

Officers and Board for 2023-2024

President	David Magee	dmagee1@maine.rr.com
First Vice President	David Waterman	dwaterman@deltapointcapital.com
Second Vice President	Dorothy Kelleher	dotpeppie@aol.com
Secretary	Karen Mooney	karensmooney333@gmail.com
Treasurer	Stephen Kolkhorst	sskolkhurst@aol.com
Tournament Coordinator	Russell Glidden	freestyle04098@msn.com

Board members Area 1 York and Cumberland Counties, except the Town of Brunswick

David Lindley	dxlindley@gmail.com
Audrey Thirkell	wthirkell@maine.rr.com
Karen Day	kday0718@gmail.com
Norma Verrill	rverrill2015@gmail.com

Board Members Area 2 Oxford, Franklin, Androscoggin, Sagadahoc and Lincoln Counties, and the Town of Brunswick

Michael Quinn	mikebquinn23@gmail.com
Dan Morgenstern	dmockayak@aol.com

Board Members Area 3 Kennebec, Somerset, Knox and Waldo Counties

Ruth Kenney	lto67@aol.com
Paul Sherman	pshermkora@aol.com

Board Members Area 4 Penobscot, Piscataquis, Hancock, Aroostook and Washington Counties

Donald Murray	dommor55@tds.net
Kathleen Martino	skindiva28@icloud.com

Others on Board (not subject to election)

Roland Miller	Immediate Past President	rollimiller@comcast.net
Patricia Damon	Editor of the Unit Publication	pmdteach@yahoo.com
Sally Magee	Web Master	sallydmagee@gmail.com
Fred Letourneau	Disciplinary Chair	florry39@gmail.com

Treasurers Report December 2022

Below is the December 31, 2022 year-end financial report for the Maine Bridge Association.

A few items of note.

- Attendance at the August and September Portland tournaments averaged 56% of “pre-covid” attendance; and we incurred a loss of \$408 for the August, and \$253 for the September tournaments.
- However, we did have a profit of \$ 375 for the year, due to the ACBL returning a portion of the individual annual dues to us.
- Our financial condition continues to be solid. When our Bath Savings Bank CD'S mature in the next few months, we need to move most of our investment funds to another institution, to get a better rate of return.

Any questions, please let me know.

Steve Kolkhorst
Treasurer

**Maine Bridge Association
Treasurer's Report
December 31, 2022**

Bath Savings CD # 1	13,341.24
Bath Savings CD # 2	2,535.83
Bath Savings Checking	<u>13,437.39</u>
 Beg. Cash Bal. Jan 1, 2022	 29,314.46
 <u>Income 2022 YTD</u>	
Tournaments	3,385.00
ACBL Dues	1,446.04
Interest CD # 1	13.31
Interest CD # 2	2.54
 <u>Total Income</u>	 <u>4,846.89</u>
 <u>Expenses 2022 YTD</u>	
Tournament Expenses	538.05
ACBL tournament payment	2,354.22
Rent	1,155.00
VOD	379.04
Website	44.92
 <u>Total Expenses</u>	 <u>4,471.23</u> <u>375.66</u>
 Ending Cash Bal. Dec 31, 2022	 29,690.12
 Bath Savings CD # 1	 13,354.55
Bath Savings CD # 2	2,538.37
Bath Savings Checking	<u>13,797.20</u>
 Ending Cash Bal. Dec 31, 2022	 29,690.12

Mainely News

Ellsworth Duplicate Bridge Club

Monday 12:00 PM (Noon)

Ellsworth Senior Center (cafeteria), 115 State Street, Ellsworth, Maine

Wednesday 1:00 PM June through October

The Neighborhood House, 1 Kimball Road, Northeast Harbor, Maine

Director: Michael Povich (207-667-8934) (Cell: 207-461-8934)

E-mail mepda@myfairpoint.net

NEWS FROM THE MUDFLATS

Since the last VOD submission, some observations can be made regarding F2F bridge games. Yes, they are alive and well, No, they have not reached the attendance level of pre-Covid games. Attendance went up after the Ellsworth game was moved from Thursday evening to Mondays at 12:00 noon. Even with the change in times and with the addition of four “newbies”, the table count runs between 4-6 tables, which are probably down an average of two tables during the summer.

In Northeast Harbor which games ran from June through October 13, 2022, table count during August, (the busiest attendance month) the table count ran around eleven tables. This is comparable to the halcyon days of 2017 when 15-17 tables were in attendance during July and August. This can be attributed to BBO players (who don’t play F2F anymore), and less out of state guests vacationing in the area and wanting to play bridge.

Here are some of high points:

Ellsworth:

July 25, 2022 A charity club championship game was held in memory of Ron Fillmore who died on November 2, 2021. In Ron’s memory the club donated \$500 to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital. And in further memory of Ron the club “snapped” their cards.

September 12, 2022 Barbara Farrington was inducted into the 90+ club which entitles a player who has achieved the august age of 90 to lifetime free plays. (See picture – Barbara receiving 90+ certificate from Ann Ebeling another 90+ member).



October 24, 2022 Melinda Reach and Marcia Tompkins had a 73.22% game

December 12, 2022 The annual Christmas party was held with six tables enjoying pizza, sub sandwiches, adult beverages, and a decadent table of fat larvae.



Northeast Harbor

August 10, 2022 A Charity Club Championship game was held for the benefit of the Neighborhood House. With 11 ½ tables in attendance, **\$7,255.00** was donated. That is why the club does not pay a facility fee and gets also gets free coffee! The folks in NEH love their Neighborhood House.

August 24, 2022 Lorna Goodrich and Petko Petkov had a 71.43% game.

September 14, 2022 Van Raymond and Alex Seviciu had a 70.24% game.

September 28, 2022 Alice Higgins and Diana Brochendorff had a 73.33% game.

Losses

September 24, 2022. Longtime member Kermit Allen died after a short illness. Kermit was 94 years old. Kermit was the one of the “founding” players when the Ellsworth Club was established in 1974. He was a consummate gamesman and I was honored to partner with him. In Kermit’s memory, the club donated \$500.00 to George Stevens Academy.

November 26, 2022. John Wingert died suddenly at the age of 79. John was part of a group who “scrimmaged” on Fridays at the Senior Center working under the tutelage of Phil Heasley, Alice Higgins, Madelon Brogdon, and Marty Williams. They were affectionately named the “newbie” division and added two tables to the club game. John first playing in the club on December 13, 2019 and took to the game with a great passion. At the time of his death he was partnering with Phil Heasley and becoming quite an able bridge player.

Thus ends 2022....Wishing all a Happy and Healthy 2023! Michael Polvich

Maine Bridge Web Sites

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/unit189/>

Unit 189

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/dirigo/>

Bangor Games

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/rockland/>

Rockland Games

Oxford Hills Duplicate Bridge Club

Friday 9:15 AM

Recreation Center, 221 King Street, Oxford, Maine

Directors: Mike Quinn (207) 461-2866

mikebquinn23@gmail.com

Pat Quinn (207) 461-5788

bridgeiscool23@gmail.com

Since opening up face-to-face games, many Oxford players have attended regularly and accrued many points this year.

Our Top Winners are:

1. Mike Quinn	25.84
2. Mike True	23.96
3. Nancy Farmer	24.17
4. Misha Tomic	23.96
5. Marta Clements	23.06
6. Luke Merry	22.43
7. Dottie Kelleher	21.90
8. Hazel Glazier	21.38
9. Pat Quinn	17.09
10. Les Buzzell	16.24
11. Georgette Jewell	14.37
12. Dick Allen	13.85

We are closed for January, but hope to open the beginning of February.



Cape Carders Bridge Club

Monday 12:00 Noon

Woodford's Club, 179 Woodford Street, Portland, Maine

Director: Dorothy Kelleher Home: 207-854-2482 Cell: 207-329-3176

Email dotpeppie@aol.com

Please call if you need a partner.

We are doing well running 6 to 8 tables. It is great having all the players being so helpful. Special thanks to Audrey Thirkell who always puts stuff away.

Starting the first week in February, I will do a question and answer lesson at 11:15 am. This is open to anyone who wants to attend.

Happy New Year, Dottie Kelleher

Midcoast Duplicate Bridge Club

Thursday 10:00 AM

Masonic Hall, 65 Baribeau Drive, Brunswick, Maine

Director: Dottie Kelleher Home: 207-854-2482 Cell: 207-329-3176

E-mail dotpeppie@aol.com

Please call ahead if you need a partner.

It was a fun summer and fall even though we were small. We will continue to encourage new people to try duplicate.

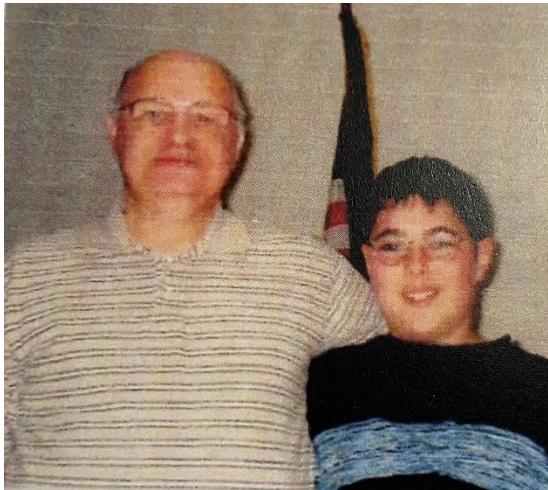
Thanks to all our faithful players and a special thanks to Dan Morgenstern for his help.

We will open up the first Thursday in April. I will do a question and answer lesson for anyone who wants to attend.

Happy New Year, Dottie Kelleher

Life with Adam

By Jim Somma from Kittery (jamessomma51@gmail.com)



In 1958 after graduating from Northeastern University, I joined the Boston Herald sports staff. One evening as I passed the desk of Henry Francis, I saw a stack of playing cards assembled in a somewhat cohesive pile. I asked Henry what was up and he explained he was making up "a teaser hand" for his Sunday bridge column. When I asked for an explanation, Henry started to rattle off, "One Club, one Spade." I interrupted and said, "Henry that's the silliest game I ever heard of."

Well folks, it really is until you start to play. Then learning the game from someone like Henry changes your perspective entirely. The knowledge I acquired from Henry provided me with a love for the game that only grew deeper the more I played. After the newspaper folded in 1967 (not my fault) I worked at Raytheon where I met an excellent bridge player, Michael Weinstein. We used the Kaplan-Scheinwold system with a Schenken Club (17 HCP). We played at the Andover DBC on Thursday evenings and at lunch breaks at work, Michael was quite a character but an excellent player and I learned a lot about human nature as well as bridge tactics.

In 1980 I went to Digital Equipment Company, a rising star in the computer world. My duties at Raytheon had included writing policies and procedures and that knowledge helped me in the financial world at DEC. I worked in Corporate Finance for 4 years then moved on to Field Logistics for the best 8 years of my life. It isn't very often one finds a job where you look forward to work every day – but I did.

I took a buyout from DEC in 1992 and after three years of part-time jobs, my wife and I retired to Florida. My daughter had a job in a Tampa hospital and my son was working and living in Connecticut, so our move was easy.

I took a part-time job as a starter/ranger at a golf club to stay busy when my wife read that Wally Klugewicz was running a duplicate bridge game four days a week in New Port Richey, where we lived. One day, Todd Kaplan showed up with a young lad in tow. Todd wanted Adam to play duplicate bridge to earn master points toward becoming a Life Master. Being a good businessman, Wally set up 7-year-old Adam to play with 93-year-old Irving Hooke. Wally contacted the St. Pete Times and a story and photo recorded the historic event. After two more dull games with different players, I told Todd that the only way for Adam to develop was to play consistently with one partner. Bridge is a partnership game and I volunteered to play with Adam on Thursday – his bridge day as noted by his mother, Loni, who home-schooled her four sons.

Our first game was less than brilliant – a 37% effort. On one hand I bid Hearts and my LHO ended in 4 Spades. Adam led the 10 of Clubs which I eyed with great suspicion. Novices love to lead the top of worthless doubles in an unbid suit. The next and only other Club Adam had was the 7. I didn't get angry. I just said, "Adam, I bid Hearts." For the next six years, I never had to make that statement again. Adam's brain was like a sponge. Tell him something and he would internalize it, analyze it, and then apply it.

Thursday was Adam's bridge day and I used to get to the club early to get Table 1 N- S so Adam could sit south. Why you ask? Because in the newspaper. South was always the declarer and Adam wanted to be declarer. Who is to argue with a 7-year-old who soon became a dynamic declarer as well as a bona-fide player in all aspects of the game.

In 2005, Adam and his father played in a NABC event where Adam met Jeff Meckstroth. When Adam returned home, he called me and said: "Jeff says we should play Precision. I told him you used to play that old K-S system so he said you should be able to play Precision." And so, we started playing Precision with great abandonment. Adam took to the system with great zeal and I got caught up in the moment of watching a brilliant youngster becoming a force in the bridge world.

As Adam and I became more comfortable with our game, the hands we played became more bizarre and exciting. In one Sectional in Clearwater, we sat against two lovely ladies. I opened a Precision Club (15 HCP per Adam's method) and Adam bid 1 Spade showing at least 5 Spades and 8 HCP. The lady on my right hesitated a split-second before passing. I supported Adam's Spades and he bid the game. As I tabled the dummy, Adam's eyes lit up when my Hearts included the A-Q-x. Adam won the opener, pulled trumps ending in his hand and led a low Heart to dummy. Adam played the Queen which won, cashed the Ace, and ruffed the low Heart, making five. My RHO said: "Well played young man." Adam gave the woman a cold stare and a quick reply: "You told me how to play it." She looked at Adam in amazement and said: "You mean my slight hesitation in the bidding." Adam nodded his head and said: "You wanted to bid Hearts with your 10 points and five Hearts to the KJ but you didn't want to get clobbered so you passed." The woman looked at me and said "How old is he? I said nine and the woman looked at her partner and said "What kind of monsters are we growing?"

For the next two years our partnership became so strong that when we sat down to play, our opponents would say: "Oh, not you two." Finally in March 2006, Adam and I had a 67% game in a Club Championship event to earn 3.17 black points and Adam had reached the pinnacle of becoming the youngest LM in the history of bridge.

When Brett Manley (Bridge Bulletin editor) called me for a story about Adam and asked me what was the hardest thing about playing with a 10-year-old, my reply was simple: "Getting him away from the hospitality table." Adam not only had a voracious appetite for bridge, he also loved to eat.

More great hands and bidding sequences came fast and furious so I began taking notes which I subsequently used in a little pamphlet titled "Life With Adam." One of those bizarre hands happened in the 2008 Palm Beach Regional against a lovely mother-daughter tandem. Adam opened a Precision Club which I alerted. The daughter on my right looked like a part of the Ken and Barbie set, wearing an all-pink outfit. When she bid a weak 2 Hearts her voice ended up in the key of E sharp. My hand was: S-Kxxx, H-AKxxx, D-void, C-Kxxx.

I doubled for penalty since they were red and we were not. Adam and I had an agreement that if we pulled a penalty double, we would bid slam to atone for the pull. The mother on my right looked skyward, awaiting a disaster but Adam now bid 3 Diamonds. What followed was a series of cue bids identifying every Ace and King in three suits other than Diamonds. When Adam found out I held both the Ace and King of Hearts, he bid 7NT which rolled home.

After the round was over, we went to the scorer table and we had finished fourth in the N-S pairs. We stood next to Ed Schulte, holder of 23,000+ points and Ed asked how we did on that crazy board. Adam replied 7NT and Ed said: "Only you Adam. All of us humans were in 7 Diamonds." Adam pointed at me said: "Jim made me do it."

And so my bridge life continued with this most memorable character. Then Adam called one day and said he would not be able to play much in November or December because he was studying Hebrew for his Bar Mitzvah in January 2009. We finally decided that we would play in the 2009 Sarasota Regional – and what a finish it was.

In the Sunday Swiss, I picked up this monster in fourth seat: S-AKQ, H-AKQ, D-AQxx, C-AJx, LHO passed and Adam bid 2NT – a Meckwell Precision bid showing at least 5-5 in the minors with 6-9 HCP. I made a couple of asking bids and when Adam showed me both minor suit Kings I bid 7NT. Adam smiled at the dummy and said: "Just about enough Jim." We were first and Adam got a big hug from Meckstroth at the scorer table. Wow – 16.83 gold points and kudos from Caesar.

On the ride back to New Port Richey, Adam talked about our bids and plays and I knew what I had to do. It wouldn't be pleasant but it had to be done. At the Kaplan home I told Todd and Loni that I could no longer play with Adam. They looked at me in amazement and asked me what had Adam done.

"No, no, you don't understand," I replied. "Adam is too good for me. He has got to move up and play with better players like Ed Schulte. He's been playing in Triple A but now he has to go to the big leagues." Adam gave me a big hug as did his parents and I left for home. I reflected on my time with Adam – six years of thrills, becoming a Gold LM, meeting and playing against the elite of the bridge world. What more could a decent club player ask for.



Missing in Action

The following clubs did not make a report for this issue, but are included for your convenience.

Brunswick Bridge Club

Tuesday 12:30 PM

American Legion Post 20, 1 Columbus Drive, Brunswick, Maine

Director: Horace Gower (207-865-4850) hgower@comcast.net

We guarantee a partner if you are there before game time.

Greater Portland Bridge Club

Wednesday 12:00 Noon

Woodford's Club, 179 Woodford Street, Portland, Maine

Director: Horace Gower (207-865-4850) hgower@comcast.net

We guarantee a partner if you are there before game time.

Dirigo Bridge Club

Tuesday 12:30 PM and Thursday 12:30 PM

Elk Lodge, 106 Odlin Road, Bangor, Maine

Director: Steve Dyer (207-478-0621) notrumpking@yahoo.com

Website: <http://bridgewebs.com/dirigo>

Lewiston Bridge Club

Tuesday 9:00 AM

Seniors' Room Lewiston Armory, 65 Central Avenue, Lewiston, Maine

Directors: Mike Quinn (207) 461-2866 mikebquinn23@gmail.com

Pat Quinn (207) 461-5788 bridgeiscool23@gmail.com

Please contact Pat if you plan on playing

Capital City Duplicate Bridge Club

Wednesday, 12:30 PM

Cohen Community Center, 22 Town Farm Road, Hallowell, Maine

Thursday 6:00 PM

East Winthrop Baptist Church, 55 Old Village Road, East Winthrop, Maine

Director: Paul Mitnik 1-207-313-2648 pjmejm@gmail.com

Rockland Duplicate Bridge Club

Monday and Wednesday, 9:30 AM

American Legion Post #1, 335 Limerock Street, Rockland, Maine

Director: Lance Bukoff, Phone: 207-542-4852 lbtcg987@gmail.com

Website: www.bridgewebs.com/rockland

Blue Hill Bridge

Thursday 12:30 PM

First Congregational Church, 22 Tenney Hill, Blue Hill, Maine

Club Manager: Will Taylor 207-374-5101

WCT1313@gmail.com

Harbor Duplicate Bridge Club

Wednesday, 12:30 PM

Rotary Club Hall, 66 Montgomery Road, Boothbay Harbor, Maine

Director: Susan Blagden, 207-882-5203

susan@wiscasset.net

10 No Trump Club

Tuesday 11:00 AM

Union Congregational Church, 18 Church Street, York Beach, Maine

Director: Charlie Felton 207-439-3435 threefeathers@comcast.net

Kittery Bridge Club

Wednesday 11:00AM

Eliot United Methodist Church, 238 Harold L Dow Hwy, Eliot, Maine

Director: Charlie Felton 207-439-3435 threefeathers@comcast.net

Non-Sanctioned

Firehouse Gang Duplicate Bridge Club – Non Sanctioned

Wednesday 12:00 Noon

First Congregational Church, 301 Cottage Road, South Portland, Maine

For more information call Pam Herrmann at 207-799-8926.

Seasonal

Salt Bay Duplicate Bridge Club

Friday, 9:30 AM (June – October)

Alna Anchour Lodge, 529 Main Street, Damariscotta, Maine

Director: Susan Blagden, 207-882-5203

susan@wiscasset.net

Deer Isle Bridge

Thursday 12:30 PM Semi-Monthly June through November

Second and Fourth Thursdays of the Month

Island Men's Christian Fellowship Building

652 North Deer Isle Road, Deer Isle, Maine

Club Manager: Paula Colwell (207-348-6061) tompaula28@gmail.com

Currently Closed

Yarmouth Neighborhood Bridge Club

Wednesdays 6:30 PM Invitational

Woodford's Club, 179 Woodford Street, Portland Maine

Director: Sally Magee 207-712-2334 sallydmagee@gmail.com
Dave Magee 207-712-2441 dmagee1@maine.rr.com

BBO – Maine Bridge Unit 189 Virtual Games

Monday 12:30 pm
Tuesday 7:00 pm
Wednesday 7:00 pm

For Information contact Steve Dyer 207-478-0621
notrumpking@yahoo.com

Maine Bridge Association

American Contract Bridge League, Unit 189
Editor: Patricia Damon
5 Whippoorwill Drive
Winslow ME 04901
mainebridgenewsletter@gmail.com

