

March 24, 2025

Dear Members,

We are now almost halfway through our fiscal year and I would like to update you on the Club's status. Our principal operating metric for "how are we doing?" is the number of tables played at the Club. I'm pleased to report that through the middle of March tables played were a little over 2,600 - up 8% over last year. Although significantly below our pre-pandemic level, it is a healthy increase. We also provide support for several of the games held at the country clubs in area and the level of play at these games has declined 9%. Overall, the total number of games is up 4%. We have 655 members - 6% below last year.

Reflecting the increase in tables played and tight control of expenses our financial results are very good. Revenue of \$203,000 was up 8% and operating income (excluding donations) of \$69,000 was up \$32,000. Our cash position is \$400,000 in excess of our liabilities. Donations of \$48,000 were down \$20,000.

Not that we are rushing to spend this money but we are in the initial stages of a few projects which will enhance the appearance of the Club. Partly funded by the donations received in memory of Bill Poole, we are planning to renovate the upper lobby with additional furniture, new flooring and a new color scheme. On the outside, we are going to have the drip edge and fascia repaired and painted, replace/repair the light fixtures and paint the south wall. In addition, Aiello Landscape, one of the leading landscaping companies on the Treasure Coast, has offered to remove and replace the shrubs along the south wall at no cost to the Club. Aiello has donated their services to many other non-profit organizations in the area and we thank them for their generosity to us.

Running a bridge club is a complicated endeavor and requires a considerable amount of effort. We were very fortunate that under Jamie and Martha's guidance we grew to be one of the largest bridge clubs in the country. Their efforts were vital to the Club's surviving the pandemic. Jan and George have done a terrific job of managing the club in today's environment of on-line play and challenging demographics. However, as a member-owned club, we are all responsible for its success. Please consider volunteering to help, making a donation or simply playing more bridge at the club.

Play well,
Denis