

I first learned to play bridge (the old way) about 48 years ago when my son was born. For me, bridge was an opportunity to get together with friends, do something fun, while keeping an eye on our little ones. I played with this group of women regularly in Virginia then we moved to Arkansas, where I grew up. I stayed so busy raising kids for many years I forgot how much I enjoyed the game though didn't make time to play.

After losing my husband to cancer in 2017, undergoing back surgery in 2020, and while looking for something else to do while recovering, I decided to try bridge again. My dear friend, Monica Shultz invited me to the Hot Springs Duplicate bridge club to play with her and I was hooked. The people I have met are wonderful and very encouraging, duplicate was certainly different from Party Bridge and I had a lot to learn, with the help of my new friends and new partner, Randy Gammill, who pushes me I feel I have become a better player. I love playing bridge and challenging myself to become better. In short, it has been one of the best things I have ever done for myself.

I have so many people to thank but a special shout out to Clarence Durand, our club manager and all the warm and friendly players at the club.