
THE VILLAGE CARD CLUB

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NEWSLETTER

A ZERO TOLERANCE CLUB

4rd QUARTER

DECEMBER 2008

President's Message

To the members of the Village Card Club

I would like to thank you for the privilege of presiding over the Card Club for the last year. I feel it was a very successful year. All statistics improved considerably from the previous year and the atmosphere was welcoming to all players. A large number of the members commented to me that they enjoyed playing again. I am very proud to have been a part of this success.

Again, thank you and my wishes are for an even more successful future.

Thank you

Cecil Grattafiori, Jr.

February 2009

1 st	0-299 Swiss Team	1:00
9 th	LM/NLM Mixer	6:30
10 th	Unit Wide Championship (Open Only)	1:00
15 th	0-2000 Swiss Team	1:00
16 th	ACBL Membership Game	9:00
19 th	Mentor Game	6:30
21 st	Club Championship	9:00
22 nd	Board-A-Match	1:00

March 2009

1 st	0-299 Swiss Team	1:00
4 th	Mentor Game	6:30
6 th	ACBL Membership Game	10:30
9 th	LM/NLM Mixer-Club Championship	6:30
10 th	Club Championship	6:30
14 th	Unit Wide Championship	1:00
15 th	0-2000 Swiss Team	1:00
17 th	Club Championship	1:00
	ACBL Wide Charity Game	6:30
23 rd	Club Championship	9:00
	299er Mixer	6:30
26 th	Unit Championship	1:00
30 th	Club Championship	1:00

COMING EVENTS

January 2009

1 st	Bridge Bowl	1:00
3 rd	Unit Championship	1:00
4 th	0-299 Swiss Team (Club Championship)	1:00
7 th	Club Championship	1:00
12 th	Unit Wide Championship	1:00
	LM/NLM ACBL Membership Game	6:30
14 th	Unit Wide Championship	1:00
15 th	Mentor Game	7:00
18 th	0-2000 Swiss Team	1:00
20 th	ACBL Membership Game	6:30
21 st	Club Appreciation Game	6:30
23 rd	Club Championship	9:00
26 th	299er Mixer	6:30
28 th	Club Championship	9:00
31 st	ACBL-wide International Fund Game	1:00

2009 VCC Board of Directors

President.	Dick Condon
Vice President	Pam Harris
Treasurer.	Sheila Cosby
Secretary.	Doris Waugh
Membership.	Nancy Luehring
Publicity.	Cathy Irving
Purchasing.	Lillian Estes
Game Manager.	Alicia Fetters
Player Development.	Sandi Villegas



New Life Masters Party

Ten VCC members were honored with a New Life Masters Party in October. The new Life Masters who were added are:

- Dave Barrow
- Glenda Barrow
- Francie Brown
- Voncel Haggard
- Randy Lusk
- Bob Prestridge
- Becky Rice
- Peggy Ross
- Lois Schoenrock
- Elgene Smith

Rose Garden Memorials



Hallie Case, Susie Hults, Bill Miller, John Hegner, Bea Suderman, Shirley Piontek, Wen Wenger, Donna Patee, Robert Wood

Just a Thought....

Cold and flu season is upon us. Please be aware of others when you have a cough or a sneeze at the club. Bring a tissue or handkerchief to cover your mouth and nose when you cough.....



Just covering your mouth with your hand then holding the cards simply spreads the germs farther. School age children are now being taught to cough or sneeze into the sleeve of their shirts or sweaters to control the spread of germs. Perhaps we can practice the same thing here at the VCC.

October 2008 Achievements

- Over 200 Points Mickey Bearden
- Over 100 Points Linda Smith
John Ganster
- Over 50 Points Bill Neimann
- Over 20 Points Nancy Holland
Jeanne Kleinschmidt
Howard Casselman
Pam Fry

November 2008 Achievements

- Gold Life Master Lou Agnew
- Over 300 Points Diana Podawiltz
Wayne Reynolds
- Over 50 Points Jan Wells
Bob O'Hara
Joyce Kovach
Joi Miller
- Over 20 Points John Madden
Kay Butterworth
- Over 5 Points Hella Cass
Vern Cass
Kathy Oppenheim
John Sagan
Gloria Sagan



Winners and Losers

The following was taken from Winners and Losers at the Bridge Table, by Bobby Goldman,

A **WINNER** makes decisions;
A **LOSER** criticizes the decision he has left for his partner to make.

A **WINNER** views his partnership as a duet;
A **LOSER** views his partnership as two soloists.

When a **WINNER** errs, He admits, "I was wrong."
When a **LOSER** errs, he charges, "You misled me!"

A **WINNER** learns from his mistakes
A **LOSER** is too busy deflecting his mistakes onto others to gain any benefits from them.

THANK YOU FROM THE PRESIDENT ELECT

I would like to thank all the Village Card Club members who voted in the election culminating on 12/11/08. The number of votes cast show that we are all interested in our club, and this is refreshing, & daunting. A note of appreciation should especially be extended to the hard working and efficient members of the two committees who put this election together, and kept it on track: the Nominating Committee under Martha Parry, and the Election Committee under Estelle White.

I would further like to thank the current board and the standing committees for their efforts on our behalf over the past year. A lot of bridge was played, and for the most

part in a quiet and orderly manner, the directors doing their usual efficient job.

We live and thrive in a very nice retirement community where the property taxes are low and we rarely have to shovel the precipitation. Within this village is a real jewel, our VCC. The foresight & drive to establish this organization, and build this club house was, and is, amazing; and it is all devoted to bridge, primarily duplicate, the most intricate card game ever invented. Where else could you find duplicate bridge games waiting for you, six days a week, and 3 of 4 Sundays. This is a special place, and therefore, the care and feeding of this club, its members, and the premises, are not something to be taken lightly. MEMBERS COME AND MEMBERS GO, BUT THE CLUB REMAINS, so that all things concerning us should be considered through this prism - what is good for the club as a whole is worthy of consideration; what is not, should be given short shrift, or none at all.

I believe the VCC stands on two pillars: enjoyment of the game, and education of new students and existing members. Since I get to write something four times a year, I'll have more to say about this later, and bring this current column to a close.

I am honored to serve as your President, and hope to be worthy of the task

Dick Condon

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS (NAP)

District Qualifying round which will be held in Vicksburg, Mississippi on January 9-11, 2009.

As a special incentive to compete, Unit 161 is awarding a reimbursement of \$100 to



Easybridge! is here!

Easybridge! at the Village Card Club has been very successful. We have reached people who otherwise would have never participated in games and events at VCC.

- As of December 10 we have had 59.5 Easybridge! tables in 8 games.
- We have held three workshops generating \$238 in revenue. So, in the seven game weeks since we started, we have sent \$376 to the Treasurer. That has more than paid the advertising and coffee costs. Seven more workshops are planned during this first session of Easybridge!
- We paid \$742 for 100 Easybridge! texts. More than half of them have been sold for \$10.00 each, therefore approximately 70% of that cost has been repaid and we still have inventory for sale. Some of these books will still sell in this Easybridge! session and most of the remainder will be sold in the next session.
- Fifty-five different players have appeared for at least one Easybridge! game.
- 34 of our players have paid their VCC 2009 dues. Among our "regular" players, only seven have not yet done so.

Players of the Month

October

Open	Gina Doss
Under 1000	Larry Kaddatz
Under 300	Larry Kaddatz
Under 20	Thomas Christner

November

Open	Louallen Leach
Under 1000	Becky Rice
Under 300	Ginna DeThomas
Under 20	Thomas Christner

299er Sectional Tournament at the Village Card Club

If you are a "299er" (under 300 master points) then this is *just for you!*

On **August 28, 29, and 30**, VCC will be hosting its first ever 299er Sectional Tournament. Many of us have travelled to other states to attend one of these tournaments....this year we can save on the "travel budget" and just stay and play at our own house!

Look for the schedule of games in the next newsletter. If you have questions please contact Ginna DeThomas or Ned Irving, the tournament chairs.

The Village Card Club should consider this a very successful launching. As with all new participants in our games, we are delighted to have the Easybridge! players participate in all of our activities.





Another Easybridge! game will be added to the game schedule in January. If you have a friend who would like to join and learn to play bridge, the game we all love, please have them call Peg Birzer at 915 0320 to sign up!

Zen & the art of bridge

by Bruce Greenspan.

The following is an excerpt from the *Daily Bulletin*, a publication from the recent Boston National ACBL Bridge Tournament.

1. The #1 rule of bridge – There are no rules, only guidelines.
2. How many of you play better after partner whines and complains about your play? Assume this is also true of your partner.
3. Keep the bidding in mind as you play the contract. I know the bidding happened so long ago, but it is highly informative. Declarer play is much easier when you know where the opposition high cards are hiding. If there is an overcall or double, put most of those points in that hand. If the opponent makes a two-suited overcall such as Michaels or an unusual 2NT, it can give you a roadmap to the play of the hand.
4. Stay in the present. If you worry about a mistake you made last deal, you'll be worrying about a mistake you made on this one when the board after that comes up. As much as anything, the ability to forget about what just happened separates the

- better players from the rest. Focus on the present.
5. If you really want to learn how to play this great game, move up in level as soon as possible.
6. Be flexible. Make adjustments if necessary as you play the contract. Preconceived notions can be deadly. When partner is on lead and plays a 9, don't assume it is top of nothing. Look at your cards, dummy's cards and the card declarer plays. A 9 may be the lowest of three cards.
7. Search out the top players in your area. For the most part, they will be happy to offer advice on bidding and play. Avoid those players who think they are the top players and give lessons during play.
8. Count, Count, Count, Audrey Grant says that there are three types of bridge players, those who count and those who don't. Which one are you? The more you count, the easier the game becomes. However, be aware when you start counting, your game may hit a speed bump. You're so involved with the counting aspect the basics may disappear in the tall grass.
9. Don't get discouraged. Bridge is a most humbling game, and sometime it seems you get sucked in to a black hole and will never get out. Don't worry, as the doctor said to the patient with a kidney stone, "This, too, will pass."
10. Cherish your partner, without him or her, you would be playing solitaire.