

Jumping into the Big Pool

Last month, I wrote about little frogs jumping from Hank's lessons into a larger pool known as Supervised Play. This month, I investigate about "frogs" venturing into what some have described as a shark pool, otherwise known as the Open.

I interviewed Amanda Moores, Ann Peacock, Ardie Laine, Estelle Byrnes, Jane Manson, Jerry Glenn, Larry Wisinski, Leo Dittmore, Libby Tigner, Margit Hillebrand, Mel Fineberg, Melinda Wilson, and Rob Preece.

Question: How did you happen to play in the Open the first time?

Leo: "I was refreshing my bridge skills with a Bob Mault lesson in the back room when someone came in looking for fill-ins for the Open: 'You and you.' I even got points."

Estelle: "I was forced to move from the comfort of NLM. I was nervous, but no one called the director."

Mel: "I had just moved to town and went into the Open without a partner. They paired me with the worst person that

no one wanted. It was like a junior high dance."

Rob: "My wife and I went looking for partners for party bridge. When our opponents began abusing each other, she said, 'I'm never coming back!' And she hasn't."

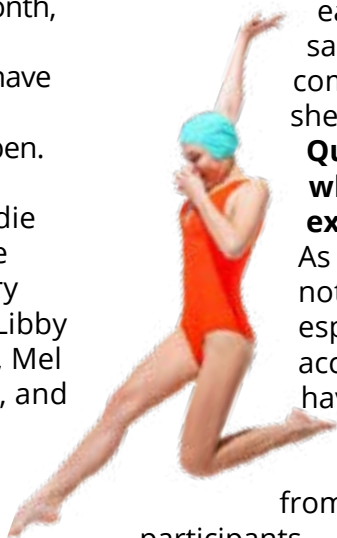
Question: And what was your experience?

As some asked not to be quoted, especially negative accounts, we have only listed comments, not quotes from actual

participants.

Negative:

- You lose a lot. They pounded us at first.
- Went in after two years under my belt. Only did it once.
- Humbling. Think of it as a reality test.
- Pressure is too much for me. I want an easier day.
- Nervous. Anxious. But I relied on my partner who was much more advanced than I was.



Positive:

- Good practice for the tournament. Play is at a faster pace. Can't get away with bad bridge.
- Challenging in a good way. I read more now. Everyone is very nice and offers tips.
- I like the Open because we play 24 boards. The pace is quicker. They have a sharkish reputation, but I found them very nice and encouraging. I learn a lot.

Advice:

- Don't freak out if someone calls the director. Directors keep the game fair for everyone. I had one partner who would just smile and say thank you.
- I like to talk to familiar faces, and the more we played, the more progressively friendly they became.
- Per both Rob and Hank, play the best players you can. The Open is an opportunity to learn more about the game and get help from experts. It depends on whether you want to improve your game or just win points. You can do both in the Open.

by Lyn Kraatz

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Status Changes

Club Master	Jerry Glenn
Sectional Master	Robert Mossler
Regional Master	Cherene Birkholz
Ruby Life Master	Rosemary Rice



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: [CLICK HERE](#)
(after clicking the
link, save to your
favorites). Part of
the proceeds go to
LBBC.



July Birthdays

Left to right: Barbara Wallace, Jenny Ernest, Rob Preece

TABLE TALK

Editor	A.K. Laine
Contributors	Carolyn Byrnes
	Leo Dittmore
	Joey DuRee
	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

Since my last Tuba Notes, I survived my first bout of COVID. I don't think I've had it before this month, and I'm pretty sure I picked it up at the Long Beach Regional—seven straight days of play wore me out! Thanks to everyone for the kind

wishes while I was out of commission. Just a reminder: COVID is still a thing. Keep your vaccines current—including flu shots when they become available—and please stay home if you're under the weather: sneezing, dripping, sore throat, or fever.

🇺🇸 Good News – The club now accepts credit cards for purchasing punch cards. These paper cards come in denominations of \$100 or \$50 and cover ten sessions. If you're interested, inquire at the desk—Rita, Lillian, Chuck, I, and others can help you complete the transaction.

🔑 Club Reminders – It takes more than just Board members and directors to keep the Long Beach Bridge Center running smoothly. We all play a part—whether

it's making boards, tidying up, publicizing events, or helping with member communications. Even small things—like pushing in chairs, picking up trash, emptying the tea dispenser, or doing dishes—make a difference. Working together makes life easier for everyone.

Finally, the last three band concerts for the 2025 summer season are coming up. You can catch your favorite Tuba player at the Long Beach Community Band concerts Friday, August 1, 6:30 p.m. at Cherry Park or Friday, August 15, at 6:30 p.m. Wardlow Park. The Huntington Beach Concert Band concludes its season Sunday, August 17, at 5:00 p.m. in the Huntington Beach Central Library Park band shell.

C ya' by Leo Dittimore

"2025 JCUAA (Joint Chinese University Alumni Association of Southern California) and Long Beach Bridge Center co-hosted the 2nd Bridge Open Pairs Invitation Tournament event on Saturday, July 19, 2025

The event included a warm, fun, challenging, enthusiastic, and smooth bridge game and a Hot Dog Networking party before the game.

Once again, Tim Cheng, Event Co-Organizer hosted with JCUAA President Jacquelyn Tseng making remarks at the Opening Ceremony. Event Co-Organizer and

Committee Chair, Kim Wang, and LBBC's representative Lillian Slater also made opening remarks. Year of Snake gift was presented to Long Beach Bridge Center. Year of the Snake is associated with wisdom, intuition, and transformation - all good characteristics of successful bridge players.

Lucky raffle prize winners included Lynda Montgomery and John Jones.

JCUAA representatives celebrated with tournament top three winning pairs

- 1st: Kevin Lane and Robert

Shore

- 2nd: Jack Chang and Sophia Chang
- 3rd: Subba Ravipudi and Yas Takeda

The event boasted 28 tables and JCUAA generously donated over \$1000 to Long Beach Bridge Center.

Check out the article written by Carolyn Byrnes in [District 23's monthly newsletter](#).

Carolyn wrote about the benefits of a Howell movement over Mitchell for game with lower table count.

大專盃橋牌論對邀請賽

JCUAA Bridge Open Pairs Invitation Tournament







FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED...



Special Upgraded Game
Tuesday August 6th
Game starts at 12:15

We are celebrating those players who are no longer with us, whom we wish to remember.

Cake will be served to honor these partners.

Please bring photos to share, identify the player, post on the glass between rooms.

Perhaps make a mention of something they taught you...

Ex. Phyllis Parker "lead before you write"



Sanction # 2511344

Saturday Pairs

10:00 a.m & 2:30 p.m

\$14 card fees / session per person

Stratifications

NLM*

* 0 -50

* 51- 200

* 201 - 499

Open*

* 0 - 1500

* 1501 -3000

* 3001+

*Stratification may be adjusted
based on attendance.

Special Hotel Rates at

hotel CURRENT

\$99 +tax/night
reservations at hotelcurrent.com
Code: Bridge
562-597-1341

Partnership Desk

Melinda Wilson
melindawilsonlaw@gmail.com
424-477-8744

Email Reservations REQUIRED - LongBeachSectional@gmail.com
34 Table Limit

November 15 & 16, 2025
LONG BEACH - FALL SECTIONAL

Sunday
Swiss Teams

10:00 a.m with a
lunch break

Must participate in both sessions -

\$28 card fees per person

Team stratification based on players'
masterpoint average

Tournament Chair

Lillian Slater lilliands@gmail.com 714-287-3184

Long Beach Bridge Center

4782 E. Pacific Coast Highway
(Above and behind Big 5, enter in the rear)

August 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4 North Amer \$1 50%50% Pairs 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge1 /Hank (7) 9:30 Sel Topics Rob Director Alan	5 North Amer \$1 50%50% Pairs 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge2/Hank (7) 9:30 199'r Game Dir: Chuck Rob/Fern	6 NAP 50%/50% \$1 In Memoriam Hooringthøe 12:30 OPEN/NLM 9:30 199'r Game Leo venaeLoe	7 North Amer \$1 50%50% Pairs 12:30 OPEN Director Alan	1 North Amer \$1 50%50% Pairs 12:30 OPEN/NLM Director Nancy	2 North Amer \$1 50%50% Pairs 12:30 OPEN Director Steve
10	11 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge1 /Hank (8) 9:30 Sel Topics Rob Director Alan	12 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge2/Hank (8) 9:30 199'r Game Dir: Chuck Rob/Fern	13 12:30 OPEN/NLM 9:30 199'r Game Dir: Leo	14 Red Hot 25% GO Challenge 12:30 OPEN Director Alan	15 Red Hot 25% GO Challenge 12:30 OPEN/NLM Director Nancy	16 Red Hot 25% GO Challenge 12:30 OPEN Director Steve
17 Club Championship 12:30 	18 North Amer \$1 50%50% Pairs 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge1 /Hank (9) 9:30 Sel Topics Rob Director Alan	19 North Amer \$1 50%50% Pairs 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge2/Hank (9) 9:30 199'r Game Dir: Chuck Rob/Fern	20 North Amer \$1 50%50% Pairs 12:30 OPEN/NLM 9:30 199'r Game Dir: Leo	21 Silver 25% GO Quest 12:30 OPEN Director Alan	22 Silver 25% GO Quest 12:30 OPEN/NLM Director Nancy	23 Silver 25% GO Quest 12:30 OPEN Director Cherene
24 12:30 Dir: Alan	25 Club Championship 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Hank Tourney 9:30 Sel Topics Rob Director Alan	26 Club Championship 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Hank Tourney 9:30 199'r Game Dir: Chuck Rob/Fern	27 Club Championship 12:30 OPEN/NLM 9:30 199'r Game Dir: Leo	28 Club Championship 12:30 OPEN Director Alan	29 Club Championship 12:30 OPEN/NLM Director Nancy	30 Club Championship 12:30 OPEN Director Cherene