Long Beach Bridge Center
The Friendliest Bridge Club

table talk

On the Job
November Edition

Another and last month of Best Jobs/Worst Jobs. December's article will be devoted to family holiday traditions and New Year's resolutions.

According to **Randy Schafer**: What makes a worst job? There are common factors which define a less than fun place to work: little money, no chance of promotion, boredom, gross tasks, and lower caliber of staff (in other words, working with "pond scum.")

Apparently, bridge players are currently in positive frames of mind. We got no worst jobs and a few great jobs: several more amazing stories from bridge players. You're a fascinating group!

Hem Lepkowski: After I finished my residency in radiology, I interviewed for positions in clinics. One interviewer tossed my application in the trash with "We don't hire foreigners." A second interviewer said, "No women work in radiology." I eventually got a job and later started my own practice. I thrived. America has been very good to me! And the man who said, "No women," brought his wife to my practice when she needed radiology. Ha!

Michael Rainer: Best job was at Cal Software where I implemented.

Ann Peacock: Best job was as a social worker for LA County. I worked exclusively with families in home visits and helped them solve their problems. It was extremely satisfying and rewarding.

Pat Warner: Best job was as a tile artist for a construction company supplying tiles for back splashes, pools, bathrooms and patios. All the tiles were hand painted. I worked there nine years.

John Tholen: I worked as a psychologist for 50 years, dealing mostly with trauma victims, for instance bank tellers after being held up at gunpoint. One case was a fisherman who had been asleep below deck when the boat capsized. He had to swim out of a sinking boat to keep from drowning. His trauma? His boss wanted him back at work the next day. [Writer: That fisherman would probably not have a problem naming HIS worst job!]

by Lyn Kraatz

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

Junior Master
Daniel Felsenthal
Regional Master
Pat Warner
NABC Master
Michael Teng
Emerald Life Master
Mark Tang



Mark Tang

Emerald Life Master (7500 MP)

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook!

Long Beach Sectional

Saturday & Sunday November 14 & 15



November Birthdays

Left to right: Judy Jones and Colleen Gardner

Editor A.K. Laine
Contributors Leo Dittemore
Joey DuRee
Lyn Kraatz
Lillian Slater
Melinda Wilson

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.



Dummy Has Rights Too!

Poor dummy. One moment you're bidding confidently and planning a brilliant line of play. The next, your partner has spread your cards on the table and effectively turned you into a piece of furniture. Many players believe that once they become dummy, their only responsibility is to sit quietly and admire declarer's mistakes. While it is true that dummy's role is limited, the Laws of Duplicate Bridge do grant dummy several important rights.

First, dummy is not required to become completely invisible. In fact, dummy may try to prevent declarer from committing certain irregularities. The most common example occurs when declarer reaches toward the wrong hand to lead. Dummy may politely say, "Wrong hand," before the lead is made. They may also ask declarer if they are out of a suit before discarding or trumping. This often saves the partner from an embarrassing moment and may prevent a call to the director.

Dummy may also attempt to prevent any player from committing an irregularity. If a defender is about to play before their turn or accidentally expose a card, dummy is not required to watch silently as disaster unfolds. However, they are not required to do so.

On the other hand, dummy must resist the urge to become a backseat driver. Many dummies have felt an overwhelming need to ask helpful questions such as, "Are you sure about that?" or "Didn't East hesitate?" Unfortunately, these comments are not among dummy's legal rights. Neither are eye rolls, sighs, gasps, forehead slaps, or muttering, "Well, that's not how I would have played it."

The laws specifically prohibit dummy from participating in the play of the hand. Dummy cannot suggest plays, point out winners, remind declarer about the contract, or offer postdoctoral-level card play advice in the middle of the hand. No matter how obvious the winning finesse may seem from dummy's chair, silence remains golden.

Dummy does retain a few other privileges. Dummy may keep track of the cards in the dummy hand, help maintain the proper layout, and call attention to errors in the number of tricks won or lost. After play has concluded, dummy may even draw attention to an irregularity that occurred during the hand. They may also call the director after play concludes to report an infraction, such as a revoke.

The challenge for many players is finding the balance. Some dummies become so quiet that they seem to have entered witness protection. Others feel obligated to supply a running commentary worthy of a sports broadcaster. The laws envision a middle ground: dummy should help protect the game while remaining out of the strategic decision-making process.

So the next time you find yourself as dummy, remember that you are not merely a spectator. You have rights, responsibilities, and an important role in maintaining the integrity of the game. Just remember that your rights do not include telling partner how to make the contract after you've already become dummy. If bridge players could legally do that, every partnership in America would suddenly improve by about 20%. And every director's workload would double.

by Leo Dittemore

November 2026

Long Beach Bridge Center

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 CLOSED	2 Club Championship 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge 3 Hank 9:30 Sel Topics R Dir Alan	3 Club Championship 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank 9:30 199'r Game Dir:Chuck Rob/Fern	4 Club Championship 12:30 OPEN 9:30 199'r Game Dir Leo	5 Club Championship 12:30 OPEN Dir Nancy	6 Club Championship 12:30 OPEN/NLM Dir Alan	7 Club Championship 12:30 OPEN Director Steve
CLOSED	9 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge 3 Han 9:30 Sel Topics Rob Dir Alan	10 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank 9:30 199'r Game Dir:Chuck Rob/Fern	11 Unit Champion Veteran's Day 12:30 OPEN #L2611557A 9:30 199'r Game Dir Leo	12 2:30 OPEN Dir Nancy	13 12:30 OPEN/NLM Dir Alan	14 LB Sectional 10:00 Dir Ken Horwedel
15 LB Sectional 10:00 Teams Dir Ken Horwedel	16 CLUB STaC $1 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge 3 Hat 9:30 Sel Topics Ro Dir Alan	17 CLUB STaC $1 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank 9:30 199'r Game Dir:Chuck Rob/Fern	18 CLUB STaC $1 12:30 OPEN/NLM 9:30 199'r Ga Lunch Included Dir Leo	19 CLUB STaC $1 12:30 OPEN Dir Nancy	20 CLUB STaC $1 12:30 OPEN/NLM Dir Alan	21 CLUB STaC $1 12:30 OPEN Director Stev
22 Unit Game 12:30 Dir: Sean	23 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge 3 Hat 9:30 Sel Topics Ro Dir Alan	24 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge 1 Hank (8) 9:30 199'r Game Dir:Chuck Rob/Fern	25 12:30 OPEN 9:30 199'r Game Dir Leo	Thanksgiving	27 12:30 OPEN/NLM Dir Alan	28 Stardust GO 33% gold 12:30 OPEN Director Cherene
CLOSED	30 Stardust GO 33% gold 12:30 OPEN 9:30 Bridge 3 Hank (9) 9:30 Sel Topics Rob	Pardon me?	November	EAT BEEF!!		