



The Villages Duplicate Bridge Club Member News

July, 2026

Notes from the Editor: We had a very successful Sectional tournament and also an Alzheimer's event in June. At the Sectional, many of you were able to enjoy the presentations by Corey Krantz on "Is it Forcing" and "Slam Bidding". Corey wrote us a nice thank you note and said "I really enjoyed the Sectional at The Villages. Everyone was incredibly welcoming, and I was thrilled by the turnout and enthusiasm for the lectures. It was a pleasure getting to meet so many people..." This reflects well on our club that we are so friendly and welcoming.

Meet the Players

By Nancy Tessier



Russ Pearly was the youngest of four growing up in Long Island. He attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute majoring in physics with a math minor. Smart guy. He worked in the actuarial field at New York Life Insurance before moving to the IT department in 1978. A real pioneer with computers. After working for one company for 38 years he retired.

Russ met his wife at the wedding of his 2nd cousin. Russ tells us "I was introduced to her by my 2nd cousin who told me that Adele knows how to play bridge. She told me that an ace is worth 4 points, a king 3 points, a queen 2 points and a jack 1 point. Needless to say, it was love at first sight after that. I was hooked and we got married exactly one year to the day after we met. Since we share a common anniversary with the couple whose wedding we met at, we meet them for dinner every year around our anniversary day to celebrate." Russ and Adele had two children (who unfortunately have now passed).

A co-worker's mother lived in The Villages so he decided to visit. And you know what happens when someone visits - we have a new neighbor.

Russ took up bridge at the age of eight, being taught by his mother, a top U.S. player. By 14 he was playing in tournaments and working as a bridge caddy at New York bridge tournaments. By 21 he was a life master. Now he has in excess of 6700 master points, gaining over 6000 since his move to The Villages in 2013.

While playing in a Memorial Day tournament in New York in 1973 there was an unusual hand being bid, and Alan Truscott, the bridge writer for the NY Times for about 40 years, was so impressed by the auction, he wrote it up in the Times a few days later. Say hi when you meet Russ with the smile on his face...and ask him about that bidding sequence.

Rank Changes

Congratulations to those who have achieved a new ACBL ranking as of June, 2026!

NABC Master

Real Bourke
Dutch Dresser
Carol Schwarzmenn
Mike Tufariello

Regional Master

Glen Proctor

Club Master

Marilyn Bauknecht
Debbie Roberts

Junior Master

Bob Booth
Lorna O'Rourke

Condolences

The club is saddened to learn of the loss of Beryl Buchanan Ness, daughter of Buck and Mauri Buchanan. Buck has shared the following obituary with the club.

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/villages/beryl%20buchanan.pdf>

The Club received this as well from Buck and Mauri:

Mauri and I received over a hundred sympathy cards following the death of our daughter Beryl last week. Probably half were from bridge players, and we thank you. One card was from Sandy Baker, and it brought tears to our eyes. I know if I included it here, Sandy would never speak to me again.

Mike Ness, our son-in-law, sent us a link to Beryl's Facetime page, and there were several hundred entries. It was fortunate Beryl had Mauri's personality and not mine. Beryl was a beautiful person and we will mourn her forever.

The club is also saddened to hear of the passing of longtime player/member Myron Henry. A link to the obituary is here:

<https://www.frainmortuary.com/obituaries/Myron-Stanley-Henry?obld=48740409>

Tournament Roundup

The Villages Open Sectional

The Villages recently hosted an Open Sectional Tournament at the Savannah Center June 13-15. The tournament was a rousing success thanks to the hard work by all of our dedicated VDBC organizers and volunteers!!! A list of Masterpoint winners can be found at this link: <https://live.acbl.org/masterpoint-winners/2606325>

A list of all volunteers is included in President Paul Matheson's eblast of June 21st. Thanks to all for their hard work. Special kudos go to our organizers: Donna Brown, Merle Erlich, Nancy Turner, and Wanda Rainbolt.



Alzheimer's Event

The second Alzheimer's event of 2026 was held on Sunday June 21, at Seabreeze Rec center, and was well attended with 750/Open sessions both morning and afternoon. Many thanks to the generous donor who so kindly matched donations, and to all who contributed and played in the tournament. We were able to raise over \$34,400 in support of a cure for Alzheimer's, over \$10,000 more than we raised last year. A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THIS CAUSE, AND THE MANY VOLUNTEERS.



July Trivia

By Nancy Tessier

Although July is famous for Independence Day on the 4th, did you know it is also National Hot Dog month. Watch Joey Chestnut try to win again this year. The national title, held by him, is 83 hot dogs in 10 minutes. He makes about 20 appearances a year averaging 66 dogs at each. (BURP).

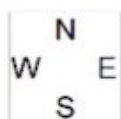
July is also National Ice Cream month set by Ronald Reagan in 1984. And Disability Pride Month was enacted in 1990. Three US presidents, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe all passed on 7/4. The birthstone is ruby, symbolizing passion and love. The birth flowers are the Larkspur and water lily.

Education Corner

By Harry Messenheimer

How would you play this hand?

♠ 8 7 6 5
 ♥ A K Q
 ♦ J 7 6
 ♣ Q J 10



♠ K Q J 10 9 4
 ♥ 2
 ♦ A K Q
 ♣ K 7 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♣ ¹	Pass	5 ♠

All pass

1. One or four key cards

Lead: ♦ 3

You have one loser in each of the black suits. So, it looks easy. But ask yourself what could go wrong?

Solution: Danger lurks if opening lead is a singleton. You lose to the ace of spades in East's hand. Then back will come a diamond for West to ruff, and you're down 1.

At trick 2 start dummy's hearts, shedding the ace and king of diamonds from hand. Now you are safe for 11 tricks.

Source: Eddie Kantar via Barbara Seagram at [ABTA](#).

Book Review: Daughters for a Time, by Jennifer Handford

By Buck Buchanan

This book did not receive much publicity, but I read it and it is a really good book. Jennifer Handford is a young author, and this is her first book. She's received all sorts of awards for this book. You can bet she will be the author of many future books.

Basically, it is a book about a young American couple named Helen and Tim. They have been trying unsuccessfully for several years to parent a child. Several people told them that they should consider adopting a girl from China, and although at first reluctant, they end up going to China (lots of problems there) and they chose a baby girl.

They return to America and fall madly in love with their daughter. Meanwhile Helen's older sister Claire develops cancer and eventually dies. She leaves her daughter to Helen.

One magazine said, "a deftly crafted and deeply engaging story from beginning to end". Don't miss it and be sure to have lots of Kleenex nearby.

More Trivia **by Nancy Tessier**

There are many threesomes in the world, and I thought this was an interesting topic:

Ready set go
Rin tin tin
Easy as 123
Easy as ABC
A bird, a plane, superman
The3 stooges
My 3 sons
Location location location
3's a crowd
Yesterday today tomorrow
Good bad evil
Life liberty pursuit of happiness
3 colors on flag
3 toed sloth
Win place show
3 coins in a fountain
Beatles song - She love Me ya ya ya
Blah blah blah
Yada yada yada
3 musketeers
3 blind mice
Male female other
3 days of the Condor
First comes love, then comes marriage, then comes the baby in the baby carriage
1 for the money two for the show 3 to get ready and go man go

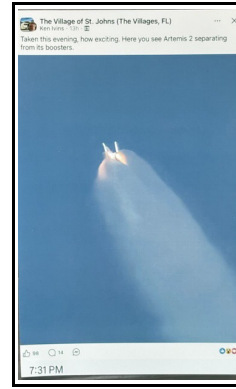
3 golden girls
Love, hope and charity
3 big holidays Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas
Scissors rock paper
Tic tac toe
3 outs in baseball
3 in a hat trick
Special is a 3 day weekend
3 gears reverse, neutral and forward
On your mark, get set, go
3 as in banana, cabana and Havana
Snap, crackle, pop
Morning afternoon evening
3 meals a day
Yes, no or maybe
HO HO HO
Tom Dick and Harry
3 Amigos
3's company
Single, divorced, widowed
3 branches of the government
Lock, stock and barrel
10 - 2 - 4 Dr. Pepper
Drugs, sex and rock and roll

Photo Corner

Many thanks to Ann McClelland for submitting photos this month. The first one is circa 1977 when Ann attended a taping of The Young and the Restless soap opera. I remember co-workers rushing home at lunchtime to watch that show.

The other 2 are Artemis photos – one taken at Sumter Landing, and the second showing Artemis 2 separating from its boosters.





The Lighter Side **By Mary Jo Johnson**

WITTY ONE-LINERS

You can't have everything...where would you put it?

A day without sunshine is like...night

If at first you don't succeed...skydiving is not for you

I love deadlines. I like the whooshing sound they make as they fly by.

If you think nobody cares if you're alive...try missing a couple of car payments.

Why is it that when we talk to God we're said to be praying...but when God talks to us we're said to be schizophrenic?

Ever notice that what the hell is always the right decision?

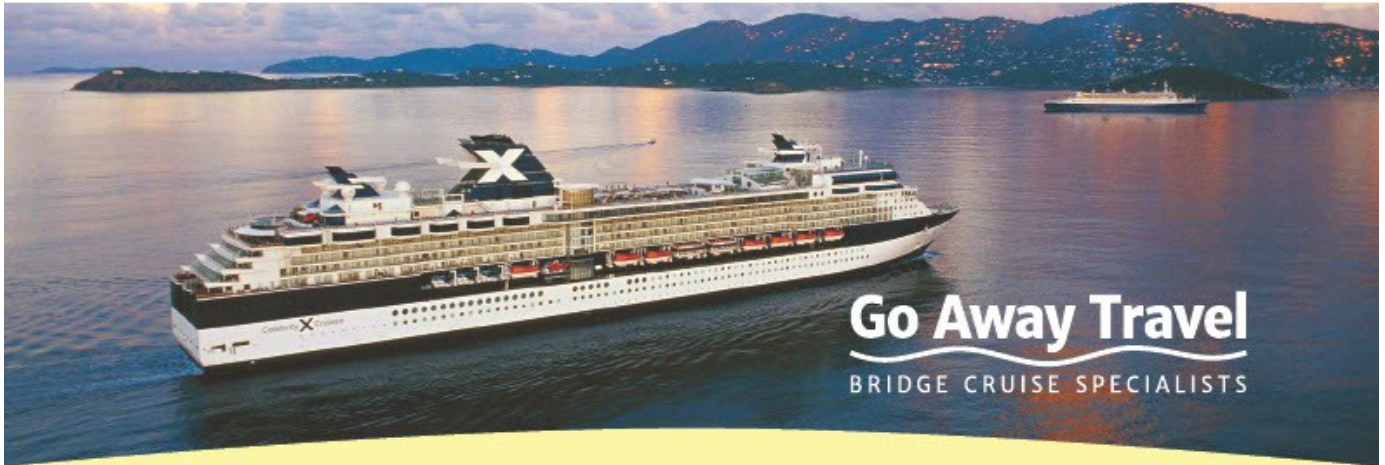
Why is it that most nudists are people you don't want to see naked?

If you're riding ahead of the herd...take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.

The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up!

A big thank you to all who participated with their articles. If you have member news to report, have an interesting background or experience you'd like to share, have been involved in a fun activity or have a trip report, we'd love to hear from you. Pictures would be great! Do you enjoy a fun hobby? What's the most interesting thing that has ever happened to you? A significant day or experience in your life? What's the one place you'd like to see? A special birthday or anniversary coming up? Please

send your articles to Jennie Cleary at wkc44@comcast.net, or Nancy Tessier at NancyBrooks2020@gmail.com Nancy and Jennie are also able to help with write-ups if you send us the basics.



GO AWAY TRAVEL PRESENTS:

THE VILLAGES DUPLICATE PLAYERS SECTIONAL AT SEA

October 18-25, 2026

Please join us as we sail round-trip Tampa to Key West and the Bahamas on the Celebrity Summit. You will have the opportunity to play and earn Silver Points two times every day in a card-playing area reserved exclusively for our group.



**ITINERARY: Tampa * Day at Sea * Day at Sea * Key West
* Bimini * Nassau * Day at Sea * Tampa**



SPECIAL OFFER ONLY FOR RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGES:

**THE FIRST 50 TO SIGN-UP WILL GET
FREE ROUND-TRIP TRANSFERS TO TAMPA!**

*Prices are per person, based on either single or double occupancy and include the following: All taxes and fees, travel protection, bridge games, classic beverage package, basic Wi-Fi & gratuities.

CAT	CABIN	DOUBLE	SINGLE
A2	AQUA	\$2,675	\$4,750
C1	CONCIERGE	\$2,525	\$4,400
V1	VERANDA	\$2,375	\$4,075
O1	OUTSIDE	\$1,850	\$3,050
I2	INSIDE	\$1,650	\$2,700

**CALL & BOOK NOW! Contact John Sobel at Go Away Travel
PHONE: 954-349-2800 | EMAIL: BestBridgeAtSea@GoAwayTrav.com**

Government taxes and fees, travel protection, bridge fees, classic beverage package, basic Wi-Fi and gratuities are included. Valid passport required. Deposit of \$500 per cabin is refundable until the final payment due date of May 15, 2026. Cancellations made between May 16-July 11, 2026 will be subject to a 50% penalty. Cancellations made on or after July 12, 2026 will be subject to a 100% penalty. If you do not reserve your cabin from Go Away Travel, you must register with us prior to the cruise. A \$900 per person non-refundable bridge fee will apply.