



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT...

With some six months under my belt as the WBU President, I am very positive about our future. My vision for the future includes a heavy emphasis on building our membership and bringing more bridge education opportunities to our membership. Creating and implementing more classes, more seminars, and bridge resources that enhance skills will be an important step forward. We also want to build a more inclusive membership, one where there is always respect and camaraderie among all players, especially new players. We all love bridge and in playing the game, we want everyone to feel welcomed and embraced.

To date, we have much to be proud of. Our finances are not great, but they are acceptable. Our rejuvenated website is up and running. Several new players have joined the WBU, and a new membership directory has been published and regularly updated. By the way, I am pleased to confirm that our newly maintained HVAC system is fully operational, ensuring a consistently cool and comfortable environment for all our activities at The Hut, even on the warmest days.

We have a terrific team working on your behalf. Kudos to Cheryl Fountain, VP, Audrey Little, Secretary, our Treasurer, Elaine Conway,

and Financial Secretary, Jimmy Tarlau.

Remember, it is never too early to pay dues. Our success depends on YOU! It is critical for everyone to pay dues AND to come out to play in Club games regularly. For 2027, the dues are as follows: ABA (\$50), WBU (\$50), Housing (\$40), Scholarship (\$10), Eastern Regional (\$10), and Club dues (\$10). The total is \$170 for the year.

NOTE: Housing fees and game fees are our primary source of funds for maintaining our building and our environment. Please know that The HUT is a 501 C(3) organization, which requires our participation in charitable activities. As a result, WBU has contributed to various organizations through the years, including Alzheimer's, HBCUs, and others.

Finally, we warmly encourage everyone to continue participating in our lively bridge games. They offer a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow enthusiasts, sharpen your skills, and enjoy some friendly competition in a relaxed atmosphere. Your continued support is what makes our community so vibrant and engaging.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your President

Barbara Childs



OUR NEW WEBSITE...

Want to know what's going on at the HUT? Want to know scores and how you performed at your last game? Do you need a means to introduce The HUT and the game to interested and potential members? You are in luck!! Tune into www.wbubridge.org. This dynamic forum will also give you the history of the Washington Bridge Unit (WBU) and the ABA, American Bridge Association. WOW!! You will also find past editions of the WBU newsletters as well as the schedule of club games and national tournaments. Information about

players will also be available. We are so impressed with the new website, and we are sure you will be to! We profusely thank Cheryl Fountain for getting it going and ensuring its information is up to date. And there's more!! Business cards with basic information on WBU are being developed so that when you meet an interested person, you can hand out the card. WBU tee shirts will also be available for purchase soon. How exciting!!

Check out this informative, revitalized website.

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EXCITING NEW INITIATIVE...

Bridge LENDING LIBRARY



We are thrilled to announce an exciting new initiative: the establishment of the ****WBU Lending Library****! This resource will be a fantastic addition for all our members, providing a dedicated collection of bridge books to enhance your game, learn new strategies, and delve deeper into the fascinating world of bridge. To bring this vision to life, we are inviting our generous members to contribute. If you have any bridge books – perhaps those you've read, outgrown, or simply wish to share – we would be incredibly grateful for your donation. Please bring your contributions to The Hut during our regular operating hours, and we'll ensure they find a welcoming home on our library shelves.

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Mount Ranier Day...

The Washington Bridge Unit strives to be a good partner and good neighbor within the Mount Rainier Community. As such, over the past few years, WBU has participated in the Annual "Mt. Rainier Day" festivities. On May 16th, WBU manned a booth to promote The HUT and the game of Bridge, while also recruiting new members. Amid lots of fun, music, food, WBU members, Linda Alexander, President



Barbara Childs served as excellent ambassadors for The Hut and bridge.

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BRIDGE CLASS SCHEDULE

During the summer months, our superb bridge instructors take a well-deserved break.

Classes will resume in the Fall. So, be on the lookout for new class schedules that will start in September or October 2026. However, Supervised and Reflective Play sessions will continue on Mondays for both beginning and more skilled players. These sessions are helpful to all and provide guidance and practice. You can always pick up some bridge gems to take away each time you come. You **WILL** learn something!! We are so indebted to Pat Cunningham, Liz Lyons, Wilma Bonner for all their hard work in providing their knowledge and skill in teaching Bridge. These classes, practice sessions and general assistance to players yielded some 78 individuals who are new or returning to Bridge.

Chairman Pat Cunningham has indicated that the Education Team is looking for additional instructors. Bridge players who have the time and interest are asked to contact her to become a part of the Education Committee.

Miscellaneous Notes:

Please remember that the newsletter's Circle of Care section is the forum to check on WBU members and friends who are in need of prayers or a phone call. Please share this information and send it to ltdurham22@comcast.net.