

Growing the Future of Bridge



ACBL Educational Foundation 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Bridge Friends -

Our 2022 calendar year was one for the record books! We can't wait to share why in the following pages, but for starters, we ...

- Increased Foundation donations by **\$224K**;
- Added **five new Legacy Society members, one and a half new staff members and three new Trustees**;
- Graduated **500** young people, ages 11-17, from our digital beginning bridge program, "**BridgeWhiz**," in June and automatically enrolled them as Junior ACBL Members for a year;
- Established **The WhizKids Bridge Club**, where BridgeWhiz kids could play online for free on Shark Bridge during weekends;
- Instituted digital and hybrid **online summer bridge camps** using BridgeWhiz teachers;
- Held our first fundraiser – a **charity Pro-Am auction** – and created a new \$54K fund named "**Spark!**" to fund initiatives for young people (ages 17-31);
- Financed six Junior teams to play in the **Providence NABC**, four of them competing for the first time;
- Fulfilled **16 grant requests**– the largest number "ever," or since well before 2017;
- Created a special award honoring **Mitch Dunitz** for his support of collegiate bridge.

Sure ... we've given you all the highlights here, but we hope you'll read how we achieved these milestones in stories throughout the following pages.

Lastly, we want to thank **Marty Bergen, author of Points Schmoints** and many other revered bridge books, for allowing us to include some of the anecdotes he has shared with the bridge world over his career.

Tap roots go deep. Sometimes we forget who came before us with humor and sunshine to make the game grow. Interspersed in these pages are some of those "bon mots" he collected. We hope they'll help you remember your own bridge roots.

With gratitude -



E. Kristen Frederick
Executive Director



Robert S. Todd
President

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Purpose

To increase the number of bridge players.

To engage in educational activities for the purpose of instructing the public as to the fundamentals, study, and play of contract bridge.

To increase the pleasure of playing bridge.

Goals

To introduce more people to the game of bridge, regardless of whether it's social, duplicate, or a simplified stepping-stone game.

To develop a network of casual bridge players and encourage a deeper engagement with the game.

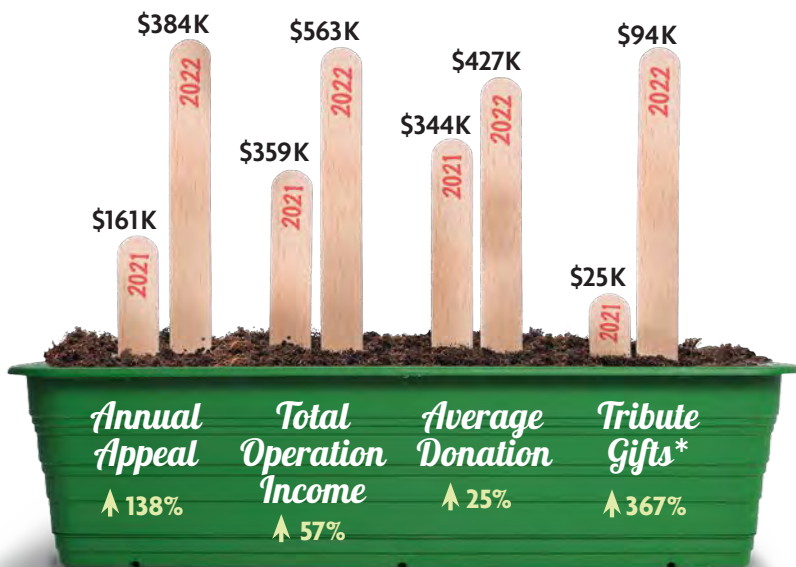


See How Our Garden Has Grown!



DONATIONS

Revenue Growth



*Memorial & Honorary Donations

2017-2022 Programs & Grants



- Youth/Camp Programs
- Research
- Collegiate
- Military Initiative
- Teachers/Teaching
- "Spark" Grants
- Social Bridge Online
- Family/Adult Programs



2022 ACBL Educational Foundation Grant Recipients

MoKan Bridge Academy:

\$930 for textbooks and teacher stipend during the Spring Youth Bridge Lessons: seven 45-minute lessons followed by a duplicate pupil game on Sunday afternoons during April and May.

American Bridge Teachers Association:

\$9,700 for AV equipment, internet access, printing and a teacher workshop during the ABTA Annual Convention in Providence, Rhode Island.

American Bridge Teachers Association:

\$7,500 for underwriting the cost of a one-year teacher membership for those completing the face-to-face and online “Best Practices” certification.

Sorry, Partner:

\$1,500 for editing and communication software, audio recording and audience management tools to support the SORRY, PARTNER weekly podcast.

Youth Bridge Club at the Cavendish:

\$1,300 to cover the Director’s Fee for 10 games during May and June, plus medals, prizes and Director stipend for the tournament.

MoKan Bridge Academy:

\$670 to purchase textbooks and handouts for the nine sessions of the Summer Youth Program during June, July and August.

Unit 169, Central Carolina Bridge Association:

\$3,750 for the “One Day-Two Cities” Learn Bridge in a Day?® beginning bridge course which covers venue rental, teaching fees and materials

United States Bridge Federation:

\$19,000 to assist in covering the travel of expenses of Youth Bridge players attending the 7th Youth World Championships in Salsomaggiore, Italy, in August.

Buffalo Bridge Center, Inc.:

\$2,450 for facility usage, mentor support, teacher stipend and educational materials to continue the Youth Bridge Education Program started in 2016.

Jump Start Youth Bridge:

\$5,500 for booth rental and bridge educational materials needed to participate in the International Society for Technology in Education summit in Philadelphia, PA, in July 2023.

Lake Charles Duplicate Bridge Club:

\$550 for Learn Bridge in a Day?® booklets, director’s fee, space rental, mini-sessions, and flyer printing in September.

Bo Han Zhu:

\$1,000 additional funding to assist in covering expenses at the Youth World Bridge Championships in Salsomaggiore, Italy, in August.

Ethan Wood:

\$1,000 additional funding to assist in covering expenses at the Youth World Bridge Championships in Salsomaggiore, Italy, in August.

Kevin Jiang:

\$1,000 additional funding to assist in covering expenses at the Youth World Bridge Championships in Salsomaggiore, Italy, in August.

Youth Bridge Education Organization (Carlinville):

\$14,300 to subsidize room/board costs for 40 bridge camper families and 17 staff, background checks and partial staff stipends for the Carlinville Youth Bridge Camp in 2023.

Tech Matters Consulting (Dr. Denise Harlem):

\$5,000 to establish a Bridge Discovery Program for young bridge players consisting of teachers, community and parents in collaboration with the Orange, NJ, Board of Education and provide graduates with ACBL Youth Memberships.

Pop Quiz:

Guess the total amount of grants we made in 2022:

- A) \$25,000 B) \$64,000 C) \$85,150**



The Magical Years Continue!

Combining the first BridgeWhiz class graduates from April with the June graduates of the Winter session, **500** students received a Certificate of Achievement, a BridgeWhiz lanyard, and a one-year free Junior membership in ACBL. The remaining group of students who attended less than 65% of classes received Certificates of Participation.

A few months prior, we recognized the need for BridgeWhiz to operate more efficiently in subsequent years. In late Spring we hired **Al Bender** as the BridgeWhiz Program Manager. You'll recall that he provided his guidance and inordinate amounts of time in that capacity during the first year. We also recognized the need for creating automation tools that would reduce the administrative overload on ACBLEF and BridgeWhiz staff for Year II.

After months of research, we decided to create a Learning Management System (LMS) for the program. This system would, among other things, address the issue of "student sign-up" versus "student show-up" and provide a secure interaction platform between students and teachers utilizing a built-in email-system. Enrolled students would be able to learn and play the game on Shark Bridge through BridgeWhiz in a safe environment. **Jerry Stamatov**, an experienced LMS designer, was engaged for this project which would begin its operation in August.





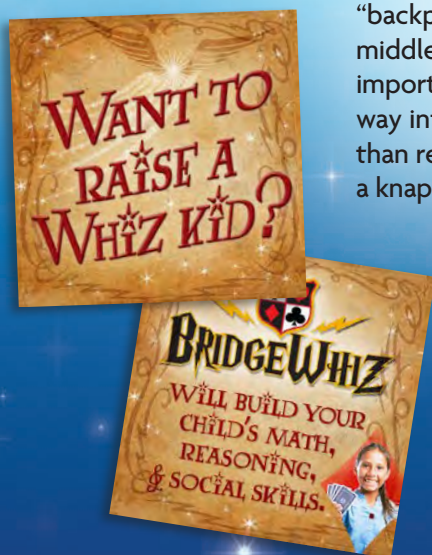
In late Spring, as a test, ACBLEF posted the availability of one-week summer bridge camps, generating a lot of traffic to the ACBLEF website. Ten BridgeWhiz coaches volunteered to run a one-week digital camp without overlapping each other during the period of July 4th through August 27th at a cost of \$125 per student. Capturing students to sit behind a computer screen every day for a solid week proved to be deterrent and, with camp consolidations, only three of the seven original camps ran successfully, graduating close to 50 kids.



In partnership with the Youth Bridge Association, and with use of their website, BridgeWhiz developed the **WhizKids Bridge Club** to offer kids the opportunity to play for free on Sunday afternoons. **A class for**

parents of BridgeWhiz students was offered so that parents could learn to play bridge at the same time as their children.

Shortly thereafter, ACBLEF developed a questionnaire which it sent to the parents of BridgeWhiz students to gather information about the program and provide feedback for BridgeWhiz Year II. Bridge Whiz teachers did the same, and over the course of the summer, this working group of teachers met to address both teacher and parent concerns and recommend changes which went into effect for Year II:

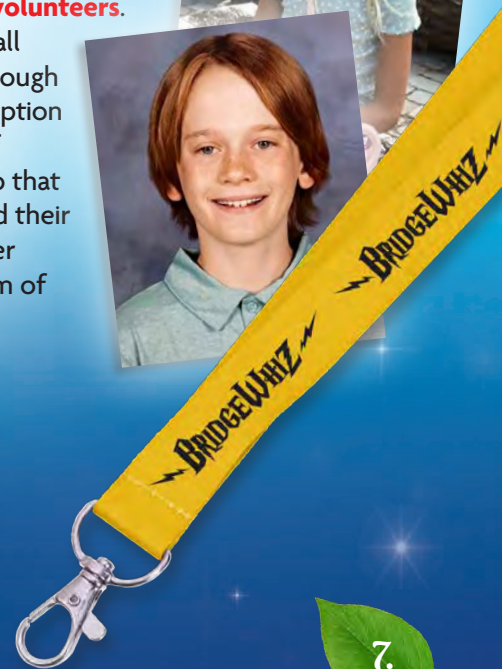


In addition to hiring **Keith Hafen as Assistant BridgeWhiz Program Manager**, we tweaked the following to:

- Make the course easier and the deals more success-oriented;
 - Provide free access via Shark Bridge to the WhizKids Bridge Club on weekends;
 - Divide content into both static and live options;
- We divided the lessons into three 8-week modules:
- *Module 1 is basics and play of the hand in no trump offered in Fall and Winter sessions (adding Mini-Bridge early within the module)*
 - *Module 2 is bidding and play of the hand in a suit – Winter session*
 - *Module 3 is competitive bidding and defense*
 - *“Improver” bridge modules in Fall and Winter*

Out of an abundance of caution, we continued to administer elements of the BridgeWhiz program on the ACBLEF website while awaiting completion of the LMS, but channeled enrollment directly to BridgeWhiz.org as the official site for this new learning management system.

Further, we contacted all people who expressed an interest in becoming an ambassador during Year I through our *Join The Team* page on the ACBLEF/ BridgeWhiz tab, asking them to reaffirm their interest as **volunteers**. We began an aggressive Fall recruitment campaign through **PeachJar**, an online subscription “backpack” for parents of middle school students so that important messages found their way into their hands rather than remain at the bottom of a knapsack.





BridgeWhiz, Year 1, continued

At the same time, we also isolated the top ten ACBL-membership states, then overlaid the major cities where BridgeWhiz registration for Year I was the highest within those states. We created and ran a **Facebook campaign for six weeks** starting August 15th through the end of September promoting the opening of BridgeWhiz Year II registration and date that classes would start. **It generated 13,000 visitors**

to BridgeWhiz.org. Our LMS platform launched in August, but it became quickly apparent that it required more features to be in place than we had originally planned. Multiple fixes were put into place in time for Year II Fall registration and we marketed BridgeWhiz aggressively.

In late October, BridgeWhiz became a solely-owned LLC of the ACBL Educational Foundation. Sitting ACBLEF Trustees were elected as a Board of Managers and staff became joint staff members of both nonprofit organizations. The benefit of this creation was that this structure offered additional protection for Trustees by removing BridgeWhiz as a program of ACBLEF and the structure enabled the combining of both organizations for audit and IRS 990 forms.

In the final months of the calendar year, website donations to BridgeWhiz surged ahead of all others. Additionally, the Board designated BridgeWhiz to be the 2022 recipient of any contributions designated for “wherever (support) was needed most.” \$18.1K donations were dedicated directly to BridgeWhiz, and since we had announced in 2021 that donations made “wherever the need is greatest” would also be ascribed to BridgeWhiz, \$151.9K was raised by 178 donors in 2022.

In closing, we are still making tweaks and adjustments to the LMS and will run the program in multiple time zones “at need” digitally during 2023. We ask that you continue to spread the word about BridgeWhiz so that its growth in 2023 as an independent nonprofit will be better than ever!

Family Affairs

Parents and grandparents are taking their BridgeWhiz kids to play in F2F games at their clubs! Here's why this is exciting:

- ◆ BridgeWhiz kids are getting the best “first partner” (and cheerleader!) they can get.

- ◆ Juniors are learning how to focus longer, and, in one club game, that meant an endurance test of 28 boards.

- ◆ ACBL members can introduce their BridgeWhiz graduate to club friends and opponents, some of whom will share their own bridge knowledge (hopefully taken in the spirit it was given) after the game is played.

- ◆ Kids are learning bridge concepts and lingo in a less stressful environment with parents or grandparents to explain these game idiosyncrasies to them.

- ◆ BridgeWhiz kids are using the ACBL Junior Membership underwritten by the ACBL Educational Foundation.





Craig De Almeida and his daughter, Genevieve.

Meet Craig De Almeida and his daughter, Genevieve, a BridgeWhiz graduate, who have already played four games together at The Bridge Academy in Durham, NC. Here's what Genevieve had to say about the experience:

"It was amazing! People at the club were quite welcoming and were excited to see a new face, (well, half of one anyway, with masking and all) and made great competitors. I met people with games at my level, and quite a few who were more advanced, but everyone was quite happy explaining their bids, and I even have had to explain a few of ours a couple times. I must admit I get nervous every time, but few hands in it becomes comfortable. All in all, it's an exciting experience – even if you don't win. I'm still trying for my first masterpoints!"

Lily Steck played bridge in person for the first time ever at the Youth NABC in Providence in July after learning on BridgeWhiz last fall. The 13-year-old from Bethlehem, PA, entered the program at her grandmother, Grace Sutherland's suggestion.



Grace Sutherland and her granddaughter, Lily Steck.

"At first I was unsure, but I knew my grandma really liked it, so I thought I'd give it a try," Lily said. "And then I found out I really liked it." It took her about three weeks to get to that point.

BridgeWhiz is the ACBL Educational Foundation's nationwide online youth teaching program. Lily was in a class taught by Bernie Simkin over Zoom and Shark Bridge with about 40 kids from all over.

The BridgeWhiz program includes two tournaments, one in the middle and one at the end of the 12-week class. Lily wasn't able to participate in the final, but she won the midterm event, scoring a 74% with first-time partner Max Sullivan of Olathe, KS.

"(BridgeWhiz teachers) Al Bender and Bernie Simkin wrote glowing emails about her," Sutherland said.

"I was so excited," she said. "It's so much fun playing bridge with other kids in Rhode Island. There's nothing you can do with other kids in Pennsylvania, not in person anyway. I feel like clicking a button and staring at a screen for an hour is not really as much fun. It's still fun, but not the same."

Lily plans on taking additional BridgeWhiz classes, starting with intermediate next year. "I think my youngest cousin wants to do bridge," she said. "I think she wants to come to tournaments with me and Grandma."

Courtesy of Chip Dombrowski, Associate Editor, *The Bulletin*.
The October 2022 article has been edited with permission of the author.





Three Organizations: One Mission

We are very proud to work collaboratively with both ACBL and the American Bridge Teachers Association (ABTA) with grants that further bridge teaching, provide professional workshops, and encourage young bridge players to continue playing the best game ever! In 2022, we facilitated the following:



For ABCL:

The College Bridge Bowl

The ACBLEF normally sponsors six pairs and no teams, but travel packages were offered to pairs and teams who won in 2020 but were unable to attend due to event cancellation. Mitch Dunitz sponsored

an additional three pairs and the ACBLEF matched his donation for another three pairs. \$20K in scholarships were awarded to winning teams placing 1st through 4th place, and \$12K in scholarships were awarded in the pairs division.

The Collegiate Initiative Program

ACBLEF provided stipends of over \$8,300 to colleges starting up and maintaining bridge clubs, plus \$3,000 for books and bridge supplies.

Youth NABC

ACBLEF sponsored the \$4,000 team scholarship.

I/N Speakers at NABCs

Providing celebrity speakers to the Intermediate and Novice group is very popular, and we donate up to \$1,800 annually for teacher stipends.

LBIAD?

Since 2013, the ACBL Educational Foundation has sponsored Patty Tucker's "Learn Bridge In A Day?" events at NABC's by covering the \$1,800 presenter fee at each class.

King/Queen of Bridge

This \$2,000 annual award and college scholarship is given to a graduating high school student based on success at teaching and recruiting students to play bridge. The award is competitive and chosen by ACBLEF Trustees through blind ballot.

ACBL Digital Teacher Training Grant

Jointly sponsored by ACBL and the Educational Foundation, and in consultation with the ABTA, an initial grant of \$25,000 helped create the "how to teach" workshop. 197 ACBL teachers have now completed the course, enabling them to make online bridge lessons more engaging. This program continues to introduce teachers to apps/websites that offer unique teaching capabilities and demonstrate creative lesson dynamics.

Boost

We're proud to add our name to programs that support bridge teachers, create new bridge players and foster face-to-face play.



For ABTA:

\$9,700 to American Bridge Teachers Association to cover AV equipment, internet access, teachers' roundtable and associated printing costs for its annual conference and \$7,500 to cover one-year memberships in ABTA following completion of the Best Practices program.



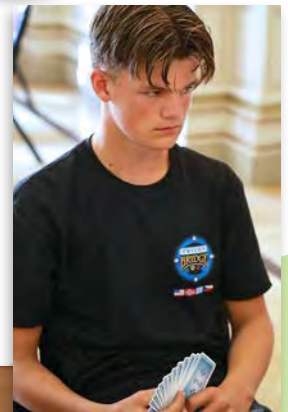


Tricky Bridge



Tricky Bridge. A mere two years after we provided a \$38K grant to them for this digital platform, Tricky Bridge easily topped significant milestones during 2022. One hundred thousand lesson players, averaging over 21 lessons each, have learned the basics of both play and bidding.

Team Tricky Bridge competed at the World Youth Bridge Championships in Italy with players from Greece, Norway and the Czech Republic. Tricky Bridge sponsored the Greek/Czech pair, with the two Norwegians joining them to complete the team for the Pairs and BAM events. We are super excited that this team won the U16 Joan Gervard Youth award.



“Bridge mirrors every facet of life.”

- *Victor Mollo, British Writer*



Spark!

A fund of the ACBL Educational Foundation

An amazing event grew out of a weekend conversation between Tracey Bauer, Zach Grossack, and Alex Kolesnik on Memorial Day at the Sacramento Regional: an online Pro-Am auction to help cover the costs of sending 19 Junior bridge players to compete in the World Junior Bridge Federation competition in Salsomaggiore, Italy.

Within days a working group was created including Tracey, Alex, Zach, and Robert Todd, and the effort was off and running! The auction offered an opportunity to bid and play with world champions, bridge celebrities, authors and legends. It included kibitzing, an after-party with the experts, games with “The Greats” on BBO (including one hour conversations with them) and the ability to play at a mutually agreed upon time. You could even bid to play with a friend against the Pros.

A phenomenal \$53K+ was raised, enough to meet the USBF goal and **then some**.

The Educational Foundation saw an opportunity to create a special fund with the “then some” to help reach and develop an audience that has been traditionally hard to engage: young people ages 17-31. We named the fund “Spark!” as that is all it takes, in the form of grants, to ignite great ideas that attract and retain young adult bridge players.



We wish to thank the following professionals for donating their time and expertise during the Spark! auction and hope they will all participate in next year's event as well.

Wafik Abdou	Ishmael Del'Monte	James Holzhauser	Jill Marshall	Alan Sontag
Karen Allison	Vince Demuy	Shan Huang	John McAllister	Jocelyn Startz
Lynn Baker	Raluca Dobrescu	Alex Hudson	Jeff Meckstroth	Wayne Stuart
Rob Barrington	Joshua Donn	John Hurd	Kent Mignocchi	Anam Tebha
David Berkowitz	Mitch Dunitz	Jan Jansma	Jacob Morgan	Robert Todd
Michael Berkowitz	Kevin Dwyer	Aaron Jones	Daniel Morse	Sibrand van Oosten
Alejandro Bianchedi	Jason Feldman	Piotr Jurek	Radu Nistor	Claude Vogel
Giorgia Botta	Lynne Feldman	Ralph Katz	Howard Parker	Matt Weingarten
Peter Boyd-Bowman	Jeff Ferro	Alex Kolesnik	Adam Parrish	Adam Wildavsky
Bart Bramley	Jacob Freeman	Emma Kolesnik	Mike Passell	Chris Willenken
Ralph Buchalter	Brandon Ge	Finn Kolesnik	Michael Polowan	Gavin Wolpert
Migry Campanille	Kayden Ge	Daniel Korbelt	Shawn Quinn	Jenny Wolpert
Shannon Cappelletti	Eldad Ginossar	Corey Krantz	John Ramos	Hazel Wolpert
Andrew Chen	Gail Greenberg	John Kranyak	Barry Rigal	Ethan Wood
Charlie Chen	Adam Grossack	Jim Krekorian	Cecilia Rimstedt	Joel Wooldridge
Phil Clayton	Zachary Grossack	Jessica Larsson	Christopher Rivera	Kit Woolsey
Billy Cohen	Joseph Grue	Owen Lien	Kyle Rockoff	Eric Xiao
Larry Cohen	Bob Hamman	Amber Lin	Rick Roeder	Jeff Xiao
Gary Cohler	Nicolas Hammond	Harrison Luba	Debbie Rosenberg	Michael Xu
Chris Compton	Nicolai Heiberg-	Christina Lund	Kevin Rosenberg	Brian Zhang
Kitty Cooper	Evenstad	Madsen	Barbara Seagram	
Juan Felipe Cuervo	Patricia Herrera	Castor Mann	Ron Smith	

We did our best to make sure all 2022 Auction Professionals were listed correctly. If we have inadvertently omitted your name or misspelled it, we apologize for this error. Please contact us as soon as possible so that we can correct it.



We named the fund “Spark!” as that is all it takes, in the form of grants, to ignite great ideas that attract and retain young adult bridge players.

- E. Kristen Frederick, Executive Director


The ACBL Educational Foundation is deeply grateful to those who created, sponsored, donated, bid (and bid again!), donated items for bidding, kibitzed, and in all ways contributed to the success of the First Charitable Auction to benefit Junior bridge players. Your generosity helped us create the “Spark!” fund which will further develop, support and sustain young adult (ages 17-31) bridge initiatives. We are most thankful for all of your efforts and your gifts.

 **Emerald:**
\$2500-\$4999
Lynne Koeppel
Ewan McNay
Barbara Ullman

 **Diamond:**
\$1000-\$2499
Harsh Bansal
Carolyn Bitetti
Tracey Clifford
Kathryn Conway
Kevin Dwyer
Barry Goren
James LaFave
Cadir Lee
Ellen Lugosch
Max Schireson
Susan Schnelwar
Christopher Sloan

 **Sapphire:**
\$500-\$999
Jane Dillenberg
Sam Dinkin
Allison Freeland
Christian Goetze
Judy Hyde
Geeske Joel
Fern Lindsay
John Lescher
Kenneth Mandel
Dave Marker
Gillian Miniter
Lee Ohliger
Howard Parker

Dale Rands
Scott Taylor
Marie Wiley

 **Gold:**
\$250-\$499
Lori Anzine
Michael Berkowitz
Benjamin Bomber
Tom Breur
Reeta Brendamour
Tracy Burlock
Jane Champion
Jordan Chodorow
Csaba Daday
Christopher Donnelly
Pamela Furtsch
Rachael Gosling
Andrew Gumperz
Nicole Hudak
Linda Einhorn Ihde
Robert Ives
Jane Karp
Beatrice Kemp
GerriAnne Mason
John McAllister
Mykaell McCarthy
Jane McLaughlin
Elizabeth Nash
Stella Pawley
Mike Rippey
Andrew Rosenthal
Angela Snyder
Qiang Zhang
Susan Zhang
Carlene Ziegler

 **Ruby:**
\$100-\$249
Colin Baigel
Virginia Bertram
Sandra Boles
Tom Breur
Shelley Burns
Jason Chiu
Margie Cole
Suzanne Cook
William Cubely
Martha Ehrenfeld
In honor of Tracey Bauer
Stephanie Flinn
Carol Frank
Babs Giesbrecht
Linda Glover
Peggy Goldman
Michele Harlow
Benjamin Klauder
John Kranyak
Xuhua Lin
John Mayne
Joyce Menezes
Michael Mikyska
Carol Mittel
Alex Ornstein
Shawn Quinn
Allison Rudary
Ginny Shelton
Sunil Singh
Bhavik Soni
Jeffrey Stead
David Stern
Frank Stewart
Anam Tebha

Robert Todd
Venky Venkataramani
Ellen Wolf

 **Bronze:**
\$50-\$99
David Adler
Jason Cheu
Adam Grossack

 **Grassroots:**
\$49 & under
Stan Barg
Amy Casanova
Kristen Frederick
Catherine Harris
Raeanne Koerner
Helmut Lall
Sandy McCay
Barbara McNair
Frank Morgan
Michele Musy
Larry Osofsky
Linda Robinson
Jessica Udomsriprung

Pop Quiz:

What young adult bridge player was one of the initial organizers of this event to raise funds for Junior Bridge Players?

- A) Charles Goren**
- B) Omar Sharif**
- C) Zach Grossack**



2022 ACBL Educational Foundation Donors

We thank all donors who participated in our 2022 Annual Appeal. Please be assured that your donations directly supported the initiatives (BridgeWhiz, Spark, the ACBLEF itself) you chose, but are not broken out by category on these pages.



Mitch Dunitz
In honor of Stan Druckenmiller
Gloria McCain
In honor of Robert Todd, friend
Gloria McCain
*In memory of my late husband,
Reece McCain*
Suanne Blair



Anonymous
In honor of Kathleen Edwards, my aunt
Gloria McCain
In honor of Patty Tucker & Robert Todd
Marta Black
*In honor of my husband,
David Bruce Black*
Paul Cuneo/Shell Matching Gift
Bridge Ethics & Education Corp.



Anonymous
ACBL District 16, San Antonio
Ellen Anten
Jack & Ruth Campbell
In honor of Jennie Campbell
Virginia Cenedella
Jonathan Donnellan
Mitchell Dunitz
*In honor of Sharon Anderson,
my mentor in ACBLEF*
Allison Freeland
Joel & Laurie Kramer
Robert Todd
Charlie Wilkins



Vicki Bowman Bell
Emily Robinson &
Michael Berkowitz
Barbara Clark
*In honor of Thelma &
Lonnie Clark, my parents*
Daniel & Cynthia Feig
In memory of Gaylor Kasle
Kristen Frederick
Allison Freeland
In honor of Robert Todd
Stu Goodgold
Paula & George Jauch
Jeannette Jensen
Gregory Johnson
Leo & Troy & Liz Kincannon
Jennifer Koppel
In honor of Reese Koppel
Judith P. Krasnoff
Charles M. MacCracken
Dan E. Morse
Nancy Rassbach
Andrew Rosenthal
Roger Sachs & Rose Sachs
In memory of Evan Sachs
John & Deanna Sammon
Roger Smith
Russell Wright Wing

“Never reproach your partner if there is the slightest thing for which you can reproach yourself..”

- Ely Culbertson

We did our best to make sure all 2022 Donor Gifts were listed correctly. If we have inadvertently omitted your name or misspelled it, we apologize for this error. Please contact us as soon as possible so that we can correct it.



Anonymous (3)
 Sharon Anderson
In memory of Jeff Taylor, my bridge partner
 Albert Bender
 Jan & Philip Caulson
 Consuelo & Gary Corbett
 David & Dr. Nancy Colligan
 Honesdale Hawley Duplicate Bridge Club
 Nivin & Duncan MacMillan Foundation
 Will Fox & Family
 Mr. & Mrs. Mark Friedlander
 Katharine Grundy
 Patricia Herrera
 Bryan Howard
 Steve Lowe & Family
In memory of Ray Parnell, Victor Norris, Dorothy Berg, Diane Mook and In honor of John Bassett
 David & Dr. Nancy Millens
 Robyn & Dale Rands
 Johnny Raimondi
In honor of Ethan Wood
 Richard & Karen Recht
In honor of our daughter, Missie Schneider
 Peggy Schneider
In memory of Faye Bloch, my mother, & Maybelle Schneider, my mother-in-law
 Sumner Steinfeldt
 Karen Trenner
 Jean-Noel Willk
 Michael R.V. Whitman



Karen Gregos & Ken Carpenter
In memory of Mary Gauthier, our mother
 Nancy Cord
 Pat & Mac Dalglesich
 Stephen Donahue
 Theresa Duewer
In honor of my grandsons Henry Duewer, Will Grenville & James Grenville
 Pamela Eush
In honor of the Palm Beach Polo Bridge Club
 Allison Freeland
In honor of Michael Berkowitz, fellow trustee
 Joel Fuhrman
 Grand Island, Kearney & Lincoln Duplicate Bridge Clubs
In memory of Robert Kutilek, Past President Unit 184 & longtime Director of Grand Island DBC
 Billie Grieb
In honor of Barbara Clark
 Keith Hafen
In memory of my wife, Susan Hafen



David Hagerty
In memory of Geraldine Cullen Romito, my brother & sister-in-law
 Michelle Harlow
 Richard A. Jacoby
 Julian Laderman
In memory of Jack Laderman
 John Laney
In memory of my mother, Mary C. Laney, Life Master
 Valerie Lycette
 Minoqua Duplicate Bridge Club
In memory of Jo Zickert
 Kay Moran
 Judith Nassar
In memory of Arlene Davis, Genny Rice & Arlene Mae Johannes
 Alexander Ogan
 Stephen Pohl
 Jeff Reid
 Kathy Russler
In memory of my father, Frank Fleming
 Peggy Shapiro
 Robert Moskowitz & Jeanette Stern
 June Stoiber
 Katherine Twomey
In memory of Judy Buskirk, Fred VanCampenhout & Julie Johnson
 Judy Yordi

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“It is a miracle to me that, in all the literature of bridge, there is not a single chapter on “how to pass.””

- Ely Culbertson



2022 ACBL Educational Foundation Donors, continued



Anonymous
In memory of Heather Kirkorowicz

Anonymous (3)

Laurence Abramson
In honor of my great friend, Mitch Dunitz

Darwin and Kay Afdahl
In memory of JoAnn Sprung & Judith Wadas Bramley

Nancy Alvarado

Craig Ascher

John Bava

David Bloom
In memory of William "Slam" Beal, my father

Jeffrey Boak

George Bradley

Mac Busby

Susan Callison

Mark Cohen

Deanne & Bill Cook
In honor of Robert Todd

Suzanne Cook

Mary Cracraft
In memory of Stephanie Schwingel

Dan & Laurie Cummins
In honor of Phillip & Karen Cummins

Kristen Frederick & Bill Bortis
In memory of Robert Kesten

Kristen Frederick
In honor of Sharon Anderson, a great mentor

Stuart Goodgold

Robb Gordon
In memory of Larry Mori

Lois Gottlieb

Granite CEO Peer Group
In memory of Barbara Greer, ACBL Life Master

Jan & Richard Hall



Faith Halter
In memory of Gloria Belsh

Kenneth & Marian Handy

Louis Harmelin
In memory of Karen Yanks

Gregory Harter

Katharine Heberg
In memory of Edward A. Heberg, my husband

Scott Hoffer

Andrew Hoskins

Mary Jarvis

Kay and Randy Joyce
In memory of Mary Lou Johnson

Jacob & Vicki Karno
In honor of Larry & John Federico on their 80th birthdays

Dennis Kasle
In honor of Gaylor Kasle, my brother

Robert Kessler
In memory of Ed Barhorst, my grandpa

Val Lawlor
In honor of Kristen Frederick

Lind Leighty

John Lescher

David Liu

Steve Lowe & Family
In honor of ACBL Educational Foundation

Larry Lowell

Owen Lynch

Sandra MacPherson

John Markey
In memory of my friends: Ruth Althouse, Rosalie Blowe, Philip Erlenbach, Kenneth Lewis Dye and In honor of Beverly Impara

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In honor of Julian Laderman, my bridge partner

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Eric Stoltz

Joy Sweet

Jill Urtz

David & Vicki Valley
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Stephen Vorenberg

Peter Weber

William & Ruth Wild

Jeffrey, Linda Witzburg

Laura Wyatt
In honor of Catherine Pickett, my friend, on her birthday

Ruth Zowander



Anonymous (3)

Anonymous
In memory of Jack Smith

Mieke Aerts

John Ambrosia
In honor of Coaches Douglas & Denise, my grandson's BridgeWhiz teachers

Robert M. Asher



Charlotte Bailey
In honor of Larry Cohen

Barbara Benson

Mark Blumenthal Trumbull

Dwight Bush
*In memory of Bettie M Williams,
my bridge partner*

Karen & John Coe
In memory of Christopher Shaw

Kenneth Cohn

Susan Collinson
*In memory of Dale S. Collinson,
my husband*

William Cook
In memory of Jim Bowen

Wynn B. Cook
In memory of Daniel Driggett

Kevin Davis

Martha Eubanks

Tina & Leonard Epstein
*In memory of of Judy Bramley &
Lucy Buchanan's brother*

Rebecca Evans

Joyce Fabian

Sharon Fairchild
*In memory of Jeff Taylor,
my bridge colleague*

Mark Freedman
*In memory of Bernice Mendelsohn,
my friend & bridge player*

Robb Gordon
In memory of Gaylor Kasle, my friend

Peter Kaufman
*In memory of Howard Weinstock,
my uncle*

Sharon Kotinek
*In honor of Stephanie Schwingel,
my friend*

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*In memory of Ed Matulis,
Fellow Board member, Unit 373*

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*In memory of Walter Miller,
my former student*

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In memory of Gaylor Kasle

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*In honor of Abbey, Connor &
Ella Griffin, my grandchildren
who are BridgeWhiz graduates*

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In memory of Neal R. Webb, my friend

Ilana & Ari Weinberg
In honor of Joel Wolfe, my father

Paul Ziebarth



Anonymous (4)

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ACBL Unit 450
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*In honor of Bob Pettie on
his 95th Birthday*

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In memory of Gaylor Kasle

Steven Gewirtzman

Benjamin Greenfield
*In honor of Leila Greenfield, my
grandmother, on her birthday*

Phyllis Harlan
*In memory of Jeff Taylor, fellow
ACBL Board member*

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Georgia Heth
In memory of Jeff Taylor

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Helene & Steve Kraft
In memory of Jack Erlichman

Helmut Lall

Linda Leinicke
In memory of Harold Winecoff, my friend

Beth Milam
*In memory of Lila and Bob Lewis,
my parents*

Walter Mitchell
*In honor of Steven Mansour in observance
of his 70th birthday*

Ruth Penson
In memory of George Hutzler Bernstein Sr.

Kathryn Rowe

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In memory of Joan Ondo

Michael Sosa

Helen Volk
In honor of Stephanie Schwingel

Kenneth Walter

We did our best to make sure all 2022 Donor Gifts were listed correctly. If we have inadvertently omitted your name or misspelled it, we apologize for this error. Please contact us as soon as possible so that we can correct it.



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Mitchell Rosnov
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Sharon Jabbour
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Ever Loved
Stephen Surasky
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In Memory of Harold Monroe Winecoff, Our Beloved Bridge Teacher

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Barbara Hayes
Anne Hodges
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Monk Clark
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Amazon Smile
The Blackbaud Giving Fund
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ACBLEF Honor Roll

Our deepest thanks to these new Honor Roll members whose belief in bridge education and their support of it is truly exceptional.

Each has made at least 25 gifts to the Educational Foundation over the years.



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Kathleen Brannen	Suzanne Payne
Joan Buehler	JM Perreault
Molline Cassman	Morton Ray
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Mike Giacaman	Aslam Siddiqui
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Kenneth Hirshon	Rich Stevens
Carl Hoerberling	Margaret Storey
Charo Holdo	Karen Wilson
Michael Lipnick	Joan Yeilding
Suresh Mahajan	Ann Zorn
Richard Maybin	

For a full listing of Honor Roll members, please go to: ACBLEF.org.



Getting To Know Us

A lighter-side look at our Board of Trustees.



Robert S. Todd, President

Considered one of the top bridge teachers in North America, Robert writes a regular article for the *ACBL Bulletin*, and has played bridge at every level from local clubs to world championships. In addition to his multiple accomplishments, Robert started teaching mathematics at university when he was 19 years old and has degrees in Physics and Mathematics (from both within the US and in Helsinki), and Political Science.

Fun fact: He is a red wine lover and collector, founded a computer programming company when he was 20 and has played or taught bridge in every state but Vermont. PS. He's working on that last one.



Joel R. Kramer, Vice President

Joel won his first bridge tournament while in high school in New York but gave up the game for more than four decades. He started playing again about 11 years ago and is now a Gold Life Master. In the real world, Joel was a newspaper reporter and (for most of his career) an editor and news executive. He twice edited investigative projects that won Pulitzer Prizes. He was executive editor of the *Star Tribune* in Minneapolis for nine years and then publisher and president for six.

Fun fact: In addition to bridge, Joel plays golf and piano (both badly) and he loves to cook (not badly). A traveler with Laurie, his wife, he writes: "My wife and I are happy to have reached the age where we don't have to take our shoes off at airports."



Allison Freeland, Treasurer & Finance Chair

Allison started playing bridge in 2006 and after attending her first tournament in Gatlinburg in 2008 she was hooked. Since then, she has tried to attend at least two nationals and three regionals each year. Currently she works for the University of Miami and their Master of Real Estate Development + Urbanism graduate program. Prior to that, she was in private equity and investment banking for 20+ years.

Fun fact: Allison is a triathlete, competing in the sprint and Olympic distance races. Last summer she summited Mt. Kilimanjaro with her husband and went heli-skiing in Canada for the first time. She's also a part-owner of Absolutely Needlepoint (www.Absolutelyneedlepoint.com), a local needlepoint store which she started with three friends.



Barbara Clark, Secretary

Currently President of the Orange (NJ) Education Foundation, Barbara started her career as a psychology graduate of Spelman College, earned her master's degree in special education from Indiana University and taught her first class to students with moderate disabilities in Baltimore. It was during her tenure as Director of Special Services in Orange that the ACBL announced support for bridge programs in schools. As the Education Liaison for Unit 140 of the ACBL, she advocated committing resources to establish bridge in area schools. Short story long, "her" kids have participated in every Youth North American Bridge Championships (YNABC) sponsored by the ACBL since 2013.

Fun fact: After reading a posting about a Fulbright Program of Studies in West Africa, she said to herself "I'm going to West Africa!" Her interview rationale was that the information she would gain from this experience would be used to boost kids' self-esteem. She made the cut and has been doing esteem-building ever since.



Getting To Know Us, continued



Mitch Dunitz, Development Chair

Mitch is a lifelong bridge player, a Grand Life Master, and a former attorney who started a real estate investment firm almost 40 years ago. He believes fervently in “giving back” within the bridge world, and “walks the talk” as chair of the ACBL Hall of Fame and Anti-Cheating Commission and Disciplinary Matters. His passion, however, is to teach bridge to college kids. As Principal of the nonprofit Bridge Education and Ethics Corp., he provides a stipend to college kids to teach bridge and mentor other college students. In 2022 the ACBL Educational Foundation voted to name the College Bridge Bowl Team Championship trophy in honor of him.

Fun fact: He and his wife are avid golfers—although he believes he possess the world’s ugliest golf swing...



Michael Berkowitz, Program Chair

Michael is a popular bridge teacher, lecturer and author. As Program Chair of the Educational Foundation, Michael hopes to revitalize bridge and bring more twenty- and thirty-somethings into the bridge world. He tells his life story every month in the *ACBL Bulletin* and his funny, instructive columns show him as the black sheep of his family, not because he's spent his life writing about, directing, and teaching bridge, but because he hasn't ALSO medaled at a world championship unlike his father, mother, sister, brother-in-law, and father-in-law! While now living in Salt Lake City, his reputation for friendliness, quick wit and compassion resulted in being named “New York’s Most-Beloved Director” when he lived there.

Fun fact: He and his wife, Emily Robinson Berkowitz, foster dogs for an organization called “Rescue Rovers” while parenting their own dog, Yeti.



Ellen Anten

Originally from New Rochelle, NY, Ellen graduated from Boston University where she first learned to play bridge and subsequently taught middle school mathematics. Moving to Virginia, she worked for the Fairfax schools developing a special math program for gifted students. But, in search of warmer weather, she and her family moved to the LA area where she attended CSUN to become a career counselor, ultimately taking a part time position with them. Up until then she played “a little” bridge. The turning point to serious bridge occurred after she and her bridge partner won 25 gold points at an Open Pair event in Bermuda. The rest is bridge history, and as a Platinum Life Master with almost 27,000 points, she and her

longtime bridge partner, Stephen Gross, won the ACBL Super Senior Pairs in 2018 with a “scorching 70% final session” to win their first North American Championship.

Fun fact: Ellen has won over 200 regionals, is a prominent player on the West Coast and is actively involved in promoting the bridge community from behind the scenes.



Jane Champion

Jane holds many titles, including Gold Life Master, certified director, teacher, former club manager and ACBLEF Secretary from 2015-2022. She currently serves as Secretary for District 7 and Board Member of Western North Carolina Unit 171. Dedicated to teaching youth bridge, she is the founder of the Western North Carolina Youth Bridge 501(c)(3). Jane co-chairs the popular Flat Rock “Blue Ridge Spectacular” Sectional/NLM Regional and is proud of the fact that it has become a ‘destination sectional’ tournament in the Western North Carolina Mountains. In 2022, it was one of the only ACBL tournaments to exceed pre-Covid attendance. Jane works closely with local corporate sponsors and the local tourism and

development authority to enhance the tournament experience.

Fun fact: Jane, and her husband John, reside on a 68-acre sheep farm in the Blue Ridge mountains of North Carolina.



Danièle Favre-Panayotatos

Born and raised in Switzerland, Danièle is an experienced administrator in nonprofit management and development. She has served as Executive Director of the Books for Kids Foundation in NYC, promoting literacy among preschool-aged children in under-resourced communities, as well as Director of Development at the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, Quality Services for the Autism Community and the Alpine Learning group in Paramus, NJ. She picked up bridge after retirement and hasn't stopped playing since. You might meet Danièle's husband, Nikos, at a bridge tournament. Since she is not ready to give up on married life, you'll never see them play together.

Fun fact: Danièle does Pilates five days a week. When not at a bridge table, she might be at the NY Philharmonic, at a museum, at a modern dance show, or at the movies, or she could be traveling to visit her families in Switzerland and in Greece.



Patricia Herrera

Patricia is President of the Mexican Bridge Federation and the Educational Coordinator for ACBL's District 16. She won the Mexican National Pairs Championship twice with her favorite partner – her dad! – and has organized one of the most enjoyable ACBL regional tournaments (in Acapulco, no less) called “Fun in the Sun.” An Industrial Engineer, she also holds a master's degree in Nonprofit Management and is passionate about social justice and the nonprofit sector, having co-founded three nonprofits as well as a nonprofit consulting firm based in Mexico City. Fully bilingual, she hosts a podcast called “Es lo que hay” which means “it is what it is” where along with experts and her co-host,

Patricia discusses everything from the beauty of bridge to numerology, just to name a few topics.

Fun fact: Through a website called Secret Cool Mexico, she creates personalized, off-the-beaten path itineraries for people visiting Mexico City. She's also a frustrated rock star!



Bryan Howard, *Legal Counsel*

Having received his J.D. from Vanderbilt University in 1983, Bryan practices in Private Wealth Services in Holland & Knight's Nashville office. Bryan often represents two or three generations of a family. These deep and long-term relationships have given him the opportunity to provide advice regarding numerous events that happen in the life cycle of a wealthy family.

Fun fact: In 2014, Bryan won his first North American championship in the Baldwin North American Pairs, Flight A. In addition to bridge, Bryan is an avid golfer and has practiced transcendental meditation daily for 46 years.

“It's not the handling of difficult hands that makes the winning player. There aren't enough of them. It is the ability to avoid messing up the easy ones.”

- *S.J. Simon, British bridge player*





Getting To Know Us, continued



Gregory H. Johnson

A retired US Air Force officer, aerospace engineer, NASA astronaut, and Bronze Life Master, Greg currently serves as an F-16 test pilot at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics and supports Business Development at Lockheed Martin Space. He also serves as a Board member/advisor for a few space start-ups and STEM nonprofits. After leaving NASA, he served as Executive Director for the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space, a nonprofit commissioned to maximize utilization of the International Space Station to benefit life here on the Earth. Most recently, he served as a crew integration engineer for the Human Landing System Ascent Element at Lockheed Martin. Johnson is a member of the Association of Space

Explorers and Society of Experimental Test Pilots.

Fun fact: Greg loves woodworking, traveling, bicycling, and Astros baseball, but he's well known in the bridge community for carrying an official ACBL Ace of Spades card with him on a 6.6-million-mile trip aboard the space shuttle Endeavor that orbited the earth 250 times in 2009.



S. Reese Koppel

Reese graduated from Yale University with a BS in Cognitive Science (Concentration: Analytical Decision-Making) and a Certificate in Statistics and Data Science in May 2022. He's also an Economic Development Intern for Greater New Orleans, Inc. If his name sounds familiar, you'll recall he was elected King of Bridge in 2018 and the sole recipient of a scholarship recognizing one high school senior for outstanding tournament performances and promoting the game of bridge. In that same year, he was National Champion of Baron Barclay's Open Pairs at the NABC. The founder, president, coach and tournament team captain of the Yale Bridge Club, he has coached his team members into one of the top collegiate teams in the country.

Fun fact: Reese plays tenor saxophone and will have hiked Machu Picchu by the time you read this.



John McAllister

John is the executive producer of *Double Dummy*, a documentary feature film created in response to a call within the bridge community to introduce the game to more young people. He also serves as the host of "The Setting Trick" podcast where he interviews world-class players and fellow lovers of the game. John has played bridge in 17 countries, including four world championships. He currently has one NABC+ title to his name, has multiple top twenty finishes in North American Bridge Championships, and is recognized as a World Master by the World Bridge Federation. He's working on a web series, *Bridge With Ballers*, where he introduces the game to retired professional athletes. On a more local level, he serves as the president of the District 6 Education Foundation.

Fun fact: John fell in love with bridge at age 18 thanks to his Aunt Kathleen. While explaining the house rules for playing Hearts, she said, "This is stupid – we should be playing bridge!" How right she was!



Betty Starzec

Betty is currently President of District 16, and an Emerald Life Master who started teaching bridge in the 1980's in Indonesia. She would have you believe that she has spent most of her life as a trailing spouse following her husband, an Engineering Executive for Mobil Oil and then ExxonMobil, around the world on assignments in France, Saudi Arabia, Japan and Indonesia. In actuality, over the past 20 years she has been chief presenter of ACBL's Teacher Accreditation Program, training about 3000 teachers. She has established and currently administers an ongoing teacher support grant that provides a startup kit to all newly trained teachers who complete the Best Practices workshop and has co-chaired Houston's NABC's in both 2002 and 2009.

Fun fact: "Moving around, I had to have some way to get to know people," she said. "Everywhere I went, bridge was the great force that helped me make friends."



Staff



E. Kristen Frederick, Executive Director

Kristen wishes she had more than 355 masterpoints, but she catches a game or two while attending NABC's and Regionals and they certainly help to move her in the right direction. Before the Educational Foundation, she was a former CEO of The Community Foundation of the Greater Capital Region, Regional Vice President of Service Corporation International, Northeast Regional Marketing/Communications Director for the American Red Cross, and the last family owner/director of Frederick Funeral Home in Albany NY, a business in existence since 1847.

Fun fact: She is a Certified Veterinary Assistant who has helped rescue, rehabilitate and release wildlife on Cape Cod and a PADI Certified Master and Rescue Diver with close to 750 dives, most of them logged in Indonesia.



Craig Ascher, Part-time Administrative Assistant

Devoting 50% of his time to ACBLEF and another 50% to BridgeWhiz, Craig's background in both education and business has been a plus. He's been teaching environmental science to middle schoolers for 10 years while working part-time to support the technology and record-keeping needs of a small business. With strong organizational, technology and data skills, he is excited about the critical-thinking element of the game of bridge as well as the many applicable life skills that come with it: teamwork, problem solving and strategy.

Fun fact: Craig's team of 8th grade students created an experiment named "Microgravity's Effect on the Germination of Basil Seeds Using Hydroponics" and was chosen above others throughout the country to take part in the Student Spaceflight Experiment program which will perform the experiment on the International Space Station.

“If winning is not important, then tell me, why keep score?”

Romulan Crew Member on Star Trek, The Next Generation





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