



Northern Indiana

Unit 154



August 2019 Newsletter

Editor: Kim Grant

President's
Corner



Terry Bauer

I have enjoyed my first four years of playing duplicate bridge and I initially gave little thought to how everything is organized and the work of those who made it all possible. When Barb Walczak asked me to nominate myself for the Gary club position on the board, I agreed to do my part. I attended the two board meetings last year and learned a little about how things worked. At this year's board meeting I agreed to accept the position of unit president, despite my inexperience, because nobody else was nominated and everyone on the board promised to help if needed.

The previous board officers Kim Grant, Gary Chaney, Ken Bisson, and Marci Meyer, along with the board members, have done a great job over the past few years getting the unit in good fiscal shape, supporting tournaments, recognizing accomplishments, sharing information, and organizing the unit within District 12 and ACBL. Hopefully Unit 154 can continue in good standing and meet the needs of its members.

We have a good website (unit154.org) devoted to our unit with local news and all the organizational details. There you can read the purpose of our unit in the bylaws and I encourage you to do so if you have not done so before. Quoting from that: "...to provide organized bridge activities and services ...to provide bridge education... to conduct tournaments...".

A primary purpose is to conduct sectional tournaments and we now have three sectionals a year in the unit (down from four sectionals and one regional in past years). Many individuals in the unit have contributed their time and resources to make these successful events within easy driving times of our members. We need a functioning unit to continue offering these sectional tournaments for our members and this requires new members to help with the administrative tasks. If you can volunteer your time to be on the board of directors in the future, I hope you will do so to keep our Unit 154 functioning.

Our third sectional of the year will take place in October in Highland and I hope to see many of you there. We hope to have enough participants to have 299 pair games each morning and afternoon on Friday and Saturday and a 499 Swiss game on Sunday. A plenitude of complimentary snacks and beverages will be available to help make your time in Highland enjoyable.



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Hotel

Comfort Inn
7813 Indianapolis Blvd.
Hammond, IN 46324
Ask for the ACBL Bridge Rate
\$99 until 9/11/19

In Fort Wayne...

Fort Wayne Raises \$18,000 For Alzheimer's



Chairs: (L toR) Dena Davis, Teresa Nelson, Judy Nelsen & Matt Farber

This year, the Fort Wayne Club raised \$18,000 for the Alzheimer's Association at its 'Longest Day' event on June 19, beating its previous total by more than \$5,000. The amount ranks it in the top 10 participating clubs nationally for dollars donated. Generous businesses, foundations and players gave most of the funds, with the rest coming from game fees, a raffle, and a silent auction.

FWDBC Partners with Purdue FW to offer Bridge Classes

The Fort Wayne Club will again offer nine-week **Beginning and Intermediate Bridge** classes this September through Purdue Fort Wayne's Continuing Studies Program. Both classes are taught by players at the club site, but registration is through Purdue. For details, visit fortwaynebridge.org



Instructors: (L toR) Joe Kohne, Judy Nelsen & Lee Baatz

Hospitality Committee Benefits New Players



Committee: (L toR) Nancy Love, Teresa Nelson, David Bienz, Judy Nelson & Helen Ryan. *Not Pictured:* Kathy Steininger, Bud Lill & Dena Davis

A Hospitality Committee active since January has helped the Fort Wayne Club retain more new players. Directors ask a committee member to welcome anyone new, gather contact info, give out handouts about the club/how to play duplicate, and show the player a bit about duplicate mechanics. The committee member also gives the new player a card with his or her name and phone number, and contacts the player later to ask how it went at the game.

In South Bend...



Bud Parshall Day

Last November South Bend had the sad duty of advising their members that they had lost a dear bridge friend, Bud Parshall. It turns out that he found them to be his friends also because he left a wonderful gift of over \$48,000 to their club. The club will be honoring Bud each year on June 11th with a special game on Bud Parshall Day. A plaque with the winners' names will be on display at the front of the club on the Awards Wall.

In the Northwest...

Supporting Alzheimer's Research & Care

The Community bridge players in Gary have joined together with others across America to fight the darkness of Alzheimer's. The grand total collection for the day was \$1203.50!!! Amazing!!! This is how it broke down:

- Fees collected from two games — #367.50
(The multipurpose center double-booked for the evening event, and we were not able to play the planned third game.)

- Playing with a pro — \$686.00

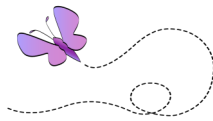
Thanks to the six pros who volunteered to give of their time to provide professional advice to improve one's game — Dave Bigler, Alan Yngve, Jim O'Connell, Joe Chin, Lou Nimnicht and John Goring. (Dave brought in the most money) — and to all the players who signed up to participate in the improvement of their game.

- Free will donations — \$150.00

The generosity of so many players knew no bounds. Hat's off to you for sharing bountifully for such a worthwhile cause!



A Friend That Will Be Missed



Byron (Bud) Parshall

June 11, 1926 - October 5, 2018



Last November South Bend had the sad duty of advising their members that they had lost a dear bridge friend, Bud Parshall. It turns out that he found them to be his friends also because he left a wonderful gift of over \$48,000 to our club. The club will be honoring Bud each year on June 11th with a special game on Bud Parshall Day. A plaque with the winners' names will be on display at the front of the club on the Awards Wall.

Bud was raised in South Bend and graduated from the University of Michigan with an Engineering Degree. He was employed by N.A. Rockwell to serve as quality control manager involved in the NASA Space Program. However, he was not all work and no play. He was an avid fly

fisherman, was an Arthur Murray ballroom dance instructor and achieved the lofty rank of life master. He was an extremely tough bridge competitor, particularly when he partnered with his favorite partner, Fred Biner. They really kept the other players on their toes. We will continue to have him in our thoughts.

We thank him for his generous gift!

70% + Games!



Candy Hurwich & Roger Chrastil, South Bend: **71.5%** 5/20

Connie & Jim Sullivan, Long Beach: **73.57%** 6/4

Wayne Carpenter, Chesterton & Dave Bigler, Hobart: **71.25%** 6/12

Barbara Graegin, Schererville & George Roeper, Homewood IL: **70.63%** 6/12

Steve Brock, Auburn & Kimberly Grant, Fort Wayne: **71.43%** 6/13

Chris Clarke & John Gadd, South Bend: **71.25%** 6/17

Dave Bigler, Hobart & Wayne Carpenter, Chesterton: **71.88%** 6/19

Lou Nimnicht, Crown Point & Steve Watson, Schererville **74.31%** 6/25

Kathy Klein & Gerry Kulp, Fort Wayne: **70.83%** 6/25

Susan Keeley & Bill deFuniak, Long Beach: **72.22%** 6/25

Carolyn Potasnik, Munster and Yuan Hsu, Hammond: **71.11%** 6/26

Mary Ennes, Valparaiso & Bill deFuniak, Long Beach: **77.02%** 7/1

Sally & Rich Will, Valparaiso: **70.24%** 7/3

Lee Boser & Ren Singleton, South Bend: **70.54%** 7/11

Dan Spain, Portage & Lou Nimnicht, Crown Point: **73.96%** 7/16

Chuck & Marcy Tomes, Valparaiso: **72.92%** 7/16

Rosemary Zonker, Elkhart & Gini Stipp, South Bend: **70.31%** 7/12

Gini Stipp, South Bend & Lee Boser, Elkhart: **70%** 7/21

Susan Keeley & Bill deFuniak, Long Beach: **72.52%** 7/23

Bob & Kim Grant, Fort Wayne: **75.46%** 7/27

RIISING IN THE RANKS

JUNIOR MASTER (5)

Edward Bower, Roanoke
Dale Edington, Fort Wayne
Rita Fink, Long Beach
Linda Urschel, Mishawaka

CLUB MASTER (20)

Deborah Aschbacher, Fort Wayne
Dr. James Lane, Chesterton
Clare Shoaff, Fort Wayne

SECTIONAL MASTER (50)

Dr. David Barkmeier, Plymouth
Gloria Bates, South Bend
Kristine Brubaker, Fort Wayne
David Himmelhaver, Fort Wayne
Kathy Klein, Columbia City
Patricia Manning, Michigan City
Teresa Nelson, Fort Wayne
Michael Ridenour, Fort Wayne
Donna Tieman, Granger
Gerry Wardzinski, South Bend

REGIONAL MASTER (100)

Mary Ennes, Valparaiso
Merrill Crull, Granger
Charlie Halberstadt, Valparaiso
Sharon Kolski, Elkhart
Barbara Lawson, Valparaiso
Anita Nunemaker, Elkhart
Ron Richey, North Webster
Richard Will, Valparaiso
Sally Will, Valparaiso

NABC MASTER (200)

Philip Eyermann, Churubusco

LIFE MASTER (300)

Terry Bauer, Portage



BRONZE LIFE MASTER (500)

Otto Bonahoom, Fort Wayne



BRONZE LIFE MASTER (500)

Glen McGeady, Long Beach



BRONZE LIFE MASTER (500)

William Wendt, La Porte



SILVER LIFE MASTER (1000)

John Kohne Jr., Fort Wayne



SILVER LIFE MASTER (1000)

Alan Yngve, Chesterton



Alan Yngve from Chesterton has become a Silver Life Master — 1000 masterpoints. What is most impressive is that as the director he most often partners with players who come without partners and whose skills are of lower level than his, yet somehow brings out the best in them.

Alan comments, “So — I seem to have reached 1000 masterpoints. It was bound to happen since they are only additive. However, I’m currently in a serious slump. I’ve made some poor decisions (or at least ones that don’t work out) that have sent me back ‘to the books’. It seems that I need to do this with some regularity to right my sometimes tilted ship, but I enjoy the study — so it’s not wasted time. I hope all the many players I have sat with enjoyed their time at the bridge table with me. I remember all of you, but admit that you are too numerous to list. Now to see if I can earn that ‘next’ masterpoint with you!

John Polles writes — “Alan is my Lafayette bridge partner and being the modest fellow that he is, I had no idea that he recently made Silver Life Master until I was asked to write something.

Those who know Alan know that he has developed an interesting bidding scheme he calls Demand Minor. The first time I played the system, I was anxious to get it right. As luck would have it, we had no call to use the system until the last table of the evening against a well-known pair of senior life masters. One of our opponents became agitated with our bidding — not understanding it and believing he was being taken. (Now I am very anxious.) Finally in a fit of pique he challenged Alan by asking if Alan’s system wasn’t just another name for the Montreal Relay. Alan with a hint of a smile simply answered that it was a little similar — but only better! Modesty only goes so far. Don’t mess with Alan.”

RUBY LIFE MASTER (1500)

Rich Bredemeyer, Fort Wayne



RUBY LIFE MASTER (1500)

Trudi McKamey, Portage



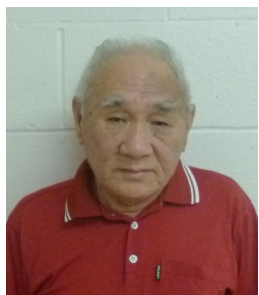
Trudi McKamey of Ogden Dunes, who probably appears at bridge games per week more than almost all of our players, has advanced to another level — Ruby Life Master with 1500 masterpoints — and we were thrilled to celebrate her newly-acquired status with her. Trudi comments that she loves the game, she tries to improve and she loves her bridge family. We are her primary family away from home. Trudi comes to us from Austria as the only person from her family to come to America. She has no children and no in-laws living close by.

Her regular partners comment thusly — “Playing with such a nice and pretty lady like Trudi is truly a joyful experience. She is not only a good bridge player, but also a very kind and wonderful human being. I want to thank her for being so nice to me when we are partners and who never complains about my bridge playing or behaviors.” (Yuan Hsu)

“Your achievement is proof of your commitment, dedication and drive for excellence at the bridge table. Your success also comes from your continual striving for accurate bidding and improvement in best play of each hand. Trudi continues to enjoy playing with several partners, providing refreshments at special club events and traveling to many top-level tournaments.” (Bob Porter)

RUBY LIFE MASTER (1500)

Yuan Hsu, Hammond



Yuan Hsu of Hammond has joined the ranks of Ruby Life Master — 1500 masterpoints. He has advanced to the top 88% of ACBL players in masterpoint holdings and is among the 7% of players in the Ruby Life Master category. Yuan says that he likes to play bridge, not only because it is a fun game, but also because you meet a group of very nice and friendly people. He thanks his partners effusively, but actually thanks all the members of our bridge clubs for giving him such a joyful time in playing bridge with you all.

Trudi McKamey comments that “I always look forward to my game with Yuan — he has real card sense. He will bid on a shoestring — and make it! We both made Ruby Life Master at the same time, but Yuan got there so much faster than I.”

Barbara Walczak adds, “Yuan always has his sights set on the prize. He is determined to win every trick possible after he makes a well-thought-out plan of how to accomplish the goal. I have the utmost confidence in him as a partner — knowing that his play will produce the best attainable outcome — and he can predict that outcome with uncanny certainty long before the hand is finished. He does have an affinity for mathematics!”

GOLD LIFE MASTER (2500)

Dave Bigler, Hobart



Dave Bigler of Hobart is congratulated on his meteoric rise to Gold Life Master — having been awarded this prestigious recognition for acquiring 2500 masterpoints! It has been an arduous, though delightful, adventure to reach this significant milestone.

Dave has offered a multitude of lessons throughout the years — whenever and wherever — all without remuneration. He often comes to the game with bags of food, again without remuneration — but with gratitude from us. He signed up as a “pro” to help increase Alzheimer’s donations. Nine players signed up to play with him, and he accepted them all. In fact, he doubled their games with him (two for the price of one), and he collected \$240 for Alzheimer’s. He is willing (or more so, he is enthusiastic) to partner with new players to the game — no matter how elemental their skill level is — and those newbies leave having had a successful experience.

Dave has many supporters. Yuan Hsu described the most special attribute about Dave — that he always takes care of new players. “He did that for me when I first joined our club. He taught me a lot of new tricks and conventions. He took me to many tournaments and helped me get my Life Master status.”

Mary Kocovar stated that not only is Dave a wonderful instructor, but he is generous with his time and expertise. “Any time that I need help or have a question about bridge, he is willing to help out. Dave is also a great partner. He really understands the game and is fun to play with.”

This tribute to Dave is not just having accumulated points, but in giving back to the betterment of bridge in our community and, consequently, good for the game ACBL-wide.

SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER (3500)

Jack Spring, Fort Wayne



SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER (3500)

Joan Tobler, Niles