

Meet Pam Krisak



I was born in Joliet, IL, the youngest of 5 children. Literally, the youngest by 10 minutes to an identical twin sister (who says she "might" learn bridge when she retires).

Our family were game players. Although my mother rarely played bridge as I was growing up, I later learned that she and a group of friends had played every week for years prior.

My father thought all that bidding was too much information. His game was poker with the accompanying bluffing strategy!

At the age of ten my parents, my twin sister and I moved to Scotland and stayed until I was 14. Attending British schools near Glasgow and traveling with my parents was a great experience.

Returning to Illinois in the midsixties was quite a culture shock. I graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana with a degree in Business. I then worked in Chicago as a workmeasurement analyst which grew into work for other insurance companies as a methods - procedures - systems analyst. My last job was as a computer Novell network administrator for a 50-user department before I turned to consulting.

I met my husband in Chicago, working for the same company when we married. This started several promotional moves, ultimately

landing us in the Los Angeles area for over 15 years. It was in LA where a co-worker and I decided to teach ourselves bridge during our lunch hour -- dealing hands and following a Goren book to learn the bidding. A VP asked what we were doing, and when we said "bridge" that started a lunchtime bridge game. When my two children came along the bridge playing ended, except for rare occasional game with friends.

A final work-related move back to Illinois gave me more opportunities to play in couple social games but then I decided to work on a master's degree in Management Information Systems. So while studying for my Masters, working full-time and raising two teenagers there was no time for anything else -- including bridge!

After my degree work was done we moved again, but it allowed more time for me to pursue playing social bridge -- until my brave partner and I, wanting a greater challenge, ventured to our local once-a-week ACBL sanctioned Open game. We got schooled but kept coming back for more.

A retirement move brought us to Tucson where I sought bridge players in my neighborhood and found Adobe Bridge Center. To have this kind of a resource with classes, play and learns, mentor games, 8 is Enough and limited point games was a wonderful way for me to get back into bridge and improve my game while at the same time making great friends.

I have been married to my husband Ed for 44 years and have lived in Tucson for 7 years. Besides playing bridge, I also volunteer during tax season with United Way VITA program in their low-income tax preparation program and am very involved in a woman's group that supports women in pursuing educational opportunities.

Currently, I serve on the Adobe Bridge Center Board.

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