

2023 was a rebuilding year for Unit 568. By way of background, the previous Board was dissolved in the early Spring of 2023. I was asked to see if we could organize a Board, and on June 2 an email was sent out to all unit members asking if they would like to participate on the board. We received responses from 12 individuals volunteering to serve on the board and on June 12 we sent out an email to all unit members notifying them of the proposed board. The officers and Board members at large during 2023 were:

President - George Kay

Vice-President - Jan Drayer

Treasurer - Shea Vaughn

Secretary - Carol Decordova

Website/Tech Support - Bruce Walker

Communications/Outreach - Jeff Johnson

Board members at large:

Patricia Kasschau

Jim Mercer

Julie Spore

We held our first board meeting on June 20th and subsequent meetings each month with the exception of August. The Board accomplished its primary goals for 2023 which were to develop: an organizational infrastructure, establish operational processes, financial protocols, electronic capability, club outreach, and a unit tournament. Our mission statement: *The Mission of Beach Cities Unit 568 is: To initiate and promote activities that encourage new bridge players and interest existing players thus broadening overall contract bridge involvement in the community.*

To that end we have created a Unit 568 website. The site (created by Bruce Walker), contains information (links to) all of the clubs in the area, board meeting minutes, board contact information and an email link for questions. We have established contacts with all of the clubs in the unit, and will be working in conjunction with the clubs on ways to attract new bridge players, identify teachers, and directors. At our annual meeting on December 16th a new slate of candidates was approved by the membership, officers will be elected by that board at our January 23rd meeting. Our focus in 2024 will be to find the most efficient and effective ways to advance our mission statement.

