

Long Beach Bridge Center table talk

The Friendliest Bridge Club



Saint Patrick's Day Celebration at the Club

Everyone's Irish on St. Patrick's Day and everyone who played at the club that day enjoyed a delicious feast of corned beef, cabbage, carrots, and soda bread. April Berg once again used her magic tongs to whip up the eats, Kay Tseng (of course) made sure the club was awash in green, many participants - like Bill McClean were gleefully wearing green, and Steve Rowe, well he's always ready for a hug and some good chow.

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

April and May Updates Will be Published in May Table Talk



March Birthdays

Leprechauns left to right: Sarah Grossi, Gayle Grubb, and Hashim Mahmood



Duncan holds virtual games 7 days a week.

All Regular Games \$5 Special Games \$6 or \$7

This is the direct link to those games: <u>CLICK HERE</u> (after clicking the link, save to your favorites). Part of the proceeds go to LBBC.

Table Talk

Editor Contributors A.K. Laine Leo Dittemore Lyn Kraatz Lillian Slater

Article Submissions We welcome articles, ideas and photos pertaining to our club. We reserve the right to revise submissions. Contact A.K. at ardeaux1@gmail.com.



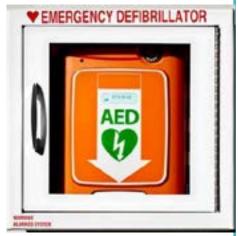
Tuba Notes from the Bored

The club and unit continue to be busy. This month the unit authorized the purchase of a credit card processing unit from Square. These are the devices you may have seen at Regionals and other tournaments to use credit card data to pay entries. We do expect to allow its use for the upcoming NLM Sectional on May 17th. We will not be using this for regular club games, due to complications determining who paid, however, you can also use Square to buy 10-game punch cards. Thanks to Rita Vanlierop for getting this setup!

We discussed getting updated emergency contact information for everyone. We agreed to use the contact fields available in your profile at HTTPS://my.acbl.org. We download this data to update ACBLscore each month for stratification of games. This will also update our membership contact list. This data will be available to the Unit/Club officials and directors.

You can update your information by logging in at https://my.acbl. org. Click the "Update Info" button then select the "Update My Contact Information" button. Enter or change any of the fields so that we and ACBL have current data for you. There are fields for three phone numbers. Be sure to have a couple of different numbers to use to contact you and another person in case we need to call about a forgotten phone at the club or in case of an emergency. We will not use this information for other purpose, including finding partners, without your permission. Ask for assistance at the club if you it.

We also approved updating the Automated External Defibrillator at the club. This is the red device mounted on the wall outside the men's room to be used in case someone needs their heart restarted. Those of you who read the ACBL Bulletin may have seen the article about another club who was able to save a member using this type of machine. We need to be able to do this too. While use of the AED machine does not require



any specific technical knowledge, anyone can and should know a bit about first aid and CPR. To this end, we will be holding a CPR/ AED training class at the club on Friday April 25th from 9:00 to 12:00. Joey Duree's husband, a former fire fighter, has volunteered to lead the training. You can choose to become certified and receive the hardcopy training material for a small fee. Look for the signup list at the club.

Other that that, I think we are all busy. I'm writing this in the Phoenix airport on my way to play a few games at the Memphis national tournament. I hope you are enjoying your time playing bridge too and will see you soon.

by Leo Dittemore



Rob Preece challenged us on January 9th, his first lesson of 2025, to include bridge goals in our new year's resolutions. Our lofty goals to lose weight, save money, and stop watching Wipe Out have probably gone by the wayside already. But if you made bridge goals, they may still be active. So, we asked 40 morning players.

Of the 40, 25% were playing to have fun and make friends in the "Friendliest Bridge Club since 1986."

Another 32% want to get better at bidding/ conventions (especially NMF) and improve defense. (Eight percent of this group wanted to be less nervous and not embarrass themselves or make stupid moves.) To achieve these ends, they take Hank's classes, retake Hank's classes, and attend morning lessons. As Louis Sterling said, "I started bridge last May and to learn as much as possible, I'm taking Rob's morning classes."

A third group, 36%, are in search of colored points, most being silver, to reach the next level. Silver used to be offered only online and at day long sectional games. Since February, there is a Silver Lining: two weeks each month, silver is offered in afternoon club games. Thank you, ACBL!

And what of the other 7%? They had specific goals as listed below:

General goals mentioned: To learn how to keep score, to master the Bridgemate, to play with the big guys, to avoid dementia by keeping my brain active, and to make 1000 points in a lifetime. Specific goals mentioned:

Cherene Birkholz: To acquire 100 points this year. I got 70 last year.

Dan Colins (of Dan and Debbie): To stay married.

Another Dan Frank: To avoid getting to 200 or no more morning play. (At his current 130 points and getting .5 point per week, Dan is probably safe from exclusion before December 2028.)

Gordon Innocent: To achieve Life Master. (My interview notes say "104". Is that his current points or his guess of the age he thinks he'll achieve it? My goal: To take better notes.)

And Rob's goal: To get players to learn what ringing his bell means.



Chuck Laine Deputized

Lillian Slater recognized Chuck for his bravery, going above and beyond the duty of a club manager. Chuck apprehended a person experiencing homelessness and staying in the club after hours. Chuck found the gentleman hiding in the closet and took his photo.

Chuck promised to not call the police if the man told Chuck how he got in the club. The secondary front entrance had a faulty latch which allowed unauthorized people access. This door now has a dead bolt. Thank you, Security Enforcement Officer Chuck!



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