



# THE DISTRICT 20 TRUMPET

www.ACBLD20.org



Vol. 17, No. 3

Bridge Across the District

Fall 2021

## District 20 pair wins national event

**Louis Beauchet** of Sherwood, Ore., and **Irva Neyhart** of Portland won the NAOBC Three-Day Open Pairs. Beauchet, 20, is a full-time professional player. Originally from France, Beauchet has lived in the U.S. for six years. Neyhart won the national Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs race for her bracket three years in a row.

“There were lots of fun hands,” said Beauchet, “Including two doubled partscores that we made.

And also, lots of great defense by Irva.”

“What an opportunity to play against great competition,” said Neyhart. “My favorite part of the grueling three-day event was playing great defense and watching Louis play the hands!”

The pair qualified for the final day in 10th place. They scored 63.64% in the first final session, which moved them up to second place.



Louis Beauchet and Irva Neyhart

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## ACBL board seeks balance

Urges for policies that support F2F clubs, keep online options

I thought I got my get-out-of-jail card in June. It seems I was actually on probation and now I'm back in jail.

It is a pretty nice jail and I'm still playing bridge, sometimes online and sometimes in person with masks. This pandemic has been frustrating. Just when I feel things are turning around, something like delta happens and turns it upside down. I've been lucky, no family members or close friends have died.



Laurie Rowe  
D20 District Director

The ACBL has wanted to protect its employees and members from exposure. But as we were all set to return to regionals and sectionals, the number of covid cases skyrocketed. District 20 was lucky. Although we had to cancel Seaside, we escaped with minimal financial impact. Last I heard from the director in the Atlanta area, their costs in canceling the regional there are at least \$50,000.

Nationally, the board and management are trying to find the balance between encouraging F2F play and supporting clubs with online play. There have been multipliers in place for a long time to encourage

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Al and Marge Roe of Grass Valley, Calif., have taken up assembling puzzles since the pandemic began.

## At your leisure

Players from around the district share their favorite hobbies

By Jen Smith  
The Trumpet

We know you love to play bridge, and these players do too. But they also dabble in some extracurriculars. Get ready to meet some players with a wide range of hobbies — from gliding to pickleball to collecting Hot Wheels.

### Marge and Al Roe

A dynamic duo in leisure activities, Marge and Al Roe of Grass Valley, Calif.,

have no trouble keeping busy in their spare time. When not playing bridge, you can find both of them enjoying a good puzzle as part of a local group in their hometown. Puzzling is something Marge has enjoyed since childhood, but rediscovered after covid shut everything down.

“During the pandemic I started doing some jigsaw puzzles, which I haven't done since my children were young,” Marge says. “I also have always been an avid sudoku and jumble solver.”

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## Sayonara, Seaside

Volunteer extraordinaire Sue Kroning moves away

By Chip Dombrowski  
The Trumpet

One of the hardest working volunteers in District 20 for the past 25 years has left the area. Trumpet founder Sue Kroning, who was honored as the ACBL's 2012 Nadine Wood Volunteer of the Year, has moved to Angels Camp, Calif., a small town in the



Sue Kroning

foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains.

During her time in Oregon, Kroning served in many roles at the club, unit and district levels. She was the manager of the Seaside Bridge Club and a director and teacher for many years, teaching beginner courses every

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## Seaside canceled

Delta is a Greek letter, a U.S. airline, a symbol meaning change in math and science, part of sorority and fraternity house names, and the reason we've only been able to see family, friends and bridge partners for a brief shining moment.

Each of the five states in District 20 has imposed some restrictions.

We all are responsible for ourselves, and each other. Delta is scary. Oregon has two of the four counties in the entire U.S.



Mike Eyer  
D20 President

with the highest percentage of cases.

In light of all those facts, the district board decided the best way forward for the future of players, staff, and community was to cancel the Seaside Regional.

My great thanks to the board members and others who joined the discussion in bringing their concerns, local information and hopes. Everyone wishes a different outcome were possible, but the safety of our local and visiting players is our top priority.

Special thanks to tournament managers **Amy Casanova** and **Jim Wheeler**, Northern Coastal representative **Jon Gustafson**, tournament director liaison **McKenzie Myers**, and business manager **Marie Ashton** for all the effort they put into having the tournament ready to go.

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## Next regional is OTR 2022

Planning is under way for the 2022 Oregon Trail Regional at the Vancouver Hilton. Play begins on Presidents Day, Feb. 21. The last D20 regional was held there in 2020.

While much is subject to change between now and then, one thing is certain: The board moved to change to a daylight schedule. Look for 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. start times, plus a later session for the night owls. I'm thinking of calling it “7 p.m. is the new midnight” and running a horizontal knockout event. Drinking will be encouraged.



Amy Casanova  
Tournament Manager

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# All bridge all the time? Let's take up knitting

My paternal grandmother, Clara, was born in 1912. I remember that because it was the year the Titanic sank.

She lived through the Depression, and I believe it influenced her life greatly. She was generous with her grandchildren, but I noticed how she saved everything, meticulously preserved for later use. When she died, her belongings were all neatly rolled and rubber-banded, encased in thin plastic produce bags (reused, of course).

She did not work outside the home, but was always busy inside of it, and in the garden. She grew beautiful flowers; everyone commented on her "green thumb." She was a solid cook and baker, although her signature oatmeal-chocolate chip cookies earned the name "dog food cookies" because my stepmother thought they were a bit dry.

Grammie sewed most of my clothes until she said I got too big. Could be she grew tired of it, or I started demanding more complicated patterns, or both. I think I was in about third or fourth grade when I fell in love with a pattern called The Ribbon Dress. It was kind of a '70s-inspired peasant dress with ribbon edging and ribbons weaved in the bodice. That was probably the last straw.

I'd go over to her house most days after school. We'd watch the NBC soap operas – "Santa Barbara" and "Days of Our Lives," then "Donahue." There was always cold Fresca in the fridge, blueberries in the freezer (that she picked) and miniature candy bars. We'd eat seasoned Rye Krisp with cottage cheese and tomatoes. She taught me how to polish her silver tea set.



**Amy Casanova**  
Managing Editor

One day, she taught me how to knit. I'd requested a canary-yellow shaker-knit sweater vest and she was making it for me. It didn't turn out quite like I wanted; it was a little bulky and awkward. I was at an age where fitting in at school meant wearing the right clothes, and mine never were. Or maybe it was just me.

Did I mention she was a bridge player? She never played duplicate, but I remember there would be days when she'd say, "Don't come after school tomorrow, Amy. I have my bridge ladies." I'd play with the double-decks of cards that were stored in the drawer of her coffee table.

Fast-forward a couple of decades, I'm in my late 20s. The wife of my co-worker was waiting for him at the bar, knitting a scarf. I was intrigued.

She said she'd show me how. I bought some yarn and needles and started making my first scarf. It became some kind of unknown geometrical shape that was not scarf-like. I think I was splitting the yarn and making more stitches. I kept at it and produced wearable scarves, eventually.

I still have Grammie's sewing machine, an ancient, heavy Pfaff. My sewing is mostly limited to squares and rectangles – pillowcases and curtains. My knitting was pretty much limited to that as well.

I felt like I needed to do something outside of bridge, which I spend many hours at between work, play and district responsibilities, so I am currently in the midst of my first advanced-for-me knitting project: a cardigan. I clicked through countless patterns on the internet; they all looked too hard. I finally found one that seemed doable and it is, if I don't look too far ahead.



The yellow sweater vest.

The future is overwhelming to me, I worry that I won't know what to do, what do all of those codes in the pattern mean? But I realize if I just take it step by step, it will make sense when I get to it.

I'm sorry we won't get to play in Seaside this year. I'd like to thank all the volunteers who spent many hours planning for the event. I hope that we all might play at the Oregon Trail Regional in February. Maybe I'll be done with my sweater by then.

Amy Casanova can be reached at [trumpeteditor@gmail.com](mailto:trumpeteditor@gmail.com).



The Ribbon Dress tested Grammie's sewing skills.

## Plans for another glorious return scuttled

I had high hopes for this issue. I want every issue of the Trumpet to be good and put in great effort into making it so, but this one was special. After a year and a half of publishing online, we were finally going to print. Then Seaside got canceled.

Our last print issue, not coincidentally, came out two weeks after our last regional. The district makes most of its income by holding regionals, and without them there hasn't been money to print. The return to Seaside was an opportunity.

But even when the pandemic finally ends, assuming it will eventually end, the Trumpet's fate is uncertain. So, to remind everyone how valuable our print publication is, we set out to produce our best issue ever.

We were blessed with significant news: two of our players, **Louis Beauchet** and **Irva Neyhart**, won the most prestigious pairs event of the Summer NAOBC; and two people who have done much to keep bridge in our area going for the past 30 years, **Sue Kroning** and **John Gram**, retired.

But we didn't know any of those things would happen when we started planning this issue, so we focused on finding a great idea for a main feature. This is my 40th issue as an editor, and it can be challenging to find new topics to explore after coming up with so many. But with hobbies, I found something that not only makes a fun, interesting read, but also lends itself to great pictures — something that is almost non-existent in the world of bridge journalism.

It all came together as well as we could have hoped. There are just two problems. One, you're reading it online. And two, we've set the bar high enough that whatever we do for the issue that does get printed next is bound to fall short of our expectations.

In some ways a job gets easier the longer you do it. But when it comes to keeping a publication fresh and interesting, it really doesn't get any easier. Sue Kroning –

### My fall plans:



someone who can be an inspiration to all of us – created this wonderful thing we call the Trumpet and served as editor for five years. Five years is a fairly long time to do it. 2022 will be my 10th year.



**Chip Dombrowski**  
Editor at Large

But having a high quality print publication in District 20 is something I believe in, and it's something I'm going to keep working toward and fighting for.

### The slam that always makes?

Bart Bramley claims to play a convention called "6♦ always makes." He even has it written on his convention card. The way it works is, anytime you think you're probably making 6♦ but not sure, just bid it.

I don't have "SDAM" written on my convention card, but I have been known to leap to some questionable slams. The ones in diamonds are perhaps allowed to be a bit more questionable given the small comfort of superstition.

This one really tested my faith.

[see next column]

I get a heart lead and, surveying dummy, realize, wow, this looks bad. I have a natural trump loser, so I have to find a way to avoid losing anything else, missing both black queens and the ♥K. It's too much to hope the robot has led away from that card, but might he have the jack?

When I play low from dummy, East plays the jack, so I now have the added pressure of a fast heart loser if the oppo-

### The delta variant:

ACBL District 20 Trumpet	
2021 Spring	2021 Summer
2021 Spring	2021 Summer
2019 Spring	2019 Summer
2018 Spring	2018 Summer
2017 Spring	2017 Summer
2016 Spring	2016 Summer

Dlr: North ♠A J 8  
Vul: N-S ♥Q 10 7  
♦10 4 2  
♣A J 10 4

♠K 9 5 3  
♥A 9  
♦A K 7 6 3  
♣K 6

West	North	East	South
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

nents get in before I can dispose of it. And if nothing works I could be down three.

But I don't think it's completely hopeless. I win the ♥A, cash the ♠K and play a club to the ♣J. It wins, so I cash the ♣A, pitching my heart loser as the ♣Q falls.

Now it's time to pull trump. When I play a diamond from dummy, East plays an honor. This is either really good news or really bad news. I win the ♦A and cash the ♦K, dropping the Q-J doubleton. A diamond to the ♦10 pulls the last trump, and I can pitch a spade on the ♠10.

Now a spade to my ♠K and I'm home free. I'm down to two diamonds and two spades opposite the ♠A J. I take one more lucky finesse. Making seven. And a beer.

Miracles happen. Maybe they happen more often when you're in 6♦.

Chip Dombrowski can be reached at [chip.dombrowski@acbl.org](mailto:chip.dombrowski@acbl.org).

## Election notice

The office of district president is up for election during the Oregon Trail Regional. It is a one-year term beginning at the end of the board meeting during the regional in February 2022.

A president may serve two consecutive terms and additional nonconsecutive terms. Other district offices – vice president, secretary and treasurer – are also up for election but not subject to the same term limits.

Any member in good standing is eligible to run. To declare candidacy for one of these positions, send notification to district president Mike Eyer at [leela.tardis@gmail.com](mailto:leela.tardis@gmail.com).

The declaration should be received by Feb. 1, 2022.

## Regionals

*Continued from Page 1*

In all seriousness, downtown Vancouver is convenient and highly walkable, with many dining options close by. The host hotel is modern and very pleasant. The playing area is spacious and well-lit. It will be wonderful to play face-to-face in a tournament setting and I hope to see you there. Please check the district website, [acbl20.org](http://acbl20.org), for updates.

For tournament related questions, Amy Casanova can be reached at [casanova.amy@gmail.com](mailto:casanova.amy@gmail.com).

## Deaths

**Pat Denniston** – 94, of Redding CA died May 7, 2021.

**Sharon Dent** – 73, of Redding CA died July 12, 2021.

**Virginia Garver** – 100, of Eugene OR died Aug. 6, 2021.

**Lindsey Horenblas** – 71, of Portland OR died April 6, 1949.

**Patty Massler** – 78, of Redmond OR died Feb. 11, 2021.

**Meredith McKittrick** – 90, of Black Butte Ranch OR died July 26, 2021.

**Dorothy Tokerud** – 98, of Bend OR died Aug. 7, 2021.

**Jack Triplett** – 99, of Inkom ID died Aug. 20, 2021.

**Leigh Wells** – 81, of Springfield OR died Aug. 31, 2021.



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**Deadlines: The deadline for the Winter 2021-22 issue is Oct. 6** for free sectional ads and advance articles. The deadline for unit reports is Monday, Oct. 18. The deadline for front-page articles is Nov. 1. Please send to managing editor Amy Casanova. Email [trumpeteditor@gmail.com](mailto:trumpeteditor@gmail.com); phone 503-753-9395.

**New Life Masters:** Please send a photo for publication by email.

# NAP AND GNT

## Flight C team reaches GNT quarterfinal; NAP returns in October

District 20 sent six teams to the Summer NAOBC to compete in the GNT finals. We didn't have to send them very far because our national championships continue to be contested online.

We hope that when our NAP finals are contested, in Reno next March, that we will be back to face-to-face play.

We had six teams representing us in the national finals, because in flight B and C we are allowed to send our top two teams. Because a few players won our district championships in more than one flight, we had some teams representing us at the nationals that had combined and added players.

Our representatives were:

♦ **Open Flight:** Duane Christensen, Steve Nafus, John Gram, Suzanne St. Thomas, Bruce Cuthbertson, Hal Montgomery;

♦ **Flight A:** Amy Casanova, Ben Bomber, Rick Prouser, Ray Robert;

♦ **Flight B1:** Tim Rilling, Don Herring, Kevin Marnell, Louis-Amaury Beauchet;

♦ **Flight B2:** Janice Smith, Wendy Mednick, Brad Johnson, Kent Livingston, Leslie Kelinson, Jamie Sparks;

♦ **Flight C1:** Jon Gassaway, Bruce Backup, Ryerson Schwark, Andrey Dashko;

♦ **Flight C2:** Paula Koeller, Linda Rountree, Ed Trachtenbarg, Kathleen Hart, Mark Jansa, Fran Jansa.



**Hal Montgomery**  
NA Events Coordinator

The top 16 teams from the Swiss qualifying stage of the national finals move on to the KO stage. Our open team finished 17th, missing the KO stage by one VP. Our flight A team finished 18th, missing the KO stage by 1.6 VP. Neither of our B teams made the KO stage, nor did our C2 team, which finished 20th.

However, our C1 team won the Swiss qualifying and dominated in their first KO match winning by 130 IMPs. Unfortunately, they had one bad quarter and lost in the

quarterfinals finishing fifth-eighth in our national championship.

Two players brought hands to my attention. In both cases our players exercised judgement in their choice of opening bids that led to useful pickups. Holding:

♠K Q J x x x ♥x x ♦— ♣Q x x x x,

**Suzanne St. Thomas** opened 1♠ against the Ashton team in the semifinals of our district's open flight. Her bidding judgement was rewarded when her pair ended up bidding and making 6♣. This hand provided the winning margin in a very close match.

In the Swiss portion of the national finals, **Linda Rountree** downgraded this hand:

♠A K 7 ♥K J 9 ♦Q 8 6 2 ♣A J 5.

She opened a 15-17 INT. Her partnership made a partscore while at the other table her opponents went down three in game.

Qualifying for the 2021-22 GNT starts in September. We don't know how the national finals will be contested but we hope

they are F2F next summer in Providence, Rhode Island.

### North American Pairs

Our district NAP finals are being contested online on Saturday, Oct. 30, for flights A and C and on Oct. 31 for flight B. I hope players from all parts of our district will gather and have bridge parties for our finals.

At this time, monitors for online play in our NAP finals are required by the ACBL. The monitors can enjoy the party atmosphere and earn a few free plays. Please contact me if you need help finding a place to play.

We can send 11 pairs to the national championships: three from Flight A and four each from B and C. The ACBL provides substantial subsidies for the top two pairs in each flight. D20 has provided some additional money in the past for the third and fourth place pairs.

Hal Montgomery can be reached at dewitt@imaginata.com.

# Bomb squad

*Ben Bomber competes in final matches of three GNT flights in D20, winning two*

By Amy Casanova  
The Trumpet

Ben Bomber, a young (28) immigration lawyer living in Portland, played in the Open, A and B flights of the Grand National Teams and made it to the finals of all three. Partnering Kevin Marnell and teaming with Tim Rilling and Don Herring in Flight B, their team lost in the finals to the team that consisted of the other half of his Flight A team: Rick Prouser, Ray Robert, Leslie Kelinson and Jamie Sparks. Prouser, Robert, Bomber and Amy Casanova won Flight A, and Casanova and Bomber won the Open Flight, teaming with Hal Montgomery and Bruce Cuthbertson.

### The road to the open final

Bomber used inference from his opponent's overcall in this hand from the semifinal match against the Zwerling team (Marc Zwerling, Mark Tolliver, John Lusky, Randy Pickett, Mark Bennett, Everett Fukushima):

Dir: North	♠6 5 2		
Vul: None	♥A J 9		
	♦2		
	♣K 9 7 6 5 3		
	♠A Q J 10 4	♠K 9 8	
	♥K 5 3	♥6 4 2	
	♦10 8 6 4	♦A K Q 7	
	♣A	♣Q 8 4	
	♠7 3		
	♥Q 10 8 7		
	♦J 9 5 3		
	♣J 10 2		
Bomber	Pickett	Casanova	Lusky
	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	2♣	Dbl	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

My double showed three-card spade support, Bomber splintered with 4♣, and I cooperated with a diamond cuebid; Bomber signed off. Pickett led his singleton diamond. Bomber won in dummy, led to his ♣A, and pulled trump ending in dummy. He then led a heart, won by Lusky with the 10, who was now somewhat stuck. If he leads a club, Bomber has



Ben Bomber with Amy Casanova won the district level of the Grand National Teams in the open flight and flight A. Bomber also reached the final in flight B with another partner, Kevin Marnell.

a loser-on-loser play: He can pitch a heart, and lose another heart, but the ♣Q in dummy will be established for a diamond pitch. Lusky continued hearts, and Bomber read the position perfectly, he ducked again. Pickett won perforce and was endplayed into cashing the ♣K, which Bomber ruffed and discarded his diamond loser on the ♣Q.

Cuthbertson, in the North seat at the other table, declined to overcall. Bennett, with nothing to go on in the bidding, made the normal play of a heart to his king and went down one.

♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠

In the finals against the Christensen team (Duane Christensen, Steve Nafus, John Gram, Suzanne St. Thomas), Bomber played a little too quickly:

[see next column]

Dir: North	♠J 5		
Vul: None	♥A 8		
	♦9 8 3		
	♣K J 7 4 3 2		
	♠10 9 8	♠K Q 6 3 2	
	♥Q 10 7 6 2	♥J 9 5 4 3	
	♦Q J 10	♦6	
	♣Q 10	♣9 6	
	♠A 7 4		
	♥K		
	♦A K 7 5 4 2		
	♠A 8 5		
Nafus	Bomber	Christensen	Casanova
	3♣	Pass	6♣
	All Pass		

The ♠K was led. If both minors are 2-2, there is not much to the play. They weren't. The correct line is to be aware of the timing and entry issues. It looks counterintuitive, but the ♥K must be unblocked at trick two, even though it appears to be a precious dummy entry. Entries to hand are what is needed. Now, when trumps are pulled, ending in hand, the ♥A is cashed, and a spade is pitched from dummy. When diamonds turn out to be 3-1, dummy's ♠7 can be led to declarer's jack, endplaying East into giving a ruff-and-sluff.

Bomber's aggressive style got their side to a great, hard-to-find slam. St. Thomas didn't open the North hand, even though her BBO name is "maniac47." Gram opened a heavy INT in third seat; they played 3NT making five.

Bomber was able to chalk up this minor-suit slam swing in the Open final, taking the safety play in trumps that was missed at the other table.

Dir: North	♠A 9		
Vul: E-W	♥A K Q 4 2		
	♦J 5 4 2		
	♣A J		
	♠Q 5 3 2	♠10 8 7 4	
	♥J 10 8 7	♥9 6	
	♦7	♦Q 10 8 6	
	♣8 6 5 2	♣10 9 7	
	♠K J 6		
	♥5 3		
	♦A K 9 3		
	♣K Q 4 3		

Nafus	Bomber	Christensen	Casanova
	1♥	Pass	2♣ <sup>(1)</sup>
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣ <sup>(2)</sup>	Pass	6♦
	All Pass		

(1) General game-force  
(2) Cuebid

3NT felt like an underbid, but we do open most 11-point hands and if Ben was patterning out with 3♠, indicating club shortness, I want to protect my club holding. When Ben moved past 3NT with the club cuebid, showing slam interest, I simply bid 6♦.

"In 6♦, you need to be preparing for the worst," explains Bomber. "Both tables got a spade lead. Once playing low from the board draws the queen, you have a surfeit of top tricks. The biggest risk comes from the trump suit. The question becomes how best to play diamonds to protect the contract. Let's start by acknowledging a 5-0 break either way is going to sink the contract. The spots are not good enough to handle this type of break. Once you recognize that, the question then becomes how to protect against as many breaks including 4-1 as possible.

"I started by playing a diamond to the ace to test the suit, when both followed, I used the safest suit to get back to my hand, which is clubs. I then led a low diamond to the board, planning to cover whatever my LHO played. If they show out, I am going to win the king and lead back toward the jack. This line is 100% if opening leader did not start with a singleton in either black suit and three diamonds."

Since Ben planned to cover, if East played the 8 and Ben the 9 from dummy, he could have lost to Q-7 or 10-7. If East had a singleton spade or club and three trumps, there could have been a ruff.

When the 9 held, Ben claimed for 12 tricks.

When trumps were played from the top at the other table, there was no way to avoid two losers in that suit for down one.

# Play of the Hand

## Proving the adage: Looks can be deceiving

Today's hand offers advice on two fronts:

1. As soon as dummy comes down, look at all the suits and think about how you're going to play in each.

2. If declarer is likely to play a suit by guessing or considering the odds, give him the illusion of certainty in order to lead him astray.

Although simple courtesy and bridge ethics forbid celebrating when deception works, isn't it satisfying when a plan comes together?

In this deal, North decided to forgo bidding his wimpy four-card spade suit in response to opener's 1♣. Instead, he bid where his strength lay, diamonds. Their agreement was that a response of 1♦ does not deny a four-card major. If South had a major, North was sure to hear about it on South's next bid.

After hearing the spade bid by South, North, with four spades, 13 high card points, quick tricks in diamonds, and a working king in his partner's first-bid suit, jumped to game.

West took the first two tricks with the ♥K Q, and got out with a diamond, taken in dummy.

When declarer led trump from the board and inserted the 9 from his hand, West smoothly took the trick with the king! As soon as he had won the first heart trick, he had made up his mind to

Dir: South ♠8 7 5 3  
 Vul: E/W ♥J 10  
 Lead: ♥K ♦A K Q 6  
 ♣K 5 4

♠K J ♠6 4 2  
 ♥K Q 6 4 3 ♥A 7 5 2  
 ♦9 7 5 ♦8 3 2  
 ♣10 7 6 ♣J 8 2

♠A Q 10 9  
 ♥9 8  
 ♦J 10 5  
 ♣A Q 9 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	1♠



**Jim Flint**  
Play of the Hand

try to make South think that East held the ♠J.

After West exited with another diamond to dummy, declarer led another trump and, sure enough, finessed East for the ♠J. After all, why would West win the 9 with the king if he had the jack? Yes, why indeed?

West took his second trump trick with the jack he was not supposed to have for down one.

Left to his own devices, South might have finessed East for the king if West had won the 9 with the jack instead. It would have been one of those flip-of-the-coin things. But in this case, West gave South "assurance" that he couldn't possibly hold the ♠J.

This is similar to a famous Victor Mollo hand where the Rueful Rabbit was playing in a foreign country and was unable to distinguish between the king and jack by the unfamiliar letters on the cards. Hold-

ing them doubleton, the rabbit made the same play as today's West accidentally. Intending to play the jack when it was a winner, the rabbit guessed wrong and pulled the king instead. As usual, the rabbit was rewarded for the blunder when declarer next finessed his partner for the jack.

After the opening lead, make up your mind right away how you're going to play on trumps. If your trump holding might produce another trick with smooth deception on your part, you want to be prepared.

Don't wait until it's time to play to the first trump trick to make your decision. The slightest hesitancy will give you away. Decide early.

Jim Flint can be reached at [pubathome@yahoo.com](mailto:pubathome@yahoo.com).

# SECTIONALS

## Upcoming sectionals

### Vancouver I/N

The Vancouver I/N Sectional will be held Oct. 16-17 at the Vancouver (WA) Bridge Club. See ad page 5 for details.

### Redding

The Redding Sectional that was scheduled for Nov. 5-7 has been canceled.

### Corvallis I/N

The Bob Peery Heart of the Valley 299er Sectional will be held Nov. 6-7 at the Heart of the Valley Bridge Center in Corvallis OR. See ad page 5 for details.

### Vancouver

The Vancouver Sectional will be held Nov. 13-14 at the Washington School For the Deaf. See ad this page for details.

## NEW ACBL MEMBERS

Adriana Achinelli, Honolulu HI	Larry Jacobson, Vancouver WA	Jane Nicholson, Portland OR
Suzanne Adkins, Bend OR	Ronnie Jacobson, Vancouver WA	Gaynel Rader, Kelso WA
Jeannie Botelho, Portland OR	Steve Kanter, Portland OR	Frank Santos, Grass Valley CA
Sheridan Collins, Portland OR		Phil Shane, Portland OR
Glenda Groff, Brookings OR		Doug Sheehan, Portland OR
Brian Haskell, Corvallis OR		Rita Stotka, Langlois OR

*Welcome!*

### Deadline notice for Sectional Tournament organizers

Please submit tournament flyers to the ACBL website at least **six months** in advance of **all** tournaments to ensure timely inclusion in the Trumpet. Flyers for sectionals held in January, February and March are due in October.



Win a subsidized trip to Reno, Nevada! Three or four pairs in each flight will earn the privilege to compete at the Spring NABC NAP finals, March 9-20, 2022!

**Pre-registration:** Pre-registration is required by Oct. 15, 2021, for all flights to assure participation in the finals.

**D20 Finals:** *D20 Finals flights compete online via BBO*



**Flight A:** Open, unlimited - Oct. 30, 2021  
**Flight B:** Less than 2500 MPs - Oct. 31, 2021  
**Flight C:** NLM with <500 MPs - Oct. 30, 2021  
**Start times:** 8 a.m./1 p.m. in Hawaii, 11 a.m./4 p.m. PDT in Oregon, noon/5 p.m. MDT in Boise.  
**Venues:** A monitor is required at each playing site. Contact your club, NAP Coordinator or D20 Area representative for details.

**Fees:** \$60 per pair

**National Finals:** March 9-10, 2022 (Flight A),  
 March 19-20, 2022 (Flights B & C)  
 Silver Legacy/Circus Circus/  
 Eldorado, Reno, Nev.



For details, visit the D20 website:  
[https://web2.acbl20.org/NA\\_Events/NAP/2019/NAP\\_info.pdf](https://web2.acbl20.org/NA_Events/NAP/2019/NAP_info.pdf),  
 or contact North American Events Coordinator Hal Montgomery,  
 (503) 583-3717, or by e-mail to: [dewitt@imaginata.com](mailto:dewitt@imaginata.com).

## Vancouver USA Fall Sectional

November 13-14, 2021

Join us at the  
 Washington School for the Deaf,  
 611 Grand Blvd. (entrance on Evergreen Blvd.)  
 Vancouver, Wash.

**Note:** Tournament flyer not available at press time; all information subject to change.



Saturday, Nov. 13 – Pairs

Stratiflighted Open Pairs (AXY & BCD)..... 10 a.m.  
 Novice Pairs (0-100 stratified, # of tables permitting)..... 10 a.m.  
 Stratified Open Pairs..... 3 p.m.  
 NLM Pairs (0-500 stratified)..... 3 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 14 – Teams

Stratiflighted Swiss Teams ..... 10 a.m. & TBA  
 Flight A = 5000+; X = 3000-5000; Y = 0-3000  
 Flight BCD: B = 750-2000 C = 300-750; D = 0-300  
 \*Stratified Fast Pairs (single session) ..... 10 a.m.

\*Field stratified by director based on entries  
 Schedule is subject to change

OPEN STRATS	NLM STRATS	STRATIFLIGHTED PAIRS	
A = 2000+	A = 300 - 500	A = 4000+	B = 750 - 1500
B = 1000 - 2000	B = 100 - 300	X = 2000 - 4000	C = 300 - 750
C = 0 - 1000	C = 0 - 100	Y = 0 - 2000	D = 0 - 300

**Note:** A team with any player over 1500 masterpoints, plays in Flight A/X/Y  
 All brackets determined by average masterpoints of team

**Fees:** \$10/session; \$14/session for lapsed ACBL members; non-ACBL members will be required to join. Guest memberships available.  
**Players with 0-5 masterpoints play free!**

**Director in Charge:** Chris Wiegand

**Tournament & Partnership Chair:** Kathleen Mather, [mather.kath@gmail.com](mailto:mather.kath@gmail.com)



Sanction #: 2111325



# THE IN! CROWD

For Intermediate/Newcomer Players

## Sherry tries to figure out Franny's perplexing double

Sherry gets very frustrated trying to understand all of the doubles in her bidding box. There are takeout doubles, lead-directive doubles, reopening doubles, and, the most fun, penalty doubles.

What is your plan when you pick up this hand?

♠Q 10 9 8 6 3 ♥AJ 5 3 ♦K ♣J 5

Sherry is highly excitable, opens 1♠ and plans to rebid hearts to show her hand pattern. But then this auction comes back to her before she gets in a second bid ... 1♠ – Pass – Pass – Dbl. This is called a reopening double and usually promises the other three suits and takes Sherry off the hook about bidding.



**Margi Redden**  
D20 I/N Coordinator

Sherry's left. She might even support with honor doubleton. But Franny passes again.

South, who had balanced with the double, bids 2NT which shows a spade stopper and too many values to bid 1NT originally.

Her left-hand opponent bids 3NT and Franny doubles! What does she want? It cannot be a spade lead as she has not supported my spades. Partner is trying to tell you something! She is trying to tell you what to lead. What is it?

It *must* ask for a club lead.

If the auction goes:

Sherry	North	Franny	South
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♣
Pass	3NT	Dbl	All Pass

I am on lead and she wants the first bid suit on my left (spades). This seems to be the same concept. Lead the suit on your left when no one has given you a clue.

♣♦♥♦♠♠♦♥♦♠

My partner opens 1♠ and my vulnerable right-hand opponent overcalls 1NT. This is my lovely hand:

♠9 ♥AK 8 6 4 ♦6 4 3 ♣10 9 6 3.

Sherry	North	Franny	South
Pass	Pass	1♠	1NT
Pass	2♦	Dbl	2♥
Pass	Pass	2♠	All Pass

Franny doubles the transfer bid, saying she likes diamonds (and spades).

The notrump bidder takes the transfer, I know that they do not hold many points in hearts, and since I do not want Franny to bid spades again. I should have made a penalty double to warn partner I want to defend hearts vulnerable. Even if they go down only one trick, that would be plus 200 instead of a partscore in spades. I know that she will rebid those spades.

And Franny does bid 2♠ and I was wrong to be so gutless as to not double 2♥. Franny says I can make a penalty double to tell where I want to play it. Low-level doubles when the opponents are vulnerable can be lots of fun.

Sherry is sad that we are missing another Seaside Regional. This has been such a crazy couple of years.

D20 I/N Coordinator Margi Redden can be reached at [d20incoord@yahoo.com](mailto:d20incoord@yahoo.com).

### Doubles

So many doubles and so little time: **Takeout double:** shows the unbid suits over an opener. If they open a minor, it shows at least 4-4 in the majors.

**Reopening doubles:** you are assuming that your partner had no bid over the opener and the person to your right has less than 6 points.

Those tricky **lead-directing doubles** happen over artificial bids, like a transfer or Stayman.

**Negative doubles** can take up many pages. This one happens all of the time. For example, if partner opens 1♠, and there is a 2♣ overcall, double by responder shows at least four hearts.

**Support doubles** no longer require alerts and they are made by the opener to show three-card support for partner's major.

Read up in Google about all the lovely doubles: Have a wonderful year and double frequently to tell partner information, and get lots of good boards.

Sherry	North	Franny	South
1♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Dbl	All Pass

Franny can still bid over the 2♣ bid to

## DISTRICT 20 RANK CHANGES

### JUNIOR MASTERS

George Dzundza, Netarts OR  
Charles Fleck, Vancouver WA  
Peter Osborne, Portland OR

### CLUB MASTERS

Carolyn Ainlay, Kailua HI  
Michael Donnelly, Long Beach WA  
William Hatcher, Lake Oswego OR  
Carol Hicks, Meridian ID  
Judith Hoevet, Jacksonville OR  
Michael Holman, Vancouver WA  
Dianne Jones, Truckee CA  
Patricia Summerton, Corvallis OR  
Celia Tippit, Astoria OR

### SECTIONAL MASTERS

Susan Beacham, Grants Pass OR  
Anne Bogart, Eugene OR  
Jan Burnham, Chico CA  
Janet Dowty, Portland OR  
Tara Fankhauser, Kilauea HI  
Richard Forrest, Eugene OR  
Bob Gebo, Tigard OR  
Gary Gitner, Portland OR  
Susan Hall, Corvallis OR  
David Howard, Eugene OR  
Dave Knoyle, Longview WA  
Lenelle Kwong, Honolulu HI  
Mark Lance, Chico CA  
Sandi Laroche, Siletz OR  
Leanne Lucas, Portland OR  
Jonathan Pulvers, Portland OR

### New Life Masters



**Gary Haynie**  
Kailua HI



**Bing Kibbey**  
Eugene OR



**Ginger McCarthy**  
Portland OR



**David Ouyang**  
Waianae HI



**Lynn Rosen**  
White Salmon WA



**John Siebert**  
Portland OR



**Kristin Steinmentz**  
Portland OR



**Bill Stevenson**  
Honolulu HI



**Sheryl Williams**  
Portland OR

*Congratulations!*

Karen Rash-Gitner, Portland OR  
Marylyn Russell, Portland OR  
Dennis Sienko, Bend OR

Dana Terhune, Tualatin OR  
David Wood, Redmond OR

### REGIONAL MASTERS

Kate Claeys, Kamuela HI

Lawrence Crain, Medford OR  
Sandra Emmons, Newberg OR  
Tamera Florio, Bend OR  
Beulah Gray, Ontario OR  
Jennifer Iams, Beaverton OR  
Jeanne Lawrence, Chico CA  
Dana Marble, Columbia City OR  
Lucia Otto, Lake Oswego OR  
Michael Rohm, Meridian ID  
Santee Rose, Cave Junction OR  
Jim Tudor, Bend OR  
Dennis Viner, Kapaa HI

### NABC MASTERS

Andrey Dashkov, Beaverton OR  
Joy Fletcher, Vancouver WA  
Alice Kaye Guyer, Boise ID  
Jan Hendrix, Lahaina HI  
Jared Jenkins, Boise ID  
Chuck Lunsom, Aiea HI  
Kathleen Moore, Medford OR  
Michelle Nurdyke, Honolulu HI  
Chris Owens, Salem OR  
Richard Robbins, Pahoehoe HI  
Donna Rund, Grants Pass OR  
Johanna Thoeresz, Portland OR  
Gerry Turner, Meridian ID

### ADVANCED NABC MASTERS

Dorsie Glen, Kihei HI

*Continued on Page 12*

## Vancouver Bridge Club

Unit 452

### Non-Life Master Sectional Oct. 16-17, 2021

*Note: Tournament flyer not available at press time; all information subject to change.*

**Saturday, 10 a.m.:** Morning pairs (single session, stratified)  
**Saturday, 3 p.m.:** Afternoon pairs (single session, stratified)  
**Sunday, 10 a.m. & TBD:** Sunday Swiss Teams (two sessions, stratified, 20-point victory scale)

Stratifications:

0-500 NLM: A=200-500; B=50-200; C=0-50

Strats are based on the average masterpoint holding of the pair or team.

**FEES:** \$9 per player per session; \$13 lapsed ACBL members (temporary memberships available)  
Sunday lunch: \$5 includes pizza and salad

**Head Director:** Rich Carle

**Tournament Chair:** Kathleen Mather, [mather.kath@gmail.com](mailto:mather.kath@gmail.com)

**Partnerships:** Joy Fletcher, [joy53640@comcast.net](mailto:joy53640@comcast.net)

### VANCOUVER BRIDGE CLUB

6503 East Mill Plain Blvd., Suite H • Vancouver, Wash. 98661 • 360-737-3772  
[vbridgeclub@gmail.com](mailto:vbridgeclub@gmail.com) • [www.acbl20.org/vbc](http://www.acbl20.org/vbc)

## Bob Peery 2021 Heart of the Valley 299er tournament

Open to all players with less than 300 masterpoints.  
Come join in the fun and earn SILVER points!

**Tournament chair and Partnerships chair:**  
Elizabeth Schuft, 541-231-5527,  
[elizabethschuft@comcast.net](mailto:elizabethschuft@comcast.net)

**Directors:** Dick Jarvinen,  
Bob Peery

### ACBL Limited Sectional November 6-7, 2021

Heart of the Valley Bridge Center  
1931 NW Circle Blvd.  
(Corner of Circle Blvd. and Kings Blvd.)  
Corvallis, OR 97330

**Saturday, Nov. 6**  
10 a.m. Stratified Pairs  
3 p.m. Stratified Pairs  
*Two separate sessions, not play-through*

**Sunday, Nov. 7**  
11 a.m.  
1-session stratified Swiss Teams  
*Try a team game! Just one session!*

Strat A: 100 – 300 MPs

Strat B: 50 – 100 MPs

Strat C: 0 – 50 MP:

Check our website in October for directions and information on food and lodging: [www.acbridgeclub.org](http://www.acbridgeclub.org).

\$10 per player per session,  
\$14 unpaid ACBL member  
*Proof of vaccination will be required for entry*

ACBL Sanction No. 2111342

## Hobbies: D20 players pursue creative, adventurous, extensive activities



Marge Roe with a necklace she made; Al Roe with the wines he has made and the awards they've won.

*Continued from Page 1*

Al says friends reintroduced the hobby to the California couple.

"Jamie [Newman] and Ron [Jauch] introduced me to jigsaw puzzles during the pandemic through their puzzle lending library," he says. "We now have one or two going at all times on our dining room table."

Marge also enjoys beading in her spare time, something she took up about seven years ago after a friend introduced her to it.

"She gave me a bracelet she made, and I was intrigued so I signed up for some classes with her," Marge says. "There are several of us who get together for classes and to work together to get ideas. We meet about every couple of months."

Her handicrafts typically consist of bracelets, earrings and necklaces, and while

she doesn't sell it, she has donated her pieces to raise money for charitable events.

"I find both puzzles and jewelry making are relaxing and fulfilling. I love to wear all my creations."

Al also has his own hobby beyond the bridge and puzzle table. "About 45 years ago, I started making wine because a friend of mine and I decided it would be interesting to try to make our own," he says.

Al typically makes around 50 cases of zinfandel or cabernet sauvignon each year. He's even entered it into the Nevada Country Fair and received a best of show ribbon for his cab. And while it's a long process, including three months of time just for the wine to sit in the barrel, the bottling party at the end is always worth the wait.

"What I like best about wine making is the drinking of it," he says.



Carol Schaafsma, right, with Ali Amory and some of the cakes she has baked and decorated.

### Carol Schaafsma

Carol Schaafsma of Eugene has been baking for most of her adult life — breads, pies, muffins, cookies and even a baked Alaska over an open fire while camping. But in 2018, she decided she wanted to get serious about baking cakes.

"I could follow a recipe to make a cake, but I wanted to be able to create my own cakes," she says.

Learning to bake cakes from scratch didn't come without its challenges. "I had several problems to solve before I could start," she says. "There is a major downside to learning to bake cakes — someone has to eat them! Even the mistakes!"

Schaafsma recruited a social bridge group that she plays with twice a month. "We made a deal. I would bring a cake every time we met to play bridge. They would eat it, give me feedback, and take any leftover cake home with them," she says. "Somehow, over the last three years, their significant others are much more excited about upcoming bridge games."

Beyond finding taste testers, Schaafsma also ran into some equipment issues.

"Only one element in my oven worked, causing cakes to dry out on the bottom while remaining raw on top. And my mixer was an electric handheld that only



worked when I talked nicely to it and held the cord in a certain position," she says.

But she turned it around with the purchase of a KitchenAid stand mixer and, after a year of baking to prove she was serious, she also installed a new oven.

That, along with a cupboard full of cake pans, cooling racks, turntables and countless rolls of parchment paper, combine to make her kitchen match her hobby.

She routinely bakes three to five cakes a month, putting her efforts into learning new techniques as well as the science behind the recipes.

"I'm to the point where I can substitute and change ingredients as well as create my own combinations of cakes, fillings and frostings," Schaafsma says. "The women in the bridge group have been incredibly helpful, providing feedback, ideas, and stories about cakes they remember from childhood and family celebrations."

And while she often bakes cakes as a gift for a birthday or special occasions, she says it's just as much a gift for her to create it as it is for them to receive it.

"I get to take the positive energy and support that someone has added to my life and turn it into a special cake for them to celebrate a special day in their life," she says. "It is a way for me to say thank you."



George O'Leary is seen in a glider in 2002, the year he joined the Willamette Valley Soaring Club.

### George O'Leary

Some hobbies can be done at home. Others require a small plane and a large sense of adventure.

George O'Leary of Portland has been gliding (sometimes, called soaring) for the last 20 years.

"Gliding is done in an unpowered aircraft that is generally towed aloft by a powered airplane," he says. "typically to a height of 1,000 to 3,000 feet. Under the right conditions, a glider can use currents of air like thermals and ridge lift to stay aloft for lengthy periods of time and climb to surprisingly high altitudes. I have personally flown for as long as six hours and climbed to 18,000 feet."

So how the heck do you get into something like gliding? O'Leary says it was the result of a gift certificate his wife bought him. "I took the first ride in late 2001 and was hooked."

After that, he joined the Willamette Valley Soaring Club in 2002 and worked to get his private pilot glider rating that year.

But he didn't stop there.

"I have since advanced through the commercial glider rating and have been a certified flight instructor glider for the past dozen years," O'Leary says.

Taking on the additional layer of teaching was something that came naturally, and the club was in need of instructors.

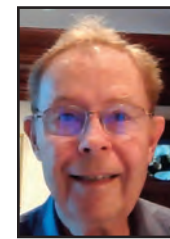
"The most interesting challenge has been teaching a physical skill, which is quite different from teaching typical textbook material," he says.

What's it like, soaring powerless?

"The experience makes you feel as if you are a bird. Once you get the hang of the controls, flying is like being one with the airplane. And we do occasionally join birds, circling in the same thermal."

While most of his gliding experiences have taken place in the North Plains, O'Leary has flown all over the West Coast and even in the Scottish Highlands.

And, oh yes, he also does a bit of helicopter skiing in British Columbia.



George O'Leary



Candy Bonawitz with some of her pottery pieces and a watercolor painting (below).

### Candy Bonawitz

Candy Bonawitz of Boise has had a passion for art for decades, but didn't get to pursue it as a pastime until retirement.

She has a master's in fine art and taught high school art for more than 16 years. During that time, she worked with clay and sold some of her pieces at the teacher's bazaar during the holidays. When she stopped teaching in 1992, she shifted her focus to painting. She no longer had access to a kiln, so she began doing watercolors in her spare time.

After another 20 years working in real estate, she finally retired and made time to pursue art as a pastime instead of just squeezing it in where she could.

"I painted watercolors all along, but clay was always my first love!" Bonawitz says. "I am more of a realist when it comes to watercolors, but my clay projects are a bit more abstract."

Bonawitz says they bought a summer home in Arizona in 2016 in the Phoenix



area and there was a nice pottery studio in their homeowner's association, so she got back into her first love.

"I hauled my pottery wheel around all those years and got back into clay after we moved part-time to Arizona," she says.

She's also been able to sell some of her clays through the HOA.

The following summer she was back in McCall, Idaho, and decided to get more serious about pursuing her art.

"I turned an area in my garage into a studio, bought a kiln and started selling my work in a co-op in McCall."

These days, Bonawitz is in Boise during the summer, mainly doing pottery but no longer selling in a gallery.

"Right now, I just do things for friends and family. I still paint once in a while."

Bonawitz still sells her work when in Arizona through local art shows. "And of course my kids have way more than they want," she says.



John Cissel and his wife, Diane, on a backpacking trip in the Wind River Range in Wyoming last September.

**John Cissel**

John Cissel, president of the Boise unit, enjoys hiking, camping and backpacking when he's not at the bridge table. He's been at it since 1972, and with his wife, Diane since 1975.

"I grew up in a rural dairy farming area that rapidly developed into suburban D.C. in my teenage years," he says. "Getting out in the woods and mountains provided a sense of connection and peace that I saw being destroyed all around me."

On average, he and Diane take 30-40 hikes a year to a variety of places, including 25 states and six countries — most recently in the Sawtooth, Wallowa, Teton and Wind River mountains. But he calls the Cascades his hiking home.

There have been some challenging outings among their adventures.

"Decades ago, we went backpacking in the snowy Adirondacks in upstate New York over Thanksgiving," he says. "And we've been on a few weeklong trips in the Pasayten, Eagle Cap, and Bridger wildernesses. We had a great two-week day hiking trip in the Swiss Alps."

Cissel says he and Diane have invested in some modern lightweight equipment to keep their backpacks to about 30 pounds or less. They used to hike 20 or so miles a day, but he says these days they rarely go over 10-12 miles, and that's only late in the season.



John Cissel

Yes, they have sighted a few bears and forded a few streams over the years. But there have been some more pleasant surprises as well.

"Once in the Adirondacks, we were quite a way out on a several-day winter trip and it was snowing. Then we came around the bend and saw a mule and looked around to see a hunter's camp with smoke coming out of the roof of their tent," he says. "We went over and hailed them and they invited us in for freshly baked chocolate chip cookies."

So, what's the one thing Cissel couldn't hike without? "Diane of course," he says.

"We just love being out in wild and semi-wild places, experiencing the wind, the quiet, the majesty, the streams and rivers, the spectacular mountain scenery, and the humility of our puny selves in the midst of it all."



Gee Gee Valine navigates a fallen tree on a hike.

**Gee Gee Valine**

Gee Gee (Walker) Valine of Medford has multiple hobbies, including quilting, hiking and pickleball. She started quilting when she found out she was going to be a grandmother.

"In the late 1980s, I thought I should learn to quilt — somehow, grammys are supposed to quilt," she says.

And while she quilted for a while, a few other hobbies have occupied her time most recently — including hiking and pickleball. Since these are recent pursuits, she says she's been hiking for the past couple of years.

"I was training to walk a portion of 'The Camino' in northern Spain until the pandemic interrupted that plan," she says. "My husband (Bob Valine) and I hope to hike in the Azores in 2022 once I fully recover from a broken foot. I have hiked many of the trails in the Rogue Valley and other parts of Oregon. We are so very fortunate to live in a state that affords us limitless visual opportunities and physical challenges."

How did she break her foot? Suffice it to say, don't try to walk up stairs when your foot is asleep, she said.

Pickleball is another new hobby she picked up last year. "Two friends and I were coached by a fellow bridge player. It

took one session for the three of us to be hooked," she says.

As a game, Valine thinks pickleball began as a seniors' fallback from tennis, as it's physically less demanding. However, she says today she's seeing more pickleball courts and the number of pickleballers both old and young is increasing.

"Trying to transfer tennis skills to pickleball just doesn't work," Valine says. A former tennis player herself (although not a good one, according to her), she says ping-pong wrist action seems to be more applicable.



Beverly Walker knitting; and displaying a shawl she made of merino wool.

**Beverly Walker**

Beverly Walker of Vancouver, Wash., learned how to knit when she was just 10 years old. She was fascinated by the process and the beautiful sweaters her mother was able to make. "So I guess it must be in the genes," Walker says.

Her first homemade piece was a pair of slippers for herself, but the collection has grown considerably from there as she's been knitting for most of her life.

"For a few years, I played around with other crafts such as crochet, macramé, rubber stamping, watercolor — anything and everything. But I always came back to knitting," Walker says.

"There is something magical about creating something from a string and two needles. It is a very tactile hobby. It is a soothing and meditative activity, and it is all about the journey, not the destination. This is the most important thing that I teach new knitters."

Some of her favorite things to knit are sweaters, shawls, and afghans. "I have made every type of garment, stuffed ani-

mal, and socks you can imagine, but sweaters and shawls are my favorites," she says. "If I'm sitting, I'm knitting."

She loves it so much she's not only taught knitting for more than 30 years, she's also worked in yarn shops.

And while her first piece may have been for herself, Walker says she mostly knits for her family.

"I will give items away to people I know will appreciate all the hard work that goes into a handmade item. I also knit for charity," she says. "On cruise ships, I have my group make baby caps and blankets to donate around the world. Our group has also knit pouches for baby kangaroos and other wildlife whose mothers were killed during the wildfires in Australia. I also made soap sacks to give to people who are homeless and have no hygiene equipment."

She likes the portability of the hobby.

"You can do it anywhere at any time with anyone," she says. "It can also be a very social activity. The sense of accomplishment when you have completed an especially difficult piece is quite rewarding."



Rich Carle displays his massive collection of Hot Wheels and other toy cars.

**Rich Carle**

Rich Carle of Longview, Wash., has a passion beyond the bridge table in collecting die-cast vehicles, primarily Hot Wheels. It began in 1995 when he was looking for stocking stuffers for his kids.

"I was in the toy department and talked with a fellow who said he had about 5,000 Hot Wheels," he says. "I was unbelieving, but that conversation got me started, and now 5,000 units is just a dim memory in my own collection."

"My collection is huge and if I had spent the money on real ones, I would have at least two full-size premium cars. Most are the garden variety basic toys at about \$1 apiece, so you can imagine how many I must have!"

Carle says he's tried to get at least one of every basic (meaning, 1/64 scale) Hot Wheel and Matchbox car since he first started collecting, keeping track of his inventory via a spreadsheet.

"Most cars are left in the blister pack, un-



Rich Carle

opened, but I set free one of each first edition to play-with examine," he says. "Due to a computer crash, my collection listing is only current through the end of March this year. Soon I hope to bring it up to date with purchases since then."

He has splurged a few times. "One of my prized possessions and most expensive die-cast car set me back \$1,400 at a Hot Wheels convention in the L.A. area in 2002," Carle says.

It was part of an auction to benefit the Ronald McDonald House charity.

"Several of us were successful bidders on an exclusive, specially designed item and earned a chance to have lunch with the Mattel designer and legend, Larry Wood, at his garage in Long Beach, Calif.," Carle says.

"In addition to Larry, other famous designers and builders were present such as Chip Foote. There were many great hot rods to see, too. The experience was awesome, although my wife, Sue, likes to say that the hot dogs were overpriced."

# Voice of season

*Klamath Falls bridge ace Bobby Thompson is at home in the broadcast booth*

By Jim Flint  
The Trumpet

It might be difficult for Bobby Thompson to find the words to describe how it felt to be the sportscaster covering his teams as they won four national championships.

Let's put it this way: Making 7NT doubled and redoubled versus Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell might be No. 2 on his bucket list.

Thompson, no slouch at bridge, is a Diamond Life Master with nearly 6000 masterpoints. A certified director since the early 1980s, he has been one of the movers and shakers of Klamath Falls bridge since he was in short pants.

He has plenty of bridge stories, as one could imagine. But what really lights him up is if you want to talk sports and sports broadcasting.

This isn't just about a man looking back fondly on the good old days. Even though he was forced to take a break during the pandemic, Thompson's still at it, getting ready to broadcast basketball for Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls beginning in November. Not bad for a guy sneaking up on his 79th birthday.

He got his start in the biz when a local sportscaster wasn't available to broadcast the final games of the American Legion baseball state championship series because he was going on his honeymoon. (Yeah, where were his priorities?)

"It was in 1966 and K Falls was in a battle against Vale/Ontario," Thompson said. "It was a best-of-five series and K Falls had split the first two games away."

The people at KOTI Radio knew about Thompson's interest in sports and asked



Bobby Thompson



Bobby Thompson, left, interviews Oregon Tech head basketball coach Danny Miles in 2004 after the team won a national championship with Thompson at the mic, calling the game.

if he'd be interested in stepping into the booth to broadcast the two games in Klamath Falls.

He first started thinking how much fun broadcasting might be when he was in college and his sister's husband, Mike Dougherty, coached high school basketball in the Portland area. "He retired as, and still is, the winningest high school hoops coach in Oregon history," Thompson said.

So, when they asked him to fill in, he said yes.

"Afterward, the guy said 'Where have you been? You're great!' Lots of people were listening, and it was a very good broadcast."

The frosting on the cake: Klamath Falls won both games and the championship.

That opened the door for a career as the voice of Oregon Tech sports. Over the years, Thompson covered football, basketball, baseball and softball on KLAD Radio for the university. He was at the mic when OIT won three national championships in basketball (and two runners-up) and one in softball (with one runner-up).

He always was a big sports fan, but sitting in the broadcast booth was special.

"It made me feel good," he said. "I en-

joyed the chance to paint a picture of the game on the radio for the listeners.

What does it take to be a successful broadcaster?

"A good voice is a bonus," he said. "However, you also have to stay on top of the game, not be one-sided and be upbeat. It also helps to be well prepared, know the rosters of the opponents and be articulate."

Of all the sports he has covered, basketball is his favorite.

"It's fast, has only 10 players on the court, and the crowds are full of energy at Oregon Tech," he said.

Asked to recount some memorable moments, he cited two:

"In basketball in 2000, there was a desperation shot from 60 feet, a buzzer-beater at the College of Idaho that won the game for Oregon Tech, 78-77. And in 2011 at the Softball World Series, a Tech pitcher threw a perfect game."

Thompson was the high school basketball team manager for three years. In college, he had five frat brothers on a Final Four team in the 1963 NCAA tournament. Sports was not a passing interest.

He earned a bachelor of science degree in business with a technical minor in geology from Oregon State University. After

graduation, he became involved in the family business, a wholesale tobacco and candy company founded in 1930, adding a vending machine company in 1955.

"The tobacco-candy company was sold in 1970," he said. "We kept the vending business until the mid-1980s. With partners, I also owned and managed about 10 rentals from 1970 to 1990."

After the business career, he worked for Oregon Tech as sports information director for 14 years, retiring in 2007.

He got the bridge bug early on. His mother was a bridge player and an aunt taught the game in the Los Angeles area. He cut his card game teeth in a family that played pinochle, canasta, hearts and Oh Hell.

"I watched mom's bridge club take lessons when my aunt came to town and later read her lesson guide, based on the Charles Goren system," Thompson said. "That was when I was about 12 years old. I started playing for fun at about 14."

He played duplicate for the first time with his mother at the age of 15 and played some in college. It was after graduation from college when he started playing in tournaments.

Some of his regular partners have included Randall Paul, Ed McClure, Doug Higgs, Laila Griffith and Harvey Bush.

In recent years, the number of active Klamath Falls bridge players has dwindled considerably due to aging of the bridge population, illness, death and people moving away. Then the pandemic hit.

Thompson misses the game. He hasn't played online, confessing a certain discomfort with computer bridge.

Whether face-to-face bridge resumes in Klamath Falls post-pandemic is uncertain. But one thing you can count on: When the Oregon Tech Hooties take to the basketball court this fall, Bobby Thompson will be lighting up the airwaves with his play-by-play.

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Summer NAOBC

# District 20 pair wins national event

## Louis Beauchet, Irva Neyhart win Three-Day Open Pairs

By Louis Beauchet  
The Trumpet

Here are my two favorite deals from the third day of the event. This hand occurred in the second round of the first final session, against the top masterpoint holder in the ACBL and one of the best players in the world, Jeff Meckstroth. I opened a strong 1NT as North and Irva transferred me to spades. Accurately going low with the dreaded 5-3-3-2 shape and soft values, Irva did not try for game.

When West balanced with a takeout double, East (Meckstroth) had a difficult decision to make. After some consideration, he decided to convert the double. There was not much to the play of the hand with an easy nine tricks and plus 870.

After the hand was over, Meckstroth chatted to the table, "I could have bid 2NT (scrambling)." This hand was special to me for two reasons: First, it set the tone for the rest of the session during which virtually (no pun intended) everything went our way. And second, it illustrated that even the best players in the world are capable of making the wrong decisions, and can acknowledge it.

See diagram next column

There were a lot of good defenses by our partnership over the course of the event. One of the most enjoyable parts of playing with Irva is that she's a very careful and reliable carder, making the defensive task easier. We play standard carding with fourth-best leads, as simple as it gets, but that's good enough as long



Louis Beauchet and Irva Neyhart

Dlr: West	♠A K 8			
Vul: Both	♥10 8 7 6 2			
	♦K Q 2			
	♣K 3			
	♠—	♠10 9 7 4 3		
	♥Q J 9 3	♥A 4		
	♦J 7 6 3	♦A 9 5		
	♣A J 5 4 2	♣10 8 7		
		♠Q J 6 5 2		
		♥K 5		
		♦10 8 4		
		♣Q 9 6		
West	North	East	South	
Gleick	Beauchet	Meckstroth	Neyhart	
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♥	
Pass	2♣	Pass	Pass	
Dbl	All Pass			

as you card properly and count. The next hand illustrates how taking your time and gathering the information you have before making a play pays off. Irva led the ♠7 versus 3NT and I won trick one with the ace. Declarer playing the king was a surprise, but before playing an "automatic" second spade, pause and assess the situation. Irva's ♠7 has to

be fourth-best, showing the queen, and therefore implying that declarer has the singleton king. A quick addition of the points told me that declarer had both red-suit aces as well as the ♠K. That means eight top tricks. If I return a spade, that establishes a ninth trick for declarer. That brings a red-suit switch into the picture ... But which red suit? If Irva has the ♥J, a heart switch is best, but if she has the ♦9, a diamond switch is best. Given the 1NT opener, finding Irva with the ♦9 was more likely than finding her with the ♥J. Plus, if the diamond switch is wrong, it only costs one trick (thanks to my ♦8). If the heart switch is wrong, it costs two tricks. That's everything at matchpoints! All this analysis must be done quickly of course, but if you take just one minute, chances are you'll get it right and find the diamond switch, necessary to beat the contract and get a great score.

Dlr: East	♠A 10 6 2			
Vul: E-W	♥K Q 8			
	♦K Q 8 2			
	♣4 2			
	♠J 4 3	♠K		
	♥9 7	♥A J 6 5 2		
	♦J 10	♦A 7 5 3		
	♣A Q 10 8 6 3	♣K J 9		
		♠Q 9 8 7 5		
		♥10 4 3		
		♦9 6 4		
		♣7 5		

West	North	East	South
	Beauchet		Neyhart
		1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

# John Gram retires from directing

By Amy Casanova  
The Trumpet

Tournament Director John Gram of Boise has retired from the ACBL.

Gram, a familiar face to anyone who plays regional and sectional tournaments in District 20, has been directing the game since the '80s. He became an ACBL director in 1991, the same year he married fellow bridge player Suzanne St. Thomas.



John Gram

Gram took delight in working the ACBL circuit. "I enjoyed the variety of locales, my co-workers and having no set schedule," he said.

There are no special retirement plans, but he and St. Thomas have planned an overseas adventure in 2022.

"To celebrate, we are off to Portugal and Prague next spring," Gram said, "on a rebooked and longer trip than one canceled in 2020. We will play some club bridge and limited tournament bridge."

The two played on the GNT Championship team that came in second in the district final, and played in the national event this summer.



Sassy

Anything else? "Suzanne decided we needed a puppy."

# Rowe

Continued from Page 1

online play. When is the right time to remove those? What incentives should be provided to encourage F2F play?

There have been some online clubs that have grown immensely during covid — notably some that have flagrantly violated the limit on visitors — and other clubs that have died. There are bridge players who have no clubs to play in at all. How do you find limited masterpoint games? Do we require vaccine? Do we require masks? And most importantly, what may feel correct today could change tomorrow.

We have been losing ACBL members for a long time and the pandemic has not helped. Normally, bridge teachers are associated with a particular club. Some have changed from in-person instruction to online.

There are some very large clubs that have done a great job in online teaching and I believe online teaching and online bridge is here to stay. I also believe online is not a great substitute for in-person bridge. I miss the community and the laughter that happens in F2F games. I support any and all teaching methods.

I've attended about 12 hours of Zoom bridge meetings in the last 10 days. During our last session, the national board instructed management to follow three principles:

- ♦ Face-to-face clubs must be supported.
- ♦ Players must be provided places to play.

♦ The rules, particularly the limit on guests at virtual clubs, must be enforced. I've heard from many of you over the last few months and always appreciate feedback. I listen to your ideas and pass them along to the appropriate people.

I still believe bridge is an amazing game and still am striving to do all I can to support it. I believe we have good people in place on the board and in management and feel confident that our beloved game will continue to be strong.

District director Laurie Rowe can be reached at [district20director@acbl.org](mailto:district20director@acbl.org).

# Kroning: Volunteer of the Year honoree settles in Calif.

Continued from Page 1

year for 20 years. She was the manager of Unit 491 for at least 12 years — "Everything the unit did, I did it," she says — and partnership chair for the Oregon Coast Regional and Seaside Sectional.

At the district level, she began as intermediate/newcomer coordinator from 1998 to 2001, then served as editor of the District 20 portion of the Western Conference Forum until she founded The Trumpet in 2005, which she edited for five years. She continued as the area representative for the Oregon Coast units, also serving as district treasurer and chair of the bylaws committee until she left the board in 2015. Since then she has continued making the flyers for all District 20 regionals, another job she has held for about 20 years.

While she has been gradually letting go of various responsibilities in recent years, flyer design was the last thing on her plate when she moved to California in May to be closer to family.

"The isolation because of covid really gets you thinking about things," Kroning said. "We had no family support system in Oregon. Robert is in good health but he has trouble walking. It seemed like a good time. It made sense to be closer to our daughter and adult grandchildren. I'm very happy, as much as we loved Oregon."

With Kroning's other children in the UK and South Africa, Angels Camp, about an hour east of Stockton, was the obvious choice. The benefits of moving were clear as soon as they arrived, when the three local grandchildren helped



Sue Kroning with the first issue of The Trumpet in 2005. She was editor through 2009.

them move in. She also appreciates the scenery of the gold country with its hills and trees.

"It's beautiful," she says. "We just miss our bridge friends."

Originally from Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), Kroning came to the U.S. as an immigrant in 1986. Upon arriving in Phoenix, Ariz., she knew no one but found a home with the local bridge community, where she met Robert. She taught high school math and computers until she retired.

In 1996 she moved to Seaside. Just a couple months later she attended a Portland sectional, where she saw something that alarmed her: most of the limited games on the schedule couldn't field enough tables to happen, so they got folded into the open game. She wanted to see a better environment for newer players, so she volunteered to be I/N coordinator when the position opened. She was also the I/N chair of the 2004 Spring NABC in Reno.

Much of the focus of her work in bridge has been developing new players. "Nothing is more important than recruiting and nurturing new players," Kroning told The Trumpet in 2013. "Every unit and player should be focusing on this as a high priority. If we don't, duplicate bridge will decline."

Along with the classes she offered through the club, she also ran bridge camps three times a year for 15 years, with 40 to 60 students each time. These were sponsored by Libby Fewel, a Portland player. "She knew a lot of people in the country club set who had beach homes," Kroning explains.

It was a lot of work, but she enjoyed it.

"I like working for bridge," she says. "Bridge has given me a lot: a husband, a community, a passion. I like doing work that is skilled. I'm good with computers. I'm a good Indian — not a very good chief."

A Sapphire Life Master, she plays in the local clubs with Robert three times a week. The club was open there for a bit but went back online in August. Kroning also has a weekly game with her daughter in South Africa.

Though her work for District 20 and Unit 491 is done, her service to bridge is not. Though she has not been a member of the Stockton unit long, Kroning is their new webmaster. She hopes to better connect the players in her remote area with those in the anchor city. She's also training new directors.

"I'm just so used to being involved," she says. "Of all the things I've done, my heart is really with The Trumpet."

# AROUND THE UNITS

## Boise raises \$4200 for Longest Day; new prez

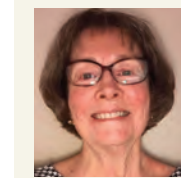
Our June Alzheimer's Association fundraiser was extremely successful. Bridge was played online and although turnout was small, we collected \$4200. Nampa-Caldwell Club, Unit 398, donated \$2500 of this. Table fees from BBO/ACBL have yet to be included. Kudos to members of Units 394 and 398.

On Aug. 1 Unit 394 hosted a reopening party. Our new venue is the Maple Grove Grange in west Boise. Some 78 people signed up for a Hawaiian-themed luncheon and game of bridge.

Club owners **Kay Read** and **Judy Stauffer** opened Boise Cooperative Bridge Club Aug. 3. F2F games are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 12:30 p.m. at the Grange; online games are Sunday and Wednesday at 12:30 p.m.



John Cissel



**Boise**  
♣♦♥♠  
By Lindy Hamilton  
boisebridge.club

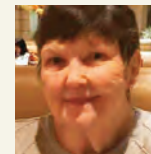
Unit president **John Cissel** and his wife, Diane, are returning to Eugene. We are sad to lose him. Thank you, John, for your great leadership and dedication to bridge and our unit. It's hard to herd cats, and you did great! Welcome, **Jill Wood**, who will take over the herding duties.



Jill Wood

I'd always considered bridge to be my avocation. But many of my fellow bridge players have other hobbies. If you need something done, ask some of these busy players:

**Al Babineau** – avid fisherman.  
**Kris Boesiger** – owner Mom's Mustard, Back Country Bars.  
**Candy Bonawitz** – pottery, painter.  
**Karen Boss** – watercolor painter, quilter.  
**John Cissel** – backpacker.  
**Maryon Evans** – quilter, sourdough bread maker, volunteer with BLM, Idaho Fish & Game and USFS.  
**Nancy Feldman** – chair of board of the Selway Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation.  
**Vicki Flier** – retired race car driver.  
**Bev Fransen** – at 79, still teaches high school English online.  
**Mac Hartley** – train collector.  
**Ucky Light** – painter.  
**Janet Matthew** – baker.  
**Deanna McMahon** – pickleball, tennis.  
**Daryl Sallaz** – antique car enthusiast.  
**Gretchen Wiggins** – longtime volunteer for the Assistance League of Boise.  
**Donna Wisdom** – painter.

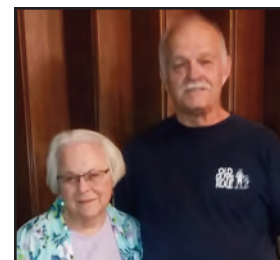


**Ontario**  
♣♦♥♠  
By Billie Willis

## Ontario reopens

Ontario Bridge Club has very happily returned to sanctioned play. We had our first game on June 16 and have continued with our usual Monday afternoon and Wednesday evening play. Needless to say, some of us, who did not play online, are a little rusty!

We are very proud to announce that we have two members who have passed their director exam. **Susan McCoy** and **Dave Kaber** are now directors, as well as active members of our club. Heartiest congratulations.



Susan McCoy, Dave Kaber

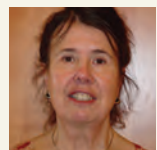
It is our intention to get back to Easy Bridge classes in the fall and hopefully can retain many of those who had started the class when covid caused so many changes.

## Director's health threatens Eureka club

Our club is hanging by a thread.

Like others, it was shut down by covid in the spring of 2020. We then instituted Wednesday and Saturday games on BBO, which met regularly, but were sparsely attended. Several regular players were unwilling to look into online bridge. I was hesitant myself, but found that I loved it, as I could play with my son, Emil, who lived in the Bay Area. In fact, I liked it better than the face-to-face game. **Mark Phelps**, our regular director ran these games.

Both last year and this year, we had to cancel our sectional, which had been held



**Eureka**  
♣♦♥♠  
By Frederica Aalto  
www.acbdl20.org/unit458

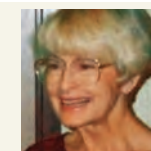
the second weekend in September. At a recent board meeting, we decided to officially restart our club game Sept. 18. Mark was having some health issues, so several club members have been taking training to become directors, to be able to sub for some games.

Meanwhile, **Suzanne Cook** has decided

to start up a series of bridge lessons in hopes of garnering new members. These should start next week, if she can get enough interested students.

Then, our board president, **David Oliver**, resigned due to other obligations. We have yet to replace him.

Just this week came another blow: **Mark Phelps'** back problems worsened, and he has left the area for surgery. He will be unavailable for several months at least. This threatens not only our restart, but also our online games. For the time being, outside directors will keep them going. How we will move forward remains to be seen.



**Redding**  
♣♦♥♠  
By Joan Sullens  
www.bridgescore.com/redding

## Redding reopens

Actually have some scores to report! Our unit held its first face-to-face game in over a year in June. See results below.

Many have enjoyed the virtual game each Wednesday. Unfortunately, it's come to an end as clubs begin to return to face to face bridge. **Ted Marconi** has done a wonderful job keeping this going for both Redding and Chico Units. There's a possibility of hooking up with Medford. Many are interested in continuing this online play.

Redding Club is set to start again face-to-face but wearing masks beginning Aug. 2.

Congratulations to **Marv Grudem** upon becoming a Sapphire Life Master, reaching 3500 points.

Sadly, we lost **Pat Denniston** and **Sharon Dent** this quarter.

### Results

**Unit Game**, June 27 – 1: Bud Hamilton – Jerry Clark, 2: Joan Corbeau – July Ratley, 3: Jan Williams – Michael Hollins.

**Unit Game**, July 18 – 1A/1B: Jerry Clark – Barbara Hopson, 2A: Marvin Grudem – Gail Lonnberg, 3A: Florence Hungerford – Judy Hotchkin. 2-3B: Julie Caley – Joanne Copsey, Keld & Jeanne Sorensen.

## Chico looks to return with new club owner

After a year and a half of strictly online play, we are moving in the direction of in-person club play again at Bidwell Bridge.

Reopening was originally scheduled for the first week of August, but the national surge in delta variant cases of covid raised some doubt about face-to-face play, so people felt it best to wait at least another month and see what things look like for a September reopening.

Longtime tournament director **Steve Kaessner**



Steve Kaessner



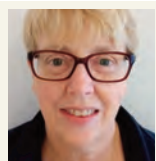
**Chico**  
♣♦♥♠  
By Mark Bloom

will be taking over the operation of Bidwell Bridge. Steve is excited to bring live, in-person bridge back to Chico, and he's grateful for all the help former Bidwell owner **Gale Alvistur** has given in the transition. Gale was a great owner of the club, and we hope that she's able to drop in for a game once in a while.

Many Unit 457 players have been active in virtual club online games on BBO in Sacramento, Lake Wildwood and Redding, and, given the common high finishes of our players, it's clear that we have a very strong bunch of competitors in our club.

The Redding/Mount Shasta online Wednesday game has concluded, but I want to thank them for being the first online club to let us pool with their group, and for generously sharing the revenues over the period. They are a nice bunch of people up there, and we're fortunate to have such nice neighbors.

## Brookings reopens, aims to resume classes



**Brookings Tri-City Bridge Club**  
♣♦♥♠  
By Debbie Grasham

Hey, we're back to in-person bridge! Having been playing online bridge, it is taking some time to remember how to sort cards, who has to alert what, and how to smoothly pull out your bidding card.

But we are all enjoying playing and seeing each other in person. We're hoping to have another Learn Bridge in a Day series sometime in October after we all get back from Seaside.

A lot of the newer players didn't play



Members of the Tri-City Bridge Club at the club's reopening July 1 in Brookings.

online during the last year and want a refresher course. Stop by if you're over here on the coast on Tuesdays and Thursday at

noon at the Chetco Activity Center. You can contact us at [tricitybridge@gmail.com](mailto:tricitybridge@gmail.com).

**Central Oregon Coast**  
♣♦♥♠  
www.unit572.org

The Central Oregon Coast unit has not fallen into the ocean, as far as we know.

The Newport Bridge Club reopened July 16. With the clubs in North Bend and Bandon having reopened in 2020, that leaves the Miracle Miles club in Gleneden Beach as the lone club still in existence but not yet open.

# AROUND THE UNITS

## Unit 484 launches weekly games in new venue



**Jackson County**  
♠♦♥♣  
By Jim Flint  
bridgewebs.com/unit484medford

Eighteen months after players were forced home and online by covid-19, face-to-face duplicate bridge competition resumed in Southern Oregon on July 13.

F2F play was on a five-day-a-week schedule at the Phoenix Bridge Center before the pandemic hit. Live play began again with a weekly game at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays at the Masonic Center, 975 N. Phoenix Road, in Medford.

“Early arrivals at noon or after are welcome to help set up the tables,” said Unit 484 Board President Doug McKenzie.

Two simultaneous games are offered — an open game, and a limited game, depending on availability of players.

McKenzie said he appreciates the return. “It has been a pleasure to see the faces of old friends,” he said, “and to welcome a few new players.”

The unit board has received comments of thanks and appreciation from members as well as suggestions.

For now, all players must show proof of vaccination when registering to play for the first time. Masks are required, until guidelines change. All tables are supplied with hand sanitizer and players bring their own bid boxes, which are available for sale for \$5 by the unit. Board Vice President Cheryl Cullen is safety coordinator.

No food is served, but that could change if conditions permit. Players are welcome to bring their own beverages and the unit has bottled water available at no charge. Table fees are \$5 per person.

The first two weeks, there was no charge for anyone bringing one or more nonperishable food items, which were donated to a local food project.

The game is operated by Unit 484, with Jerry Kenefick and Michael Pavlik sharing directing duties. Both are board members, certified directors and volunteering their time for the present. Sixty people attended the first session on July 13 with



Photo by Kemble Yates

Bob and Gee Gee Valine (foreground) close bidding boxes after the first F2F game since the pandemic in Unit 484, held July 13. Sixty people turned out for the game at the Masonic Center in Medford.

11 tables in the open section and four I/N tables.

The Phoenix Bridge Center, where clubs operated Monday through Friday before the pandemic, was housed in a shopping center at 4149 S. Pacific Highway in Phoenix, just south of Medford. The structure burned to the ground in the 2020 Alameda fire that destroyed more than 2,500 homes and businesses. Luckily, bridge club tables, chairs, and other equipment had been stored off site prior to the fire. The center was closed in mid-March 2020 due to covid-19 concerns.

Leah McKechnie and Bob Fox, who ran clubs at the center before it was closed, moved their games online when ACBL contracted with Bridge Base Online to offer virtual club games. The arrangement helped preserve the small clubs and provided people a place to play. Both McKechnie and Fox intend to continue their online games. BBO has offered free casual play and ACBL-sanctioned games for a fee since the 1990s, but the virtual club game is a new concept, likely to stay.

However, not everyone is comfortable playing on a computer. Kenefick says a recent survey indicates about 20% of the unit players have not been playing online.

“We want to give these people an opportunity to join in a fun game,” Kenefick said. “And, of course, we want BBO players to be able to play face-to-face at least one day a week.”

In the near future, thanks to a donation from the estate of former player Carol Kato, lessons for beginners will be offered.

“ACBL is offering classes for youths which we plan to support,” Kenefick said. “And we may offer a short class before the Tuesday games that will be of interest to all players, regardless of skill level.”

### McKechnie adds to online pool

In an effort to build table count in her Wednesday and Friday BBO online games, director Leah McKechnie has arranged for the Alto Lakes and Sequoia bridge clubs to join the game.

Mount Shasta, Yreka and Redding players also play occasionally.


Start time for the Wednesday and Friday online games was changed to 12:30 p.m.

“I am doing this with the expectation that games will be larger,” McKechnie said, “and a bit more competitive for all levels of play.”

### Bridge partners get married

It isn't the first marriage between friends who met over bridge, and certainly not the first even for Unit 484.

Gee Gee Walker, who lost her husband John a few years ago, married Bob Valine earlier this year. The Valines play bridge with each other and with several other different partners. Their partnership agreement calls for plenty of bridge and a covid-free future.



**Eugene/Springfield**  
♠♦♥♣  
By Don Marsh  
www.emeraldbridgeclub.org

## Eugene reopens

Aug. 21 marked the return of the F2F unit game at Emerald Bridge Club.

The unit is trying something new. The traditional Sunday afternoon time was seeing diminished attendance prior to covid, and there had been discussion back then about looking at another day. The board decided to try Saturday mornings at 9:30. Please come out on the third Saturday of the month.

EBC is changing the monthly Swiss team game one more time. The new day, the first Sunday of the month, began in September. Get a team together and join us at 12:30. Our last Swiss saw a seven-team turnout and the new movement worked well. Six four-board matches meant everyone played everyone.

The Eugene-Springfield bridge community is saddened by the loss of our most senior member, Virginia Garver, 100. She survived a bout of covid and hip surgery in her final days. She was a formidable foe at the table, always hating to give up the bid. She was also most gracious at the table and a model for all of us. We extend our sincere sympathies to her family.



Virginia Garver

We also recently suffered the loss of Leigh Wells. He played bridge with his longtime bridge and golf partner, Ralph Zack, one day and suffered a stroke the next day. He passed peacefully, at home, surrounded by his most loving family on Aug. 31.



Leigh Wells

“The club lost a major asset,” Zack said. “Leigh was willing to partner with anyone and he would teach in a gentle way. He was a terrific guy.”

EBC continues to work on trying to find the right mix of F2F and virtual games. With the future unknown, who knows what it will be by the time you all read this. Let's hope it is better and not worse.

## One club opens, Salem will soon; new prez

I seem to be collecting yarboroughs. Really ugly ones.

In a BBO game last year, I was dealt:

♠876 ♥6432 ♦432 ♣985.

It may be the worst hand I've ever held. Until this past month when I picked up:

♠753 ♥542 ♦8542 ♣654

in another BBO game. Ouch. Two 4-3-3-3 yarboroughs in the last year. What's the worst hand you've ever held?

### Comings and goings

The unit offers best wishes to Timothy Ramey and Marion Hull as each relocates to other locales. At the same time, we happily welcome in transfers Lee Machado and Jeffrey Nevins. We're glad to have you!

### Club reopenings

The Oak Valley Bridge Club in McMinnville resumed face-to-face play Aug. 2 in a new location. Games will be held every Monday at 12:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church (390 NE Second St.). Use the Davis Street ramp between First and Second Streets for bridge entry. Covid vaccinations are required and the church has mandated that attendees wear masks.

Oak Valley's historic Tuesday night game has been converted into an online BBO game in conjunction with Salem Bridge



**Salem**  
♠♦♥♣  
By Kevin Kacmarynski  
www.salembridgeclub.org

Club, still at the same 6:30 p.m. start time. For those looking for more bridge opportunities in McMinnville, Barbara Nelson (with help from Steve Drew and Randy Naef) offers lessons at Michelbook on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon.

Salem Bridge Club is also restarting in-person games, with a temporarily pared-down schedule. Effective Sept. 8, SBC began having games on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at its Keizer Salem Area Seniors location on Plymouth Drive in Keizer. Wednesday's game is a 499er game at 11 a.m. Thursday's event is for 299ers at 6:30 p.m. Friday brings the weekly open game at 12:30 p.m. Proof of full covid vaccination is required for first attendance at all games. Masks are currently optional.

Wednesday night and Saturday night games at Capital Manor are still on hold, pending completion of renovations at the manor. The hope is that those games will restart in late October or November.

For those looking for online games to supplement face-to-face opportunities, Salem and Oak Valley both remain part of the Mid-Valley Online Bridge Club (mvobc.org) on BBO. An open game is held at 6:30 p.m. on Mondays and a two-section open and 299er game can be found at 1 p.m. on Thursdays.

### Help still needed, but some has arrived!

Our last two columns requested assistance in filling various governance positions. Help has arrived in the form of Don Pitt, who has agreed to do double-duty as the new president of Unit 490 as well as the new club manager for Salem Bridge Club. Thanks so very much, Don!



Don Pitt

There are still opportunities to help out in various positions inside the unit and Salem Bridge Club. Join Don and volunteer some time to help the local games we love.

### Rank changes

A single player earned the masterpoints needed to reach the next lifetime achievement rank. Congratulations to new Regional Master Sandra Emmons.



**Bend/Redmond**  
♠♦♥♣  
By Candy Baunsgard  
www.bendbridge.org

## Night game dies

High Desert Bridge closed down its Thursday evening game due to lack of support. Pat Douglas said that because of all the online games offered, there was no longer a need for an evening game.

Gentle Bridge Group has continued strong during covid. We enjoy the opportunity to include former players who have moved elsewhere.

Patty Massler, longtime member of Cascade DBC, passed away Feb. 11. Patty was an exuberant and dynamic woman, not to mention, a very good bridge player, she was totally devoted to the game and helping other players improve.

Meredith McKittrick passed away unexpectedly July 26. Meredith played at CDBC for several years. We'll all remember her jolly and upbeat personality.

# AROUND THE UNITS

## Milestones

Continued from Page 5

### BRONZE LIFE MASTERS

Lyle Claflin, Eagle ID  
Elizabeth Fullerton, Vancouver WA  
Carol Juckeland, Portland OR  
Ginger McCarthy, Portland OR  
Bob Shuken, Auburn CA  
William Stevenson, Honolulu HI  
Edwin Van Dam, Portland OR  
Steven Vorenkamp, Portland OR  
Sheryl Williams, Portland OR  
Greg Wilson, Boise ID

### SILVER LIFE MASTERS

Donna Andrews, Grants Pass OR  
Thomas Bergstrom, Ashland OR  
Nancy Eubanks, Rough and Ready CA  
James Keefe, Honolulu HI  
Kevin Marnell, Portland OR  
Mary O'Shea, Portland OR  
Lorraine Rodich, Redmond OR  
Arlene Rueb, Meridian ID  
John Wolf, Eugene OR

### RUBY LIFE MASTERS

Sandra Allen, Corvallis OR  
John Guth, Days Creek OR  
James Hurlburt, Bend OR  
Dick Jarvinen, Corvallis OR  
Rebecca Rodenbush, Boise ID

### GOLD LIFE MASTERS

Louis Beauchet, Sherwood OR  
Sharon Crapko, Astoria OR  
Rick Prouser, Portland OR  
Muriel Stitt, Honolulu HI  
Busaba Williams, Honolulu HI

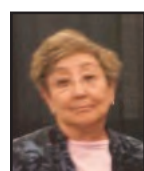
### SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTERS

Howard Co, Honolulu HI  
Paul Craviotto, Eugene OR  
Pete Grice, Boise ID  
Marvin Grudem, Redding CA  
Allan Palansky, Portland OR  
Arun Savara, Honolulu HI

### DIAMOND LIFE MASTERS

Duane Christensen, Boise ID  
Bruce Cuthbertson, Vancouver WA

### EMERALD LIFE MASTERS



Yasuko Shrenzel,  
Honolulu HI

Yasuko Shrenzel

## Fires delay F2F bridge in Portland clubs

Fires in the buildings that house both Portland bridge clubs have caused problems. Fortunately, there was no damage at either location.

The Ace of Clubs has decided not to renew its lease and is searching for a new location. It's currently running all games online. The club has held no F2F games since it closed in 2020.

Lloyd Center, where the Portland Bridge



Club is located, experienced a fire in the electrical room. The entire mall was closed for weeks while a replacement part

was located. The PBC had resumed F2F play and was replacing online games with in-person games. All games transitioned back to BBO temporarily.

The PBC closure coincided with the surge of the Delta variant and a reinstatement of the indoor mask mandate in Multnomah County.

The Portland Sectional, due to be held in September, was canceled.

## Vancouver hosts first D20 sectional in ages

Duane Meador, whose 95th birthday party was heralded in the previous Trumpet, is leaving Vancouver. He is moving back to North Carolina to be near his daughter. We will certainly miss him!

The successful summer sectional attracted folks from as far away as Bellevue, Wash. Two young men, twins Edward and Eric He, placed seventh overall for the weekend. They are shown here with their mother on the right.



Twins Edward and Eric He, 14, with their mother.

It's nice to see young people at the bridge tables. Although attendance was nowhere near normal, **Kathy Mather**, Unit 452 treasurer, was impressed with the positive attitudes of the players who attended.

"Many thanks to all who played the weekend of the sectional," she said. "They were flexible and worked with us throughout with what seemed like unending changes all weekend. Kudos to our bridge community!"

The Longview Bridge Club has resumed its full face-to-face schedule while retaining online games on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Vancouver is running both live and virtual sessions, but is still experimenting with the right mix of games.



Cardboard boat race  
The front page of the Saturday, July 3, edition of the Longview Daily News featured a photo of the Longview Bridge Club's cardboard boat. The annual Cardboard Boat Regatta was held on Lake Sacajawea July 2 with 15 entries.



Longview Daily News

The Longview Bridge Club's dragon boat races in the annual Cardboard Boat Regatta on July 2.

The theme of the event was Movie Mania, and the LBC boat was named "How to Train Your Dragon ... to Swim."

**Wayne Winther** has been the chief advocate for the project since we started building and racing these great boats several years ago. Many other LBC members helped to design, build and decorate the vessels.

This year, Wayne, fellow bridge player **Dave Knoyle**, and Wayne's grandson were the three-man rowing team in each of the three heats. The Dragon won its first two races easily and placed second in the final.

In addition to a trophy for the second-place finish, the LBC boat won the Vogue Award, given for the most spectacular-looking boat. **Jan Trussell** was honored for providing the template for the distinctive dragon's head. Wayne presented her with the trophy during a club game.

For more photos and videos, visit [web2.acbld20.org/lbc/Gallery/2021\\_Regatta/](http://web2.acbld20.org/lbc/Gallery/2021_Regatta/).



Dave Knoyle and Wayne Winther



Jan Trussell, Wayne Winther and the Vogue Award

## Seeking advice? Be careful whom you ask

"Never ask advice from anyone with fewer than 3000 masterpoints." This was Ross Rainwater's suggestion when asked what one piece of advice he would have for newer players.

Ross was one of the premier players in the Northwest at the time he was profiled in the inaugural issue of The Trumpet in 2005.

At the time, I thought Ross' statement was perhaps just a bit hyperbolic. Over the years, I have come to see the wisdom of it.

I always appreciate when I see newer or emerging players who are serious about improving their game getting better. It really is important that a player knows where to go for advice. Because of the position I am in as club owner and director, I often get folks asking me about this or that bid.

Though I have a couple thousand points, I have gotten to the point where I more and more say, "You know, you should ask someone who might really know."



Don Marsh  
Trumpet Contributor

One of the worst things that can happen for a person is to get bad advice. If you really want to improve your game, it is important the advice you get be correct, or at least not wrong.

If you are fortunate enough to have access to someone who meets Ross's criteria, I have a some suggestions for you.

Be selective. No one wants to be inundated after every game about six different

hands. Pick out the one or two hands where you truly need help.

Be specific. Be clear about the hand, the situation and your question.

Most important of all, be open to

the feedback. After you hear the response, don't go into a long treatise about your analysis. Trust me, the expert player is not particularly interested in how you thought you should have bid the hand or your defense of your absurd call.

Here is one more suggestion. Read It's Your Call each month in the Bridge Bulletin. Cover up the panel's responses and see what your call would have been to the problem presented.

More importantly, read all the comments. The panelists are all national-level players. Their comments on what they would have bid and why are priceless. If you are serious about wanting to improve your bidding, read this column each month.

One more thought. I have come to believe that no one can teach someone how to play bridge. I believe an individual can direct, inspire, suggest and coach. But ultimately, getting better at bridge requires individual effort

and lots of motivation. You will only improve as a bridge player if you work at it. Putting all those great books on the nightstand doesn't work. I have tried it.

On a related front, I could have taken Ross's suggestion to heart as a person who thought he was capable of teaching bridge classes. I think back to some of my early attempts at teaching bridge, and it is embarrassing. My early "Sage on the Stage" approach might have been a little bit interesting for me, but I am sure it wasn't for folks having to sit through them. To all those folks out there: Sorry!



Ross Rainwater  
Had more than 23,000 masterpoints when he quit playing in 2015.

Don Marsh can be reached at [donmarsh45@comcast.net](mailto:donmarsh45@comcast.net).

The Longest Day

# District 20 clubs raise \$23,000 for Alzheimer's Association

District 20 clubs and units raised about \$23,000 for the Alzheimer's Association in events for The Longest Day in June.

Nineteen clubs and units participated, eight of them just holding games and contributing fees, 11 of them raising additional funds through other activities. This helped the ACBL raise \$917,000. While the total was 10% more than last year, District 20's contribution was down 4%.

Unit 461 in Grass Valley, Calif., once again led the district, raising \$6526, up 14% from last year. Without having rent to pay, all five clubs in the unit agreed to donate nine months' worth of virtual club revenue. Lake Wildwood DBC also repeated its drive-through event, soliciting



Kat Tuttle, Jim Hook and Pam Moreland staff the donation booth at Unit 461's drive-through event.

donations from the community. **Deanna Heyser** and **Jamie Newman** led the unit team. Players who hadn't been playing online also contributed, said Newman.

Boise Unit 394 led the district for four years until last year. With another year of online-only activities, Boise was again second with \$4211, down slightly.

Some clubs managed to open for face-to-face play in time for The Longest Day, but that was not the case in either of the top units. Portland Bridge Club did hold in-person events June 21, and it seemed to be an advantage. PBC was up 37% from last year with \$3245.

The club making the biggest gain over the previous year was Cascade DBC in Bend, which increased by 80% to raise \$2396. The club had hoped to open in June but settled for another year of online activities, manager **Chip Cleveland** said.

### Top 10 fundraisers in D20

Unit 461	Grass Valley CA	\$6526
Boise Unit 394		\$4211
Portland Bridge Club		\$3245
Cascade DBC, Bend OR		\$2396
Vancouver (WA) Bridge Club		\$2029
Longview (WA) Bridge Club		\$1948
Club sanction fees		\$947
Bandon (OR) Bridge Club		\$732
Mid-Valley Online Bridge, Corvallis OR		\$405
Mid-Columbia Unit 492		\$250

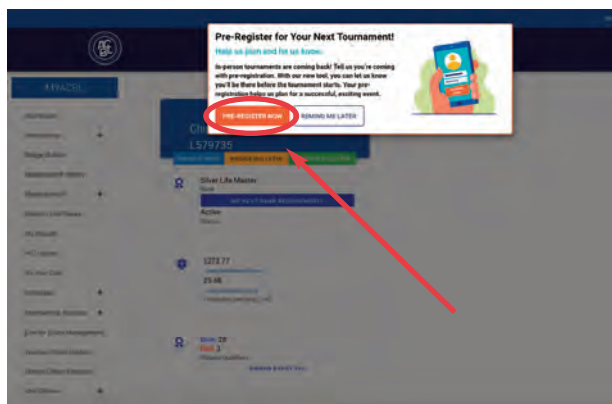
"Our success was primarily due to several of our members who are dealing with or have dealt with caring for someone with Alzheimer's," Cleveland said.

# How to pre-register for tournaments

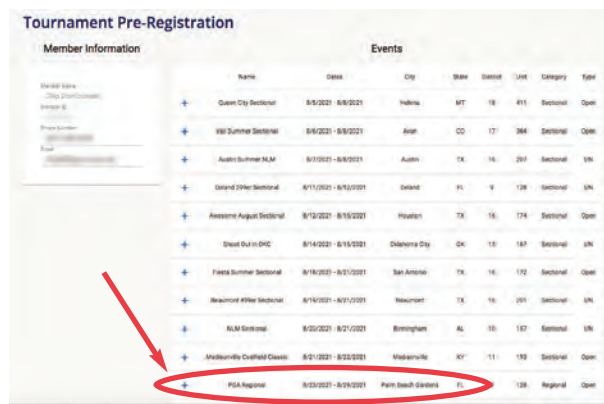
Tournaments are back, but in these uncertain times, tournament organizers need all the information they can get — particularly how much attendance to expect. Players can assist by preregistering for tournaments through the new ACBL website that launched in September.

It's easy, and to make it even easier, we'll show you step by step what to do. Start by logging into your MyACBL page.

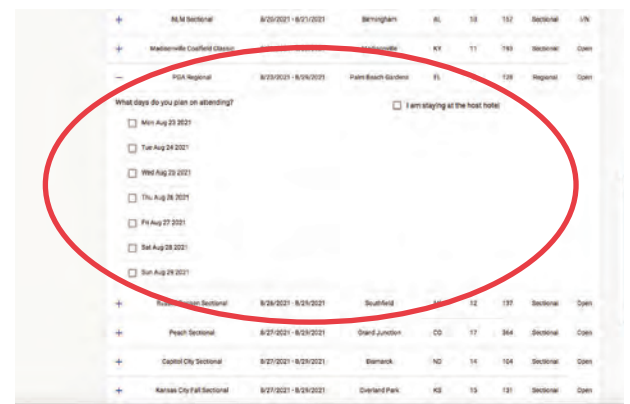
To do this, go to [acbl.org](http://acbl.org) and click **MyACBL**, which appears at the top of the page, to the left of Join. Enter your player number and password and click **Submit**. Then follow the steps below.



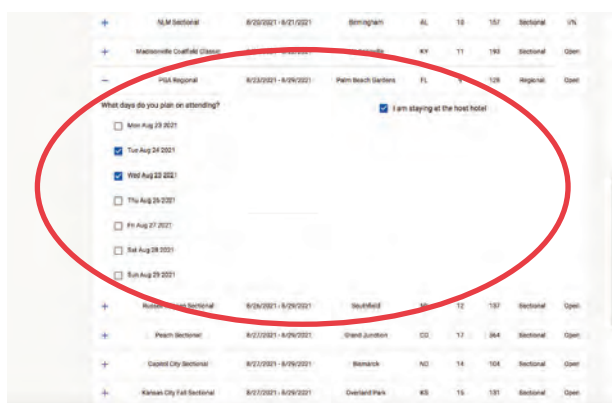
1 When you log in, a prompt will appear in a pop-up window asking if you want to pre-register for a tournament. Click **Pre-Register Now**.



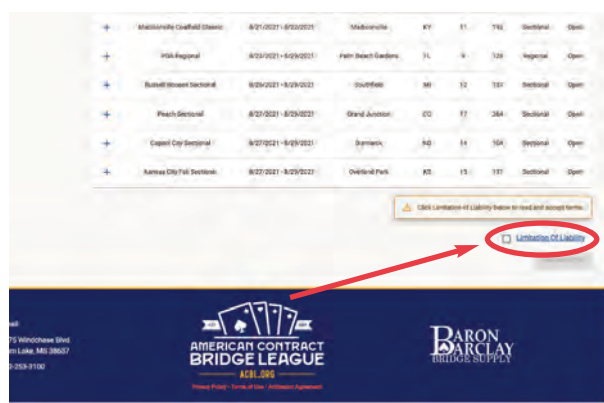
2 The Tournament Pre-Registration page will open with a calendar of upcoming tournaments. Scroll to find the one you want and click on the + at left to expand it.



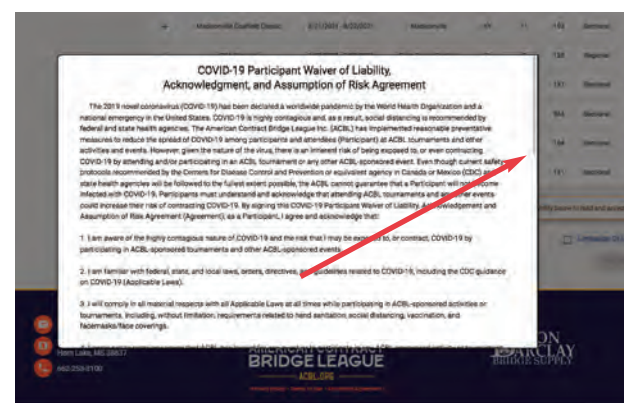
3 The tournament will expand with the dates it is running. Check the boxes for all the days you plan to attend. Also check the box for the host hotel if you will be staying there.



4 When you have made your selections for dates and the host hotel, scroll to the bottom.



5 Click **Limitation of Liability**.



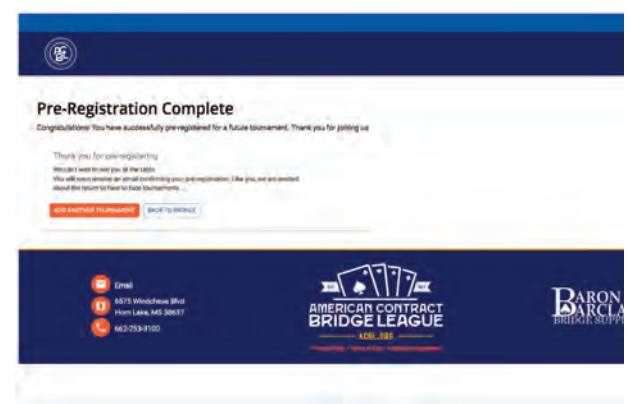
6 A waiver will appear in a pop-up window. Read and/or scroll to the bottom of the waiver.



7 Click **I Accept**.



8 When the Limitation of Liability box is checked, you can submit your selections by clicking **Pre-Register**.



9 A confirmation screen will appear. You will also receive a confirmation email.

In the coming months, the Tournament Pre-Registration website will be expanded to include entries to tournament events. You will be able to buy your entries — individually or for partners and teammates if you wish — for the events you want to play in from the website.

In the meantime, the purpose of preregistration is to facilitate the return to face-to-face play by providing organizers with information. But the information they receive will be useful only if the vast majority

of tournament-goers are using the website to preregister.

Pre-registering isn't an ironclad commitment, so it's not necessary to wait until you're absolutely sure nothing will come up that might derail your plans to attend a tournament. If you're booking a room, that's a good time to preregister for those days. If the tournament is local, it's still helpful to let the organizers know which days you plan to play.



## Ask Jeff

ACBL tournament director Jeff Jacob answers your questions on rulings

# Laws refresher for clubs' return

Dear Jeff,

Now that we are back to F2F play, many of our human errors are available to us again — such as revokes. I know that declarer can revoke but can't have a penalty card. Can dummy revoke? Can you refresh my memory as to the rules regarding when a revoke is established and what the penalties are?

Thank you,

*Memory Card Full*

Dear Memory Card Full,

Answers to many of the common questions are as follows, with the law quotation citation following.

### When does a revoke become established?

Failure to follow suit becomes a revoke when the player who improperly discarded or their partner plays to the next trick, or, if the player is declarer, when there is a play from declarer's hand or dummy on the next trick (Law 61&63).

**Is it true that declarer never has a penalty card?** Yes, that is true. Have declarer pick up the cards. Defenders can use the info of what they saw (Law 48).

**What happens when a defender makes an opening lead out of turn?** I call that this the five-option defense. First, two choices: the declarer can accept the lead and have either player in the partnership play the hand depending upon which hand becomes dummy. The next two choices: declarer can require or forbid the suit led out of turn. If these options are chosen, then the card led out of turn is picked up and there is no penalty card. The last choice: let the correct leader pick any lead out of their hand, and the out-of-turn lead becomes a penalty card to be played at the first legal opportunity (Law 54 and 50D).

**Who can accept a declarer's lead out of turn?** Either defender can accept, but there must be no consultation. If there is a disagreement between the defenders, the defender who is next to play from the irregular lead is the one whose request is granted (Law 55).

**Bids out of turn** or insufficient tend be a little more complicated. Consult Laws 22-37. And pay special attention to comparable calls (Law 23).

**If cards are exposed during the auction what happens to them?** If it is a single card no higher than a 9, it is a minor penalty card; if there are multiple cards or an honor card of 10 or higher, these cards become major penalty cards. Refer to Law 24 for disposition of the cards, and Laws 50 and 51 if the partnership becomes defenders.

It has been over a year since most of us have played face to face. Below are some reminders for when you venture back into the club.

1. People can hear what you say! You may have gotten use to talking out loud by yourself at the computer. You will need to put filters back in place.

2. You can revoke and make insufficient bids. The computer prevents these mistakes.

3. At the end of the round, you may have to get up and move. With the computer everybody gets a stationary seat.

4. When the end of the rounds arrives, you keep playing. Yes, you will have to finish the hand. So, when the end of the round is called, try to get back on pace with the rest of the field.



# TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

## DISTRICT 20 REGIONALS & SECTIONALS

### SEPTEMBER 2021

~~10-12 Honolulu Sectional **CANCELED** Ala Wai Clubhouse, Honolulu HI~~  
~~17-19 Portland Sectional **CANCELED** Portland Bridge Club, Portland OR~~  
~~Sept. 27-Oct. 3 **OREGON COAST REGIONAL** Seaside Convention Center, Seaside OR **CANCELED**~~

### OCTOBER 2021

16-17 Vancouver Fall I/N Sectional Vancouver Bridge Club, Vancouver WA  
 30-31 North American Pairs Online

### NOVEMBER 2021

~~5-7 Redding Sectional **CANCELED** Win River Resort & Casino, Redding CA~~  
 6-7 Corvallis 299er Sectional Heart of the Valley Bridge Center, Corvallis OR  
 12-14 Honolulu Sectional Ala Wai Clubhouse, Honolulu HI  
 13-14 Vancouver Fall Sectional Washington School for the Deaf, Vancouver WA

### DECEMBER 2021

No events scheduled

### JANUARY 2022

8-9 Vancouver Winter I/N Sectional Vancouver Bridge Club, Vancouver WA  
 14-16 Garden Island Sectional Sun Village Recreation Center, Lihue HI  
**Jan. 24-30 HAWAII REGIONAL Prince Waikiki, Honolulu HI**

### FEBRUARY 2022

19-21 Big Island Sectional Makua Lani Christian Academy, Kailua Kona HI  
**Feb. 21-27 OREGON TRAIL REGIONAL Vancouver Wash. Hilton, Vancouver WA**

### MARCH 2022

4-6 Corvallis Sectional Benton County Fairgrounds, Corvallis OR  
 4-6 Honolulu Sectional Ala Wai Clubhouse, Honolulu HI  
 TBA Chico Sectional TBA, Chico CA

### APRIL 2022

TBA Redding Sectional Win-River Resort & Casino, Redding CA  
 9-10 Vancouver Spring Sectional Washington School for the Deaf, Vancouver WA  
 TBA Ontario Sectional TBA, Ontario OR  
 29-1 Seaside Sectional & I/N Regional Seaside Convention Center, Seaside OR

## TOURNAMENTS IN NEIGHBORING DISTRICTS

### DISTRICT 19: [www.d19.org](http://www.d19.org)

Oct. 22-24 Sunnyside Sectional WA  
 Nov. 1-7 **Whistler Regional BC**  
 Feb. 4-6 Bellingham Sectional WA  
 April 4-10 **Vancouver Regional, Burnaby BC**

### DISTRICT 21: [www.d21acbl.com](http://www.d21acbl.com)

Oct. 23-24 San Jose Sectional CA  
 Dec. 3-5 Sacramento Sectional CA  
 Jan. 3-9 **Monterey Regional CA**

### DISTRICT 18: [www.wasumi.org](http://www.wasumi.org)

Jan. 13-16 Missoula Sectional MT

### DISTRICT 17: [www.d17acbl.org](http://www.d17acbl.org)

Oct. 15-17 Santa Fe Sectional NM  
 Nov. 4-7 Scottsdale Sectional & I/N Regional AZ  
 Nov. 8-14 **Las Vegas Regional NV**  
 Jan. 17-23 **Albuquerque Regional NM**  
 Feb. 28-March 6 **Tucson Regional AZ**

### DISTRICT 22: [acbldistrict22.com/d22](http://acbldistrict22.com/d22)

Oct. 8-10 Riverside Sectional CA  
 Dec. 13-19 **Palm Springs Regional, Rancho Mirage CA**  
 Jan. 31-Feb. 6 **Costa Mesa Regional CA**

## NORTH AMERICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nov. 25 - Dec. 5

March 10-20

July 14-24

Nov. 24 - Dec. 4

Fall 2021

Spring 2022

Summer 2022

Fall 2022

JW Marriott, Austin TX

Silver Legacy/Circus Circus, Reno NV

Convention Center, Providence RI

Convention Center, Phoenix AZ

## Eyer: District offices up for election

*Continued from Page 1*

When ACBL canceled all September tournaments, they left Seaside undecided. However, in the complex matrix for moving ahead (green, yellow, red markers in multiple categories) our location was flashing red in at least one of the go/no-go columns.

The day of our board meeting, the Canadian government reinstated the block of all U.S. citizens into Canada until at least Sept. 20, only a few days before Seaside was to start. Canada has worked very hard to get its citizens vaccinated and keep their positivity rate low.

Thanks to **Hal Montgomery** and **Rich Carle** for the second year of the extended online GNTs. We are the envy of many districts. The board has voted to move forward with electronic payments for the GNTs and NAPs. Various payment options are being reviewed.

Once a month, many district presidents have a round table. Most of the other districts

are amazed by what we, way out here on the West Coast, have managed to accomplish with our newsletter — you're reading it now — the GNTs/NAPs and our district business governance. Perhaps it's time for HQ to look at another Portland NABC. As one of the co-chairs from way back, it does seem that 35 years (but who's counting) is a long wait.

At the annual meeting in February, board officers will be elected. Any paid member of the district is eligible to run for president. I am term-limited and will be glad to discuss the duties and responsibilities with anyone interested.

Support your local clubs as much as you can, playing live, if you're comfortable doing so; or playing in the clubs' online games. People were starting to return to live play when some areas lost sight of mutual responsibility. Let's all be careful out there.

District president Mike Eyer can be reached at [leela.tardis@gmail.com](mailto:leela.tardis@gmail.com).

Send questions to [jeff.jacob@acbl.org](mailto:jeff.jacob@acbl.org).