

Gene and Marilyn Hendricks at home in Vail, AZ December 2020.



Gene's father was a Naval officer and lived all over the US and Europe. But his father was from Bisbee, AZ (his permanent address). Gene graduated from the University of Arizona with a degree in Systems engineering. Back in the sixties, Tucson was not known as a Mecca for technology, but he eventually started working for Ralston Purina teaching the use of computers and spreadsheets to managers of Jack-in-the-Box-Restaurants. It was during this time he learned the Schenken Club system from a student manager. He played his first duplicate games at the Tucson Bridge Center on 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Tucson Blvd. On his third visit, he came in 5<sup>th</sup> in a 101ers game and earned .17 masterpoints! Needless to say, he was hooked and soon earned his Life Master in 1989.

Marilyn grew up in Redondo and Manhattan Beach, California. She graduated from University of California at Davis and got her Master's degree at Utah State University in Nutrition and Food Science. Her father & mother played party bridge with duplicate friends while she was in high school. After her mother passed away, her father decided he wanted to learn "scientific bidding" & took her down to the local bridge club to teach her bridge. Marilyn worked in

California, Wyoming, Montana (on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation with IHS), Nevada & then finally landed in Tucson in 2004. She became a life master in Montana. Quite a few of these Montana bridge players ended up snowbirds in Green Valley. She lost her husband, John, in 2006.

Gene was playing in a Tucson Sectional in January of 2007 with his Precision team -- Gordon Grossetta, David Rinehart and Stuart Russell. Marilyn's Montana team beat Gene's Precision team; and, even though she was not at Gene and Stuart's table, we were introduced and soon took up dating and playing bridge. She learned Precision and soon we were engaged and married on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008. We had a Church wedding (by a Justice of the Peace on Church Street), we honeymooned on a Holland America cruise ship, the Maasdam, and renewed our vows. We've been travelling and playing bridge all over the country and the world ever since. We have spent nearly 2 years cruising on Holland America.

We call the Adobe Bridge Club our home club. But we live minute 45 minutes away. We play in Green Valley, Bisbee, Sierra Vista, In Tempo (Scottsdale), Bridge on Shea (Scottsdale), Duncan (Palm Desert, California), Las Cruces, Albuquerque, and Santa Fe. Also, we play at many other bridge clubs in California, Oregon, Washington, and Mexico. We also help to teach bridge to sea cruisers and mentor local players.

We really enjoy the camaraderie at the Adobe. We also like the players and directors at the Duncan Bridge club in Palm Desert. We love to spend weekends there and play at their club.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you when this craziness stops and we can play bridge again socially on Limberlost. We have made so many lasting friendships and associations. Please, stay safe and healthy, so we can all play face to face bridge again!