



*Prince Joli Quentin Kansil*

*Joel Dennis Gairnes*



Mr. Joli Quentin Kansil is an inventor of games and has, as of the year 2009, invented, created, devised, designed and developed approximate 36 card games, word games, board games, and dice games. He is also the author of five books.

He was also a teacher in Hawaii, Thailand, Vietnam, and Singapore. The game of Bridgette, which is a two-player bridge game, is his most famous game. The origin of the designation of *Prince* is unknown.

Joli Quentin Kansil was born Joel Dennis Gaines in Manhattan, New York, United States. He graduated the Asbury Park High School in 1960 and Rutgers University in 1964. His first professional employment was as a personal assistant to Mr. Albert Hodges Morehead, a writer, lexicographer, and the first bridge editor of The New York Times, and who was also a huge promoter of the game of bridge with its newly devised scoring methods.

Mr. Albert Hodges Morehead assumed the mentorship of Joli Quentin Kansil and, in addition, the first noted bridge player on a national level to endorse Joli Quentin Kansil's two-player bridge game, *Bridgette*, which he invented while attending the Asbury Park High School in the late 1950s.

In the Daily Bulletin for the 71st Fall North American Bridge Championships, conducted between November 20 and November 30, 1997, in St. Louis, Missouri, United States, Mr. Albert Hodges Morehead celebrated the grand opening and dedication of the Albert H. Morehead Memorial Library and the ACBL Bridge Hall of Fame on Saturday, November 15, 1997.

Some 175 guests were in attendance, including such bridge luminaries as Norman Kay, Bobby Wolff, and Tommy and Carol Sanders. Dozens of special guests were also present, as well as the entire ACBL Board of Directors and many members of the American Contract Bridge League's Headquarters staff. Many local guests and dignitaries came to take part in the celebration.

Longtime Albert Morehead friend Joli Quentin Kansil described the Hall of Famer as *the most astonishingly brilliant man I've ever met*. Kansil entertained the crowd with personal anecdotes that underscored the genius and civility that was Albert Morehead.

In 1965, a year before Mr. Albert Hodges Morehead died, Joli Quentin Kansil moved to Mexico City, Mexico, where he earned an Master of Arts (*Magister Artium*) degree in Latin American history from la Universidad de las Americas. Following his stay in Mexico, Joli Quentin Kansil moved to Honolulu, Hawaii, United States, and worked as a full-time English teacher at Punahou School. During these years, Joli Quentin Kansil began his many travels to Central America, the Caribbean, South Pacific, South East Asia, and other places including Mongolia, Wallis and Futuna Islands, Antarctica and Greenland. During his extensive travels he has been to over 230 countries and colonies and continues to travel.

In 1969, Joli Quentin Kansil founded Gamut of Games, Inc., which produced and distributed various games that he and his associate, Mr. Philip Orbanes, designed. Mr. Waldemar Von Zedtwitz, 1896 to 1984, who played over 30,000 deals of Bridgette, and who was the former business partner of Mr. Albert Hodges Morehead, contributed the funds needed to start Gamut of Games, Inc., which later evolved into Xanadu Leisure, Ltd..

Some of the other games of Joli Quentin Kansil that were published by these two companies included My Word (*also known as Zig-Zag*), Marrakesh, Itinerary, Krakatoa, Knock-on-Word, Montage, and Indochine - 2000.

Through his invention of the game of Bridgette, Joli Quentin Kansil met many notable bridge players, including Mr. Oswald Jacoby, 1902 to 1984, who called Joli Quentin Kansil *the best combination game inventor/game player in the world* in his speech address to the Hawaii Backgammon Club, on December 6, 1980. Joli Quentin Kansil was honored as Game Inventor of the Year in 1992 at the annual Game Fair in Essen, Germany, and earlier, in 1986, Bridgette was added to GAMES Magazine's Hall of Fame. (Reference: Games Magazine, November 1986 and any November issue since then.)

In 1973, Joli Quentin Kansil co-founded the Hawaii Backgammon Club, and he promoted this game by organizing many tournaments. He won the Hawaii State Backgammon Championships twice, first in 1973 and then in the year 2000. He placed in the top 16 bracket in Macau in the year 1977, Monte Carlo in the year 1979, St. Moritz, Switzerland in the year 1986, and Tokyo, Japan, in the year 1986.

Joli Quentin Kansil is the author of *The Backgammon Quiz Book* (Playboy Press, 1979), and he is the Editor of the popular *Official Rules of Card Games* (U. S. Playing Card Co., 1999). His Master of Arts' thesis on Mr. John Quincy Adams was published as a small book in 1983. In 2008, he completed a manuscript for a book that covers a wide range of topics, notably the origin of the Universe and life on Earth, the conflict between science and religion, the ten greatest human accomplishments, contentment, and forecasts for the future.

In the 1970s, Joli Quentin Kansil wrote many crossword puzzles for *The New York Times*, and he was the backgammon editor for *Games Magazine* from 1978 to the year 1983. He is a member of the Explorer's Club, and was the journalist on the Zancudo-Cocha expedition in 1987. He also made a rare visit, also in 1987, to Pitcairn Island, which are officially named the Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands, and which are a group of four volcanic islands in the southern Pacific Ocean. The islands are a British overseas territory and formerly a British colony, the last remaining in the Pacific. The islands are best known as home of the descendants of the Bounty mutineers and the Tahitians, who accompanied them, an event which has been told and related in numerous books and films.

Joli Quentin Kansil has three children and is currently residing in Makati, a prominent city near Manila, in the Philippines, where he is a writer and frequent tournament bridge player. Besides his work in the field of games, he was active as a member of the board of directors of ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) for multiple years, and he has designed a modernized spelling system and a reform calendar.