



TABLE



TALK



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ACBL UNIT 549

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Getting a drivers license was the number one thing for a teenager in Montana. It was like independence. Some of the coolest kids at school were the ones that got to drive to school. Every Friday and Saturday night those kids with cars would drive at opposite directions around the downtown city block admiring each other. It was called "burning the point". On my 15th birthday I got my license and was ready for that independence and to be cool. Unfortunately, my dad saw it differently. Before I got the keys he wanted me to get a little more behind the wheel experience.

My Mother grew up in a family that never owned a car so she never learned to drive and my dad took her to her hair appointment and grocery shopping every Wednesday afternoon. What he saw in my driver's licence was his own independence. My behind the wheel experience was going to be as my Mother's chauffeur. She decided not to waste this opportunity either and taught me the art of grocery shopping. And I learned so well that I have been the grocery shopper for my family our entire married lives.

That grocery shopping has taken a whole new meaning in the middle of this pandemic. It is no longer a weekly chore. It has become the one avenue of freedom I have from house arrest. The opportunity to feel a little bit of normalcy while I'm wearing a mask, keeping my social distance and minding those markers six feet apart in the checkout line.

So grocery shopping and duplicate bridge have become the two things I get up for every day. And there is some good news out there. Not only does California have the lowest per capita coronavirus infection rate in the nation, the Bridge Club of Escondido is now a virtual club on Bridge Base. That means that you can play duplicate bridge with your partner and former opponents just like in the good old days, you just can't see them.

If you haven't checked this out I encourage you to do so. It costs nothing to become a Bridge Base member. There are actually some games that you can play for free. What I am most encouraged about is the 6 BCNC virtual club games you can play in each week. Four of them are open games and two are 499er games. It costs \$5 per game and most of those proceeds go directly to the club to help defray those fixed costs they pay even when they aren't open.

If you have any questions about playing on Bridge Base or would like some help getting started you can contact Alan Turner at alanturner2009@gmail.com or me at art.foeste@gmail.com. It is going to be a while before we can play bridge face to face again so don't give up your bridge fun and get started on Bridge Base.