

# March 2023 Bridge Deck Club Newsletter

Club telephone: 239-272-3494

Website: [www.BridgeDeckClub.org](http://www.BridgeDeckClub.org)

## Bridge Deck Club's Treasurer

After 14 years of service as Treasurer to the Bridge Deck Club, **Joan Coval** has passed on the financial record keeping, tax reporting, and bill paying chores to another of our competent Board members, Susan Stam. Joan has done an excellent job during these past 14 years keeping the club solvent and legal while we moved from one physical location to another. The Board thanks her (and Andy) for her hours and years of service.

## ROYAL STaC WEEK Starts MARCH 20

Winners in this District 9 game will not only get silver points, but also gold points! All players in District 9, which covers all of Florida and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, will be playing the same hands! If you do well in either the A or B or C group you win **25% gold, 25% red, 25% silver, and 25% black points**. This is good news for those of us who don't travel to out of town Regionals. In order to become a Life Master or to advance to Bronze, Silver or Ruby status you need at least 75 silver points and at least 100 colored points of which 50 must be gold. Now all we will have to do is attend the Royal StaC games in our local club and win. Well, maybe we should also plan on attending some out of town Regionals.

Royal StaC games will cost \$12 for club members and \$14 for non-BDC members.

## Two other ACBL Special Games in March

On Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> your club will be participating in a Senior Pairs game and on Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> there will be an ACBL Charity game. These games will not cost you anything extra. The club picks up the extra costs. These are extra black point games.

## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

Ed Alcott, our Club Manager, has pulled hundreds of rabbits out of his hat and gotten us more than 3-weeks of extra black point club championship games. According to the calendar posted on our website every March game day is an extra point game!

## Sharks & Minnows

Who are Sharks? They are those people who have been playing for more years than you and have acquired buckets of masterpoints. Who are minnows? They are those people who have not yet acquired 100 or 300 or 500 masterpoints depending on the rules of the club's game. A shark is paired with a minnow. They shouldn't be a regular partnership: no significant others or married couples. We plan on having a Sharks & Minnows game on St. Patrick's Day, Friday, March 17. Details will be announced later in the month.

## OUR DIRECTORS

Ed Alcott has been directing on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays and Beth Stephens has been directing on Tuesdays and Fridays. But this month Ed is going to New Orleans to play in the North American Bridge Championship games. We all wish him luck. While he is away Donna Lyons will direct on March 8, Tony Cipolla on March 9, Beth Stephens on her usually Tuesdays & Fridays and Ellie Goodrich will be the director on March 13, 2023.

Bridge is a timed event. The timing clock is set for 7 minutes a hand and usually the director adds a minute for the East-West players to change tables. Bridge is also a social event. This is an important aspect of our gatherings, but please remember that the hand has to have been bid and the dummy has to be on the table before the 2-minute mark. It is not the end of the world if this doesn't happen. The director will tell you the time is up and will tell you to put the cards back in the board. That hand is recorded as not played. Neither side gets a good score or a poor score. This is in contrast to the situation when a hand is passed out. Then you are compared to other tables that played the hand so one side will get a better score than the other.

**Directors should be treated politely even when they rule against your wishes.** Remember that when calling the director, his or her last name is please, as in Director Please.

### **High Scorers in the Unit 128 Winter STaC games Feb 13th through the 19th**

During this year's Unit 128 games there were over hundreds of couples all playing the same cards sitting in games all over Florida from Jacksonville & St. Augustine to Tampa & Miami. Many of our Bridge Deck Club players earned silver points in these games. Silver points were also award for good results at the club level so other Bridge Deck Club members won silver at the club level.

Feb 13, 2023: In a 242 table game **Joyce Ling & Gary Thomas** had a 61.57% score and won 2.06 silver points in the B group. **Sandra Allen & Marcia Reff** had a 59% score and won 1.44 silver points in the B group. **Nancy Trice & Joan Vokheimer** had a 58.33% score and won 2.06 silver points.

Feb. 14, 2023: In a 121.5 table game **Tom Corwin & Maria Hakki** had a 62.92% score and won 5 silver points. **They were 15<sup>th</sup> in the A group and 4<sup>th</sup> in the B group.**

Feb 15, 2023: In a 248 table game **Ellie Goodrich & Ron Woofter** had a 61.27% score and won 1.97 silver points in the A category. **Nancy Trice & Lise Bailey** had a 59.49% game and won 1.38 silver points in the A category. **Charles Young & Christy Coupland** had a 58.56% and won 1.97 silver points in the B category.

Feb. 16, 2023: In a 105.5 table game **Ellie Goodrich & Pat Johnson** had a **69.58% score and won 11.89 silver points by coming in 2<sup>nd</sup> in A.** **Patricia Bernstein & Joyce Ling** had a 64.17% score and won 5.34 silver coins. **They were 7<sup>th</sup> in A and 3<sup>rd</sup> in B.**

Feb 17, 2023: In a 230 table game **Pat Johnson & Christy Coupland** had a **69.42% score and won 12.80 silver points.** **They were 4<sup>th</sup> in the A group and 1<sup>st</sup> in the B group!** **Ellie Goodrich & Valerie Johnson** had a **66.44%** score and won 2.19 silver points. They were 9<sup>th</sup> in the A group. **Marcia Reff & Tammy Clabby** had a **65.10%** score and won **7.65 silver points.** **They came in first in the C group.**

## **Congratulations**

In February **Christy Coupland** became a Ruby Life Master and **Susan Stam** advanced to the Regional Master rank.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

Found a small woman's white cotton jacket that was made in Italy. It was left in the club in February.

## **2023 MEMBER DIRECTORIES**

Rich Price has given his spread sheets to the printer so we will be receiving our new directories sometime in the next two weeks. Hopefully everyone checked their information for accuracy

## **DIRECTOR, PLEASE**

The defensive team has the first salvo of the game, so why give it away to the declarer? **An opening lead should be made face down** while asking, "Any questions partner?" This way you will never hear that dreaded call, "**Director, Please,**" nor have to listen to the director recite & explain the declarer's 5 options.

- Declarer can accept the lead and become the dummy.
- Declarer can accept the lead and see the dummy prior to playing to the first trick.
- Declarer can refuse the lead and require the proper opening leader to lead that suit. (The incorrect opening lead will be picked up.)
- Declarer can refuse the lead and require the proper opening leader **not** to lead that suit for as long as he retains the lead. (The incorrect opening lead will be picked up.)
- Declarer can refuse the lead and allow the proper opening leader to lead anything he chooses; the original lead becomes a penalty card that stays on the table and must be played at the first legal opportunity.

The last three of these options are also given if, during the play of the game, there is a defensive lead out of turn.