



The Bridge Buzz



ACBL Unit 431 Newsletter

December 2012

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Ele Gibson and I became President of the Unit last February.

I moved from Edmonton, Alberta 3 years ago and am extremely impressed by bridge in Victoria. People are helpful and friendly and there is very little “poor” behaviour at the table. But, more importantly, duplicate bridge is very healthy here. It even seems to be growing – something which is unheard of in many other parts of the country.

The Unit is healthy financially – we recently were able to afford to purchase Bridge Mate machines - while other Units are money- strapped and have to rely on fundraisers to balance the books. We have record breaking Sectionals and on one day a week, we can have nearly 40 tables of bridge in play. Not bad for a city with 350,000 population compared to Edmonton with 1,000,000 who can only manage 20 tables on a good day and whose Sectionals and club games have been declining steadily. Perhaps this is our demographics with many retired people playing bridge. Perhaps it is the quality of our Directors and Teachers. Perhaps it is the friendly way new people are treated. (I have even had people say to me “Welcome to table 3”). Whatever it is we should congratulate ourselves and be pleased that we live in an area of growing rather than declining bridge.

Keep on enjoying your bridge.

Ele Gibson

CHRISTMAS PARTY



Congratulations to the overall winners at the Unit Christmas party, Bob Coburn and Bree Watts (above) with a 65.86% game!

Thanks to the efforts of Chair Danielle Goulet and her helpers, the Christmas party was a great success. An hour of socializing followed by a delicious dinner and an evening of bridge was enjoyed by all.

See the next page for pictures from the event provided by Van Buchanan.





Helen Anglehart, Wanda Nunan and Agnes Dummer



Bela Hirczy



Karen Billett and Van Buchanan



Dilys and Tom Halford



Gayle Good and Jan Galenza



David and Clare Ward

2012 NEW LIFE MASTERS

Congratulations to all those who became Life Masters in 2012: Beth Braithwaite, Daphne Dunbar, Paul D'Orban, Nicole Dupuis, Kaye Farmer, Dawn Hueston, Andrea Miller, and Marguerite Watson

Shown here is President Ele Gibson presenting Marguerite Watson with her silver coin.



PLAYER PROFILE

Bruce Mackenzie is a regular fixture at the Tuesday evening and Thursday morning bridge games at Victoria Bridge Centre. What you may not know is that Bruce is a retired pediatrics dentist and has been a generous supporter of the BC SPCA for over 30 years.

To celebrate their 63rd anniversary, Bruce and his wife Nikki, donated the needed funds to the Victoria SPCA to pay for the surgery and care of a 10-year-old Shih-Tzu found wandering the streets of Victoria badly neglected and seriously injured.

The full story can be found in the November edition of Senior Living.

MISCELLANEOUS

Jim Brackenbury became a certified ACBL Club Director in May, 2012. He directs a weekly non-sanctioned game at Goward House, and occasionally provides back-up help to one of the other Directors at local sanctioned games.

The Unit 431 phone book for 2013 will be available at the local clubs for anyone who did not pick one up at the Christmas party. Special thanks go to Danielle Goulet for her work in ensuring all of the Victoria bridge playing community who wished to be included in the book are listed with their current information.

Lessons Anyone?

Do you want to improve your game or know someone who wants to learn how to play bridge?

The Victoria Bridge Centre will be offering lessons for all levels starting in mid-January. To register, contact Debbie Wastle at 250-882-4824 or leave a message at the club at 250-382-2913.

ACBL Accredited 4 Star Bridge Teacher, Delma Murray, will be offering four different sets of lessons starting in January at both the Monterey Centre and the Greenglade Community Centre in Sidney. For further information contact Delma Murray at 250 388-9784 or email delmabridge@live.ca

CLUB CORNER

Capital City Bridge Club

Ewa and Rita would like to wish all their players a "Happy Holiday" with many enjoyable memories to bring forward into the New Year.

Capital City Bridge Club Christmas games Dec. 19th, 20th & 21st. All games Club Championship rated so more points! Free cookies and coffee. The Club will be closed Dec. 24th and 26th and will reopen on the 27th.

Victoria Bridge Centre

Saturday afternoon games with lessons are back for 0-500mp. Lessons start at 12:00pm and the Game starts at 12:30pm. The lessons will follow a theme; we are currently learning "How to Count." Players are welcome to stay after the game to discuss those difficult hands.

We hope you will join us for our NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY: December 31st at 8:00pm. Please sign up on the sheet posted by the Director's desk.

All the best for the holidays and see you at the table!

UPCOMING EVENTS 2013

Jan. 13	Mentor Game, Victoria Bridge Centre
Jan. 18 – 20	Burnaby Sectional
Feb. 10	Mentor Game, Victoria Bridge Centre
Feb. 18 – 24	Canada -wide STAC game
Feb. 23	Ace o f Hearts, St. Aidan's Church
Feb. 24	Annual General Meeting, VBC
Mar. 1 – 3	Duncan Sectional
Mar. 10	Mentor Game, Victoria Bridge Centre

For anyone interested in looking further ahead, the complete listing of events for Victoria and vicinity is on the Unit website under 'Tournaments and Events' at http://d19.org/victoria/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/2013_Bridge_Event_Calendar.pdf

An invitation to attend the

[2013 Victoria Regional](#)