



Let's Play Bridge Club Kelowna Newsletter

Newsletter Editor: Chris Mazurkewich

President's Message

by Wendy Webb

Welcome to the Spring edition of the LPBC Newsletter!

A club like ours depends on the contribution of volunteers so here's a shout out to all our members who help with set-up and take down of the tables and in the kitchen!

The Board is currently working to update our Club constitution and Progressive Disciplinary policy. Thanks to Mary Meenagh for preparing the first draft on the disciplinary policy and Board members for their input, particularly Matt and Chris. You'll find some tips on courteous behavior in this newsletter.

Next, we plan to focus on educational opportunities and what resources should be available for our members. I'd appreciate any input you may have. Would you be interested in guest speakers? Would you benefit by being mentored by a more experienced player?

Please email me at wjwebb54@icloud.com with any suggestions about this or any other topic.

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Club Manager's Report

by Kelly Meenagh

It has been great to see our table counts for our face-to-face games improve over the winter months. I think everyone would agree that it makes for a better experience when we have a larger group playing. Our club has had great success with our 199er game on Thursdays with up to 10 tables on many days.

I would like to thank all of our members who help to make our club a welcoming place. We have a real mix of experience levels at the club - one thing that we do have in common is that we all started out as new players.

I understand that when you are a newer player it can sometimes seem daunting to go up against



"This is nothing. You should see her playing Bridge."

more experienced players. I encourage you to think of our experienced players as a great resource available to you - I think any of them would be flattered if approached for advice - so I encourage you to tap into this resource!

Questions like - how would you bid this hand? what would you lead? can serve to break the ice. Give it a try!



Member's Corner

Part 1

Interview with Brad Barton

by Chris Mazurkewich

Brad and Jennie Barton are long time LPBC members. Brad was born in Toronto though raised in Timmins, Ontario.

Toronto is the Mohawk word "tkaronto" which means "where the trees are standing in the water" in reference to a weir for catching fish. Timmins, located in an area with a First Nation's presence for at least 6,000 years, was founded in 1911 to serve the nearby Hollinger gold mine. Timmins is located on Mattagami River named after the Mattagami First Nation who traded with a Hudson Bay trading post established in 1794.

Brad's athleticism and size landed him a position on a mine's baseball team while in high school. As a perk, he was given a coveted mining service job for two years. The pay was \$1.03/hour. In his third year he asked if he could work underground as he wanted underground mining experience. Management agreed. Brad now earned the princely sum of \$1.06/hour or \$42.40 for a 40-hour work week!

Brad, at age 15, hitchhiked to New York City and slept a few nights in Central Park. Kind Americans provided him with free food. With this experience under his belt, after finishing grade 12, Brad hitchhiked across the US and Canada, eventually arriving in Vancouver. On a dance floor in Vancouver Brad met a wonderful, beautiful person, Jennie, who became the love of his life.

Jennie was working for Great West Life, who had transferred her from

Winnipeg, where she was born. Winnipeg comes from Cree meaning muddy (win) water (nipee). Brad realized to woo a beautiful, working woman who loved to dance he had to be working so he headed back to Timmins to complete his grade 13. Jennie and Brad corresponded by letters for this year as long-distance phone calls were very expensive.

The two married in 1956. They have two daughters and a son who in turn have provided 8 grandchildren who in turn have provided 5 great-grandchildren. Their 3 children all live in the lower mainland ranging from Maple Ridge to Vancouver.



Brad was a Vancouver Police officer for 10 years. This career highlight (at least from his children's perspective) was being part of the security detail for – Elvis Presley and the Beatles! The former had a bomb threat at his hotel which resulted in the hotel manager and police sergeant deciding "the security detail should have a coffee and see what happens". Nothing happened. For the Beatles the only excitement was turning out the stadium lights once the concert was done until the Beatles had left the building.

Brad's next career was with General Motors for 27 years including being the western Canada regional manager located in Victoria. On the side, Brad and a buddy started a business which was quite successful.

Later in life Jennie and Brad discovered that Brad's grandparents and Jennie's parents were from two villages in the Ukraine about a kilometer apart.

In retirement Brad volunteered for the Commonwealth games in Victoria and was assigned as team attaché for an African country. This volunteer position came with a car and chauffeur. He also organized a party for Africans in a Victoria park. Brad claims the party tickets were the hottest tickets in town and about 400 people attended the exclusive party.

As a Commonwealth volunteer Brad received a yellow jacket which features in the next story.

Jennie and Brad, along with some friends, booked a cruise out of New York City. The ladies wanted to see Regis and Kathie, but the tickets were sold out a year in advance. Undaunted the ladies, with two reluctant gentlemen in tow, lined up the day of show with the hope enough people with tickets would be no shows so they could get in. With a long line up the odds appeared slim, but the ladies insisted. Brad wandered away doing a self-guided tour of the studio building. While meandering he encountered a well-dressed woman and using his GM training introduced himself asking her if she could help them get some tickets. In a non-committal way she responded she would see what she could do and then told him where to stand till right before the show. Brad, an experienced negotiator, then indicated there were 4 people in their party and the woman rolled her eyes but said okay. A few minutes before the show was to

begin the kind woman (turned out to be a producer of the show) found Brad in his yellow volunteer jacket at the appointed location and provided him with 4 folding chairs. The four friends were placed on the stage just outside of the area camera view range. At commercial breaks Regis and Kathie would come over to chat. Then at one point in the show Regis introduces the 4 volunteers from Canada to his national audience!

Again, seeking new adventures, a buddy talked Brad into playing duplicate bridge with him. Turns out his buddy didn't really know bridge so Brad would ask other players about their bids and how to play. Over time Brad played in tournaments all over the Island becoming president of the Victoria bridge club and chair of the local tournaments. Brad a Life Master is closing in on being a Gold Life Master!

WORLD BRIDGE NEWS

Brad Barton Life Master



Jennie and Brad moved back to Vancouver where Jennie was introduced to bridge as previous to this she was still working. They went to Kelowna for a tournament and Jennie felt this was the place to live so they moved to Kelowna and joined LPBC.

They met Maureen and Roy Barnes and many others in LPBC. Maureen and the Barton's, along with another person, entered the Penticton Swiss Team tournament. Winning this tournament propelled Jennie into playing bridge. Jennie is a Life Master! Also, the Barnes encouraged Brad to

become both a game director and bridge teacher which included teaching on a cruise.

Brad mentored me one evening. First, he asked how many master points I had. Wanting to provide the correct answer I hesitatingly and proudly said 2.25 points, no I mean 2.75. He quickly said,

"I got it". Next Brad said, "if I bid to the 2 level we are bidding to game". My learning from Brad began and continues to this day.

Sixty years later Brad and Jennie are still dancing!

Upcoming Tournaments

Duncan Sectional

Mar 16 – 18, 2023

Kamloops Sectional

Mar 23 – 25, 2023

Victoria Regional

Apr 17 – 23, 2023

Qualicum Beach Sectional

Apr 28 – 30, 2023

Vernon Sectional

Apr 28 - 30, 2023

New Westminster Sectional

May 20 - 22, 2023

Osoyoos Sectional

May 26 - 28, 2023

Penticton Regional

Jun 12 - 18, 2023

LPBC Members Achievements January - March 2023

Bronze Life Master

Al Sheasby
Maureen Sheasby

Life Master

Judith Harris

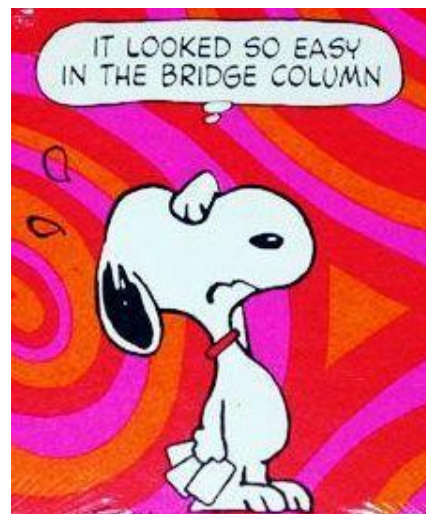
Club Master

Elizabeth Binnie
Sharon Clements

Junior Master

Catherine McGowan

Congratulations to all!



Member's Corner

Part 2

Interview with Dave Cameron

by Chris Mazurkewich

Dave Cameron was born in Calgary at the Holy Cross Hospital.

A fort was established by the NWMP (now RCMP) in 1874 in the territory of the Blackfoot Confederacy/Treaty 7 Nations whose languages refer to the area as "the land that has given so much to so many". The impetus for establishing a fort was the impact of traders wanting buffalo skins in exchange trading, amongst other things, liquor to local Indigenous people.

In 1875 the fort was named Fort Calgary. Calgary may derive from Gaelic meaning "pasture by the bay" as there is a Calgary Bay in Scotland. Cameron is originally a Scottish surname so perhaps you could ask Dave if he agrees with the aforementioned.

In high school Dave's best friend's sister had a lovely, smart friend by the name of Lorraine. This connection turned out to be fortuitous for him. Eventually Dave worked up the courage to ask the lass out for a date though recognized she was likely out of his league. To his delight she agreed. Their first date occurred at a teenage romantic location - a drive-in movie. Dave being debonair (e.g., suave, urbane, charming, refined) augmented the romantic setting with a six-pack liquid refreshment.

Dave's smooth moves swept Lorraine off her feet and holy matrimony occurred in 1978. They have a daughter and a son with the former getting married in April. As some readers may

have surmised, Dave's beau is currently a well-respected LPBC Board member and quick-witted bridge player.

1978 was a memorable year, as besides getting married to a wonderful woman, Dave graduated from medical school and was accepted into UBC's family practice residency program. After graduating from the program, he did locums in Vancouver and eventually arrived in Kelowna in 1981. After a year long locum in Lake Country, he joined a local family practice. The collective practice grew over time as more physicians joined the group.



Dave humbly and proudly says "practicing family medicine is the best job in the world, as one is uniquely and intimately involved in people's lives". His passion shone thru as he talked about his medical career. FP is demonstrated in various studies to having a positive impact on an individual's health. FP physicians like Dave are owed our collective thanks for their dedicated service and impact upon our neighbors, friends, and family.

Dave did not limit himself to office practice. He worked a regular shift in the emergency department at KGH and did obstetrics throughout his time in practice. He "gave back" to the UBC Family Practice Residency Program by coordinating training experiences at KGH for doctors in training in the disciplines of pediatrics and obstetrics and gynecology.

He sat on a committee of the Medical Council of Canada that annually reviewed and updated the Canadian national licensing exams, specifically in the realm of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He enjoyed the 'academia' and the opportunity to put his own experience and knowledge to use in evaluating physicians for competence in these areas, working as an equal with nationally and internationally recognized obstetrics and gynecology physician leaders. This was heady stuff for a family doctor from, at the time, small rural Lake Country, BC.

During Dave's career many local improvements occurred in health services, such as:

- the opening of MR, CT, cancer centre, long term care and assisted living facilities (upgraded/expanded and/or new ones), hospice and community palliative services;
- various significant service enhancement at KGH including cardiac surgery and a medical school with an increased emphasis on research.

Dave was working here before many of these changes occurred and recalls doing emergency house calls before there was local ambulance; providing care for his dying patients at home before hospice care was available; even providing intravenous chemotherapy to a young leukemic patient who could not easily get to hospital in Kelowna.

Local physicians have had a hockey team for decades called the "Quacks". Dave organized the team for years. Despite this extra effort, sadly he never made the NHL but did acquire many great hockey stories best told with a glass of wine in hand. In his spare time, he also did a stint as one of the Okanagan Sun football team's physicians.

At a Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians Conference in Kelowna Dave was seated at the table with keynote speaker Dafydd (Dave) Williams. Dafydd, who was born in Saskatoon, is an astronaut with the Canadian record for most space walks in addition to being an emergency medicine physician as well as being trained in family medicine. They chatted and then happily exchanged pins – one received an astronaut's pin and the other received a Quacks hockey pin. How many of us have met an astronaut never mind one with training similar to our own?



Dave has many interests ranging from golfing, hiking, cycling, bridge, and traveling. Did I mention golfing is his passion as demonstrated by the enthusiasm that crept in his voice as he

relayed to me their daughter played golf at university and her fiancé also plays golf! If you want to engage Dave in conversation just ask him about golfing. He's even has a practice golfing set up in his garage!

Dave took some bridge lessons while doing his medical residency and then again at OUC though he rarely played until just a few years ago when Lorraine and he joined LPBC. Fortunately, they joined while in person games were the norm and then like most us switched over to online games. Both games have value, but Dave likes the social aspect of in person games.

For Dave each hand is a like a puzzle just waiting to be solved. The sense of satisfaction when he solves a complex hand makes bridge special. Also, he is now partnering with a newbie to duplicate bridge and quite excited about their budding partnership which shows excellent promise.

Dave finds LPBC members extremely friendly which keeps him coming back!



PLAY NICE

Part one



Say Hello to everyone.
You might make someone's day.

~

Introduce yourself to people you don't know.
They may be your next good friends.

~

Be punctual.
If you're late, you make others late, too.

~

Acknowledge good play by the opponents.
An appreciative nod lets them know their skill has not gone unnoticed.

~

Smile often.
You will brighten the room considerably.

~

Be understanding.
Everybody makes mistakes.

~

Be kind.
You will never like everybody, but you can be cordial to all.

~

Nobody likes to lose.
Practice grace under fire.