



Jacksonville School of Bridge

Northeast Florida's premiere bridge club experience



December 2025 – January 2026

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President's Corner

Greetings! I want to personally thank our continuing (**Mark Franzoni, Judy Harhai, Jan Madsen, Tracy Miller, and Nancy Whitmire**) and outgoing (**Bunny George, Craig Hemphill, Carol Shotwell, and Michael Smalline**) board members for their service during this past year. They have worked hard to maintain the integrity and welcoming environment that marks our club as one of the best in Florida. We are looking forward to electing a new slate of officers in December for the 2026 calendar year, as the following new members join our board for a two-year term: **Bill Fagan, Paul Herron, Ellen Lockamy, and Bill Page**, joining returning members **Michael Palmer and Emmy Peters**.

At the Annual Meeting in October, we cited the board's accomplishments for the year, including facility improvements, membership growth, and educational and mentoring opportunities for members, and we laid out a wish list for things to come. We want to continue to grow and provide the best bridge experiences for all of our members – from novice to experienced. Thank you for all who volunteer to make this happen!

***Be sure to renew your club membership prior to December 31 to avoid paying \$30 (\$5 extra) for late renewal fee, and an increased play fee of \$10! --**Emmy Peters**

Our sympathies go out to **Marcia Wasserman** and family on the passage of long-time club member **Carl Wasserman**.

Congratulations

- Congratulations to our new Life Masters **Estes Carns and Judy Shaffer**.
- Congratulations to newly elected board members **Bill Fagan, Paul Herron, Ellen Lockamy, Bill Page, Michael Palmer, and Emmy Peters**, who will serve January 2026-December 2027. **Mark Franzoni, Judy Harhai, Jan Madsen, Tracy Miller, Michael Smalline, and Nancy Whitmire** will serve through December 2026.



Mark your Calendar

- Dec. 3: Mentor-mentee game and luncheon. Charlie Schubiger will be sending out RSVP requests closer to the date. There will also be open and 99er games that day.
- Dec. 10: Last day to sign up for 2026 Mentor-Mentee program. Signup sheet is on the Mentor/Mentee bulletin board. First consult the [Mentee Guidelines](#), then contact Charlie Schubiger (cschubiger@gmail.com) if you have questions.
- Dec. 12: Holiday Party. Please sign up on the easel near the front door to bring a dish.
- Jan. 23-25: JSOB Winter Sectional

Charity Drawing

For 15 years Don Dvorak has managed JSOB's annual charity drawing. The club donates to local charities using funds from Charity games that we have played over the year. There is a basket on a table near the kitchen where you can vote for your favorite charity. This basket will be available only until Nov 30. This year we will donate \$500 to each of four charities. The drawings will be done at the Holiday Party. You may vote only once for any charity. If you have questions, email Don (d-dvorak@comcast.net).

Dues Collection

The 2026 membership drive is open! Dues are \$25 per calendar year until December 31, and late dues (after December 31) are \$30. Dues collected are used to fund the ongoing operation of the club--utilities, repairs, supplies, director stipends, taxes, insurance, and cleaning, to name just a few items. We need volunteers to help board members collect dues, give receipts, etc. With over 300 members, it is an overwhelming job for one person, so assistance is needed. Please write your name on the sign-up calendar on the bulletin board for the day(s) you are available to be at the club by 11:00 and help until 11:45. The cutoff time for accepting dues will be 11:45 (15 min before the game), so please plan to pay in that window.

Non-Life Master Tournament

The NLM tournament was played on October 16th and 17th. While attendance was a bit low (between 5 and 10 tables per session), those who played had a great time and the event ran smoothly. We hope to drum up more players for next year, especially in light of the awesome influx of new players JSOB has seen in the last few months. Next year's event will take place on October 22-23, 2026, and we have expanded the NLM qualifications up to 750 points as long as the participant is still a non-life master. Thanks to **Lynne Gheen** and others as usual for their incredible job of feeding these folks and to many others who helped set up and clean for the tournament.

--Michael Siebenhaar

Thank you, **Judy Miller**, for editing the newsletter.