

Message from the Chair

Welcome everyone to our Annual General Meeting. This is our ten year celebration and we are so happy that we can meet in person. I would like to recognize and thank the members of our Management Committee who supported our club over this past year. Their dedication is very much appreciated. Even though we could not open our club until March, we had many meetings in preparation for re-opening and of course a couple of false starts when we thought things were getting better, but didn't:

Bob McGrath – Secretary – takes the minutes for our meetings and is always accurate and timely in sending them to us. Bob has been on the Management Committee for 2 three year terms

Claude Tremblay – Club Manager and Head Director – schedules our directors, provides training and backup support for all of our directors, communicates with ACBL and establishes a schedule for all of our special games. Claude keeps all of us informed about things that are planned for our members and likes to remind all of us to make our lead before recording the contract.

Dena Jones - Website Master – supported us in maintaining our website and transferring her responsibilities to Bob Gidden, our new Web Master and she continues to support us in training our newest web master.

Bob Gidden – accepted the role of Web Master in February of this year and was really getting comfortable in his new role just before he learned about his cancer. He resigned just weeks before he passed. We will miss Bob at our meetings and our games.

Heather Beckman – Newsletter and promotion. Heather is our liaison with The Local newspaper. She was instrumental in getting an article written about us to support our promotion of our Education Program.

Lorraine Horton – Membership Chair is responsible for maintaining information on the website for our new and renewed members. She communicates with our new members to let welcome them and inform them of the information on the website set up for members only. Lorraine has also been on the Management Committee for 2 three years terms and has agreed to stay on for at least one more year.

Muriel Tremblay – I am your Chair and Treasurer

Chandi has been extremely successful in recruiting students and teaching beginner bridge lessons. He had 29 students this fall and through his energy and encouragement, most of his students have become members of our club and are playing in a novice game on Friday afternoons. This is the only way that we can develop new bridge players in our community. Thank you Chandi for all that you do for bridge and for our club.

I want to thank our directors: **Heather Beckman**, **Violi Whitmee**, **Chandi Jarawardena** and **Claude Tremblay**. Without them, we would not have any games and therefore, no club. They provide us with a great playing atmosphere and we know that their rulings will be fair. One more person that I want to recognize is **Verne Chant** for dealing all of boards each week and you have all had the benefit of his excellent wine and beer service today and at each of our special events.

I want to thank **Jerry Sme**, who is not on our Management Committee, but is always there for us when we need to promote one of our special events or our Education opportunities to our members. I also want to thank **John Mackay** who does our financial review each year for us.

I would like to introduce you to the new members of our Management Committee:

Donna Williams is our Social Chair and she is the person that we need to thanks for todays refreshments. Donna has a team of six members who have already planned our Christmas party for this year. It is going to be a wonderful celebration and tickets are on sale as of today. I recommend if you are planning to attend that you purchase your tickets early. Unfortunately due to our late start this year, we were not able to secure Auditorium C, where we have held the party in previous years. It will be in the Simpson room and there is a limit of 56 seats available.

Joan Soifert is our new web master. She accepted the role a month ago and with Dena's help Joan has been sending out messages from the Management Committee and posting on our website.

John Marskell is joining us as our Secretary, replacing Bob McGrath. We look forward to working with John over the next three years.

Returning to the Management Committee are: **Claude Tremblay, Heather Beckman, Lorraine Horton** and myself and we are very thankful that they did because otherwise we would not have the continuity that we currently enjoy.

I want to thank all of you for showing up for our 2022 AGM.

Muriel Tremblay
Chair