



**Newsletter Volume 12/#1**

**December 2011**

**Marti Mossawir, Editor**

**[danaharborbridgecenter.org](http://danaharborbridgecenter.org)**

**President's Message**

It's been an exciting year with great bridge for all. Our unit games are second to none thanks to Diane Velick, Gale Senter, and Susan Kissinger. We had our first NLM Sectional thanks to Ann Cressman, Carol Armstrong, and Jim Shapiro and will have an Open Pairs Sectional on December 30th & 31st, promoted by John Kissinger (see page 2). There is no doubt that Dana Harbor is the best place to play bridge in Orange County.

Of course, we've had our problems too, but then again too few to mention, except one. The Board has reviewed our ongoing lack of volunteers for the kitchen and has decided to eliminate sandwiches, keeping our food offerings to snacks such as pretzels, chips, and cookies. Carol Armstrong has done a spectacular job of keeping things going, but it has become a super human task. We have concluded that serving lunch requires more volunteers than we have to do the job. The snacks approach makes set-up and clean-up a 5 minute task. The Board is sorry to announce that: **"Effective January 1st we will no longer serve lunch at DHBC. We will just serve snacks."** Eliminating lunch is not a decision for all time. If our ability to get volunteers grows, or other solutions are found, we would be happy to re-instate serving lunch. Our wonderful unit games and pot lucks are not affected by this decision.

On a happier note, the Board has voted to buy Bridge Scoring Machines (Bridgemate II). These and the rest of the system required will be available by February 2012. So everyone knows – we will disable the feature that lets players go back through the tables that have played the board previously. As in Debbie's games when pick up slips are used, there is less conversation at the table (that could be overheard by the next N/S to play the board) and sessions end 10 to 15 minutes earlier than when we play with travelers. We hope everyone enjoys the new machines, and that you score well.

Our Annual Meeting is held during the Holiday Party on Saturday, December 10th. Watch for an email blast regarding how to vote for the four Board seats that are open.

At this end of year the board and I want to thank all those who make playing bridge at DHBC possible. You know who you are and so does the club. Thank you and let's look forward to another wonderful year with our dear friends at DHBC. Now, let's play bridge.

*John Jonas*

## ***Holiday Party...from Susan Benon***

The Holiday Party for Dana Harbor Bridge Center is on Saturday December 10, 2011. As usual the party is a sellout. To get on the waiting list, call Susan Benon at 949-489-2136 or Loli Henderson at 949-248-2495. This event is a Unit Charity Game starting at start at 10:00 AM with Scott Campbell, Director. Come early to have a breakfast snack. After the Annual Unit Board Meeting at 3:00 PM, awards will be given for those who earned a new level in bridge and the new Board of Directors will be announced. Following the meeting, there will be more bridge for those that haven't had enough fun yet.

## ***DHBC Open Pair Sectional***

The DHBC Open Pairs Sectional is scheduled for December 30th and 31st. It will be a two session event (you must play both sessions) each day. Please contact John Kissinger (john.kissinger@cox.net) for reservations. You will need to guarantee that you can play. Look for an email blast with details.

## ***FREEZE!!! . . . by Jacob Weisberg***

Remember that game we used to play years ago? Someone would yell, "Freeze," and we would all have to stop what we were doing, and literally freeze in our tracks. I would not be surprised if someone yelled out FREEZE at our club today. Ninety percent of the players would stop cold in their tracks. That word is embedded in our psyche. Well, even though we don't say Freeze today, there is a word that we use that has the exact same effect. That word is DIRECTOR.

When anyone at the table says, Director, all are supposed to freeze. There can be no play of any card. There can be no discussion of what is happening. In effect all players at the table FREEZE.

Yet, sadly, I have been at a table when someone has called the Director and a player who put down a bid tries to change the bid. This only compounds the problem. I have been at a table when someone has called the Director and a player starts to explain what was intended, all before the Director arrives, thus supplying even more unauthorized information. I have been at a table when the Director is called and before the Director arrives a player tries to become the Director and rule on what should happen next. All of this is totally inappropriate. FREEZE is appropriate. So maybe what we should do in the future when calling the Director is say, "Everybody freeze! DIRECTOR!"

## ***Library and Lost and Found...from LaVerne Mersereau***

Please remember to return books that you have borrowed from the library. Also, check around the club for articles of clothing that you have left and take them home. The same applies to the Lost and Found—if you have misplaced something in the last two months, please take a look in the Lost and Found to see if it is there. Thanks for your help.

*DHBC Halloween Party...with Photos by Trudi Hanscom*



*Trish Menefee, Dae Leckie, Patricia, Pat Dolphin, Bernice Lacher and Beverly Bain (from left to right)*



*Jean Golden, Carol Newhouse, Mary Ellen Ellis*



*You can guess who is who by the smiles!*



*Allen & Debbie Gailfus*

The Club Halloween Party...Mary Poppins (Pat Dolphin) was the winner...the Naughty Nun (Barbara Schmidt) came in second.

With spider webs, bats and skeletons adorning the bridge center, Dana Harbor members got into the spirit of Halloween on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Costumes were aplenty along with festive, feathery masks. Everyone is looking forward to 2012 to see if members can top this year!

A very special thank you to Carol Armstrong for the spooky décor and the homemade chili.



*Member Profiles: Cecily Underwood and her daughter, Kim Zebot ... as suggested by Evelyn Crook*

When Cecily was newly married in 1951, her in-laws said it was time for the couple to learn how to play bridge. Cecily vividly remembers the first time she bid and made a big slam and it wasn't because of the excitement of making her bid. It was because of the let-down she felt after her father-in-law declared "heck an orangutan could have made that contract!"

Kim Zebot's first memories of bridge are the monthly bridge parties her mom used to host. There were usually five or six tables set up and there would be a pot luck dinner followed by bridge playing into the late hours of the night. Kim wasn't interested in bridge, but she always looked forward to the tasty food at the parties. When Kim was in high school, Cecily started teaching her bridge and soon Kim was able to fill in whenever there was a player who couldn't make a game.

Cecily gave up playing bridge in the late 70's and Kim never played after high school. In 2004, when Kim was sidelined from the tennis courts due to an injury, she was looking for something to fill the void of playing tennis. Although her mom wasn't keen on the idea of playing bridge, Kim dragged her into Sally Pelmeur's Easybridge Classes on Saturday mornings. It only took a few sessions of Sally's magic before they were both hooked on the fun of playing the game again and also meeting new friends.

If you ever have an extra moment at the table, Cecily will readily tell you one of her funny stories about growing up in Los Angeles (like the times she played hooky when her mother took her out of grammar school to go to Hollywood Park), raising her three sons and daughter, or her current passion of being a docent at Casa Romantica in San Clemente. Kim is happily married, a full-time real estate agent and plays tennis almost every day. The mother-daughter team is thankful for the DHBC as it gives them an enjoyable environment to spend time together.

*The real test of a bridge player isn't in keeping out of trouble,  
but in escaping once he's in.*

**Alfred Sheinwold**

# Membership

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## Birthdays

Patricia Alston, Mehdi Ayati, Beverly Bain, Andy DeLeon, Carolyn Delino, John Dillon, Jane Dober, Sharon Donoff, Pat Eggers, Betsy Evans, Linda Foresta, Phil Foster, Carolyn Hardy, Calvin Hecht, Norma Hilker, Gillian Jeffrey, Bob Kirkpatrick, Bobbe Sommer, Sia Varjavandi, Jacob Weisberg, Darlene White

## Milestones

Club Master (20 Points): John Dillon, Allen Hoch, Judy Pellerin, Deedee Pichard, Richard Picheny

Sectional Master (50 Points): Odile Gendreau

Regional Master (100 Points): Michael Cohen

NABC Master (200 Points): Bernice Lacher, Nancy Shapiro

Life Master (300 Points): Barbara Pierce, Ann Rolbin, Anthony Schloss

## New Members

Gil Abrams, Kevin Benson-Brown, Jeanne Butte, William Cote, Becky Izbicki, Tom Kroopf, Linda Landson

# December 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1  Open & 299'er 12:30 PM	2  Free Lesson 11:00 AM  Open & 99'er 12:30 PM	3  Free Lesson 11:45 AM  Open Club Championship 12:30 PM
<b>All Game Fees \$8.00</b>						
4  <b>NO GAME</b>	5  Open & NLM STAC 12:30 PM  EZ Bridge III+ 7:00 PM	6  EZ Bridge II 9:30 AM  Open & NLM STAC 12:30 PM	7  EZ Bridge I 9:30 AM  Open & NML STAC 12:30 PM  Snack & Swiss Teams STAC 6:30 PM	8  Swiss Teams STAC 12:30 PM	9  Free Lesson 11:00 AM  Open & NLM STAC 12:30 PM	10  <b>HOLIDAY PARTY</b> Unit Game Charity 10:00 AM  Open & NLM STAC PM
11  <b>NO GAME</b>	12  Open & 199'e Membership 12:30 PM  EZ Bridge III+ 7:00 PM	13  EZ Bridge II 9:30 AM  Open & 299'er Membership 12:30 PM	14  EZ Bridge I 9:30 AM  Open & 99'er Membership 12:30 PM  <b>No</b> 6:30 PM	15  Open & 299'er Membership 12:30 PM	16  Free Lesson 11:00 AM  Open & 99'ers Membership 12:30 PM	17  Free Lesson 11:45 AM  Open Charity 12:30 PM
18  Swiss Teams 1:00 PM	19  Open & 199'er Charity 12:30 PM  EZ Bridge III+ 7:00 PM	20  EZ Bridge II 9:30 AM  Open & 299'er Charity 12:30 PM	21  EZ Bridge I 9:30 AM  Open & 99'er Charity 12:30 PM  Snack & Swiss Teams GNT 6:30 PM	22  Open & 299'er Charity 12:30 PM	23  Free Lesson 11:00 AM  Open & 99'er Charity 12:30 PM	24  Free Lesson 11:45 AM  Open Membership 12:30 PM
25  <b>NO GAME</b>	26  Open & 199'er 12:30 PM  EZ Bridge III+ 7:00 PM	27  EZ Bridge II 9:30 AM  Open & 299'er 12:30 PM	28  EZ Bridge I 9:30 AM  Open & 99'er 12:30 PM  Snack & Swiss Teams GNT 6:30 PM	29  Open & 299'er 12:30 PM	30  <b>DHBC Sectional</b> 2 session pairs 10:00 AM Reserve w/John Kissinger*  *John.Kissinger@cox.net	31  <b>DHBC Sectional</b> 2 session pairs 10:00 AM Reserve w/John Kissinger*  *John.Kissinger@cox.net

## Hand of the Month...from Ginny Johnson

Test your bidding and defensive skills on this one:

♠ A 9 5 4  
♥ K J 6 5  
♦ 10 4  
♣ K J 6

♠ 10 6  
♥ 9 8  
♦ K J 8 6 2  
♣ 10 8 7 5

♠ J 7  
♥ Q 10 7 3  
♦ Q 9 7  
♣ A Q 3 2

♠ K Q 8 3 2  
♥ A 4 2  
♦ A 5 3  
♣ 9 4

South is Dealer, Both sides vulnerable.

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead is 6 ♦.

West leads a diamond and declarer (South) captures East's queen with his Ace. Next, South draws trumps, takes his ace of hearts, and finesses with dummy's jack. East wins the trick with his queen and returns a diamond to partner. West wins the trick and leads a club, putting South down two tricks.

To make the contract, declarer should have adopted this line of play: duck the first diamond, making sure West can't win a diamond trick, win the second diamond, draw trump, ruff the last diamond in dummy, lead a heart to South's Ace, then lead a club to dummy's jack. East takes the trick, but is end-played. East either leads the Ace of clubs or a heart to K-J, giving declarer his tenth trick.

## [Lessons and Classes](#)

[Covering the Convention Card with Jane Dober](#) . . . Please join Jane Dober on Thursday mornings in 2012 for a new series of lessons. This is a perfect class for advanced beginner and intermediate bridge players. The 8-week series begins on Thursday, January 5th from 9:30-11:30 AM. Classes are given by Jane Dober at Dana Harbor Bridge Center. The class fee is \$10.00 per class. You have the option of joining Jane for one class or the entire series.

The class offers: exercise sheets, pre-dealt hands to play, lots of class interaction, and question & answer time. This new series starts with the **Terrific Twos, "Opening 2 Clubs"**. Subsequent classes will cover Opening Pre-emptive 2's, Ogust, Preemptive 3 & 4 Openings. Also included, are slam bidding conventions and Minorwood,

Please call Jane Dober at 949-481-0330 or e-mail [j.dober@cox.net](mailto:j.dober@cox.net) for additional information.

[Saturday Morning Mini-Class with Ginnie Blitzman](#) . . . A mini-lesson is offered most Saturday mornings with Ginnie Blitzman. The free class explores all aspects of bridge and offers practice hands and situations. The lesson begins at 11:45 AM. There will be no class on December 10<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>.

### [Easybridge With Sally Pelmear](#)

#### [Easybridge I – Wednesday Mornings](#) *9:30 – 11:45 AM...No Partner Required*

**December 7** – Gerber Food for Excited Whos  
**December 14** – NT Play for Polar Bears  
**December 21** – Skating with Finesse  
**December 28** – Suit Play with an Extra Chestnut

#### [Easybridge II - Tuesday Mornings](#) *9:30 – 11:45...No Partner Required*

**December 6** – Frosty Response from Partner . . . Pass?  
**December 13** – Santa's Favorite Bid  
**December 20** – Balancing Your Presents  
**December 27** – Bids that Can Melt the Best of Snowmen

#### [Easybridge III+ - Monday Evenings](#) *7:00 – 9:30 PM...No Partner Required*

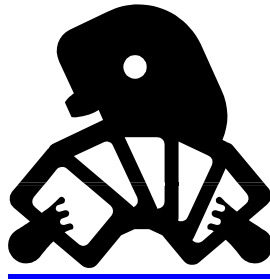
**December 5** – Little Drummer Boy Bidding for the Timid  
**December 12** – Reindeer Bidding for the Rambunctious  
**December 19** – The Grinch Stole your Bid . . . Alas  
**December 26** – Jingle Bell Bidding for a Happy New Year

For more information on the above classes call Sally Pelmear at 949-855-8953 or Dae Leckie at 949-388-1516 or e-mail: [sallypelmear@cox.net](mailto:sallypelmear@cox.net) or [daeleckie@gmail.com](mailto:daeleckie@gmail.com).

## *Club Teachers*

Susan Benon [lagunacub@aol.com](mailto:lagunacub@aol.com)  
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## *Editor's Note ... from Marti Mossawir*

Kudos to Lee Mequet for her dedication and humor while editing the DHBC newsletter during the past two years. Each volunteer brings his or her own special talents to the task. I hope to provide informative, challenging and fun content for our members during 2012. I welcome your on-going suggestions and contributions.

## Board of Directors

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