

Hi Duplicate Enthusiasts,

We have exciting events that happened and exciting events coming up!

## **Carroll Guichon and Mike Foster were awarded the Goodwill Pin from District 19!**

Congratulations!

Both Carroll and Mike have been terrific volunteers, player of the year recipients, and dedicated supporters of the club!

Mike has been our partnership volunteer for at least 5 years, a mentor to new players, and the memorable “Queen” at our special events! Carroll has organized many very successful special events, the “Bring a Book – Borrow a book “ program at the club, and helped at many events. She asks you to donate newer books to the program if you would like to share.



The Christmas party was a terrific success! Our favourite Santa Clause, John D, along with his main helper Bob Dillon brought many smiles to our faces and did an amazing job of orchestrating the Food Bank Drive, collecting:

2018: **115lbs of Food and \$5,123** in Cash

2017: 240lbs of Food and \$3,078 in Cash

2016: 400lbs of Food and \$2,363 in Cash

Total 755lbs of Food and \$10,564 in Cash

The day had many memorable moments! Besides the visit from Santa, Our own version of “The Twelve Days of Christmas” was great fun!

Stephanie Williams as lead singer for her group, Craig Dunning’s boisterous participation, our adorable

five reindeer, and the terrific participation by everyone!

And the food was amazing, chefs Lory Salvador and Isabel Chernoff kept us happy and full!

Bob Dillon played a major role coordinating, collecting, and staging the event! And there were many Santa Helpers!

Jon Oshendorf, a non player, did all the photos which are on the website and Louise Kaye, Jane Youngberg's sister made a special appearance to play the song on her keyboard.

What resonates with all is the many good times we have had playing together, enjoying our partners, and celebrating! And why not another special event??

We have just the event!!!

Last year, Duplicate Lite sponsored a day at the Vancouver Regional, headed by our own John Demeulemeester, and what a success it was!! Players at the tournament loved our day and there were many comments about what a terrific club we have. The message that we shared with the larger bridge community was one of making duplicate bridge fun, welcoming, and inclusive! We have an opportunity to spread this message again!

**Duplicate Lite Day at the Canadian Nationals May 6-12** being hosted at the same hotel in Burnaby as the Vancouver Regional was last year. Our day will be **Wednesday May 8<sup>th</sup>**. Please put this date on your calendar, we will be hosting the day Duplicate Lite style – wearing red and bringing home made goodies (if possible) or special treats to hand out at your tables. We will have special bags for your items as well as decorations etc. There will be a section for 0-199, Gold Rush Pairs 0-750, and an open pairs on the Wednesday with Regional status to earn those red and gold points. Should be great fun and a chance to show the rest of Canada what Duplicate Bridge can be and should be! The tournament is a National Event and there are many events at the regional level for every player. We will have flyers at the club. More info on this special event to come!!!

### **Monday Game**

One of our goals is to build the Monday game to 2 well attended sections of new players and experienced players. This spring, we hope to start a beginners group as well as lessons for more experienced players.

We need your help to support the Monday game. Please join Ben Takemori on Mondays! Our club would also like to be able to continue host 3 games per week to help support and finance the East Delta Hall society as the building is there for the community! Any suggestions to market the Monday game are most welcome!

### **Closures:**

Monday only February 25	Filming crew using the parking lot.
All week May 6-10	Canadian Championships and Regional
All week June 10-14	Penticton Regional Championships

### **Ride Share Program**

Thank you to all of you who drive others to the game. We hope the program inspired you to help each other and you will continue to help drive. The token program has taken volunteer time and financial backing by the club. We are closing the program in a month, as of April 1, but we will honour your tokens into the future. Many thanks to Frank Vick and Dick Baker for their help and to our directors

for administering the financial end.

**Interesting statistic – do we like our club?**

**Lauren Cockroft** has been a dedicated volunteer taking orders for the name tags, delivering them, and in addition keeping our data base up to date. Her conscientious and caring attitude towards our club is evident as she has made over **400 name tags** for us and, keeps over **800 names** as current as possible in our data base. Way to go Lauren and thank you for your work on our unit board!

Congratulations to John Demeulemeester who became a Sapphire Life Master (3500)!