



THE FRIENDLIEST BRIDGE CLUB

TABLE TALK

MEET THE MASTERS



Kevin Lane
Ruby Life Master

Kevin Lane started playing bridge in 1986 when his dad needed a partner. He had watched his mom and dad play in a monthly social bridge game, so it was somewhat inevitable that Kevin (and his sister) would be recruited. With 2,441.99

masterpoints to date, Kevin is a Ruby Life Master.

Kevin came to Long Beach Bridge in 1992 when his dad was visiting from Chicago, and they needed a place to play. And he's been playing here ever since. Today Kevin plays online twice a week with his sister Jan who lives in Chicago and snowbirds in Florida. His regular face-to-face partner is District 23 President Bob Shore.

Kevin became serious about bridge prior to the 2003 Long Beach Nationals. His dad, uncle, and sister needed a fourth for their mini-Spingold 0-1500 team. Although Kevin had a mere 30 masterpoints, he was recruited. Their team made it to the quarterfinals where he played with screens 15 feet away from World Champions Eric Rodwell and Jeff Meckstroth who were playing in the Open Spingold.

Kevin never took bridge lessons but taught himself

by reading over 50 books on the subject. He recommends Eddie Kantor's books on defense as well as those written by Mike Lawrence. Kevin's advice to newer players is "play with fun partners in challenging competitions." His wife Lynn and son Eric don't play bridge, although Eric caddied for several years.

Additionally, Kevin was part of the revitalization of Long Beach Bridge in 2017-2018. He explained, "I am proud to have contributed to revitalizing the club. I think it's a special place that has provided good duplicate bridge games for over 30 years. I'm glad we could keep it going." In fact, Kevin was this writer's first bridge teacher. New students who had played some social bridge were put in Kevin's class to learn Stayman and transfers.

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4782 PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY
LONG BEACH, CA 90804
562.498.8113

EMAIL: MANAGER@LONGBEACHBRIDGE.COM

www.LongBeachBridge.com

FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM: LONGBEACHBRIDGE
WWW.ALLIANCEBRIDGECLUB



Status Changes

Regional Life Master

Priscilla Caillouette

Welcome New Members

Cherene Birkholz

Cheryl Falconer

Melinda Wilson

Continued from Page 1

Since 2003, Kevin has actively volunteered his time for bridge for the Long Beach unit and District 23. His volunteerism culminated in being elected as the District 23 representative to the ACBL national board from 2016 to 2021. Kevin added, "I brought (relative) youth to the ACBL board as I advocated for a common sense focus on the critical issues necessary to sustain bridge in the long term."

A special bridge memory was winning the North American Pairs Flight B at the Kansas City Nationals in 2017. His partner was Murat Vesyoglu, an excellent player notable for his positive attitude. They barely made the cut for the second day—qualifying 51st out of 52. However, the next day they scored two 65% games and won the event! Kevin noted, "I credit Murat's reflexively positive attitude in securing

that win. I was very fresh the second day because Murat didn't seem to notice or care about my many mistakes—partnership first. It's a lesson that has served me well."

Having graduated from the University of Illinois in computer science, Kevin spent most of his professional career working for major tech companies like Microsoft and Yahoo. He said, "The pandemic put things sideways, and I'm still figuring out what my life should look like now."

Retired from the corporate world in 2010, he is currently "keeping busy with projects around the house."

The next time Kevin comes to your table, remember his advice to challenge yourself and "have fun" since you will be definitely be playing a competitive round.

by Lillian Slater

70's Club Big Games



Steve Ramos and Ed Piken had a 74.58% game on 8 December in a field of seven tables.

Ellis Feigenbaum and Thomas Maccormac played a 71.73% game on 20 December in a field of 10 tables.

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 or call/text at 562-254-0099

December Birthdays



On December 21st, the club celebrated Sharon's 70th birthday by feasting on delicious cake provided by Steve Ramos. We wish Sharon happiness, good health, and many masterpoints.



On December 10th, the club celebrated an early birthday for Paul Pettler. Jane Reid was also celebrated in December but alas, no photographic evidence.

Long Beach Bridge Holiday Party Good Food, Good Cheer and Good People

Long Beach Bridge Center was bustling with holiday cheer on Sunday, 18 December. Unit 557 supplied a ham and jolly bridge players supplied delectable side dishes and scrumptious sweets. Steve Sturm even regaled us with some holiday standards. Thanks to the generosity of our members, a donation of \$250 was made to the Women's Shelter of Long Beach.



TABLE TALK

Editor	Ardie Laine
Contributors	Lillian Slater Mary Singer

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.



Join us for Lunch to Celebrate George Derevjanik Thursday, January 12



Everyone is invited to join us for a free lunch hosted by the family of George Derevjanik. Didn't know him? Come us anyway. George loved playing cards so join us to celebrate his love of bridge. Food will be provided by Berg Catering.

11:30 Lunch
12:30 Game



New Classes Starting in January



Tuesday, January 3
Bridge 1 Beginner Bridge

Learn to play bridge the modern way. Topics include intro to bridge, opening a major, opening a minor, no trump, Stayman, transfers, opening leads, attitude, and more.

Instructor: Hank Dunbar
Tuesdays 9:30-11:30am. \$40

Monday, January 9
Bridge 2

Bridge 2 is more like real bridge. If the opponents open, you try everything you can think of to get an interfering bid in. Topics include overcalls, takeout doubles, negative doubles, preempting, strong 2 club openings and a look at slams.

Instructor: Hank Dunbar
Mondays 9:30-11:30am.



Support Junior Bridge in January

The ACBL's Junior program helps grow the game of bridge in players aged 26 and under with special events, education and more.

Face-to-face clubs can hold Junior Fund Games, which raise money for this initiative, throughout the month of January. These games will also give out upgraded masterpoint awards.

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



www.alliancebridgeclub.com



Club Management Change Announcement

Starting January 1st, Chuck Laine will assume the club management duties at Long Beach Bridge, replacing Sharon Biederman who has served in this capacity for the past six years.

Many thanks to Sharon for all her hard work! As she puts it, "I'll still be around," playing bridge as well as training and supporting Chuck and his volunteers as they assume the club operations.

As we evolve into our new model, additional volunteers are always welcome to help replace Sharon. Please consider becoming part of "the village" that runs Long Beach Bridge.

Again, Sharon, THANK YOU for all you've done and will continue to do to support our club.

ODE TO SHARON

© Mary Josephine Rose Raneri Guzzetta

Saturday, December 31, 2022

There are certain traits I admire in role models:

Leadership, Grace, Empathy, Problem Solving.

Sharon Biederman exemplifies those and more:

she is a luminary essence at primary core.

**She inspired a mantra I use often:
'we'll figure it out' when hitch arose.**

Calm/Serene/Assured apparent:

caring/sharing mensch inherent.

**Thank you, Sharon, for phenomenal work:
contributing so much to Bridge Club.**




It became a safe haven for me and peers:

I salute the light within you: CHEERS!



Correction: The December issue of Table Talk reported the wrong winners of November Sectional's morning East / West pairs. Kiyoo N and Alan O placed first in E-W with a 60.65% game. Our sincere apologies!

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe	2 12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	3 12:30 Open Director: Chuck Laine 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar	4 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe 9:30 Supervised Play Sharon Biederman	5 12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower	6 12:30 Open NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint	7 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe
8 12:30 Open Director: Chuck Laine	9 12:30 Open Junior Fund Director: Alan Flower 9:30 Bridge 2 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	10 12:30 Open Junior Fund Director: Chuck Laine 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar	11 12:30 Open Junior Fund Director: Steve Rowe 9:30 Supervised Play Sharon Biederman	12 12:30 Open Junior Fund Director: Alan Flower Celebration of Life for George Derejanik	13 12:30 Open Junior Fund NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint	14 12:30 Open Junior Fund Director: Steve Rowe
15 12:30 Team Game Junior Fund	16  12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	17 12:30 Open Director: Chuck Laine 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar	18 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe 9:30 Supervised Play Sharon Biederman	19 12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower	20 12:30 Open NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint	21 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe 
22 12:30 Unit Game 	23 12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	24 12:30 Open Director: Chuck Laine 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar	25 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe 9:30 Supervised Play Sharon Biederman	26 12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower	27 12:30 Open/NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint ACBL-Wide Junior Fund Sharon Biederman Appreciation Game	28 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe
29 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe	30 12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	31 12:30 Open Director: Chuck Laine 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar	