

Newsletter

of the

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club

MARCH 2018



Pete Marvin – Bronze Life Master

"I first took up the game in college, wasting my Dad's money playing rubber bridge for a tenth-of-a-cent a point till 2:00 a.m. instead of studying. I toyed with duplicate, playing team-of-4 IMPs in adjacent dorm rooms. After college came the Peace Corps: 2 1/2 years in the jungles of Borneo. That'll grow you up.

"I came back to Little Rock, serious about education, and played a little Bridge at the Durwood location...met Bill and Peggy Jett, Curtis Finch, Allan and David Siebert, in the early 70's. Marriage and med school ended that, though, and building a medical practice was all-consuming. (Continued on Page 2)



Fran Cockcroft – Silver Life Master

"I grew up watching my parents at the Bridge table, and I played dorm bridge while in college. The next 25 years were spent moving around the country, raising children and working. In 1992, I was back in Little Rock working for a local advertising agency, and my boss and I decided we would give duplicate Bridge a try. We took lessons from Dee Eanes at LRDBC on Durwood and were indoctrinated to duplicate by the likes of Al Childs, Rick and Elaine Lowens, the Sieberts, and yes, David Cockcroft and Matt Williams.

"Two years later I moved to Morrilton, then Russellville to manage a group of radio stations in the River Valley area, and for the next 9 years once again concentrated on working instead of bridge. In July of 2003, I retired and wasted little time in moving back to Little Rock. On a warm summer night in August I went to play duplicate on novice night. Another new player,

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from Page 1 – Pete Marvin)

"Almost 40 years later, looking retirement in the face, it was time to rekindle the passion. I looked up the club's address on Google 4 years ago, walked in cold, and asked if I could join. I played that day with Betsy's son Darrell Berry. Betsy took me under her wing, making sure I was introduced around and welcomed. Classy lady Betsy put up with me while I learned how little I knew, and how much duplicate had changed since the smoke-hazed rooms and paper results slips of the early 70's.

"I hope everyone at our club realizes how good we've got it. This a fabulous club, with all the elements for long-term success: a zealous education program, comfortable novice games, hard-working non-complaining members doing things like dealing boards, sprucing up the building, organizing and managing tournaments, etc. And maybe best of all, very little of the unpleasant, even rude, behavior at the tables so common in the 60's and 70's. I look forward to lots of good times with good people."



(Continued from Page 1 – Fran Cockcroft)

Bert Turner, showed up without a partner that same night, and Dick Heil put us together. We hit it off and, after his wife Sally's approval, became a steady partnership. That is when my addiction began.

"I noticed several of the old Durwood crowd at the new Tanglewood location, and one of them asked me to play on Master/Novice night. The two of us *a/so* hit it off. It was David Cockcroft! Romance and duplicate Bridge – it doesn't get any better than that! Fourteen years later the LRDBC is like a family to both of us.

"Life, as in playing a Bridge hand, is all about timing!"



Daylight Saving Time

Spring Forward (and lose one hour) early on
Sunday, March 11

LIFE MASTER REQUIREMENT UPDATE



Any member who originally joined the ACBL prior to January 1, 2010, and whose membership has lapsed, may have the Life Master rank requirements existing for members who joined prior to January 2, 2010 applied to them if:

- Their membership is reinstated prior to July 1, 2018, or
- If reinstated on or after July 1, 2018, upon payment of a one-time fee of \$50.00 to the ACBL.

Anyone who is a new Life Master as a result of this change may continue to play in non-Life Master events and tournaments until July 2, 2018.

Because our **Directors** love running a smooth and fair game, many hours are spent studying new Laws.



Show your appreciation to the Directors by arriving 15 minutes before game time, and being cooperative and courteous at all times.



Janice Atterberry – Life Master

“As a child I played lots of card games. My first exposure to Bridge was kibitzing in college, and before long I was in the Student Center playing Bridge whenever I did not have a class scheduled. After college the game was always a big part of my social life – Bridge luncheons during the day and dinner Bridge on weekends. Travis and I taught our neighbors, Jim and Luraette Tucker, how to play and since we had children around the same ages it was easy to get a Bridge game going without even needing a babysitter. We also enjoyed joint family “Bridge” vacations with the Tuckers, some of which were very expensive due to the guys’ fondness for wagering.

“My Bridge groups eventually switched to duplicate, and in 1979 I began playing at Durwood. Travis and I switched partners and played Swiss games with Don and Marsha Boss. Sometime in the eighties, my life went a different direction and I did not play any kind of cards for about 30 years.

“A couple of years ago, Travis and Jim decided to start playing, this time with Jim being the teacher, and I was recruited to play with Luraette so they could practice. I had never seen a bidding box, nor an electronic scorekeeper, and the new conventions were Greek to me . . . but it all began again!”

(Note: We at LRDBC are thankful that Travis and Janice came back to Bridge!)



**Travis
Atterberry
Life Master**

The old adage, “What goes around comes around” is true in many areas. It has been said that Janice and I taught Jim and Luraette Tucker how to play Bridge, but that’s not true. What we did was introduce them to bridge with the basics, but David Siebert taught them how to play. There is a huge difference between introducing and teaching. But, we did enjoy several years of playing with Jim and Luraette while Janice and I were also playing on Durwood and going to tournaments.

What does that old adage have to do with anything? The “goes around” part is when we introduced them to bridge. Well, Janice and I got so busy with our three daughters that we stopped playing while the Tuckers got serious and have earned the rank of Silver Life Master. The “comes around” part is that some 25+ years later they invited us over to play Bridge. That was it. The fire was rekindled!

We soon learned that the game had changed tremendously, and it was like starting all over. Not only that, we now had to have 500 points with 50 of them gold to become a Life Master. Having 90 points with 2 gold, I said several times that I wouldn’t live long enough to become a Life Master. However, after playing for a little over two years, I started 2018 needing 95 points with 6 gold. Based on the production of the past two years, I decided that I just might live long enough to make it. Then, of all things, the ACBL had a rule change. Anyone that had been a member before 2010 but had not continued to pay dues would be grandfathered in as a Life Master (see article on Page 2). Janice and I qualified and became Life Masters with the “stroke” of an email. It was rather anticlimactic. I was anticipating winning the final points in the heat of battle with much exhilaration. However, I don’t protect, but graciously accepted.

(Continued on Page 4)

(Continued from Page 3 – Travis Atterberry)

Even though becoming a Life Master was my goal and certainly an appreciated honor, I don't feel like a Life Master. I feel more like, maybe, an intermediate novice. There is so much more I need and want to learn before I can have the confidence with which I want to play. Playing at the Bridge House has introduced me to many new friends. I appreciate the warm welcome from the beginning, the critique of my play, and the willingness to teach as time permits. I look forward to playing many more games with some of you, and learning from each of you.

A special thanks to Jim and Luraette for rekindling my Bridge fire!!!

Special MARCH Games

For game times, please check the monthly calendar on page 5, or on www.bridgewebs.com/littlerock.

Inter-Club Championship, March 6

Charity Games, March 8, 11, 12, 13, *15, 16, 17

Unit-Wide Games, March 14 (limited games)

Senior Pairs, March 19 (must start at 12:00 noon)

Club Membership, March 21

Club Championship, March 23, 24

***Pi Day +1 (see article on Page 9)**

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS....

Kaye Stanley

Our Tournament of Roses is scheduled for July 13 – 15th, and we want to make this a tournament to remember. To do that, we need your help! We need volunteers to serve on the promotions, registration, social, hospitality and food committees. **PLEASE** join us for a short meeting on Monday, March 12th at 3:00 p.m. at the Curtis Finch Bridge House. Let's make this tournament a grand slam!



Members Reaching Masterpoint Milestones!

Club Master (20 masterpoints)

Francee Fent

Sectional Master (50 masterpoints including at least 5 silver)

Julie Graham-Johnson

Regional Master (100 masterpoints including at least 15 silver and 5 red, gold or platinum)

Tanner Chapman

Life Masters (500 masterpoints including at least 75 black, 75 silver, 100 red, gold, or platinum, and 50 gold or platinum; lower requirements if joined ACBL prior to 2010)

Janice Atterberry

Travis Atterberry

Bronze Life Master (Life Master with 750 masterpoints)

Pete Marvin

Silver Life Master (Life Master with 1000 masterpoints including 200 silver, red, gold or platinum)

Fran Cockcroft



March 2018

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| | | | | 1 11:00 Open 7:00 0-750 | 2 11:00 0-300 <i>6:30 Potluck</i> 7:00 Open | 3 1:00 Open |
| 4 1:30 Eight is Enough Swiss Team | 5 11:00 Open & 0-300 7:00 0-500 | 6 1:00 Open Inter-Club Championship 6:30 Open | 7 9:30 0-500 1:00 0-50 7:00 0-100 | 8 Int'l. Women's Day 11:00 Open Charity L 7:00 0-750 Charity N | 9 11:00 0-300 <i>6:30 Potluck</i> 7:00 Open | 10 1:00 Open |
| 11 Daylight Saving Begins 12:00 Board Meeting 1:30 Open Charity N | 12 11:00 Open & 0-300 Charity L 7:00 0-500 Charity N | 13 1:00 Open Charity L 6:30 Open Charity N | 14 9:30 0-500 Unit Wide W803161A 1:00 0-50 Unit Wide W803161A 7:00 0-100 Unit Wide W803161A | 15 Pi Day+1 11:00 Open Charity L 7:00 0-750 Charity N | 16 11:00 0-300 Charity L <i>6:30 Potluck</i> 7:00 Open Charity N | 17 Saint Patrick's Day 1:00 Open Charity L |
| 18 1:30 Open | 19 12:00 Open & 0-300 Senior Pairs 7:00 0-500 | 20 Spring Begins 1:00 Open 6:30 Open | 21 9:30 0-500 Club Membership 1:00 0-50 Club Membership 7:00 0-100 Club Membership | 22 11:00 Open 7:00 0-750 | 23 11:00 0-300 Club Championship <i>6:30 Potluck</i> 7:00 Open Club Championship | 24 1:00 Open Club Championship |
| 25 1:30 Open | 26 11:00 Open & 0-300 7:00 0-500 | 27 1:00 Open 6:30 Open | 28 9:30 0-500 1:00 0-50 7:00 0-100 | 29 11:00 Open 7:00 0-750 | 30 Good Friday 11:00 0-300 <i>6:30 Potluck</i> 7:00 Open | 31 1:00 Open |

Winners of the Unit 161 Mini-McKenney and/or Ace of Clubs for 2017 in the 0-500 Categories. Congratulations!!



**Renee Shackelford, Nancy Speer, Roger Amick, Keith Thomas (above)
Tanner Chapman & Lana Foot (below)**



District 10 Winners in the Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs for 2017



Bonnie Melchior, Jay Lucas, Allan Siebert

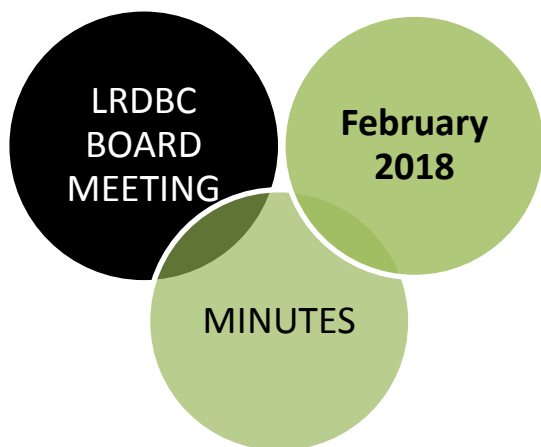
Allan (over 10,000 category) and Jay (500-1000 category) are winners of the 2017 **District Mini-McKenney**. Bonnie (5000-7500 category) and Jay (500-1000 category) are winners of the 2017 **District Ace of Clubs**.

All three are listed in the **National Barry Crane Top 500**. Congratulations!!

Unit 161 Winners in the Mini-McKinney and/or Ace of Clubs in 500+ Categories for 2017

Bonnie Melchior, Allan Siebert, Becky Bien, Frank Swan, Richard Kalkbrenner, Jay Lucas





The February meeting of the LRDBC Board was called to order on February 10, 2018, by President Fran Cockcroft. Present at the meeting were Secretary Cheryl Floyd, Treasurer Rick Lowens, and Board members Bitsy Cates, Leslie Hollingsworth, John Mueller, Dick Heil, Roger Amick, Renee Shackelford and Kaye Stanley. Also in attendance were ex-officio members Lead Director Dick Chapman, Past President Byron Southern, along with representative of The Bridge House Art Pfeifer and Newsletter Editor Becky Bien.

The minutes from the January meeting were approved by a voice vote.

Fran Cockcroft reported that there should no longer be a space issue with classes and dealing teams as game directors will be dealing their own boards. She also reported that there was a great turnout for the REACH (Regional Event at Club House) games.

Rick Lowens reported that our table count for 2017 was down from the 2016 total, the lowest table count since 2013. We have a total of 380 members for 2018. We have \$1804 for distribution to our charities and Dick Heil made a motion to round this amount up to \$2000 which was seconded by Bitsy Cates and passed by a voice vote. The honorees will be invited to the Club on "Pi Day +1" on March 15th.

Dick Heil reported that the Game Development Committee recommended that the Tuesday night game fee be returned to \$5.00 starting on the first Tuesday in March. Dick Heil moved, seconded by Bitsy Cates that the GDC's recommendation be approved. It was approved by voice vote. The GDC will conduct a survey concerning night games starting times, number of boards played, etc.

Kaye Stanley reported we had a great 499er tournament in January and grossed \$2,640.80.

Bitsy Cates thanked the Club for allowing her Meet and Greet group to play at our club on the last Thursday in February. They are tentatively scheduled to play on the 4th Thursdays beginning in March if its members are agreeable to the terms proposed by the LRDBC. They

have a lot of beginning Bridge players who will get a chance to see our club.

Dick Chapman reported that the 2017 ACBL Laws are fairer (but not simpler) and our Directors are studying them. Directors will also be learning how to use BBO robots for 3+ board sitouts. He stated that if a Director determines a violation of the club's zero tolerance policy has occurred, there is no discretion on the penalty (the penalty is automatically asserted). Dick emphasized that club members are not to make their own rulings at the table.

Art Pfeifer reported that it was the last LRDBC Board meeting that he would attend as the liaison for The Bridge House.

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

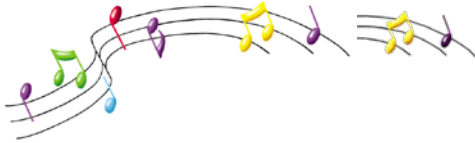
70% Games at the Club:

Janice Atterberry & Travis Atterberry, 73.41%, 2/1
Jay Lucas & Allan Siebert, 71.88%, 2/10
Jo & David Blanchard, 71.11%, 2/13
Jeanne Lloyd & Becky Bien, 73.96%, 2/23
Robert Downie & Gordon Campbell, 74.61%, 2/27
Amy Pollard & Hugh Pollard, 80.10%, 2/28



**Pick up your 2018
Membership Directory
at the Club!**

To View Game Results &
Other Information About
Our Club, Please Visit
<http://www.bridgewebs.com/littlerock>



*Happy Birthday to You, and
You, and You!*

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Karen WILLK | Mar 1 |
| Carolynn COLEMAN | Mar 2 |
| Devon BECK | Mar 3 |
| Marian CRAWFORD | Mar 3 |
| Bernice McNUTT | Mar 3 |
| Linda NESTERENKO | Mar 3 |
| Jim PROCTOR | Mar 3 |
| Robert DOWNIE | Mar 4 |
| Helen HERR | Mar 4 |
| Ray BANKS | Mar 7 |
| Carolyn GRAY | Mar 7 |
| Carol EISEMAN | Mar 8 |
| Linda FAULKNER | Mar 10 |
| Minnie THOMAS | Mar 10 |
| Fae SEAY | Mar 12 |
| Joyce FRANKLIN | Mar 13 |
| Donna Norvell SMITH | Mar 13 |
| Edward SEWARD | Mar 15 |
| Jon SWANSON | Mar 15 |
| Pam MUELLER | Mar 16 |
| Jan VAN NESS | Mar 16 |
| April COOK | Mar 23 |
| Jim TUCKER | Mar 23 |
| Margie FRANCE | Mar 25 |
| Peggy SCOTT | Mar 25 |
| Chucki BRADBURY | Mar 27 |
| Madelon SCALLET | Mar 27 |
| Sandra CRAWFORD | Mar 29 |
| Judith HUNT | Mar 29 |



Overheard at one of the tables . . .

"We had a partnership misunderstanding: My partner assumed I knew what I was doing."

New Members!



Linda Koubek
Cissy Rucker
Steve Rucker
Jim Bell

For the Donations, We



We gratefully acknowledge the following monetary contributions to The Bridge House:

In memory of **Bill Martin**, given by **Mary Butts**

Undesignated gift by **Billie Corrothers**

In honor of **Gordon Campbell**, given by various students

A gift to TBH Scholarship Fund, made by **Pam and John Mueller**

(The Bridge House regrets that it cannot accept gifts of tangible personal property other than bridge books. Gifts of cash and securities are gratefully accepted and help fund the many educational offerings of the organization.)

ACBL-wide Senior Pairs

On March 19, beginning at 12:01 p.m. (ACBL requirement), players born prior to January 1, 1961, are invited to participate in a special "Senior Pairs" game.

HUGE overall and District masterpoints are awarded for those placing among the best. Winners will be recognized on the ACBL website and in the *Bridge Bulletin*.

(Bring your lunch and eat before the game if you want.)

Hand records and analyses will be provided.



Need a Partner or Swiss Teammates?

Contact Diane Tait at 501-225-9144, Karen Proetz at 501-454-6085, or Dixie Martin at 501-786-0183. If you are willing to be on the fill-in list, please contact Dixie, Diane or Karen.

Directory Changes or Dues Payments

Directory changes: send to Rick Lowens at relo0723@icloud.com, or place in his box at the club. Dues payments (payable to LRDBC): mail to 23 Clervaux Dr., Little Rock, AR 72223, or place in his box at the club. The acting director can also collect dues.

Newsletter Delivery

Want your *Newsletter* delivered a different way? Contact Dick Chapman at rwc2223@gmail.com or 501-590-7056, or place your request in Box B6.



We changed Pi to Pie and the 14th to the 15th!

"Pi Day +1" will be celebrated at the club on Thursday, March 15, beginning at the regular 11:00 a.m. game time.

Please bring a "real pie" to share when we break for lunch and recognize the recipients of our charities for 2017. Each charity will receive \$500 from our club.

(Note: You must be flexible to find a reason to celebrate eating pie, playing Bridge, and giving to four worthy charities.)



Dan Graham's sweatshirt says we can all have a 75% Game! "75% of our opponents think we are crazy."

From the Editor

Becky Bien



7415 Indiana Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72207

LITTLE ROCK DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

CURTIS FINCH BRIDGE HOUSE — *A ZERO TOLERANCE CLUB*

7415 INDIANA AVENUE, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72207

(501) 666-9841

BRIDGEWEBS.COM/LITTLEROCK

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Fran Cockcroft, PRESIDENT CAROLYN STOWERS, VICE PRES.

CHERYL FLOYD, SECRETARY RICK LOWENS, TREASURER

Directors

One Year

Bitsy Cates

Dick Heil

Leslie Hollingsworth

John Mueller

Two Years

Roger Amick

Bill Golden

Renee Shackleford

Kaye Stanley

Ex-Officio Board Members, Non-Voting

Byron Southern

Deb Phillips

Dick Chapman

Past President

ACBL Club Manager

Lead Director

* * * *

Diane Lord

Board Representative, The Bridge House

* * * *

Becky Bien

Newsletter Editor