



— THE FRIENDLIEST BRIDGE CLUB —

# TABLE TALK

## MEET THE MASTERS



### Betty Jackson Gold Life Master

Betty Jackson loved bridge from the moment she first played the game, and she still does! A Gold Life Master with 3,137.92 masterpoints to date, she is the 16th highest player in our unit.

Betty discovered bridge in the mid-1980's when she was living in Temple City. She recalled, "I was on my way to see a friend's son play in a basketball game at Alhambra High School when I picked up one of those free local papers, opened it, and saw an ad to play bridge. I had tried to play

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## EVENTS APRIL 2022

### Face-to-Face 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.

**Stay and Play - Take a morning class, stay and play for only \$5.**

**Team Game - Sunday, 10 April**  
**Unit Game - Sunday, 24 April**

### BBO VIRTUAL GAMES

All-Western - Districts 17, 19, 21, 22, 23

Monday-Thursday 6:30 p.m.

**99ers NiteClub - VACB905265**

**199s NiteClub - VACV277640**

BBO Competitive/ACBL Virtual Clubs



Alliance Bridge Club schedule available at  
[www.alliancebridgeclub.com](http://www.alliancebridgeclub.com)

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## February Status Changes

Sectional Master  
Silver Life Master

Bonnie Shok  
Richard Buhl  
Linda Nye



Dick Buhl



Linda Nye

## Say Hello to



Marcy Le Beau

Meet Marcy Le Beau who recently joined ACBL. Marcy, originally from New England, moved to Long Beach when she was 22 years old to escape the harsh winters. She graduated from CSULB and worked at the university as an Accounting Manager before retiring in 2017. After her husband passed away, she began taking OLLI classes and signed up for Hank's Bridge 1 in 2019. She continued taking online bridge classes during the pandemic and is currently in her third year of Supervised Play. For the past four years, Marcy has been an education volunteer for the Aquarium of the Pacific. On Tuesday afternoons, you will find her at the Aquarium's shark tank or at the touching tables. Marcy also enjoys water aerobics, wine tasting, and gardening.

by Jenny Ernst



## Unit Games Are Back!

On Sunday, March 20th, our Unit 557 held its first unit game in over two years! Given the late notice, our membership responded with 11 tables in the Open and two in the 199'er section. The club manifested nearly pre-pandemic energy!

Unit games will now be regularly held the fourth Sunday of each month. Please join us on Sunday, April 24th, at 12:30 p.m.! The 2021 unit awards will be presented at this game:

- License plates have already been distributed.
- Unit Free Plays will be awarded for the Ace of Clubs, Mini-McKenney, and BBO winners in each category.

Refer to the February 2022 Table Talk for a list of winners. Table Talk can be found in your email inbox or on Long Beach Bridge's website under Table Talk Archives.

If you are a winner but cannot join us, your award will be held in the box located behind the director. Unit Free Plays can be redeemed only at Unit Games.

the game at home but we didn't know what we were doing. I left the basketball game early and on my way home, I stopped by the Arcadia Bridge Club. When I got there, the owner asked me if I would like to play and offered to find me a partner. I asked if there was a rookie game and, when told yes, I stayed and played." Betty had found a bridge family headed by Art and Diane Gulbrandsen, the owners and directors of the Arcadia club. She explained, "Bridge just took over my life from that day on. It's just what I did." She even quit her other hobbies of square dancing and horse racing.

Betty elaborated, "I traveled to tournaments all over with a group from the San Gabriel Valley. We played in New York and at the largest and most famous United States tournament in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, more than once." She even played in Europe after visiting one of her tournament partners from JPL who lived in Sweden.

Additionally, Betty and her husband Bob enjoyed cruising on Princess and Holland America. In the beginning, she worked with the cruise directors to organize a bridge game and teach lessons. Later she was employed by a company in Palm Springs to do just that, so she and Bob continued cruising with hers being free. Bob was not a bridge player but always helped with the paraphernalia

associated with teaching and, when a fill-in pair was needed, he would play with Betty who described him as "a very generous and helpful man. We had 62 years together, and I enjoyed every one of them." Betty also holds ACBL certificates for teaching and directing.

In 2005, Betty moved to Seal Beach and became a regular at Long Beach Bridge. She was already familiar with the club since she had frequently driven from Temple City to meet a tournament partner from South County to play in night games at Long Beach. She added, "Long Beach has always been very welcoming, and I love this club! It's a very favorite place of mine."

Betty worked at Clary Corporation, a company that sold adding machines and cash registers. Then, she worked for the Alhambra School District teaching adult education and serving in administration. Her daughter Debbie graduated from Long Beach State and lives in Illinois. After a 23-year career in the Navy, her son Ivan now lives in Nicaragua but visits often. Betty added, "They're super kids. They don't play bridge, but they are still wonderful!"

Betty, her husband, and kids were River Rats, vacationing at the Colorado River once a month and spending summers there. She added, "This was such a big part of my life until I lost my husband in 2018. We did all the water sports and

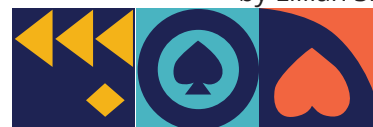
taught everyone how to water ski."

Betty's advice to new and intermediate players is "First of all, love the game! Fall in love with it—then all obstacles will be small. Secondly, be humble, or it's not going to work." She has found that "bridge is a great game. Even when you don't win, you feel like you've accomplished something!"

Betty has given back in service to the game of bridge she loves. She was on the Unit 557 board for years, acting as Treasurer for many of them. She was also the Partnership Chair for many unit sectionals and district regionals.

Betty, thank you for your love of bridge and your years of service! We'll see you at the bridge table—Tuesdays with Paul Pettler and Wednesdays with Fay Beckerman. And, we'll take your advice and feel that we're accomplishing something while having fun.

by Lillian Slater



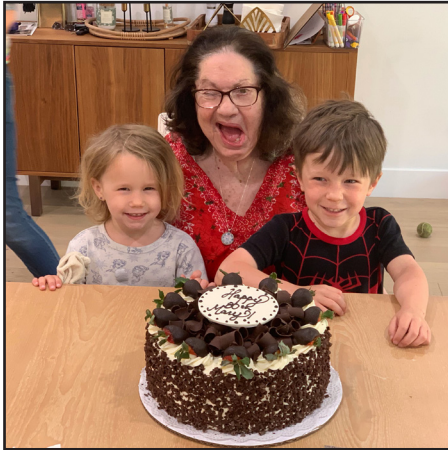
#### TABLE TALK

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
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| Contributors | Jenny Ernest   |
|              | Mary Guzzetta  |
|              | 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](mailto:ardeaux1@gmail.com).



# BRIDGE ELIXIR



In 2007, my daughter bought a home in Lakewood for her and me as I was recovering from a horrific life-threatening assault. Since I could no longer drive, it was perfect because I would now be in walking distance to park, library, church, shopping mall, doctor, dentist, and hospital.

Rehabilitation was slow but love of family was rejuvenating. An emotional support animal was donated. While walking this blessed canine, I got to know fabulous neighbors while learning and becoming appreciative of the phenomenal therapeutic unconditional love of “man’s best friend.”

However, I still felt isolated and had a serious pressing need for social and mental stimulation. My prayers were answered. I learned about senior and disabled transportation services like DASH, Dial-A-Lift, ACCESS. I did research and learned that the Jewish Center in Long Beach had

a free Bridge class. I enrolled and met phenomenal generous and caring peers. An extra bonus was the complimentary Kabala class offered by Rabbi Perelmuter.

The blessings kept coming. I then learned about the Cerritos Senior Center with terrific staff accommodating complimentary play and lessons by esteemed Sue Sood, also Usman Vohra. Then, the indefatigable Sue Spencer, Dave Karmen, and Bob Robarge hosted the nonprofit Lakewood Palms Bridge Group, generously allowed by Lakewood City.

My culminating pièce de resistance was the Long Beach Bridge club, an oasis of teaching volunteer luminaries: Rob Preece, John Jones, Sharon Biederman, Dalia Hernandez, Hank Dunbar, Steve, Fern Dunbar, Renee Hoffman. These teachers were supported by helpers that kept on giving and giving: Paul Petler, Lillian Slater, Jenny Ernest, Ardis Laine, Judy Cook, Jo Melis, Kiyo Nagaishi, Chuck Laine, Kay Tseng, John Benson, John Kilmer, Ralph Brunson, Toni Morford, Steve Ramos. Long Beach Bridge linked up with OLLI, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, to offer classes and even scholarships to allow interested people the opportunity to learn this phenomenal game—in the recently remodeled club located in the Circle Marina Center with its free parking.

I encourage everyone who

desires the elixir of youth in mental and social well being to Google medical and science articles for the phenomenal benefits of bridge enjoyed by Winston Churchill, Mahatma Gandhi, President Eisenhower, Margaret Thatcher, Phyllis Diller, and contemporaries such as Meredith Baxter, Bill Gates, and Warren Buffet.

I asked my caretaker son and veteran, John Anthony, to learn bridge. He is now even more enthusiastic than I am. I’m encouraging him to become a certified teacher and offer classes for youth – a surefire engaging activity that will inspire young energetic minds to mature while enjoying the benefits of humbling camaraderie.

I look forward to returning to the club soon and seeing you, my friends and comrades, at the bridge table.

by Mary Josephina Guzzetta

## WE WANT YOUR STORIES!



Tell us the tale of your path to Life Master. Are you celebrating

a milestone?

Send an email to Ardie at [ardeaux1@gmail.com](mailto:ardeaux1@gmail.com) or call/text at 562-254-0099

# 70's Club Big Games

Most of us are happy when we score a 50%+ game and elated with 60%+! A 70% game is so rare that Table Talk has decided to celebrate players when they score 70% or above in a game.

While none were achieved in the Open during January or February, March delivered a plethora of them! Congratulations to our March superstars!



March 3: Steve Ramos and Ed Piken scored 70.83% in a field of eight tables.



March 20 Unit Game 199'er Section: Nancy Imbery and Joey DuRee scored 70.37% in a field of four tables. They also scored 75% in the March 5th NLM game, beating five other pairs.



March 2: Kiyo Nagaishi and Wayne Rapp scored 70.92% in a field of seven tables.



March 20 Unit Game: Jackie Hess and Cory Hand scored 71.73% in a field of 11 tables.



# LBCC Celebrates Chinese New Year

Long Beach Bridge is gradually returning to its pre-pandemic “party hardy” vibe. Much of the credit goes to Kay Tseng who decorates the club for the holiday theme of the moment. January 22nd was the Chinese New Year with 2022 being the Year of the Tiger, so Kay decorated appropriately with additional realia provided by Kim Wang and Karen McKittrick.

Chinese New Year is celebrated with a Spring Festival from New Year’s Eve to a culmination with the Lantern Festival on Day 15. In between there is Setting Off Firecrackers on day 1, Welcoming the God of Fortune on day 5, Driving Away the Ghost of Poverty on day 6, and two other days for in-law celebrations.



## Karen McKittrick Shares Homemade Malaysian Goodies

Karen and her husband Mike lived in Malaysia from 2000-2007. Most of the expats kept their Western diets and traditions, but Karen chose to learn Malaysian cuisine and culture. Karen brought her experiences to the club when she made three original Malaysian specialties for our Chinese New Year celebrations: Kuih which is a sweetcake Bahalu, Nonya Peanut Cookies where she dry stir-fried and then ground the peanuts (rather than using our peanut butter), and the traditional pineapple cookies made with cinnamon and star anise then topped with homemade pineapple jam. Karen has kept her cup-

boards stocked with needed spices through Amazon orders and/or shopping at local Asian markets.

Karen and Mike met while working at Mattel. Mike regularly played in a lunchtime bridge game, and one of Karen’s colleagues encouraged her to join the game and meet him. She did and they eventually married; however, with their jobs and busy lives, both stopped playing bridge. Then, Mike went to work in Malaysia on the island of Penang. Each day he crossed an 11-kilometer bridge to his job at Mattel. As a “trailing” spouse, Karen, by law, was not allowed to work. She got involved in charity work but it was during this

time that a friend encouraged her to return to bridge and she started playing duplicate. Their son Michael (the III) attended an international school in Malaysia from third grade through his sophomore year.

Thank you, Karen, for sharing your experiences and your home cooking with us! Yum! Yum!

by Lillian Slater

