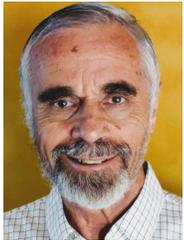


Northern Indiana Unit 154

October 2019 Newsletter

Editor: Kim Grant

President's Corner



Terry Bauer

The best season of the year in northern Indiana is now upon us and we get to see the beautiful Fall colors in usually pleasant weather. There are also a lot of tournaments available to attend in October before the approach of winter weather. October 11th thru the 13th is the Northwest Indiana Fall Sectional in Highland. The Fall STaC week is from the 14th to the 20th. In Michigan there are Sectionals in Holland and one in Bloomfield Hills for those with 300 or less masterpoints. The Motor City Regional starts at the end of the month just after the Toledo Sectional on Oct. 25-27th. The last area Sectional for the year is November 14th in Bloomfield Hills. No close-by tournaments in December and then only a handful from January to March, so get your gold and silver points while you can.

Eddie Kantar bridge humor:

It's not the handling of difficult hands that makes the winning player. There aren't enough of them. It's the ability to avoid messing up the easy ones.

-S. J. Simon



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In South Bend...

Forever Learning Institute in South Bend



Tricia Killeen
South Bend Club

The Forever Learning class of 22 students has met 3 times so far at the South Bend Club and will continue through 11/21. Tricia Killeen thanks all the mentors who are donating their time with this program: Tom and Connie Hebron, Joan Tobler, Tom Hallum, Leslie Garvey, Marty Martin, John Killeen, Candy Hurwich, and Donna Tieman. We thank Tricia for her tireless dedication to introducing this game to so many people. South Bend is blessed to have so many special people in their Club!

Bill Searcy Chosen for 2019 SB Service Award



The South Bend Bridge Club proudly presented the 2019 Service Award at the Annual Meeting on September 11th to Bill Searcy (pictured with SB Club Director, Tricia Killeen). Our honoree is not only a director, but more than that, he works very hard to bring some fun to the game, is the resident chef and cheer leader for the SB Pro-am Games, runs Swiss Team games smoothly, and also serves on the Board of Directors. Bill's name has been inscribed on the service award plaque located on the wall by the entrance.

Bill's reaction.... "I was very surprised and honored to receive the honorary award. I believe all of the members should make it their function to make sure our members have an enjoyable time at the Bridge Center.

"Bridge is, first of all, a game of ladies and gentlemen. We come to have an enjoyable afternoon when we play.. I urge every one of our members to remember the fun here. Encourage your friends to join us. We will be better because of your efforts. Thanks to you all."

New Addition to the SBBC & the 90+ Wall



Bob Binder recently moved from Arizona to be near his brother, Fred, and to enjoy our wonderful midwest weather. He will certainly provide us with another formidable bridge player. We are happy to welcome him as a new member of the SBBC and, since he turned 90 some years ago before joining our group, his picture is being added to the "90+ Wall" located near the Celebrity Wall. WELCOME BOB!

70% + Games!

Marshall Levine, Chicago IL & John Goring, Frankfort IL: 73.22% 8/12

John and Tricia Killeen, Mishawaka: 70.41% 8/14

Wayne Carpenter & LaVerne Nicksch, Chesterton: 77.40% 8/26

Jim Kart & Matt Fultz, Fort Wayne: 72.45% 9/11

Tom O'Connell, Long Beach & Bill Wendt, LaPorte: 74% 9/3

Wayne Carpenter, Chesterton & Laverne Nicksch, Portage: 71.23% 9/9

Barbara Walczak, Munster & Bob Ferguson, Valparaiso: 71.11% 9/11

Lou Nimnicht, Crown Point & Dan Spain, Portage: 71.15% 9/14



RISING IN THE RANKS

JUNIOR MASTER (5)

Carol Crosby, Fort Wayne
Judith Kearns, Granger

CLUB MASTER (20)

Jean Chappell-Hoemig, Fort Wayne
Paul Muszik, Crown Point
Rosemary Polizzotto, South Bend

SECTIONAL MASTER (50)

Donald Grote, Chesterton
Julie Jarvis, Mishawaka
Kathleen Peterson, South Bend

REGIONAL MASTER (100)

Ahnee Conner, Fort Wayne

NABC MASTER (200)

Karen Drain, South Bend
Robert Enyeart, Fort Wayne

LIFE MASTER (500)

Terry Bauer, Portage



Terry Bauer of Portage was awarded his Life Master certification earning 500 masterpoints in four years. Terry was truly focused on learning new ideas to make his playing always better. He and Bill Birk were involved in many tournaments where they were constantly challenged. Terry recalls some of the steps along his journey —

With encouragement from my family I decided to try duplicate bridge at a club rather than online. I really appreciated the warm welcome and necessary assistance from members at the club in Chesterton. Dottie Hart volunteered to be a regular partner, and that made playing so much more enjoyable. Alan Yngve was a great director for a new player like me, and I soaked up a lot of info from his advice, example and mini-lessons. He also introduced me to Bill Birk who patiently mentored me while I learned to use basic conventions and how to play in tournaments. Dee Marshall encouraged me to expand my playing experience to the club in Highland, and I have enjoyed playing with her regularly. While I enjoy the competition and challenge that bridge provides, the best part of the last four years has been the wonderful people that I have met. Many players have shared hints and advice, pointed out my errors or just have beaten me up at the table (but always in a good way) so that I had to improve my play. All have been super friendly, while still competitive, and shared their lives with me. I hope to enjoy this game for many more years.

Terry's most frequent partner is Bill Birk, who makes the following comments — One of the concepts utilized in the 2 over 1 game force bidding system is the idea of "fast arrival". Terry has lived up to the concept of fast arrival as he has arrived at the ranking of Life Master very quickly. He has succeeded through a combination of his many hours spent reading and playing bridge in live competition and on BBO, being augmented by his logic skills. Terry is known for his quiet concentration and pleasant demeanor at the table. I have been especially blessed to have had Terry as my main playing partner for the past three years. Our local clubs are fortunate to have Terry as a competitor and his Unit 154 as its new president.

LIFE MASTER (500)

Dr Martha Harris, Highland



Martha Harris of Highland has met all of the qualifications and has become an ACBL Life Master. She received the final necessary gold points at the Milwaukee Regional. Some of the pivotal players who contributed greatly to her reaching this defining moment in her bridge career were (as told by Martha) —

- Daryl Fraley was my first partner when my only goal was to enjoy the competition and to have fun. While Daryl played in many tournaments, I lost my partner and decided to quit the game.
- Stacy Jacobs saved my bacon. She offered to play my card and only change when I felt ready to bid more conventions. She was my “helping partner” who encouraged me to continue playing. Stacy drove an hour each way from Hinsdale for 1 1/2 years on Tuesday — rain, snow, sleet or hail — just to help me to become a student of the game. I am forever grateful for her loyal kindness.
- I met Linda Murphy at Crystal Lake on a day when she needed 2.75 gold to make Life Master. We did it! We are forever bonded because we shared her celebration of earning Life Master! I have learned that Linda is a very special person. She committed to meet me at any tournaments until I reached Life Master.
- Terry Bauer drove to Milwaukee just to help me get gold points. After we won some gold, I learned that he did not even need gold points, but had made the sacrifice of time and money just for me. What a nice guy!
- I appreciate my friends from the ABA who played in ACBL when I needed them. Ermine Morris and Liz Cotton helped me to get gold at the University of Illinois. Barbara Mitchum traveled with me all the way to Gatlinburg, Tennessee.
- Joe Connelly and I met every year to play in Skokie. What a wonderful tutor!
- Mary Kocevar played with me in Skokie and turned me on to Mel Colchamiro’s 21st Century Rules.
- Juwana Walton is my partner with whom I played the Chicago Nationals where we got points. We continue to enjoy the journey together.
- Alan Yngve did bridge chat with me and Delphine Slater helped us to strengthen our partnership. She traveled with me to Milwaukee when I needed 0.07 gold. I honor Delphine’s amazing card sense and her commitment to help me become Life Master. I am grateful that we earned 3.72 gold. She set the stage for my next level.
- The person with whom I played and received my first gold was Philip McPeek from Chicago. I’ve since played with Philip and earned more gold than with any other single player. He has gone the extra step of closing down his vendor booth of books and bridge supplies just because I showed up without a partner and there was no stand-by at that tournament. He is a young, exciting, fun, fabulous bridge player from whom I have learned much about defensive bidding who deserves my thanks and gratitude.

LIFE MASTER (500)

Mary Kocevar, Hobart



Mary Kocevar of Hobart comments, “Being a Life Master was a personal goal that I am proud to have achieved. As all of you are well aware — you cannot achieve this goal without a good deal of help from others. Starting from learning the game — I would like to thank Dave Bigler for all the instruction he has given me and still gives me. Everyone has been encouraging and helpful — I do mean *everyone* — all my partners, opponents and directors. I have met many wonderful people and made some great friends. The bridge community is a special group of people. Thanks to everyone!”

RUBY LIFE MASTER (1500)

Anna Urick, Hammond



RUBY LIFE MASTER (1500)

Grant Van Horne, Auburn

