

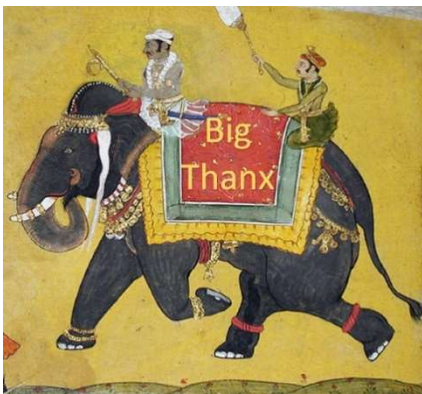


Hey everybody,

J's Bridge Pad would like to wish you all a very happy new year!

A new year, as well as a new decade, is upon us, and with the banner year we had in 2019 we are very excited to turn the page to 2020. In 2019 we had a 10% increase in attendance, which is notable given the overall decline at bridge clubs in St. Louis, as well as nationally. I guess we are doing something right! We at J's Bridge would like to thank you for your continued support. It was a great year for us, our Diamond Card program was a successful and continues to be very popular. Remember, with the Diamond Card, you get a \$2 dollar savings at all games you attend at J's Bridge Pad. The Monthly attendance prize has continued to be a huge success and we will continue to have fun prizes and will also be adding a 2<sup>nd</sup> drawing. For more details, you can read about it below.

Based on the progress we made in 2019, the future looks bright and despite some earlier concerns, I want to assure you that J's Bridge Pad is here to stay. We will continue to try to make bridge a friendly and fun game to play. We are going to be hitting the ground running in 2020 and are rolling out two new games, "Bridge with Training Wheels" and we are also adding an Intermediate/Newcomers game on Wednesdays at 10 AM, hosted by the always awesome Jo Chorpening.



I also wanted to take this time to thank some folks for their contributions to J's Bridge Pad in 2019. The tricky thing about thanking people is that you are liable to forget others! My sincere thanx you to those that I forgot to thank!

A Big thanx goes to all the players who have supported J's Bridge Pad in the past, present and hopefully the future. Your contributions, whether it be bringing treats, telling your friends and getting the word about Js Bridge Pad, or just simply attending, are truly appreciated. I also would like to thank our staff at Js Bridge Pad. Lee, Jo, and her husband Dave have been invaluable and have been instrumental in Js Bridge Pad's growth. I don't want this to morph into an Oscar speech, although maybe it's too late, but I

need to acknowledge my family members who have supported me. Starting with my son Neelay, who is my ghost writer, provides technical support and also pushes me to be a better person, my daughter Neha and her husband Edie for delicious food from their restaurant Bootleggin BBQ and my wife Preeti for her silent behind the scene contributions and putting up with my long hours at J's Bridge Pad, and putting up with me generally. Last but not least, I would like to acknowledge J's Bridge Pads good friend Phyllis. Her last name is not necessary cause we all know who we are talking about! For the last 4 four years, Js Bridge Pad has been teaming up with Phyllis and has been raising money for the Alzheimer's association. Thanks to your generous support, we finished in the top 30 in Missouri by raising \$2480. Speaking of charity, I would also like acknowledge Linda Cassens who bid \$200 to play bridge with me for the benefit of the St. Louis Backstoppers, a local charity that benefits families of fallen first responders.

Ok one more thing before we get to our regularly scheduled newsletter, remember that Js Bridge Pad is for you, let me, Jo or Lee know if there is anything, we can do to make your Bridge experience better.

### **Lifetime Diamond Card:**

By now you have I am sure you have heard about J Bridge Pads rewards card, The Diamond Card. But we are now rolling out something new, the Lifetime Diamond Card. The best part about it is that it is free! The requirements to get one are simple, when you play over 100 games in a year at J's Bridge Pad, you receive a Lifetime Diamond card and enjoy a \$2 discount for all your regular games at J's Bridge Pads for life. Our first recipient of this card is (drum roll please!) .....Felicia Bamer. Felicia has been in the top 3 in attendance every year that J" Bridge Pad has been in existence and had record breaking attendance in 2019. We thank you for your exemplary support Felicia, enjoy your Lifetime Diamond card!

### **J's Bridge Pad's Annual Party:**

Did you know that J's Bridge Pad had a Holiday Party? We did! We had an amazing turn out with 9 plus tables. In addition to the boatloads of bridge we played, we had lots of food, prizes and fun too. Check out the picture below. Go to our website home page and click link "Party" under "J's Bridge Pad Events" to see more pics. Don't worry if you were not able to attend this year, we will have another one next year and promise it will be just as much fun!



### **Social Bridge Groups:**

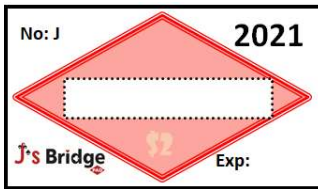
Would like to thank Katie Boles and Nancy Helmer for hosting the first Social bridge group at Js Bridge Pad. Thanx to them we have currently four soical bridge groups playing at Js bridge pad on a regular basis. It is a great way to enjoy bridge without the hassle that hosting a game or entertaining sometimes brings. There is no clean up, no set up, we provide your cards and boards and our club is already set up with bidding boxes, and of course just like any game at Js Bridge pad, there is free coffee and snacks Not only that, but there will always be an experienced director/teacher avialble to answer any questions you may have during the game. Still not sure? Try a game on us! We would be very happy to host a trial game for free for any new group, Just call me at 314 495 6093 and we can set up the day and time.The Fee to play is \$5 per person, and it includes all afformentioned stuff. If you want, we can provide computer scoring as we are doing for a couple of the groups right now at no extra charge.

### **November//December Games Attendance Prize winners:**

In order to spread the holiday cheer, we added attendance draws at the Monday and Thursday evening games at J's Bridge Pad in December and would like to extend our congratulation to the winners of the various prizes – Philippa Bel, Felica Bamer & Sue Maula.

**Monthly Attendance Prizes:**

Just wanted to give you're a heads up that that we are adding to our already very popular Monthly Attendance Prize. We are going to add a second chance draw. What will happen is that we are going to collect all the non-winning entries in 2020 and will have a second chance draw at our 2020 Holiday party. The only requirement is that you need to be present at the party to collect your big prize! More details to come!



Our December winner of the Diamond Card is Sue Matula. Congratulations Sue, get ready for your picture for the wall of fame!

Our January attendance prize is going to be a Diamond Card,

*Remember, there is no cost to enter the attendance prize give away, all you have to do to enter is play a game or attend a class at J's Bridge Pad, it's that easy!*

**New Intermediate/Newcomer Game on Wednesday - starts on January 15<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM:**

New game alert! We are starting a new game on Wednesday mornings, hosted by everyone's favorite director Chorpening. Let Jo or I know if you plan to play on January 15th game. By attending this game, You will automatically get a \$2 off coupon for the Jo's Friday game of the same week.

**Bridge with Training wheels:**

If you haven't already heard, J's Bridge Pad is starting a new game designed for people who are just beginning their bridge journey. Do you know anyone who wants to start playing bridge but is a little intimidated by all of the rules of duplicate bridge and doesn't know quite where to start, well this is the perfect game for them! In this game you can ask questions to your coach during the game as well as bring reference materials. Additionally, you are eligible to get ACBL/masterpoints. If you are interested in helping get the word out about this game flyers and postcards for this game are available at J's bridge pad and on our website home page, [www.jbridge.info](http://www.jbridge.info),

**MODERN BIDDING SYSTEM**

We have concluded our Modern Bidding System Series of 8 classes on Wednesdays. We will be starting a new series soon. Keep an eye out for an email. If you have any suggestions for a date or time for our next series, do let us know.

**JsBridgeTips:**

We are starting a new series of short articles geared towards beginners that will be explaining various terms and fundamentals of duplicate bridge. It is called Jbridgetips. Catchy name, right? The first article in this series was "Game Classifications" and was sent along with the email "2020 Duplicate games at J's Bridge Pad". Other topics we plan to include in the series are: Scoring of Duplicate Games, Stratification Movements, Boards Not Played, how to earn master points, Bridge etiquette, and Procedural penalties.

**2020 Game Schedule:**

1/1/2020						
J's Bridge		2020 SCHEDULE +				
	MON	TUE	WED	THU @	FRI @	SAT
9:30 AM						Newcomer 20
10:00 AM	OPEN		*I/N 300		OPEN * I/N-300	
6:30 PM	*I/N 500			OPEN * I/N-500		
+ Visit <a href="http://www.jbridge.info">www.jbridge.info</a> for the latest schedule @ Two games running concurrently * I/N-Intermediate-Newcomer, Non-Life Master players, Players can not have more than points shown Contact: Jay/Cell: 314 495 6093/E-mail: <a href="mailto:jshaent@gmail.com">jshaent@gmail.com</a>						

**Special Games:**

Below is a listing of the special games we will be having in January. This page along with a page containing definitions of all the special games is available on our website now and subsequent months will be available soon. We will also give you a link in the transmittal email of this newsletter to the special game page. Additionally, the calendar will be displayed at J's Bridge Pad as well and are also on the unit143 website. Be sure to check out the calendar as these special games award more and different colors of points.

**JANUARY 2020 ACBL JUNIOR FUND MONTH**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	Unit Champ - AM		SLBC - CC AM		JBP Ch - AM JFCO Ch - AM	11
12	SH CC - AM SLBC CC - AM SH CC - Eve	JFCO Ch - AM SH CC - AM	Unit Champ - AM	Unit Charity SLBC - AM Open JBP - Eve I/N		
19	20 M.L. King Jr Day	JBP CM - AM JFCO Ch - AM	22	23	24 ACBL Wide - AM SH - AM JBP - AM JFCO - AM SLBC - AM SH CC - Eve	25
26	JBP CM - Eve	JBP Ch - AM JFCO Ch - AM	29	30	31 Unit Champ - AM	SLBC CC - Eve
	JBP Ch - Eve			JBP Ch - PM		

**What's new at the Wall of Fame:**

By the time you get this newsletter the Wall of Fame should have been updated with Pictures of our annual Party, Monthly attendance winners and other fun had at Js Bridge pad! Check it out!

**January Sectional Tournament:**

Hope you all had a good time at the Sectional tournament in October. Be prepared for more good times at the January 15-17 Sectional Tournament at Blanchette Park in St. Charles. The tournament flyers are available at J's Bridge Pad. Do not forget, ACBL members with less than 5 points get to play for free in pair games.

### **ACBL membership:**

Are you interested in becoming a member of the ACBL? Visit ACBL.org for the list of member benefits. We have application forms available at J's Bridge Pad. If you decide to sign-up online, please do mention J's Bridge Pad as a referral. If you sign up for a 3 years membership through J's Bridge Pad, it not only saves you money, but it helps us out as well.

### **Communication from ACBL:**

If you wish to receive direct emails or texts from the ACBL about tournaments, clubs, tournament results and other fun things, you may need to modify the settings on "MyACBL" and may also need verify that you have the correct email for proper communication at the ACBL.org website. If you need any help, please let me know, I will be happy to go through it with you at J's Bridge Pad.

### **Bridge Breaks at Trout**



If you ask anyone who attended last year's Spring-Bridge break, I'd be willing to bet that they will tell you that they had a great time. 2020 Spring Break is only 8 weeks away and will be here before you know it. Bridge Break is typically scheduled on a Tuesday through Thursday in the first week of March and September. We will confirm the 2020 dates as soon as we have them. In the meantime, pencil in these two breaks on your calendar.

### **Wear your name badge and let everybody know your name!**

Wearing a name badge is not only a friendly gesture but it is a courteous one as well, as it helps poor folks like me who cannot remember names! For only \$5 you can get one with Js Bridge Pad on the 3rd line. It is \$7 if you want one that does not have J's Bridge Pad on third line. But consider representing J's Bridge Pad with Pride! It is available in different colors. Our good friend Phyllis places the orders for us.



### **Housekeeping Reminders:**

We just wanted to pass along a friendly reminder that we all required to park in the back of J's Bridge Pad. If you need assistance in finding it, you can check our website, under the directions tab we have directions on how to get to our lot from Manchester Road. If you are late and must park in front, please park on the Manchester Road Side. Unless you are Handicapped or we have spoken and made special arrangements, no one should be parking in store-front row. Thank you all for your continued cooperation.

At the end of the year, we typically go through the all sets of boards and replace the cards needing replacement. We rely on you during the year to tell us if the cards need replacing because they are too sticky or due to any other problems. Do not hesitate to let us know if there are any cards that need to be replaced immediately.

**In closing,**

One final thought, if your new year's resolution is to lose weight like mine, you should consider playing East-West, that way you get more exercise!

We are looking forward to a wonderful 2020, and hope you will join us

Jay Shah