

Ron Smith

New ACBL Silver Life Master



Ron played his first duplicate bridge game in the spring of 2006. At that time he lived in Bishop, California. Being a town of just 4000, they had a very small club. Their games typically had just 4 or 5 tables. Having not played bridge since the Goren era in the late 1960s, he was totally unfamiliar with how the bidding had advanced. When Ron's partner opened 2 spades he thought he had a 20+ point hand. Having 12 points and 3 card spade support, I jumped to 6 spades. Down 3, vulnerable! What a disastrous introduction the weak two opener.

On December 26, 2008 Ron moved to St. George with about 90 master points, only one of them being gold. Fortunately, the various duplicate clubs in St. George were very supportive of him as a developing player. Pete Bowman,

Vicki Shelley, and Herb Fox gave lessons and helped him develop more advanced bidding, playing, and defensive skills. Some of Ron's early partners, Karen Garcia and Ruthe Thompson, guided him with patience and understanding. John owes them, and many others, sincere thanks for taking time to develop his game. Now upon reaching the 1000 master point level Ron endeavors to "pay it forward." He enjoys giving lessons and playing with emerging duplicate players to help them advance their skills. The more advanced players should also be the best ambassadors for the game they love. That's what the zero tolerance policy is all about. Ron thanks everyone in Bishop, California, and St. George for their support. Ron would never have become a Silver Life Master without them.

With great appreciation, Ron Smith