



Newsletter Vol. 8/No. 12

December 1, 2009

President's Message

by Richard Leach

The attendance at the Club has been tremendous of late. Thank you all for your support.

While all our Chairpersons do a great job, and I thank them all, I want to single out and thank Carol Armstrong and her kitchen volunteers for making everyone feel at home when coming to the Dana Harbor Bridge Club.

I hope everyone of you will find your way to the Nationals in San Diego, if only for a day. Having the Nationals so close doesn't happen very often!

See everyone at the Christmas party on December 12th.

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Membership

by Sandy Busby

Awards

(Awards are usually a month behind.)



Congratulations to those earning new ACBL rankings.

Junior Master: (5 MPs)

Judith Brausch, Paula Campbell, Mary Henisey, Dianna Hoffman, Bonnie McRae, Mary Paine

Club Master: (20 MPs)

B. J. Chammas, MaryGene Courtney, Linda Gagnet, Carolyn Sandore

Regional Master: (100 MPs)

Alan Dirken, James Haimes, Lisa Hanson, Bernice Lacher

NABC Master: (200 MPs)

Meg Casalaspi, Sandra Leach, Marian Stark, Barbara Weise

Life Master: (300 MPs)

Jack Rippy

New Master Point certificates have been made and are posted on the Bulletin Board; old certificates are in the upright plastic containers on the front counter for you to take home.

Happy Birthday – December Birthdays

Patricia Alston . Mehdi Ayati . Juliet Brebner . Andy De Leon . Jane Dober . Sharon Donoff . Pat Eggers . Betsy Evans . Linda Foresta . Phil Foster . Carolyn Hardy . Calvin Hecht . Norma Hilker . Melanie Mc Mlintock-Blau . Robert Jamieson . Bob Kirkpatrick . Ron McClintock . Lena Melton . Sue Ann Meyers . Patricia Rock . Bobbe Sommer . Sia Varjavandi . Jacob Weisberg . Darlene White

Please contact Sandy Busby for any additions, etc. to our birthday lists – sandbuz@aol.com. (Be sure to check the list kept on the food counter as well.)

New Members

Welcome New Members: **Leah Anderson, Kathy Rocheleau, Diana Schmitz** and

Transfers Into Our Unit: **Betsy McGee, Gaynell Reyno, Teri Stockman.**

The contract was down one.
Declarer turned to dummy and asked, "Could I have made the contract?"
Dummy replied, "Yes."
Declarer asked, "How?"
Dummy answered with a straight face, "Just take one more trick."
How can you not love this game of ours?

- by Jacob Weisberg

Game Calendar

December 2009						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 12:30 Charity Open & 299'er Games	2 9:30 Easy Bridge I 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 6:30 Charity Swiss Teams	3 12:30 Charity Open & 299'er Games	4 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 7:00 No Game	5 12:30 No Game
6	7 12:30 Open Game 7:00 Easy Bridge III+	8 12:30 Open & 299'er Games	9 9:30 Easy Bridge I 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 6:30 Swiss Teams	10 12:30 Swiss Team Open & NLM Games	11 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 7:00 Open Game	12 10:00 Holiday Party
	-----	-----Great	Western	STaC-----	-----	-----
13	14 12:30 Charity Open Game 7:00 Easy Bridge III+	15 12:30 Charity Open & 299'er Games	16 9:30 Easy Bridge I 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 6:30 Charity Swiss Teams	17 12:30 Charity Open & 299'er Games	18 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 7:00 Charity Open Game	19 11:45 Free Lesson 12:30 Charity Open & NLM Games
20 1:00 Unit Game	21 12:30 Charity Open Game 7:00 Easy Bridge III+	22 12:30 Charity Open & 299'er Games	23 9:30 Easy Bridge I 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 6:30 Swiss Teams	24 12:30 Charity Open & 299'er Games	25 12:30 No Games – Merry Christmas	26 11:45 Free Lesson 12:30 Open Game
27 1:00 Charity Swiss Team Game	28 12:30 Charity Open Game 7:00 Easy Bridge III+	29 12:30 Charity Open & 299'er Games	30 9:30 Easy Bridge I 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 6:30 Swiss Teams	31 12:30 Charity Open & 299'er Games – Happy New Year		

Regular Daily Game Schedule

Monday	12:30 PM	Open & 499'er Stratified Charity Games
Monday Eve.	7:00 PM	Easybridge
Tuesday	12:30 PM	Open & 299'er Stratified Charity Games
Wednesday Morn.	9:30 AM	Easybridge
Wednesday	12:30 PM	Open & 99'er Stratified Games
Wednesday Eve.	6:30 PM	Swiss Teams Charity Game***
Thursday	12:30 PM	Open & 299'er Stratified Charity Games
Thursday*	12:30 PM	Open & NLM Charity Swiss Teams – 3 rd Thursday <i>USUALLY</i>
Friday	12:30 PM	Open & 99'er Stratified Games
Friday Eve.**	7:00 PM	Open Stratified Charity Game
Saturday**	12:30PM	Open Stratified Charity Game 3 rd Saturday – Additional NLM Game
Sunday*	1:00 PM	3 rd Sunday <i>USUALLY</i> - Unit Game 5 th Sunday – Special Unit Game 4 th Sunday <i>USUALLY</i> – SWISS Teams Charity Game***

Notes on the Regular Daily Schedule

*Be sure to check the website for any date changes.

**These games are sometimes canceled for local tournaments. Be sure to check the website for any cancellations.

***Swiss Teams are handicapped when applicable.

A light lunch is provided for all games.

Website – When you access our web address, the main page has an up-to-the-day listing of **Special Events** for the current month. This is not the regular daily schedule; there is a link on the page to the Regular Daily Schedule.

New Items

(New Items are announcements or notes of interest not appearing in other parts of the Newsletter that will usually appear one time.)

Holiday Party

We are all looking forward to our Holiday Party on Saturday, December 12th. The first session begins at 10:00 AM. If you have any last minute questions, please contact Susan Benon.

499'er Game, Dana Style

When you see or hear a 99'er game, you think non-life master, right? Well, not Dana Harbor's 499'er game. The 499'er game on Monday afternoons is strictly a point game. ANYONE, non-life master or life master, with under 500 points can play in this game. The game will be suspended in December but in January will begin again. The really good news is that anyone that plays in the 499'er game will pay only \$4.99 for the month of January. So, if you qualify for this game, plan on taking advantage of this special offer while it lasts. And, spread the word.

Paid to Learn

by Ginnie Blitzman

Instead of paying for a bridge class, how about getting paid to take one? The Saturday classes in January and February will culminate with a test which will be rewarded with free plays for the top scorers. This offer is open to all, and classes will be geared to all levels of play. Topics will not be given in advance. Test questions will come directly from the lessons and must be answered according to the lessons. There will be conventions, play of the hand, leads, and, yes, procedures/laws. You must attend 5 of the 7 classes (plus the test) to be eligible for a free play. The class dates are: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, 20 – test on February 27th.

Overheard at Almost Every Table

By Jacob Weisberg

I generally play E/W no matter what game, no matter what table. As I move from table to table, before I'm even greeted with a warm welcome, most of the time I get to hear the conversation between the N/S players which usually includes what I think are becoming the most widely used words in bridge, "I SHOULD HAVE..." It might be a good idea to stop talking once new opponents come near your table as they might not have to say I should have when they play that board...

Editor, Anyone?

Well, my time is up as Editor of this Newsletter. I hope you have enjoyed the format, content, etc. this past year as much as I have enjoyed creating them. Thanks to everyone that supported my efforts and to Sandy Busby for maintaining the email addresses and sending out the Newsletter to all of you. If you would like to take on the task of Editor beginning with the January issue, please contact a member of the Board. - Ginnie Blitzman, Editor

Card History

For all those History buffs, I thought you would find the following interesting:

The faces of cards were invented by the French. The Rouennais pattern originated in the 1400's. While the French gave up the Rouennais pattern, it was exported to England and subsequently came to the United States.

Who is represented on the card faces is not always agreed upon but here is a popular belief:

	Spades	Hearts	Diamonds	Clubs
<u>King</u>	David	Charles	Caesar	Alexander
<u>Queen</u>	Pallas	Judith	Rachel	Argine
<u>Jack</u>	Ogier	La Hire	Hector	Judas Maccabee (Lancelot)

The faces on the **Kings** were based on historical Rulers:

David - Spade, the King of Israel (the Psalmist, standing by a Harp)

Charles the Great - Hearts, Charlemagne, the founder of the Roman Empire (carrying a Globe, the Emperor of the Christian World)

Julius Caesar - Diamond, the Dictator of Rome (his robe displays Roman eagle)

Alexander the Great - Clubs, the young Macedonian General lead his troops from Greece to India (wearing a costume embroidered with a lion)

The faces on the **Queens** are not quite as clear:

Pallas - Spade, was a warrior goddess (Minerva)

Judith - Heart, is believed to refer to the wife of Louis I, or perhaps a reference to Isabelle, wife of Charles VI. Others feel Judith simply refers to the Judith described in Apocrypha that slew General Holofernes and his invading Army.

Rachel - Diamond, was based on the matriarch, described in the Book of Genesis

Argine - Club, has a somewhat convoluted background. Some believe Argine is based on an anagram of the Latin word for Queen (Regina)

The **Jacks**, or "Knives" (Valet) as they are sometimes referred to, are:

Ogier - Spades, the loyal Knight from Charlemagne

La Hire - Hearts, the Comrade-In-Arms from the Joan of Arc

Hector - Diamonds, the Prince of Troy

Judas Maccabee - Clubs, who led the Jewish rebellion against Syria (some prefer to call the **CJ** Lancelot)

Special Items

(Special Items will be recurring themes but may not be included in every Newsletter.)



From the Directors

Thursday Swiss Teams this month will be on December 10th and will be STaC. – Judy Elbogen

The construction on the bathrooms will take place over the first weekend in December. Therefore, there will be NO Friday Evening or Saturday Afternoon games, 12/4-5. - Ginnie Blitzman

Because of the Christmas holiday, there will be NO games on Christmas Day/Evening, Friday, 12/25. There will be games Saturday Afternoon, 12/26 and Sunday Teams, 12/27. – Ginnie Blitzman.

Question: An opponent hesitated a long time when I was clearly going to try a finesse. Afterward, I felt he was trying to mislead me. Can he do this?

Answer: A player may not attempt to mislead an opponent by means of a remark or a gesture, by the haste or hesitancy of a call or play (as in hesitating before playing a singleton), the manner in which a call or play is made or by any purposeful deviation from correct procedure.

Question: Our table passed out a hand and it was the first time played, should we reshuffle the cards?

Answer: No. According to ACBL Law, if hands are returned to the board without play, “there shall not be a redeal.” Just because your table passed this hand out, doesn’t mean others will do the same.

Question: Is it important to enter on a traveler the direction of the person who became declarer and how many tricks were taken? (i.e., 4H E -1)

Answer: Yes, all the components of the score are important so that if there are any questions later, there are no mistakes. Many times North scores on the wrong side or writes the wrong score and the declarer’s direction and tricks taken (or down) helped catch this error. Also, people like to see who made what.

Remember, a score cannot be changed once the round is over just because you say it is wrong. Both sides must tell the Director it is incorrect otherwise, THE SCORE WILL STAND and that is why you check to make sure scores are entered correctly. Also, you should never correct someone else’s score yourself – Director!

Email Notice

Each month the club sends this Newsletter and special notices via email to all those who wish to receive them. Many of the emails come back undelivered for bad addresses; these emails are automatically deleted from the list. Therefore, if you are not getting the Newsletter or email notices and see this Newsletter elsewhere, please send your current email address to Sandra Busby at sandbuz@aol.com and she will add you to the list. Newsletters are not mailed, however, a Newsletter is posted each month on the bulletin board.

Kitchen

If anyone would like to join the Kitchen Committee, or has any helpful suggestion, please speak to any kitchen helper or directly to our Food Service Chairperson, Carol Armstrong at 949-218-4339.

Lessons and Classes

Classes by Sally Pelmeur

Easybridge I - Wednesday Mornings

9:30 - 11:45 AM...No Partner Required

December 2 – Gerber Food for Excited Whos.

December 9 – NT Play for Polar Bears.

December 16 – Skating with Finesse.

December 23 – Suit Play with an Extra Chestnut.

December 30 – Leads that Open the New Year Right!



Easybridge III+ – Monday Evenings

7:00 - 9:30 PM...No Partner Required

December 7 – *Little Drummer Boy* Bidding for the Timid.

December 14 – Reindeer Bidding for the Rambunctious.

December 21 – The Grinch Stole your BidAlas.

December 28 – Jingle Bell Bidding for a Happy New Year.

For more information on the above classes, call Sally Pelmeur at 949-855-8953 or email her at sallypelmeur@hotmail.com.

Classes by Ginnie Blitzman

Saturdays at 11:45 AM, before the Open Game, Ginnie gives a min-lesson on conventions, play of the hand, ACBL regulations, etc. Please contact Ginnie for any questions at 949-395-2402.

Library/Lost & Found

Our books are on the bookshelves in the back corner of the bridge center (near the Lost & Found) and are available to all members to borrow. All books have been donated. If you have any questions, please contact Laverne Mersereau at 949-492-7692.

Mentor Program

by Ann Cressman

The Mentor Program for 2010 will begin soon. Sign-ups for both Mentees and Mentors will take place in January. There will be clipboards with sign-up sheets at the Director's station. We welcome all Dana Harbor members with fewer than 300 master points to participate as Mentees. This is a wonderful opportunity to partner with a more experienced player and improve your play. Sally Pelmeier has again offered her assistance with the match-ups. Partnerships will be assigned. Please do not make your own arrangements. The January Newsletter will provide more details. Meanwhile, please give some thought to your participation.

If you have any questions, please contact me at anncressman@gmail.com.

Photography

Anyone that has a picture or pictures that they think would be of interest to our members, please email them to the Editor.

Publicity

Many of our members do well in tournaments. If you go to a tournament, please report good results to us so that we can publish them in this Newsletter and in the Contract Bridge Forum.

Did you know that the Forum can be viewed on-line before you receive it in the mail? Check out www.contractbridgeforum.com/January/District22.htm. Just change the month.

For any information on publicity (other than this Newsletter), please email Kathy Braeunig at lindall31@cox.net or Jennifer Porter at wjporter3@cox.net – or call 949-248-8133 (Kathy) or 949-715-3178 (Jennifer).

And keep up the good work!

Website

Our website address is www.danaharborbridgecenter.org Go there to get latest information and other helpful items. For example, the entire Player's Education Series is there along with Game Results, this Newsletter, Local Restaurants, Bridge Links and more.

Did you ever feel that every day you play worse and worse but
today you are playing like it's tomorrow?

Persons-In-The-Know

If you have any news that you think would be of interest to the membership, please let the appropriate membership committee chairperson know, or you can email the Editor directly at – ginnieb21@hotmail.com

Board of Directors

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