

The Friendly Club
For All Levels of Play

FT. LAUDERDALE BRIDGE CLUB
700 NE 6TH TERRACE
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33304
TEL. 954-761-1577 • FAX 954-761-3117
WWW.FTLBC.COM

December 2004
Holiday Edition
♣ ♦ ♥ ♠
Volume 8, Issue 3

Deals and Squeals



Club President's Annual Message

From Dean Williams

Another year has passed and the Ft. Lauderdale Bridge Club continues to grow and make significant contributions to both its members and the community-at-large. All of this would not happen but for the great participation, cooperation and support from you, the greatest members any club could ever have.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Our membership roles have increased this year from a little over 700 to over 900. The overall attendance for all daily bridge sessions and special tournaments has increased dramatically. Although our costs continue to go up we have not increased our members' daily card fees in large part due to the superb attendance we get at all sessions. We raised the membership an-

nual dues and the non-member card fees to cover the increase in costs.

Refurbishment of the facilities (interior painting and cleaning of air ducts) continues with additional improvements scheduled for next year. Replacement of furnishings and equipment (tables, chairs, bidding boxes, etc.) have been made throughout the year with additional replacements scheduled as needed.

We had another banner year for charitable giving to community organizations. Our charitable donations increased to \$12,000 due mostly from the Luau Party not to mention the clothing, food and other items donated by our members.

THANK YOU

I personally would like to give the

membership a heartfelt "thank you" for your kind words and support of my 2003 and 2004 tenure as President of the Board of Governors. And to those members who have served on the Board of Governors during this period, I appreciate your hard work in the many areas of responsibility required in the day-to-day maintenance and operation of the Club.

I also thank you for your patience with my "management style." I look forward to serving another year on the Board of Governors and contributing in some small measure to the continued success that this Club has in providing the "very best damn place in the country" to enjoy the game of duplicate bridge.

Happy Holidays to all of you!



By Rhoda Schreider

Rhoda's Corner

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Our winter season is in full swing. Our friends from the North are back and some are playing at night so those games are 10 to 14 tables. We had a record number of tables for the Seniors' Game last month — 62! Almost capacity (there's always the parking lot!).

Please join us on **Monday, December 6th at 3:45** for a wine and cheese celebration after the game to honor our new Life Masters. They have accomplished a wonderful goal and I hope that bridge will remain an impor-

tant part of their lives.

On Friday, December 10th at Noon we will have our Annual Membership Meeting. All suggestions, comments and problems will be addressed at this time. Please come to listen and be heard. **At 12:30 the Pro-Am Game will start.** Be sure to sign up so we can match Life Masters with Non-Life Masters. The winners' names will go up on the wall trophy. The pairings are randomly picked from two sources. It's a fun game and well-attended.

Christmas Day at 1:00, Susie, Alan

Minton and I will provide a holiday feast. Menu and sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board. \$10 pays dinner and card fees.

It may not be too soon to speak of New Year's Eve. Our regular schedule will be in effect with the fun and games beginning **New Year's Eve at 5:30 pm.** Dancing, dinner and bridge game, then the first game of 2005 will start after midnight breakfast. Please make your reservations early as much planning goes into this event.

Have a wonderful month — and play more bridge here!!!



Holiday Gifts

By Richard Pavlicek

During the holidays, people tend to overindulge in food and drink — *and* in bidding. Consider this deal from my December 2003 contest, “Our Finest Gifts We Bring.” North-South seem to have “brought East-West a gift” by overbidding to 3NT with only 21 HCP. North was the instigator with his light opening bid and push to game. Nonetheless, the strong diamond suit and 4-4 spade break are blessings for declarer, and the “gift” may just be another piece of coal in your stocking.

3 NT by South

E-W Vul

♠ 7 2
♥ 10 4 2
♦ K Q J 10 8 7
♣ A 9

♠ J 9 8 4
♥ Q 9 3
♦ 9 6
♣ J 8 6 2

♠ A Q 6 3
♥ K 8 7 5
♦ A 5
♣ Q 7 5

♠ K 10 5
♥ A J 6
♦ 4 3 2
♣ K 10 4 3

Lead: ♠4

West	North	East	South
	1 ♦	Dbl	Rdbl
1 ♠	2 ♦	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	All Pass	

This was a defensive play contest, and the problem was how East should defend after winning the first trick with the ♠A. Partner is marked with only four spades (fourth-best leads) and South with the ♠K, so a spade return is futile. Even though West is sure to have the ♠J (with 10-9-8-4 he would lead the 10), declarer will lose

only three spades and the ♦A.

A number of respondents suggested a club return, hoping to knock out the ♣A and shut out the long diamonds. While this might work, it's really a long shot requiring partner to have the ♣K *and* at least three diamonds. In the actual layout, declarer simply wins the ♣K and claims soon after.

The best chance to beat 3NT is a *heart* return, hoping partner has ♥Q-x-x or better; but even this has a hitch. Declarer will duck the heart to West, then a heart return not only surrenders the contract but an overtrick as well. If partner only knew to switch back to spades, you'd be in business.

As East, you know what partner should do, so you should guide him by returning the heart *eight*, a high card suggesting a dislike for hearts. Hence, a good partner should get it right. Out of 854 participants, only 109 found this lead, so defense is clearly an area that needs improvement.

You're in luck! Try your hand this December with “Let Your Heart Be Light” (www.rpbridge.net). Participation is sure to benefit your bridge game; and who knows? You might even be the next winner. Last year's winner was from *Zimbabwe*, of all places, so Florida is overdue.

Richard Pavlicek, ten-time North American Champion, begins his Advanced Bridge series at the Club starting on Wednesday, January 5, at 9:45 AM (six lessons \$100). Topics include bidding, play and defense. For details, visit his web site (www.rpbridge.net), e-mail richard@rpbridge.net, or phone Mabel Pavlicek at 954-763-1003.

Top Scorers



Just some of the top scorers who sizzled thus far this season: **Helene Beaulieu & Patrice Roy 73%**; **Warren Liebman & Howard Doppelt 73%**; **Al Cohen & Martin Hoffman 72%**; **Diann Kirsch & Hedley Horning 72%**; **Jim Moran & Charlie Smith 71%**; **John Lewis & John Isaacks 71%**; **Cynthia Diana & Natalie Gordon 71%**; **Dolores Gracie & Edith Denenberg 71%**; **Jack Jones & Robert Ramos 71%**; **Bob Drafahl & Gene Rimes 71%**; **Gloria Ezrin & Marty Ezrin 70%**; and **Helen Shanbrom & Abe Jakob 67%**.

Robin Ranagan Geniality Award

Nominate your favorite Club member in writing with reasons and submit to the Board before December 31st.

Tribute to Life Masters

Monday, December 6th at 3:30



Celebration honoring the Club's new Life Masters



Member Close-Up

Richard Lilligren is a sports fanatic. The fact that he was born with cerebral palsy did not stop him from playing Little League baseball, basketball and football as a youth in Providence, Rhode Island. When he got to high school, however, his disability prevented him from playing team sports since he simply “wasn’t good enough.” Undeterred, Richard became the team manager. After college he coached men’s softball leagues for several years playing 100 to 120 games a year.

He first learned to play bridge-while attending Providence College, where he was an accounting major. He was always a card player, playing gin rummy and cribbage with his grandmother, who never let him win! Although he has an accounting degree, he never practiced accounting. Instead he went into the real estate business and sold life insurance but found that he really wasn’t cut out to be a salesman.

Richard is a religious man and he believes that “God gets us to

A Sportsman on Wheels

By Barbara Tate Cerato

where we belong.” In Richard’s case, his calling was social work primarily among the elderly and disabled. He says that his own affliction aided him in becoming a social worker because he understood the difficulties other people were having, and they related to him because they felt he understood them.

Richard is a very positive person with a “can-do” attitude who doesn’t deal well with negativity. He likes to look at what people can do and not what they can’t do. That insight worked well in his career as a social worker.

Richard worked in that field in Rhode Island for many years before finding that the winters were just too difficult for him to get around. He moved to Pompano Beach in 1985 where he continued in social work.

In Florida he worked with seniors in a day care center.

Richard says “God has a plan for everyone—this was God’s plan for me: that I should help people because of my affliction.” Richard was ambulatory until 1993, although as his disease progressed, he had to use a walker. He struggled with his lack of mobility and says he practically became a hermit. Most of

us may think of a wheelchair as confining, but for Richard going into a wheelchair gave him independence again. There was no stopping him after that.

Richard, ever the sports fanatic, travels to NCAA basketball tournaments a couple of times a year and loves fantasy sports teams on the internet. From time to time Richard returns to his native New England to see his family and friends.

Richard almost made it down the aisle on three occasions. In retrospect, he says, he should have married the “one that got

away.” He has a lady friend now with whom he enjoys the theater and dining out.

When he retired about five years ago, Richard heard about the Club from a friend and started playing bridge again. He took lessons from Lois Redlick who, he says, “taught me the ABC’s” and Richard Waugh who “really taught me the game” at his Monday morning supervised play classes. His regular partners were Pat Hinde and Doris Lemelin. They are still his partners today. He plays bridge at the Club a couple of times a week.

Although cerebral palsy is not supposed to be hereditary, Richard had both an uncle and a niece with the disease. They were his role models he says, and “braver than I could ever hope to be.”

It’s hard to imagine a more courageous and inspiring man than Richard. And, as they say in New England, he’s a “wicked” bridge player too!

◆◆◆◆◆
“He likes to look at what people can do and not what they can’t do.”



PRO-AM TOURNAMENT
FRIDAY Dec 10 at 12:30

Play with a Life Master!

[Sign up on the Bulletin Board]

Club Trivia

Who has the highest score thus far?



NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH & BRIDGE

Music, Dinner & Bridge
 Midnight Celebration and Breakfast

More Bridge

From 5:30 'til ??; \$35

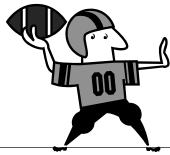
Christmas Party & Bridge

December 25 at 1:00; \$10



LOOKING AHEAD

SUPERBOWL PARTY & CHARITY FEBRUARY 6



Get Your Score!

All game results on the Web!

www.FTLBC.com

Bill Vayens, Web Host

Deals and Squeals is the monthly newsletter of the Ft. Lauderdale Bridge Club. Please let us know any announcements or suggestions.

David Pantalena, Editor
Barbara Tate Cerato, Asst. Editor

Welcome New Members

The Club's membership is over 900 members strong! Here are just some of them:

Phyllis Benoit, Frances Bijou, Roy Boucvalt, Petey Buchholz, John Buschen, Arlene Bromberg, Mildred Covell, Mary Ann Cassel, Dora Codrea, Pat Clowes, Melva Croghan, Helen Conley, Sue Cusimano, Roy Culver, Richard Day, Marilyn Dennison, Simone Dunn, Edith Freilich, Carlita Frimel, David Fine, Arnold Geyzer, Robert Goldberg, Mark Hochman, Hector Hollwoa, Sol Kamen, Gloria Kamen, Elizabeth Kros, Joan Kearns, Michael Leadbeater, Tesa Leadbeater, Marilyn Levin, Joe Landry, Dorothy Liebenberg, Barbara Lefka, Ruth Maiden, Fred Maiden, Kay Maloney, Marilyn Millstone, Jeff Margulies, Bernard Mayer, Peggy Muschett, Charlotte McMullen Ed McMullen, Derek Moore, Howard Novie, Steve Preston, Hannah Plimack, Perry Poole, Eve Prince, Bernadette Renicky, Joan Reach, David Rogers, Ken Slump, Frank Shanower, Saretta Saltzstein, Janet Sincoff, Patricia Van Dommelen, Gertrude Warshaver, Liz Wood, and Louis Wolf. **WELCOME ALL!**

Dates to Remember:

- **Annual Meeting** Dec 10 at Noon
- **Pro-Am Tournament** Dec 10 at 12:30
- **Christmas Dinner & Bridge** 1:00
- **New Year's Eve Bash** Dec 31 at 5:30
- **Ernie Moore:** Basic Conventions and Play of Hands, Fridays 9:30–11:30; \$5
- **Rich Waugh:** Supervised Play, Mondays 9:30-11; \$5
- **Free Lecture: Rich Waugh** Tuesdays 11:45-12:15; visit his website at: www.bridgeace.com.
- **Free Lecture: Jim Lackey** Saturdays 11:45-12:15.

December's Games & Events



Duplicate Games: All games are ACBL sanctioned. Card Fee: \$3 Member/ \$5 Guest.

Daily at 12:30 (Sundays 1:00): Lunch an hour earlier; Sunday noon brunch.

Weekday Evenings: Twilight Dinner & Bridge with Rhoda and Susie on Tuesdays and Thursdays dinner at 6:00 \$5; game at 7:00 **Weekend evenings: Saturdays 7:00** (5:45 dinner \$6); **Sundays 6:00** (5:00 dinner and bridge \$6; Guests \$7).

Non-Life Masters' Games at 12:30 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Social Bridge (Bridge Connection) at 12:30: Mondays and Thursdays.

Bridge Connection Classes: New! Starting Jan. 6, **Beginners classes** Thursdays 9:00-11:00; starting Jan. 8, **Intermediate classes** Saturdays 9:30-11:30, **Beginners** 12:30-3:00; **Intermediate classes** Tuesdays 7:00-9:00. All classes are \$45 for seven lessons. Call Lois Redlick for complete details: 954-565-3127.

Annual Meeting: Friday, December 10th at Noon. Come all ye faithful and be heard!

Pro-Am Tournament: Friday, December 10th at 12:30. Sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Christmas Dinner & Bridge: Thursday, December 25th at 1:00; \$10.

New Year's Eve Party and Bridge: December 31st at 5:30; \$35.

Club Championships: December 4th at 12:30; 16th at 12:30; and 21st at 12:30.

SCRABBLE: Thursdays at 6:15; \$3 (dinner 5:30). Call Claire Ullman by Noon at 954-537-2755.

Don't forget to submit your ballot and dues!

Let's Play Bridge!

Trivia Answer: Mary Short & Tom Koch, 85.04%!!!