

# Capital District Bridge Association

## March 2026 Newsletter



### President's Message...

Hello "Bridge-Mates"...

Spring is coming and so is an exciting new addition to our newsletter. Each month for the rest of the year we will feature one board member so that you get to know us. Hopefully this will motivate you to consider becoming a board member; or at least becoming more active in the unit. Currently we have 19 board members, and the bylaws allow for 25 members.

Our first member to be highlighted is **Mike Short**, who stepped up to become our interim webmaster. Mike is one of our more mature members and is looking forward to when a younger member volunteers to take over as webmaster. Please let me know if you enjoy this new feature.

I received our monthly membership report from the ACBL. We have 281 members. 81 members or 29% have less than 50 master points. You are our future. At the other end, 111 unit members are Life Master or above. We appreciate every member and look for how to better serve you.

*John Templin*

*518-210-7760*

Mike Short

I started playing bridge in high school, when Charles Goren was king. After a 40-year break I moved to Avila and I took bridge classes from Rhoda Kratenstein. I started playing again in 2022, this time duplicate.

I worked for the State of New York for 32 years, ending my career as a Software Development Project Manager. I left behind several systems still in use today. I co-chaired a committee to promote Web Site Accessibility, helping people build sites that anyone can use, including people with disabilities. Our work resulted in a state policy that requires all public-facing web sites to be accessible.

I also write and perform songs. I play the piano for the Mopco Improvisation Theater in Schenectady. Myself and three friends host a concert series at Avila. We perform folk, country and Americana songs on guitar.

I maintain (and improve) a model railroad here at Avila.

I hope to make regional master before I stop playing! I have plenty of points; silver points are hard to come by when you only play club games.

I've cleaned up the unit web site. I've made the site easier to maintain. I've added a couple of links to standing pages like the Ace of Clubs and the Virtual Ace of Clubs.

## REMINDERS...

### **Glens Falls Duplicate Bridge.**

No Games for March

### **Lake George Duplicate Bridge**

Holiday Inn, 99 Canada Street.

Game starts at 12:00 noon.

### **Avila Retirement Community**

Saturday 12:00 noon - Game Dates

April 11

April 25 Charity Club Championship

## Upcoming Events:

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Mar 25    | ACBL Wide Charity Club game, Holiday Inn,<br>Lake George, NY   |
| April 16  | Unit 115 Board Meeting following the game at Shelly<br>Studio. |
| May 1-3   | Unit 186 Sectional Poughkeepsie                                |
| May 17-21 | District 3 Summer Regional Iselin, NJ                          |
| May 29-31 | Unit 115 Spring Sectional Shelly Studio                        |
| June 8-12 | District 4 Finger Lakes Regional Penn Yan, NY                  |
| June 14   | Unit 115 Awards Ceremony & game, Shelly Studio                 |
| Sep 25-27 | Unit 115 Fall Sectional Shelly Studio                          |
| Oct 4-7   | District 3 Fall Regional Poughkeepsie                          |

# New Classes by Diana Lack

## Bridge Play of the Hand Course

### Course Overview

Enhance your skills as a Bridge declarer by enrolling in the *Play of the Hand Course*. This program is designed to provide players of all levels with practical strategies for successful contract play. Across eight focused lessons, you will learn how to create and implement effective plans that maximize your chances of fulfilling your contracts. \$80 for eight two hour lessons.

### Key Topics Covered

- Planning your play effectively
- Developing additional tricks
- Eliminating losers from your hand
- Identifying and avoiding dangerous opponents
- Managing entries between hands
- Integrating the above skills for cohesive play

### Class Schedule

Classes will be held on Saturdays,

starting April 18, from 12:30 to 2:30 PM.

## **Eddie Kantar Bridge Lessons**

### **Course Overview**

Enhance your Bridge skills by enrolling in a new series of lessons. This program is tailored for advancing players and focuses on practical strategies for bidding, playing, and defending contracts. The lessons cover a wide range of topics to help improve your overall game. \$10 per week for two hour lessons.

### **Key Topics Covered**

- Long Suit Establishment
- Counting the Hand
- Placing the Opponent's Honors
- Discarding
- Responding to a Takeout Double
- Common Errors in Bidding, Play & Defense
- Defense - Counting the Opponent's Tricks
- Signaling vs. Suit Contracts
- Modern Uses of the Cue Bid
- Deception (by Declarer)
- Opening Leads vs. Suit Contracts
- To Finesse or Not to Finesse - Part I
- More Techniques of Finessing - Part II
- Leads vs. Notrump Contracts
- Slam Bidding at Suit Contracts
- Slam Bidding at Notrump Contracts
- Planning a Strip and End Play
- Third Hand Play
- The Jacoby Transfer

### **Class Schedule**

Classes will be held on Tuesdays, starting April 14, from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Please note there will be no class on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 as I will be working at the D3 Regional.

# 2026

# MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01	02 SS 11:30A INV RSVP GF <b>NO GAME</b> SS 6:30PM Open	03 CP 11:30AM Open Online BBO 7:10PM	04	05 SS 11:00AM Free Lesson SS 11:30AM Open Online BBO 7:10PM	06	07 Avila 12:00pm Open 1/3 RED
08	09 SS 11:30A INV RSVP GF <b>NO GAME</b> SS 6:30PM Open	10 CP 11:30AM Open Online BBO 7:10PM	11 LG 12:00PM Open	12 SS 11:00AM Free Lesson SS 11:30AM Open Online BBO 7:10PM	13	14
15	16 SS 11:30A INV RSVP GF <b>NO GAME</b> SS 3-5 Chat Bridge	17 CP 11:30AM Open Online BBO 7:10PM	18 LG 12:00PM Open	19 SS 11:00AM Free Lesson SS 11:30AM Open Online BBO 7:10PM	20	21 Avila 12:00pm Open Club Championship
22	23 SS 11:30A INV RSVP GF <b>NO GAME</b> SS 6:30PM Open	24 CP 11:30AM Open Online BBO 7:10PM	25 LG 12:00PM Open ACBL Wide Charity Club game	26 SS 11:00AM Free Lesson SS 11:30AM Open Online BBO 7:10PM	27	28
29	30 SS 11:30A INV RSVP GF <b>NO GAME</b> SS 6:30PM Open	31 CP 11:30AM Open Online BBO 7:10PM	01	02	03	04
<b>SS = Shelly Studio</b> <b>Director Diana Lack</b>	<b>GF = Glens Falls</b> <b>Senior Center</b> <b>Director Terry Bentley</b>	<b>CP = Clifton Park</b> <b>Senior Center</b> <b>Director Terry Bentley</b>	<b>LG = Lake George</b> <b>Holiday Inn</b> <b>Director Terry Bentley</b>		Online Game BBO vacb270942 Dir Rob Neuhart Tues Dir Diana Lack Thurs	

## Need a Partner for Bridge Games?

**Diana Lack** – 518-424-8240

Monday & Thursday - Shelly Studio, Latham

**Terry Bentley** – 518-796-2481

Tuesday - Clifton Park Senior Center

Wednesday - Lake George Holiday Inn

**Rhoda Kratenstein** – 561-252-0517

Saturday - AVILA Retirement Community  
Albany

### Unit Officers

John Templin, Jr., President

John Barnes, Vice President

Andrea Campbell, Secretary

Joanne Schlang, Treasurer

