

MEET THE MASTERS



Gayle Grubb
Ruby Life Master

Gayle Grubb characterizes himself as “a very lucky man.” Family, real estate, and bridge are his passions. He said, “I became a Life Master a long time ago, at least 30 years ago. That was when it was hard to make it because ACBL didn’t give out many points in games.”

Having amassed 2,395.19 masterpoints to date, he is a Ruby Life Master.

Hailing from northeastern Nebraska, Gayle and his family spent half of his school years in 7th through 11th grades here where he attended Washington Junior High and Poly High School. As a result, he considers Long Beach his second hometown. His family would travel to Long Beach during Thanksgiving break and then back to Nebraska during Easter break, so Gayle never missed a day of school.

At age 17, Gayle enlisted in the Army and was stationed northwest of Fairbanks, Alaska, reporting to a nice captain in charge of a ski patrol. He added, “One night on guard duty, it was so cold I could hardly stand it. The temperature was forecasted to be 68 degrees below, a new record!” Luckily, another soldier let him stay in the motor pool hut to warm up between shifts.

Later, Gayle was fortunate to get reassigned to a unit where he was the NCO of five college graduates responsible for press releases and newspaper stories. Treated exceptionally well by the lieutenant in charge, Gayle always wondered why. When the unit was invited to the lieutenant’s home for dinner, they discovered that Gayle looked exactly like the lieutenant’s brother who had died in Korea.

Gayle found out he could get discharged three months early if he were to attend college. Deciding between Northwestern in Chicago and Iowa State, soldier colleagues strongly encouraged him to attend Northwestern which he did. While in college, Gayle married his high school girlfriend. It was during this marriage that he was introduced to bridge as his wife came from a big bridge family. Originally from

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2022 Unit 557 Ace of Club Winners - Most Points Won at Club Including Virtual Club Games

0 - 5



Patricia Warner 26.59
Leon Estes 4.13
Aarlyn Glenn 3.54

500 - 1000



John Galligher 84.87
Lillian Slater 79.36
Linda Nye 72.34

5 - 20



Glenn Barry 18.89
Joanne Armenia 10.14
Rita Wright 9.97

1000 - 1500



Robert Preece 92.52
Jane Reid 91.82
Albert Lum 67.83

20 - 50



Daniel Frank 28.28
Eric Kaplan 17.21
Judy Martin 15.80

1500 - 2500



Alan Olschwang 149.46
Judith Jones 123.21
Al Appel 107.01

50 - 100



Jan Van Lierop 38.57
Joey Duree 35.73
Nancy Imbery 33.48

2500 - 3500



Kay Tseng 93.47
Steven Rowe 78.36
Larry Slutsky 51.65

100 - 200



Leo Dittimore 93.28
Jenny Ernest 37.67
John Krafft 29.55

3500 - 5000



Bill McClean 134.69
John Petrie 107.02
Louis Shen 34.23

200 - 300



Thomas Cox 97.57
Carolyn Byrnes 42.61
Priscilla Caillouette 39.78

5000 - 7500



Jackie Hess 160.28
Mark Tang 76.02
Mark Leonard 6.48

300 - 500



Charles Laine 67.61
Sandra Schlosser 61.96
Ardis Laine 47.54

>10,000



David Schudson 67.36
Walter Schafer Jr 56.77



0 - 5
Patricia Warner
27.70



5 - 20
Glenn Barry
20.92



20 - 50
Daniel Frank
30.54



50 - 100
Jan Van Lierop
203.49



100 - 200
Leo Dittmore
133.81

2022 Unit 557 Mini-McKenney Winners

Most Points During a Calendar Year (virtual & F2F)



200 - 300
Thomas Cox
103.57



500 - 1000
Charles Laine
74.48



500 - 1000
Lillian Slater
128.85



1000 - 1500
Jane Reid
88.93



1500 - 2500
Mel Fineberg
223.62



2500 - 3500
Steven Rowe
114.87



3500 - 5000
Bill McClean
211.55



5000 - 7500
Jackie Hess
218.07



> 10,000
Walter Schafer
123.02



0 - 5
Herb Glazeoff



5 - 20
Bonnie Shok



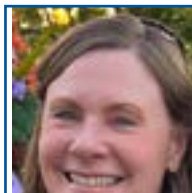
50 - 100
Linda Laventhal



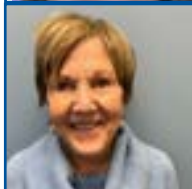
100 - 200
Frances Gross

2022 Unit 557 Online Races

Members who win the most on-line points



200 - 300
Julie Weinstein



300 - 500
Sue Boswell



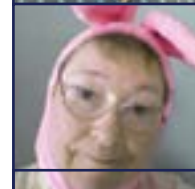
500 - 1000
Lillian Slater



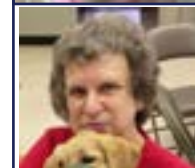
1000-1500
Bill Dilks



1500 - 2500
Alan Olschwang



2500 - 3500
Jo Melis



3500 - 5000
Renee Hoffman



Status Changes

Life Master	Lois Mullin
Silver Life Master	Lillian Slater
Diamond Life Master	Louis Shen

Welcome New Members

Patricia Frazier	Neil Gotanda
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Lois Mullin
Life Master



Lillian Slater
Silver Life Master



Louis Shen
Silver Life Master

Join us at the March 26th Unit game to celebrate your achievements. If you are unable to attend, your award will be filed in the box under the calendar behind the director's desk.



Mark Teaford Memorial
given to 299er who earned the most
masterpoints in a year

Thomas Cox



Irma Johnson Memorial
given to the person who scored the most
masterpoints in unit games for the year
Jackie Hess and Cory Hand



John Killian Award
given to the person who scored the most
points in the Annual Long Beach Sectional
Jackie Hess and Cory Hand

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

70's Club Big Games



Jackie Hess and Cory Hand did it again! On February 11th, they played a 71.67% game in a field of six tables.



At Leisure World on December 30th, Ellen Kice and Russell Gray had a 71.25% game in a field of six tables.



Remembering John Melis



On 22 February, Jo Melis hosted a lunch in honor of her late husband, John Melis. April Berg whipped up a scrumptious lunch of red beans and rice with Roscoe's chicken salad. Everyone enjoyed the meal and swapped stories about John's legacy as a terrific bridge player and a kind and gentle man. A to-die-for cake from Babette's Bakery was devoured during break. John Petrie particularly enjoyed the cake as it was his birthday. Thank you Jo for sponsoring a lovely tribute to John.



TABLE TALK

Editor	Ardie Laine
Contributors	Renee Hoffman Lois Mullin 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.

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California, she urged him to move here so they did. Gayle transferred to CSULB where he graduated with a bachelor and masters in history.

Gayle taught history at Dominguez High School in Compton for 20 years until 2003. He explained, "I wanted to help underrepresented communities. I really enjoyed teaching! I had a great room with murals on the walls and the kids loved me." He and a colleague started a 6th-period mentoring program to help students find, apply, and succeed in college. "It was very rewarding," Gayle added.

While still teaching, Gayle became involved in real estate. The first couple of years he bought properties to flip and sell, but then kept a couple as rentals. Becoming a real estate agent in 1988, he explained, "I watch the real estate market carefully, buying when prices are down."

Gayle met his wife Barbara playing bridge. They were occasional bridge partners while they were both married to other people. He explained, "Barbara was strikingly beautiful with shiny black hair down to her waist." After his divorce, someone told him that Barbara had also gotten divorced, so he made his move. They've been happily married 45 years, raising three daughters and 12 grandchildren. Gayle added, "We are a very, very close



I Want You to Be a Director

What does it take to be a good club director? These are the essential requirements:

- * Knowledge and understanding of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge and ACBL regulations.
- * Ability to work with required software and hardware.
- * Public relations skills to balance the roles of referee, judge, teacher, psychologist and entertainment director.

Preparation

You can prepare for this exam by studying on your own or by enrolling in the Club Directors Course. It is an open-book, online test. You must answer at least 65 percent of the questions correctly to pass the test and become a certified ACBL Club Director.

Materials to get started available [here](#).
Club Director Course available on
[March 27, April 10 and May 13](#)

family. I love all my kids and grandkids. All the kids graduated from college and are nicely established in life."

Gayle and Barbara continued to play bridge until they stopped because "we couldn't stand the smoke in the room." Gayle's advice to newer bridge players is, "master the art! There's no better game for your brain."

In addition, Gayle enjoys traveling. His and Barbara's most recent trip was to Switzerland. He also traveled

extensively over the years with his best friend Bob O'Brien. Of all the places he's been, Ireland is his favorite and "the place I've been to more than any other. I love the people, the culture, and the country. In certain parts of Ireland, you feel like you've traveled back in time 500 years."

So, the next time Gayle comes to your table, ask him for a real estate or vacation tip. He's an expert in both!

by Lillian Slater



New Orleans, Here I Come

It took me 31 years, but I did it!

I grew up playing all kinds of card games with my family. In the late 1960's I was recruited to be the fourth in a bridge game during lunch at university. I learned quickly as I had played a lot of Hearts. Goren was the "boss" at the time, so I learned his conventions.

Then my life changed and I was in graduate school while raising two children. In 1973, I moved to Canada to continue my graduate studies. There I joined a bridge game that started during Friday lunch and sometimes continued through Saturday morning. I added weak two bids to my conventions.

In the early 1980's, I returned to Los Angeles but it was another 10 years before I met my friend Dean Starr who, as it turned out, was a bridge player. Once Sunday

we attended a matinee play at the Pasadena Playhouse. A Regional Tournament was being held next door at the Pasadena Convention Center. After the performance, we went there and played in a Side Game. With every new opponent, Dean essentially said, "my partner knows nothing." Having only played party bridge before, I was hooked.

Working in West LA at the time, I started going to the Barrington Club to play and take classes. I joined ACBL in 1992 and started collecting masterpoints. I got my first 1.55 Gold points on August 29, 2000. Then, in February 2001, I played on a Knockout team at the Queen Mary and earned 8.07 Gold. I was off and running until 2008 when I again drifted away from the game.

Then, in 2017, my friend Rick Gonser asked me to join him to play bridge at the Jewish Center. But it was party bridge, and it made me crazy! So, I dragged Rick to the Long Beach Bridge Center where we started taking classes. Once again, the game had evolved and I had to learn 2/1 and all kinds of other conventions. COVID hit but we continued playing—LOTS of playing on BBO.

I was not paying attention to my points or levels until a few years ago when I realized I was approaching Life Master. I needed 2.36 Gold when Leo Dittimore asked

me to play in the North American Pairs Qualifying game, once again in Pasadena. I was not aware of this competition nor that I had qualified to compete in it. We came in second in Flight C, won 5.63 Gold points, and qualified to compete in Nationals. So, off to New Orleans we go in March. I go as a Life Master!

One more item checked off my bucket list!

by Lois Mullin

Coming Attraction

Advancing Players' Class
Monday nights at 6:30 p.m.
starting March 13

Lesson taught by Dalia Hernandez followed by ACBL-sanctioned game

Game open to players with less than 750 masterpoints
\$10/class



March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe	2 12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower	3 12:30 Open NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint	4 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe
5	6 12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower ACBL-Wide Senior Pairs 9:30 Bridge 2 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	7 12:30 Open Director: Chuck Laine 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar	8 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe  9:30 Supervised Play Sharon Biederman	9 12:30 Open Director: Nancy Toussaint	10 12:30 Open NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint	11 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe
12	13 12:30 Open Director: Chuck Laine Club Championship 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	14 12:30 Open Director: Chuck Laine Club Championship 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar	15 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe Club Championship 9:30 Supervised Play Sharon Biederman	16 12:30 Open Director: Chuck Laine Club Championship	17  12:30 Open NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint Club Championship	18 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe  Club Championship
19 12:30 Team Game Club Championship	20 12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	21 12:30 Open Director: Chuck Laine 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar	22 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe Club Championship 9:30 Supervised Play Sharon Biederman	23 12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower	24 12:30 Open NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint	25 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe
26 12:30 Unit Game	27 12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece	28 12:30 Open Director: Chuck Laine ACBL-Wide Charity Game 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank Dunbar 9:30 Supervised Play Rob Preece/ Fern Dunbar	29 12:30 Open Director: Steve Rowe Club Championship 9:30 Supervised Play Sharon Biederman	30 12:30 Open Director: Alan Flower	31 12:30 Open NLM Director: Nancy Toussaint Cesar Chavez Day	