

Our Bridge World



Quick Start Bridge surpassed our expectations. We expected about 15 people; 22 came. Of the 22, twenty have continued with bridge lessons on Monday mornings. Of the two who haven't started coming on Mondays, one has a scheduling problem

and has emailed me several times asking for other lesson times; the other is ill. The best part was that at the end of the day, students felt comfortable and were playing with some confidence.

The next day I attended the Learn Bridge in a Day seminar in Palo Alto. This seminar travels the country as the premier class on how to teach beginning bridge. I went as a table mentor so had close association with the students. I expected to learn all the things we had done wrong, but that wasn't what happened. Our Modesto students learned more and were much more confident and comfortable at the end of the day. Learn Bridge in a Day estimates that about 60% of the students return when the seminar goes well. Our statistics speak for themselves.

Judy Remmers made this work. She has a warm, easy-going way of presenting bridge that makes it seem accessible, simple and fun. (Ask her to explain what a 1 N response means and you will see what I mean.) She is an outstanding teacher.



The backs of the excited students at Quick Start Bridge. Busy, no time for great photo.

Glenn Van Denburg, Lloyd Rotherham, Louise Kantro and Jean Chitwood were table mentors and deserve a lion's share of the credit. They were patient, knowledgeable and encouraging. Their TLC made this all work. There is no way to thank them enough.

We have a lot of work to do to bring bridge to the schools. The Quick Start Bridge seminar was a great first step.



a wonderful speech about what a great dad he is, crediting him both with teaching her how to use a hammer and what to say when using it goes wrong. He was deeply embarrassed. It was great!

Glenn Van Denburg's 80th Birthday!

Leigh Tibbetts attempted to recognize this occasion by giving Glenn a box of cake mix and a package of birthday candles, but Glenn's daughter, Karen, did it right. She brought in a chocolate cake to Thursday's duplicate game. We all sang Happy Birthday. Karen gave



Glenn and Karen



Now for something completely different. . . This Month's Pet News

This is Archie Kaufman with her faithful pony a 1970 Mustang Coupe. She bought it brand new. It has been her main source of transportation for 44 years. It has 351C Cleveland engine with a lot of get up and go. Strange to say, no speeding tickets (so far!), although she says that her foot does get a little heavy from time to time.

I am not the only one to be interested in her car. It was written up in the Bee in 1999 and used on American Graffiti T shirts. She turns down invitations to car shows. Having her priorities straight, she spends her time playing bridge.

Getting to Know New Players

This is a surprise on so many levels. Lynn Brooks, one of the newer players, runs a winery/vineyard at her home next to the Del Rio golf course. They grow the grapes, the kids have fun stomping them and the family makes wine. This is a big undertaking and a lot to accomplish on an only slightly oversized home lot. Her neighbors just manage a pool. Everyone works on the project and still she plays bridge.



On the Move

Cox Thornton just spent 6 weeks in Australia visiting his daughter, Kelby, in Perth. While she worked as Technical Computing Project Manager for Chevron, he played bridge. He is pictured here with his Australian bridge partner, Malcolm Clark. They placed in the top 3-4 pairs seven times at the Western

Australia Bridge Club. This is the largest club in Western Australia with 6-7 games a week and 30-40 tables. Some play on the open air patio pictured here, which has a great view of the ocean about 700 meters away. He estimates that half the people use American Standard bidding. Yes, he and his daughter took the time to see the sights, traveling all over Australia as well as playing bridge.



Unit Game June 13 Glenn is running a team game. Sign up on the bulletin board. He will serve sandwiches and whatever else his daughter, Karen, decides.