

## MEET THE MASTERS



**Mary Singer**  
**Gold Life Master**

Mary Singer was introduced to bridge in her freshman year of college and has been playing continuously ever since. She added, "Bridge was the best thing I learned in college, by far the best." Mary has amassed 2,991.64 masterpoints to date, achieving Gold Life Master.

Mary explained, "I was a somewhat rebellious student in high school. My first semester of college I was a dedicated scholar, but one day a friend invited me to join them in a card game at the student union. It was bridge. I fell in love with the game and spent a tremendous amount of time playing it thereafter."

After college, as a stay-at-home mom raising two kids in Pennsylvania, Mary played a lot of "kitchen bridge." One day in July a girlfriend invited her to play duplicate bridge at a local club. She recounted, "In October we played in my first regional tournament in Lancaster, Pa. I was hooked."

Mary moved to California in 1977. She became a Life Master in 1995 at the Riverside Regional, which "was a big deal at the time!" She served as the president of the Balboa unit for many years, which she enjoyed but "it was hard to keep every-

one happy."

Mary started working as a realtor in residential real estate and still does with American Realty Services. She explained, "It works well for me. I like the flexible hours." Also, Mary enjoys talking with people, an important part of selling real estate.

Mary added that she has met most of her friends through bridge. She even met her "Honey Bunch," George Derevjaniak, in 1997 at the regional tournament on the Queen Mary. "I bumped into him at the refreshment table and introduced myself. I didn't know men like existed other than in the movies. He was a quiet engineer and a wonderful man as well as a good bridge player."

Mary's advice to newer players is "Keep playing. People can get discouraged but it takes a long time to learn the game. Establish and then

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# Status Changes

Regional Life Master

Joey Duree

NABC Life Master

Nancy Imbery

Leo Dittimore

Russell Gray

Paul Pettler

Life Master

Sandra Schlosser

Silver Life Master

Alan Flower

Melanie Smith

# Welcome New Member

Del Stewart



Sandra Schlosser  
Life Master



Alan Flower  
Silver Life Master



Melanie Smith  
Silver Life Master



Leo Dittimore  
NABC Life Master



Paul Pettler  
NABC Life Master



Joey Duree &  
Nancy Imbery  
NABC Life Master

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



# 70's Club Big Games



Eleth Fields and Steve Sturm had a dynamic start to the new year with a 70.61% game on 2 January in a field of 13 tables. Aloha!

## Honoring Sharon



Long Beach Bridge Center honored Sharon Biederman on January 27th for her years of work as Long Beach Bridge Center club manager and president of Bridge Brigade. She'll "still be around" but in a different capacity.



Win Double Points AND Foster Bridge Learning Support bridge education and growth through special Educational Foundation events supporting the ACBLEF. Long Beach Bridge Center will be offering Educational Foundation Games for two week - 6 - 19 February.

## January Birthdays



On January 23rd, we celebrated Marcus Evans' 60th birthday by feasting on delicious cake made by Carolyn Byrnes and ice cream provided by Margie Michelin. Happy birthday, Marcus, and may the card gods be with



April Berg made good use of our kitchen whipping up a scrumptious lunch of Swedish meatballs for a luncheon honoring George Derejanik on January 12.

### TABLE TALK

Editor	Ardie Laine
Contributors	Lillian Slater Nancy Toussaint

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).



## Our Sympathies to the Friends and Family of



**Betty Witteried  
1933-2023**

Continued from Page 1

achieve a goal. Once you do, you tend to continue on."

Today Mary plays regularly at Long Beach Bridge and on BBO where she enjoys "Express - 4 Fast Hands" because she can fit that challenge in within 15-20 minutes." However, it was a shock when she discovered that she spent \$60 on BBO in August. Mary plays Standard American and is willingly to play with anyone who wants to play with her.

Something people don't know about Mary is that she is a member of the Council on Aging as part of a specialized team. The Council

## Join us for Lunch in Memory of John Melis Wednesday, February 22



Everyone is invited to join us for a free lunch hosted by Jo Melis. We will hold an upgraded championship game in John's honor. Food will be provided by Berg Catering.

**11:30 Lunch**

**12:30 Game**

*Berg*  
CATERING



## ***I Want You to Make Boards***

**The volunteers of Long Beach Bridge and Bridge Brigade make 11 set of boards every week to support daily games, classes, and supervised play. We need 3-4 volunteers to spend 20-30 minutes/week before or after your game or class to feed the shuffling machine. Please contact Lillian Slater via text at 714-287-3184. to volunteer and receive training.**

is supported but not governed by county, state, and federal agencies.

Mary, we share your love of bridge! Thanks for playing with us!

by Lillian Slater





## *The More the Merrier*

I have played bridge for 11 years and with over 73 partners. There are many benefits to playing with a multitude of partners. When I play with my regular partners, I sometimes get complacent and sloppy. I may lose focus or make experimental bids just out of boredom. When playing with a new partner I am on my best behavior: sharp and disciplined. I don't want to appear a stupid, poor partner. This person would never want to play with me again!

New partners stretch my brain. After discussing our convention cards, I may need to ignore some of my normal conventions or learn a new one. After playing with several people who played inverted minors, I added it to my regular repertoire. After resisting 2 over 1 for a long time, I finally converted to that as well. I

once had a partner who only played with me. I think she was doing a disservice to herself and to her growth in the bridge game. The game with a different partner keeps me sharp and focused on these changes. It's good to get out of my rut and playing automatic pilot.

When playing with a partner more skilled than me, I can learn new bridge playing nuances. And I may get more masterpoints! When playing with a newer player, I act as a good will ambassador to encourage this player to stretch and advance to the open game. Maybe this person is new to our club. In both cases. I am getting to know someone better. Maybe this person is new to our club. I may even develop a friendship outside of the bridge club. Playing with a variety of people makes the Long Beach Bridge Center a friendly place to play. We become one big happy family.

Playing with many people expands my options. If my regular partner is unable to play, I have a whole list of possible people to contact to play with me that game. If I want to play bridge outside of my normal days, I have more people to call without just showing up at the game and "taking my chances." The same goes for tournaments and team games:- more choices and possibilities. Playing with a new partner

keeps the game fresh. I never know what that person might do or say. It could be profound and cause me to ponder it even after the game is over. It could be silly and cause a good, hearty belly laugh at the table. How many bridge partner have you had? Perhaps that should be your 2023 New Year's resolution: to play with someone new. Unexpected good things may happen!

by Nancy Toussaint

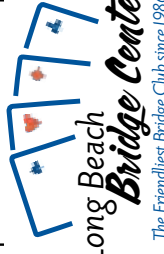



## **Bridge 1 and 2 Classes Begin!**



Hank Dunbar once again introduces a fresh group of future Life Masters to the game of bridge. CSU Long Beach OLLI and ACBL's Boost program were helpful in drawing new players to Bridge Brigade's education program.

# February 2023

\* Sanction number: L2302557B

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	 <p>Long Beach Bridge Center <i>The Friendliest Bridge Club since 1986</i></p>		<b>1</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Steve Rowe 9:30 Supervised Play Sharon Biederman	<b>2</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Alan Flower	<b>3</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint	<b>4</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Steve Rowe ACBL-Wide International Fund Game
<b>5</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Steve Rowe	<b>6</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Alan Flower 9:30 Bridge 2 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	<b>7</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Chuck Laine 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar	<b>8</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Steve Rowe  9:30 Supervised Play Sharon Biederman	<b>9</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Alan Flower	<b>10</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Open</b> NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint	<b>11</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Steve Rowe
<b>12</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Steve Rowe	<b>13</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Alan Flower 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	<b>14</b>  <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Chuck Laine 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar	<b>15</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Steve Rowe 9:30 Supervised Play Sharon Biederman	<b>16</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Alan Flower	<b>17</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint	<b>18</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Steve Rowe 
<b>19</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Team Game</b> Director: Alan Flower	<b>20</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Alan Flower 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	<b>21</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Chuck Laine 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar	<b>22</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Steve Rowe Lunch & Upgraded Championship Game in Memory of John Melis* 9:30 Supervised Play Sharon Biederman	<b>23</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Alan Flower	<b>24</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Open</b> NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint	<b>25</b> Education Foundation <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Steve Rowe
<b>26</b> <b>12:30 Unit Game</b>	<b>27</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Alan Flower 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	<b>28</b> <b>12:30 Open</b> Director: Chuck Laine 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar				