

Dear Bridge Players, you really don't need to pay attention to my musings, it's all on our wonderful website which I again urge you to visit regularly, It is updated constantly. [The Greater Venice Duplicate Bridge Club, Englewood Fl \(bridgewebs.com\)](http://bridgewebs.com)

Nevertheless, here I go...

Hope you've got your partners lined up for next week's ROYAL STaC event, 9/13-18. Game fee is \$9 all week. Call Tom if you need a partner. Point awards will be large and 25% Gold, 25% Red, 25% Silver, and 25% Black. By the way, we have been informed that Live for Clubs will show the points as all Silver, but the promised pigmented distribution will show later in the month, after the results have been processed. I've added extra club championship games in September, check out the revised schedule. ACBL is offering so many special games that the year is threatening to be gone before I can use them all. Not letting that happen!! We are having extra point games every day for the rest of the year, all of them at no extra charge except next week and the December STaC games. Check the monthly schedule posted at the club or on the website, where game schedule is posted through the end of the year.

Please take note of these special events in October.

- You've probably heard about the Ukranian family being sponsored by our landlord, Christ Lutheran Church. We are very excited to host a **Club Appreciation fund raiser** for them **October 6**. Flier attached and remember, 100% of the proceeds are going to the family, including Tom's Director fee, please thank him for that! Let me know if you can bring some special refreshments that day. There will be door prizes and a silent auction table. Bring your checkbook! I must tell you that Pastor Ken bragged about us from the pulpit last Sunday. He is so pleased that we want to become part of their community by joining the effort to help the Ukrainian family. The entire congregation is touched by our plan. Let's make ourselves proud! If you are unable to join us on October 6, any director will be happy to take your contribution in advance.
- We're having another **Pro-Am Club Appreciation game October 20**; partnerships must consist of at least one person with under 1000 points. Tom can help you line up a partner. Do plan to complete the

day by staying for the postmortem with Al and Ann; I guarantee you'll learn something.

- Something new: **Eight-is-enough Club Appreciation Swiss game October 30** (5% gold points for the winners), Talk to some seasoned players about how to set up your team (you'll need four people for four 6-board matches) for that event which is also called Sloppy Sunday, because Elaine and Ron are bringing little sloppy joe sandwiches for everyone, and we'll serve black cows (root beer floats for you non-Chicagoans) later in the afternoon. No extra charge.

Beginner classes are starting November 1. Elaine is the lead teacher for this eight-week, 2-hour class on Tuesday mornings from 9:30-11:30 at the club. We're using the ACBL Bridge in the 21st Century series. The course focuses on introducing the student to the basic concepts of the game. There is an emphasis on modern bidding (opening bids, responses, rebids, overcalls, takeout doubles and stayman) but sufficient elements of play and defense are introduced to allow the students to start playing hands right away. Please check with your non-playing friends as ask them to call me if interested. Flier is attached.

Added to the reminder list of bridge etiquette reminders (please keep up, pass boards when round is called, put cards softly on the table) are: Please refrain from wearing scents to accommodate those of us who are allergic. Please don't put the ice scoop in the ice bucket; put it on top or in a Styrofoam cup next to the bucket. If you notice a deck of cards that should be replaced, give director a note of date and board number, or email me that information. Think before you speak (how would I feel if someone said that to me?).

Call Tom if you need a partner, and me if you have any questions, comments or complaints.

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Tom Cooney, 507-737-7181

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