CONGRATULATIONS TO WINNER'S OF ACBL'S EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION Virtual Games last week!

- Monday, 2/22 -- Open Gary Feldman – Jody Shapiro
- Tuesday, 2/23 Open
- N/S: Jody Shapiro Dolores Silverstein
- E/W: Mike Gaddis Barbara Fitzgerald
- Wednesday, 2/24 1499er
 N/S: Floyd Richards Dennis Charles
 E/W: Jacqueline Stultz = Bob Becker
- Thursday, 2/25 -- Open N/S: Gary Feldman – Peggy Nielson E/W: Doug Hahn - robot
- Friday, 2/26 1499er
 N/S: Gary Feldman Lorraine Salvatore
 E/W: Marsha Vandiver Kenneth Vandiver
 - Saturday, 2/27 -- Open N/S: Mike Gaddis – Barbara Fitzgerald E/W: Jack Rudy – Josh Rosenbluth

BBO TIP: Some folks are struggling with how to handle the BBO convention cards to 1) make sure their partner can see it and 2) to have it display at the table when playing a game. Here are some tips:

1. To make up a brand new BBO convention card (CC), click the ACOUNT tab and select "Convention Cards" from the menu. You will see some standard CC displayed which you can use or tailor as well as other "Personal Cards" you might have created earlier. Select one by clicking on it. Select the blue EDIT button. MAKE SURE TO enter your partner's BBO name in the entry area called "Partner" at the top of the CC. Make whatever changes you like. When done, make sure to press the blue "SAVE CHANGES" button at the top of the CC. If you get an error, it might be because the BBO name you used for your partner is invalid (i.e. BBO doesn't recognize it). Correct your mistake or leave the field blank to be entered later. Hit the blue BACK button and you'll see your new card in the list. Below it should be the BBO name of the partner you wish to use this card with.

2. To edit an "old" card to use with a different partner, select the "old" card, hit the EDIT button, change the "Partner"s name to your other partner's BBO name, make other changes as needed. When done, press the blue "SAVE CHANGES" button. When you click the blue "BACK" button, you will see this new card added to your list with your "new" partner's BBO name below it.

3. Once you put your partner's BBO name in the Partner field of your CC, and save it, it will automatically appear in your specified partner's list of Convention Cards. Partner may view it and edit is as well. If Partner edits it and save the changes, the "changed" card is available in your list for you to view or edit.

4. To have a Convention Card be used during the game, it MUST have BOTH your BBO name and your partner's BBO name on that card. It MUST be the partner you are playing with at the time.

5. While you are playing, you can view both you and your opponent's convention card by clicking on the blue MENU box with the white horizontal lines (also called the "hamburger").

PS: It also doesn't hurt to enter a brief "shorthand" of the conventions you play in your BBO Profile in the "Other" box. Just in case your convention card doesn't appear or you are playing with an unknown sub.

Rose is holding her ninth **bridge class**, "Opening Leads", Saturday, Feb 27th .9:30 to 11 am. For more information, or to register for this zoom lesson, visit our website vcbridge.org (Knowledge: Lessons) or use this link: <u>Lessons | VUBC (vcbridge.org)</u>. **Have fun playing bridge. See you at the table**

Rose Buckley Director, VUBC Unit 547 <u>buckleyrose357@gmail.com</u> 805-659-9223

3/1/21

THANK YOU! I've noticed, as both a director and player in our virtual games, that almost every pair now has a convention card filled out. It is very helpful and good for our game. For the few of you left that haven't done this, please see my BBO Tip last week <u>here</u>.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for STARDUST WEEK. Come to our virtual club games from Mon, March 22nd thru Saturday, March 27. Double points will be awarded: 75% black and 25% GOLD.

NEW BBO TIP. Are you like me and play BBO Solitaire, ACBL Instant Tournaments, for master points? I try to play daily, mostly to practice my game, but if I do well, I earn ACBL master points. Unlike our virtual games in which master points are reported daily, these "special" games (like solitaire) are only reported to ACBL at the end of the month.

I'd like to know how many I've accumulated so far this month but it's a pain to manually add up the individual games using the BBO History. I just discovered a shortcut. On BBO, click on your name and your profile will show up. On the upper right you will see a blue button saying BBO POINTS. Select that and a list of different categories appears. Select "American Contract Bridge League". A Year / Month list appears. If you look next to, for example, 2021-03, it shows you how many of these "special" ACBL points you've earned so far this month.

CLASSES. Rose is holding her tenth **bridge class**, "Myths and Truth", Saturday, Mar 13th .9:30 to 11 am. This is about the adages we hear all the time when defending a contract such as "second hand low". For more information, or to register for this zoom lesson, visit our website vcbridge.org (Knowledge: Lessons) or use this link: <u>Lessons | VUBC (vcbridge.org)</u>.

Have fun playing bridge. See you at the table 😳

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3/8/21

WE HAVE SOME CHANGES TO OUR VIRTUAL GAMES. We are moving onward and upward in our two games on Wednesdays and Fridays. The "1499" er game will now be a "1750" game. Welcome all of you players with fewer than 1750 master points, come join our game on Wed or Fri, 12:30 pm as usual. Unfortunately, we are cancelling our 499er games on Tuesday and Saturday due to insufficient participation.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for STARDUST WEEK. Come to our virtual club games from Mon, March 22nd thru Saturday, March 27. Double points will be awarded: 75% black and 25% GOLD.

ALL-WESTERN Nite Club 99er game also launching a 0-20 masterpoint newcomer game. Many of you are attending and enjoying the All-Western (used to be called CA) Nite Club games on Mon thru Thurs. evenings at 6:30 pm. They are now adding a 0-20 game at 6:10 pm on the same nights. Same number of boards but at 8 minutes per board play time. As usual, there will be a follow-up Zoom after the games to discuss hands with experts. Our club, 131102, has already arranged to have our players participate in these games and we receive a portion of the card fees. If you have fewer

than 100 master points and belong to our Unit (547), you should be receiving announcements from these folks already.

NEW SERIES OF ZOOM CLASSES. Rose is introducing her new series of virtual STEP UP classes covering all of the Opening Bids, Reponses and Rebids. From the ubiquitous One of a Suit all the way up to Preempts at the 3 and 4 levels. **These classes will start on Sat. April 3rd**, 9:30 to 11 am and will continue every Saturday for 13 sessions. So ... if you'd like a bidding refresher or to brush up your bidding skills, grab a cup of your favorite beverage and join Rose on Saturday mornings in the comfort of your own home.

The lessons are highlighted on Zoom with animated presentations followed by interactive bidding practice on hands. Each session is \$10 individually or you can get the entire series for a 25% discount of \$100. Whether you can make the lesson or not, you will receive a link to a video of the lesson, hand records and practice hands you can download to BBO.

For more information, or to register, visit our website vcbridge.org (Knowledge: Lessons) or use this link: <u>Lessons | VUBC (vcbridge.org)</u>.

Have fun playing bridge. See you at the table 🐵

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3/15/21

IT'S HERE! STARDUST GAMES THIS WEEK. Come to our virtual club games from Mon, March 22nd thru Saturday, March 27. Double points will be awarded: 75% black and 25% GOLD.

ANOTHER BBO TIP: Are you like me? In between rounds or even when I'm dummy, I start daydreaming or get up and fix a sandwich, etc. But I need to keep peeking at the screen so I don't miss it when it's my turn to bid. BBO has a nice little feature that can notify us with a sound when it's our turn to bid or play. It's in the BBO "Settings" which can be found under the "ACCOUNT" tab. Scroll down to the SOUND features. Toggle on (to the right) the setting "Your turn to play". Don't forget to turn the sound on, and up, on your computer or mobile device you are using.

TELL YOUR BRIDGE FRIENDS if they are interested in brushing up their bidding skills. Rose is introducing her new series of virtual STEPUP classes covering all of the Opening Bids, Reponses and Rebids. From the ubiquitous One of a Suit all the way up to Preempts at the 3 and 4 levels. **These classes will start on Sat. April 3rd,** 9:30 to 11 am and will continue every Saturday for 13 sessions. You can "pop in" for a single class of the topic you like or take the whole series. For more information, or to register, visit our website vcbridge.org (Knowledge: Lessons) or use this link: <u>Lessons | VUBC</u> (vcbridge.org).

Have fun playing bridge. See you at the table 😳

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3/22/21

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF THE VUBC STARDUST GAMES LAST WEEK! Well done, folks.

- Monday, 3/22, Open
 Larry Pelletier Raeann Koerner
- Tuesday, 3/23, Open
 - N/S: Dolores Silverstein Jody Shapiro
 - E/W: Larry Pelletier Barry Brenner
- Wednesday, 3/24, 1750
 - N/S: Jody Shapiro Patty Richardson
 - E/W: Parker Mann Owen Smith
- Thursday, 3/25, Open
 - Marilyn Brett Larry Pelletier
- Friday, 3/26, 1750
 - N/S: Jody Shapiro Parry Richardson
 - E/W: Jacqueline Stultz Bob Becker
- Saturday, 3/27, Open
 - Marilyn Brett Raeann Koerner

ACBL GUEST MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT: If you became a member of ACBL's free Guest Member program for folks with 0 to 20 masterpoints, ACBL is announcing that you can now upgrade to a regular 1st year membership for only \$29. Go to <u>www.acbl.org/guest-join</u> to sign up. If you haven't heard about this free program, send me an email (see below) and I'll forward their info to you.

NEW VIRTUAL LESSONS: I'm introducing my new series of virtual STEP UP classes covering all of the Opening Bids, Reponses and Rebids starting next Saturday, April 3rd.

For more information on all the topics in this 13-lesson series on Saturday mornings, or to register, visit our website vcbridge.org (Knowledge: Lessons) or use this link: Lessons | VUBC (vcbridge.org).

Have fun playing bridge. See you at the table 😳

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3/29/21