Jan 13, 2021

Dear Members of the Edmonton Bridge Centre,

Happy New Year! We hope it will be much better than 2020.

Our Board and I would like to give you an update on our club. We continue to discuss when re-opening the club will be feasible. The vaccine rollout seems to be slow so our re-opening may be later than hoped for in the spring.

As I wrote in the last letter, club membership remains at \$40 each for 2021. We hope that you see the value in being a member and supporting our club. You can of course wait until we are able to be together, but it would be great if we could receive this in this new year. You can use Interac e-transfer from your bank account to ours at <u>club@edmontonbridge.ca</u> (direct deposit, no passwords). Or, if you wish you can send a cheque by mail to:

Edmonton Bridge Centre 11810 Kingsway Ave NW Edmonton T5G 0X5

With wage and rent subsidies, and BBO income we have been able to continue our operations, but if you wish to add a donation to our club it would be received with gratitude. I can report happily that over 100 members have already renewed, and many have added donations totaling over \$4000. We have the most wonderful membership.

The Board has set the date for the Society's Annual General Meeting as **3:00pm Saturday February 13, 2021**. Unfortunately, we are unable to be together and enjoy Josephine's Brunch beforehand as we did last year. We will be setting up a Zoom meeting. A link to the meeting and reports will be sent to you in February. In the meantime, save the date on your busy calendars.

Speaking of Zoom, we will be starting Friday morning Coffee and Chat meetings, this Friday the 15th at 11:30am to about 12:15pm. Drop in anytime and talk with some of your fellow members before the afternoon game. The link to join will be on our homepage.

For those playing in our Virtual club, next week Jan 18 – 24 is ACBL Silver Linings week. All games will have silver and extra masterpoints. Entry is \$6 to cover the extra sanctions. Information about our online club, links to calendars, game results and hand records are available at our homepage: <u>www.edmontonbridge.ca</u>.

The Fall Team League is nearing its conclusion. Final matches and playoffs are happening right now and through January. 32 teams are playing in three flights and having lots of fun. I hope to announce the winners in the next letter. Also, we would love to receive comments and input about the past leagues before we set up the next series.

On behalf of our Christmas causes (Santas Anonymous, the Bissell Centre, and the Edmonton Food Bank) thank you for all donations. We hope the season was meaningful and happy for you all.

Thank you, everyone, for your interest and participation in our club. Be sure to stay in touch with other members through this difficult time.

Please pass on this info to others who may not have email or are not on our lists.

Matthew

p.s. Some of you may remember Ron Kupchanko. He had moved to Calgary a couple years back and recently passed away. His obit can be accessed here:

Ronald KUPCHANKO | Obituary | Calgary Herald (remembering.ca)