, same card fees**

1-9 October - Club Appreciation Games

11 - 30 October - Club Championship-Rated Games

Steve's Picnic Lunch 16 and 30 October

### **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](http://www.alliancebridgeclub.com)

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jokingly asked, "Do you play Goren?"—knowing full well that Sheinwold had his own system.

Loren attended Long Beach Polytechnic High School and UCLA. He played a lot of bridge at UCLA for fun and was an outfielder on the UCLA baseball team. Go Bruins! Graduating in 1960, he went on to teach English for 30 years to 8th and 9th graders at Dale Junior High in the Anaheim Union School District. Loren added, "I taught a variety of language skills in English: grammar, speech, and book reports. I also coached the baseball team, and we won a championship one year." Loren continues to support his alma maters by providing yearly scholarships to a UCLA student and to a graduate of Magnolia High School, the feeder school for Dale.

While at Dale, Loren started bowling in a faculty league. He explained, "I was a pretty good bowler with a 189 average. I earned quite a few bowling trophies."

Loren started playing duplicate bridge about 42 years ago, initially at the Anaheim club. In 1980, he moved to Long Beach and started playing at our club. One of his first partners was Ron Lucas who "used to call me after a game to review all the hands. In my eulogy at his funeral, I said he was up there with God, teaching bridge and reviewing every hand!"

Loren's regular bridge partners are Baum Harris, Steve Rowe, and Toni Morford. In the 1990's, Loren and Baum

bought the bridge club. When Baum's business started requiring more of his time, Loren bought him out and solely owned the club for six or seven years. Many people don't realize how much money Loren put into the club as he modestly noted, "It was not a winning proposition." Thank you, Loren, for preserving Long Beach Bridge for all of us to enjoy!

When Bob Mault was having hip problems, Loren assumed teaching his classes for several months. Loren's advice to developing bridge players is "take some lessons, read bridge books, and be good to your partner. Learn and play the conventions that your partner wants. Enjoy the game, and don't be too hard on your partner."

Loren bleeds Dodger blue and wears Laker purple. Over the years he has attended many Dodger games and had season tickets for the Lakers for a couple of years. Even today, Loren can often be overheard at the table discussing the prior night's game and the team's chances for the year.

After his fall last month and five days in the hospital with multiple transfusions, Loren has had to stay at home. He is, however, continuing to improve and his stamina is increasing with regular physical therapy. He hopes to be back at the bridge table soon. In the mean time, give him a call, say hello, and even review a hand! We look forward to having you back, Loren! by Lillian Slater

## WHO IS THIS LITTLE DARLING?

This month's little darling had her photo taken at Knott's. Were you a cute kid? Of course you were! Be the next little darling. Send photos to:



Last month's little darling: Bill McClean



## OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF BOB GISH

OCTOBER 5, 1934 - JULY 3, 2021

Diamond Life Master, Author of The New Awakening: An Improved Bidding System in Bridge



## JUDY JONES WAS JOHNNY CASH'S "TEENAGE QUEEN"

In 1957, my Dad used to watch "Country Corelle" every week on TV. I think it was broadcast from Compton, CA. One evening they asked viewers to submit pictures of "would-be" teenage beauty contestants to promote Johnny Cash's new song, "Teenage Queen." They would select 15 finalists to come to La Puente, where Johnny's Teenage Queen would be selected and crowned in the beauty contest they were having. My dad submitted my photo.

Dad got a notice that my picture had been chosen, so I was entered in the finals! We had to be there the following Saturday.

I won second place! We three finalists had our pictures taken with Johnny Cash, and the next day he had us flown to Las Vegas as the prize for winning.

That was the first time I had ever been on an airplane!! It was a small airplane and a bumpy ride!!!

Johnny had made arrangements at the hotel, the Dunes I think, for the three of us—all 16 or 17 years old—to play ONE roll of nickels in a slot machine. Of course, they had a security guard watching every move we made!! ONLY ONE ROLL OF NICKELS was played by each of us. We had dinner with Johnny Cash and his agent, spent a few hours in Las Vegas, and then flew back home...

It is a memory I shall never forget!!!!

by Judith Jones

## IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN A CLASS

### **Mondays**

Bidding / Intermediate Conventions with Dalia Hernandez  
Bridge 3 Play of the Hand with Hank Dunbar

### **Tuesdays**

Bridge 1 Beginner Bridge with Hank Dunbar  
Advancing Player Workshop with Rob Preece

### **Wednesdays**

Supervised Bridge with Hank and Fern Dunbar  
All classes and supervised play start at 9:30 a.m.

\$40 for 8 weeks of class\*  
\$5 / day for supervised play  
Stay and play in afternoon game for only \$5!

\*Bridge 1 available through OLLI with additional \$20 paid to Bridge Brigade

### **TABLE TALK**

Editor	Ardie Laine
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	Lillian Slater
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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.



# TOUCH ME!

I am a tactile person. I used to sew my own clothes and now I sew an array of quilts. When I enter a fabric store, I drool over all the cloth and enjoy feeling the soft plushness of fleece, the cool smoothness of silk, and the bumps and ridges of corduroy. I tried to enter the 21st century and read books on an e-reader, but I did not like it. I prefer to turn the pages, mark my place with a cute physical bookmark, look at the edge of the book to see how far I have read and how much I have left, and leave a book laying open on the table if I want. When the pandemic happened, I was introduced to an online Scrabble site. It was convenient to play Scrabble without commuting and without dressing up. It was convenient to always be able to find an opponent any time of day or night. But I missed the feel of the wooden tiles that I could push



around and sort on my rack. I enjoy being able to once again play face-to-face with my sister and triumphantly place seven tiles on the board, one by one, for a bonus 50 points!

Similarly bridge online is convenient and inexpensive. It was literally the only game in town for over a year during COVID, but I missed my friends. I missed talking to them. My fingers made so many mistakes in the chat

box that it was comical trying to decipher what I was saying. Believe it or not, I got sick of wearing pajama bottoms, t-shirts and sweatpants all the time. I missed my "dress-up" clothes. But the thing I missed the most was the feel of playing cards.

I have played cards with my family since I was a young child. This was the longest I had gone without cards in my hand. (I don't like solitaire!) I love fanning the cards out and discovering the aces and kings, the

seven-card suits, or the voids. Each hand is like opening a little Christmas present, full of possibilities and delights. Then you are free to arrange the 13 cards in your usual favorite manner. It's not the same when the computer goes "whoosh" and, just like that, you have your hand already sorted. Where is the savoring of each card? Where is your control of your destiny? For instance, you can't bid out of turn, lead out of turn, or revoke. These are some of the challenges of bridge. Sure, I still play bridge online occasionally, but it pales alongside playing face to face. Cards in my hands make me happy!

A forward thinker once suggested that, in the future, we could make face-to-face bridge safer by everyone using computer tablets and playing at tables but without cards, those evil paper spreaders of germs. Heaven forbid that day should ever come! If it does, I fear I will go rogue and start my own underground movement and advertise, "Come play duplicate bridge using REAL playing cards."

by Nancy Toussiant



## September Status Changes

Junior Master

Sectional Master

Regional Life Master

Silver Life Master

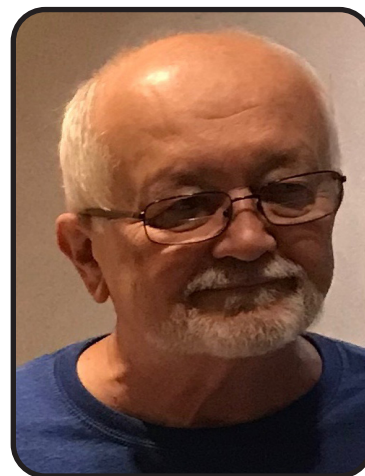
Patty Hansen

Joey Duree

Nancy Imbery

Peter Woodruff

Bill Dilks



Bill Dilks  
Silver Life Master