

CLUB NEWS

FOR THE DUPLICATE PLAYERS OF THE VILLAGES

FEBRUARY, 2016

NEWS CLIPS:

Dot Van Almen's husband passed away on December 7. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Timothy's Catholic Church on Dec. 10, surrounded by family members and friends. Dot and her husband spent 68 years together. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Dot, for comfort and peace.

Marty Sobol, who was a very special friend of **Addy Adler**, passed away on Nov. 27 while he and Addy were visiting with his daughter in Ft. Lauderdale. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Addy.

Marilyn Williams wrote a thought-provoking editorial for the Daily Sun on Dec. 15. Great job, Marilyn!

Don Baker passed away on Dec. 28 at The Villages Hospice House. A memorial service was held on Jan. 16 at Unity Church. He will surely be missed by many, and we pray for comfort for Sandy.

Charlie Showalter was featured in The Daily Sun's "Year in Review 2015" on Dec. 31 as the President of the Villages Duplicate Bridge Club. He said: "The club is growing by leaps and bounds this year. We are meeting at seven locations with 18 sessions. And we have more than 1,200 members. We held two tournaments in The Villages."

Bill Ziemann is now at the Lady Lake Specialty Rehab center. His phone number is 352-459-7520. He really misses playing bridge and he would love to have some visitors so he could play some bridge with them.

The **Hoods, Eichers, and the Bookes** are taking a Panama Canal cruise. **Bob LaBarge and his wife, Aggie**, are going on a Caribbean cruise, and the **Colberts** are also going on a Caribbean cruise.

Our club has a new part-time director. He's been covering the Mulberry games. His name is **Stephen Macheel**. Welcome, Stephen!

NEWS CLIPS:

The Annual Meeting was held on Jan.11 at Laurel Manor. **Gene Rodriguez** and **Bob Matthews** were introduced as our two new Board Members. The Board met the following day and elected **Alex Booke** as President, and **Gene Rodriguez** as Secretary. Good luck to all!

Please check the website for the educational lessons being offered and how to sign up for them.

Common Game Review: Ron Poitinger sent a letter to **Craig Hemhill**, one of the analysts on the Common Game hands. **Ron** wrote: "Your analysis is superb as usual! I wish our club players (especially some that complain about the random distribution) would look beyond that and read the analysis by you and the other TOP bridge players. ANY bridge player can improve their game, no matter how good they are! I'm sending a copy of this email to the editor of our Villages Newsletter. Thanks to you and all the analysts we can continue to improve in a game where you NEVER stop learning." **Craig Hemhill** and **Jay Whipple**, the District 9 Director, each sent **Ron** a very nice thank- you note. (Picture of Blue Herons by Mary Ann Kelly)



A TRUE STORY (by David Haskell)

John Kuyper is back playing bridge after a serious scare. When he didn't appear for a scheduled bridge game in December, his stood-up partner, **Nick Pund**, and his other regular partner **Carol Mayer** decided that they needed to check on him. They went to his home and there was no answer at the door. They went in and found John passed out on the floor—he had been there for nine hours. He crawled out of his bed and fell onto the floor but he had no muscle power to reach his living room phone.

If Nick and Carol had not showed up, John would probably not be with us today. They immediately called for an ambulance that took him to VRH. John had a significant case of Rhabdomyolysis and also a return of Cellulitis to his right leg. After eight days in the hospital John is back, now always accompanied by a "button" device that provides a health alert. He and Nick were in the Orlando Regional Tournament in early January, doing well to get Gold points there.

(Editor's note: It's so great living in such a caring community.)

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RICHARD SEIDMAN'S GREAT NEWS

On Saturday night, December 12th, 85 friends and family gathered at the home of Mark & Heather Unger to celebrate Marks' mother's (Audrey) 65th birthday. About an hour after the guests arrived, Audrey slipped upstairs to change into her wedding dress and her partner Richard Seidman slipped out to the side of the house where his tux and the rabbi were waiting. Audrey's son Mark then called everyone outside for a "toast" to his Mom. He then told the shocked guests that they were not just here for her birthday party but to attend her wedding. Audrey make her grand entrance, and the ceremony began with about 20 family members including Richard's parents, siblings, nephews and nieces, children with spouses and grandchildren. The rabbi mentioned that he had done over 250 weddings and this was the first one that was a surprise.

On December 21, Audrey and Richard flew to Taiwan via Dubai on Emirates airlines for a 16 day honeymoon. They spent one day each way in Dubai. They visited Richard's son and daughter-in-law who live in Taiwan. His daughter-in-law gave birth to a baby girl two days after they arrived, on Christmas Day. They were able to spend lots of time with his other grandson who is almost 3. He is being taught both Mandarin and English and speaks mostly Chinese but understands quite a bit of English too. They also did some touring along with the family visit. They spent New Year's Eve in downtown Taipei at the Taipei 101 Skyscraper, the second tallest building in the world and the fireworks come right off the building. They also visited Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building.

Another happy note: grandchild #4 is due this summer (my son and daughter-in-law in NY) are expecting their second child.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By **Alex Boone**

Your new Board of Directors met January 12 to start to plan the 2016 bridge year. Charlie Showalter completed his year as President, and I want our members to be aware that under his watch the club made great strides in terms of growth, education, and bringing a regional to the Villages in 2017. I hope bringing Mike Lawrence for his upcoming seminar will be a big success and I wish everyone a great year! Please feel free to bring to my attention anything you would like to have addressed.

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Alternative Word Definitions:

Beauty Parlour: A place where women curl up and dye.

Egotist: Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Paul Matheson

There are several club policies that bear reviewing. An important one at this time of year is the seating policy. All of our games are held in facilities operated by the Recreation Department for the enjoyment of our residents. Accordingly their policy is that residents of The Villages are given first priority to use our venues and secondarily priority is for residents who have guests. The policy at most of their events is that residents are given priority on a "first come, first serve" manner. When there are events which traditionally have attendance greater than the room capacity, their policy is to issue numbers to residents as they arrive. When the seating capacity is reached, no other numbers are issued and no other residents would be seated. A guest would not receive a number unless there was room after all residents had been seated. This policy would not serve the bridge club well since our game requires us to play as a team. If one player showed up early and the other one did not only half the team would be admitted. There would be chaos at game time in such a situation. Therefore several years ago the Board of Directors submitted an alternative plan that would work better for the club and the Recreation Center let us adopt this policy. This plan requires us to seat pairs composed of residents only first and if space permitted pairs composed of a resident and a guest next. If there was still available space pairs made up of guests would then be allowed to be seated. Fifteen minutes before game time all players (including both partners) must be seated at their table. If one of the partners has not yet arrived, the team is deemed not to be in attendance and they are replaced by a qualifying pair. The game Director then determines if both players on a team are residents. If all the seats are filled with resident pairs, pairs composed of a resident/guest or guest/guest would not be allowed to play. If space permits resident/guest pairs would be seated next and guest/guest pairs as the last priority.

As an adjunct to the seating policy is the one relating to the saving of a North/South seat for those with a medical disability or restriction. If one desires such an accommodation they must notify in advance either the Club Manager (Pat Ford) or the game Director of their need. If such a request is made, at least one player from the team must be at the venue at least 30 minutes prior to game time. BOTH players must be at the table by 15 minutes before the game. If both players are not seated, the table will not be saved and they will be allowed to play only if there are available seats.

Another policy needing to be discussed is the one relating to cell phones. All cell phones are to be turned off during the game unless there is a possible emergency in which case the game director is to be notified in advance and appropriate steps taken to minimize a possible disruption. If one's cell phone rings during a game the pair is to be assessed a $\frac{1}{4}$ board penalty. If the call is answered the penalty is $\frac{1}{2}$ a board.

One other topic to be broached is the speed of play for several reasons. First is the fact that our contract with the Recreation Department stipulates the time when we are allowed access to a room and when the room must be vacated. As you may have noticed there are often large masses of people standing outside our rooms waiting to use the room when we are finished. Generally speaking we have until 4:20 PM to exit a room if the game starts at 1:00 PM and 9:40 PM if the game starts at 6:30 PM. As equally important is the fact that slow play impacts not only the slow pair but the table in front of them that is waiting for a pair to arrive and the table behind them that is waiting to move. If allowed to continue this "accordion effect" only causes additional frustrations. Accordingly it is incumbent on the game directors to keep the game moving. Our director's policy is to warn slow tables that they are behind and asks them to catch up by the next round. If slow play continues at some point a board is "pulled". "Pulling" a board is usually frustrating to the slow pair but more so to an innocent pair who started the round late and believe they are being "punished" through no fault of their own.

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OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY CHARLIE SHOWALTER

The past year was a very successful one for our club. Early in the year, we were in financial distress, with little reserves, if any. The Board increased the playing fee to \$3 for a few months, and that allowed us to achieve an adequate reserve to handle unanticipated expenses that always come up. After we achieved what we intended, the playing fee was reduced back to the previous level of \$2 per game. The Board appreciates the cooperation of the membership during that time to allow us to achieve financial stability for the club.

We held our annual open Sectional again last year, which is always a money maker for the club and one of the largest Sectionals in Florida. In addition, we held our first limited masterpoint sectional, which was also a great success. Next year, we anticipate holding our first Regional tournament here in The Villages. Some details have yet to be worked out, so it is not 100 percent certain, but it looks as though it will happen. It is scheduled for Feb 27 through Mar 5, 2017. I look forward to being able to stay at home and play in a Regional, and I hope the membership feels the same way.

The Club continues to grow. We will not know for sure whether we moved up from our position of Number 8 in the country until later, probably April, but I think we might, since our numbers continue to grow. We are adding a new game soon, probably in February, at the Rohan Center, and if growth continues, as I am sure it will, we may be looking for new venues for games.

Alex Booke, our new (and former) president, will continue to lead us forward this year. I look forward to working with Alex and the Board to have another successful year.

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Paul Hassett had a back operation in Gainesville. Good Luck, Paul.

Marvin Wells is scheduled for a back operation in late January. Good luck, Marvin

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NEW MEMBERS SINCE LAST EDITION OF CLUB NEWS (Welcome to all!)

Mike Allen	Carol Buckley	Martha Buckley	Sully Dade
Barry Dexter	Diane Drake	Fred Everett	Mike Kwiatkowski
Sue Frisch	Sue Pavey	Brenda Pettit	Louise Rahmlow
Sharon R. Smith			

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Marty Rothbard is a member of the CDD 2 Board. He has asked The Villages to consider updating the security gates so that drivers do not need to roll down their windows to activate the gates. Many drivers have had to replace the mechanism inside their door because of frequent use. (The editor can attest to that!)

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21 RULES OF BEING A GOOD PARTNER: (continued from last issue: by Marty Bergen)

3. Never "result" (criticize your partner for a normal action just because it did not work this time).
4. Unless your intent is to clear up a misunderstanding, avoid discussing the hand just played. If you cannot resist, be discreet.
5. Remember—you and your partner are on the same side.
6. Do not forget that your partner wants to win as much as you do.
7. If you feel the urge to be nasty, sarcastic, critical or loud, excuse yourself and take a walk.
8. When there is time between hands, do not discuss bridge.
9. When you want to consult another player about a disaster, ask about your hand, not your partner's.

Clare Kromar, Substitute Bridge Director

By David Haskell

Clare Kromar was a snowbird from Ohio for seven years before becoming a full-time Villages resident two years ago. After having been a very busy director in Ohio for 28 years, she has kindly offered to fill in for other bridge directors when needed in The Villages.

Clare started playing bridge in the 1960s, and took up duplicate in 1978. In 1982, when her bridge club in the Cleveland area lost its director, Clare became certified to direct. At the time she had amassed 8 masterpoints. A year later, through the Adult Recreation Department in South Euclid-Lyndhurst, Ohio, she started the Hillcrest Duplicate Bridge Club and provided a 15-minute lesson before each game. Her bridge club started with 6 tables and before long had a waiting list for those wanting to join. The club is still going today.

Having moved up to a total of 20 masterpoints when she started her own bridge club in 1983, Clare began accumulating masterpoints and soon became a Life Master. She also spent a lot of time teaching bridge, having taken a class on teaching from Jerry Helms at the time Audrey Grant's Club, Diamond, Heart and Spade series was published. Clare passed the test and became certified to teach, and she has taught several bridge classes at adult recreation departments. After almost 30 years as a director, Clare certainly has the expertise to fill in from time to time when scheduled game directors are absent.

Like all bridge directors, Clare has some strange stories. Toward the end of a game in Euclid, Ohio, while entering scores, she heard a man seated near her say, "Just a minute." Clare looked over and saw him neatly fold his cards, turn them over and place them on the table. He then collapsed on the floor. Using a pay phone, Clare called the city fire department. They performed CPR, then put him on a stretcher and took him away. Jenny, the woman he was playing with, then asked Clare to pick up her absent partner's hand and finish the game with her. Clare, not knowing what else to do, did so. Then recently, while playing in The Villages with Jann Sharp, Clare learned Jann's maiden name and mentioned that a woman in her Euclid bridge club had the same name. It turned out that Jenny, the woman whose partner collapsed years ago in Ohio and who finished playing the game with Clare, was Jann Sharp's mother.

Among her non-bridge pursuits, Clare Kromar loves golf and has played for 50 years in women's leagues. She has a hole-in-one to her credit. And just as when she began as a bridge director, calculating scores manually, she served as secretary to a ladies' golf league in Ohio for four years, where one of her duties was calculating the members' handicaps. Clare golfs about twice a week in The Villages and recently bought a new set of clubs because she was not hitting the ball straight. Unfortunately, the problem persists with her new clubs (perhaps a manufacturing defect).

Clare was widowed in 1997, and nine years later married Chris Flesor, with whom she now lives in the Village of Sanibel. She has three daughters, two in Ohio and one in Austin, Texas, five grandchildren, and is expecting her second great-grandchild in April.

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PRAY FOR AMERICA (submitted by **Henry Hood**)

"Someone has said that if Christians really understood the full extent of the power we have available through prayer, we might be speechless. Did you know that during WWII there was an advisor to Churchill who organized a group of people who dropped what they were doing every day at a prescribed hour for one minute to collectively pray for the safety of England, its people, and peace? There is now a group of people organizing the same thing in America. If you would like to participate: Every evening at 9 PM Eastern time, (8 PM Central) (7 PM Mountain) (6 PM Pacific), stop whatever you are doing and spend one minute praying for the safety of the United States, our troops, our citizens, and for a return to a Godly nation." Let's do it!!!



The 2015 Christmas party was another success! The following is a note from **Pat Ford**:
 “The Christmas Party was a success. I hope everyone had a good time. I had a lot of help for which I’m very grateful. It was wonderful to see every one dressed up and chatty! We are all looking forward to next year!”

The Club thanks you, **Pat**, for the great job you always do.

2015 MILESTONES

We are very proud of all of the players who attained "Milestones" in 2015. Please go on the website under "Milestones" to see your name. The editor considered listing them all in this Club News, but there are so many! Congratulations to all! Congratulation to the 70% winners! They, too, are listed on the website.

2016 MILESTONES

Tom Bush has already listed names on the website. Congratulations to **Ginny Crump: Gold Life Master; Sylvia Keyes and Ron Poiting: Ruby Life Masters; Carol Payette, Jane Dulieu, Barbara Edelson, and David Haskell: Life Masters.** And there has already been a 70% game posted: **1/18/2016 Ed Schusler & Andy Sloan.**

MEMBERS WITH THE MOST CAREER POINTS WHO PLAYED AT LEAST 20 GAMES IN 2015

Dean Robinson 6603	Ed Schusler 3064	David Stentz 2156
Joe Sacco 6585	Millie Vibbard 3005	Andy Sloan 2156
Sandra Gebhardt 6068	Ivan Lee 2911	Jane Hudson 2151
Ken Rhodes 5681	Neil Timm 2875	Bev Yankee 2132
Lee Esworthy 5559	Gladys Mikel 2861	Arlene McIntosh 2099
Dave Hudson 5097	Phyllis Carlson 2749	Kay Esworthy 2087
Ginny Crump 4999	Peggy Shivetts 2723	Bess Bailey 2055
Jack Smith 4767	Dee Parson 2637	Ron Poiting 2034
Bruce Thiher 4312	John Stansbury 2551	Lucy Tillman 1940
Jeff Koltenuk 3769	Charles Showalter 2546	Paul Matheson 1920
Christine Adams 3487	Colleen Treanor 2542	Jack Fisher 1875
Anne Gust 3312	Bill Ziemann 2530	Claudette Fraime 1836
Marilyn O'Donnell 3306	Nancy Deal 2298	Alex Booke 1819

CLUB POINTS EARNED IN 2015

1000+

Joe Sacco 275.43
Charles Showalter 235.82
Gladys Mikel 227.93
Dave Hudson 179.58
Paul Hasset 170.52
Jon Williams 149.57
Russ Pearly 148.75
Ginny Crump 135.90
Jane Hudson 132.37
Ed Schusler 126.45
Buck Buchanaqn 123.04
Beverly Parrish 116.60
Marilyn Williams 110.26
Anne Gust 108.51
Ken Rhodes 95.28
Paul Matheson 94.24
Jeff Koltenuk 91.86
Andy Sloan 91.44
Colleen Treanor 90.95
Lucy Tillman 90.05

300-999

Janet Matthews 118.50
Patricia Holmes 114.21
George Murray 109.94
David Michaelson 87.09
Mary VanSteelandt 79.99
Mary Rowe 78.35
John T. Quinn 75.82
Leon Zaczek 64.88
Carol Alspach 63.10
Michael Mocella 60.98
Michael Lotti 56.94
Beverly Magnuson 56.43
Karen Pekkanen 56.40
Sandy Ainsworth 54.54
Jane Dulieu 54.29
Henry Hood 54.03
Marty Rothbard 50.37
Roberta Meyers 47.30
Sally Gauthier 46.39
Mary Ann Kelly 45.87

LESS THAN 300

Bill Lau 52.28
Bob Martin 51.47
Nicholas Pund 51.43
Dave Harris 51.28
Marilyn Hubbard 49.38
Brenda Davis 48.44
Evelyn Bennett 48.25
Marguerite Hasset 47.12
Margaret Sarno 46.77
Mike Peleck 45.52
John Kuyper 43.79
Jane Rowe 43.36
Glenn Ryburn 42.80
Kathy Brick 41.95
Bettyjane Chiota 39.38
Gwen Wright 39.36
Janet Gawenda 39.11
Raymond Artura 38.27
Nancy Speedy 38.01
Jack Franklin 37.93

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

CITY OF FIVE FLAGS NOV.13-15 2015 PENSACOLA

Dave Stentz 4.79 Caroline Davies 4.79

DELAND 299ER SECTIONAL NOV.14-15 2015

Ralph Williams 1.16 Jacqueline Williams 1.16 Roger Flickinger .86 Judy Flickinger .86
Don Lavin .78 Carolyn Bryan .78 Glenn Ryburn .44 Carma Sands .44

SILHOUETTE SECTIONAL AT SEA FT. LAUDERDALE NOV. 15-22 2015

Kristie Carter 5.98

CLEARWATER FALL SECTIONAL NOV. 27-29 2015

Leslie Nelson 1.48 Betty Christianson 1.48

NAPLES 299ER SECTIONAL NAPLES, FL DEC. 4-5 2015

Tom Tessier 1.68 Palmer Davies 1.68

PRELUDE TO CHRISTMAS SECTIONAL ST. AUGUSTINE, FL DEC. 4-6 2015

Jon Williams 7.10 Jeff Koltenuk 7.12 Jane Hudson 7.12 Dave Hudson 7.12
Ruth Ann Pethtel 4.29 Robert Pethtel 4.29 Shirley Land 3.83 David Land 3.83
Glenn Ryburn 2.26 Barbara Ryburn 2.26

FT. LAUDERDALE REGIONAL DEC.14-20 2015

Lucy Tillman 8.68 Barbara Edelson 2.58 Jay Greenstone .84

MYRTLE BEACH SC NEW YEAR'S REGIONAL DEC. 28-JAN. 3 2016

Sandra Gebhardt and her Montreal partner, Fred Pollack, won 34.64 points including 28.238 gold points.
Lucy Tillman and her friend from Texas, John Burgoin, won 19.70 points.

ORLANDO WINTER REGIONAL LAKE BUENA VISTA JAN. 4-10 2016

Ed Schusler 29.79 Russ Pearly 26.89 Paul Hassett 17.23 Michael Lotti 15.35 Kathy McKay 13.84
Carol Ketterer 13.51 Paul Matheson 13.18 Greg Saunders 12.57 Lucy Tillman 11.69
Charlie Showalter 10.61 Marilyn Graham 9.95 David Haskell 9.95 Jane Hudson 9.66
Marilyn Hubbard 9.04 Sandy Boone 8.97 Alex Boone 8.97 Sharon Amberg 8.07 Emiel Domis 8.07
Janet Matthews 6.92 Bob Matthews 6.91 Janet Gawendo 6.60 William Brown 6.46
Donna Brown 6.46 Susan Schrand 5.74 Gordon Pfeiffer 5.40 Mary Rowe 5.39 George Murray 5.39
George Guarino 5.28 Jeff Koltenuk 5.24 Maury Fjestad 5.01 Mary Lee DeKoch 4.97 Jane Dulieu 4.97
Ellen Miller 4.97 Carol Meier 4.97 Terry Oleske 4.90 Robert Vicars 4.90 Nancy Jaffe 4.90
Jonathan Greenspan 4.90 Carol Moseman 4.72 David Stentz 4.33 Jon Williams 4.23 Caroline Davies 4.12
Nick Pund 3.81 John Kuyper 3.81 Carol Payette 3.81 Joyce Jackson 3.65 Judy Flickinger 3.51
Robert Tolpa 3.49 Maryann Deroche 3.48 Andy Sloan 3.32 Margaret Sarno 3.17 Goentje Wright 3.17
Kay Jones 2.63 Connie Lowry 2.48 Roger Flickinger 2.44 Clare Desjarlais 2.44 Michael Hendershot 2.27
Pat Holmes 2.18 Janet Dunn 2.16 John Dunn 2.16 Larry Abramovitz 2.12 Hedda Ginsberg 2.12
Michael Vales 2.08 John Jencks 2.08 Kathy Brick 1.77 Brenda Davis 1.77 Richard Ried 1.70
Phyllis Sokol-Wood 1.61 Nancy Milward 1.61 Carl King 1.61 Gail Hudon 1.52 Barbara Knight 1.52
David Harris 1.51 James Troutman 1.47 Alex Birman 1.47 Gloria Bennett 1.46 Carma Sands 1.46

(con't **ORLANDO WINTER REGIONAL**)

Brenda Pollak 1.46 Ruth Srulevitch 1.44 Reese Gleckner 1.44 Jack Gleckner 1.44 Bev Yankee 1.44
Catherine Cote 1.42 Sandy Baker 1.34 Buck Buchanan 1.30 Roberta Meyers 1.23
Karen Pekkanen 1.23 Michael Peleck 1.18 Jane Rowe 1.18 Sally Gauthier 1.16 Marge Hassett 1.16
Jack Smith 1.08 Georgiann Ackley 1.03 Doris Reeves .94 Patricia DeArmond .83 Dorothy LaBrie .83
Heather Shane .82 Janine LeBlond .82 Henry Hood .70 Mauri Buchanan .60 Linda Eicher .60
Chet Eicher .60 Ruth Ann Pethtel .56 Robert Pethtel .56 Barbara Fallone .54 Richard Dahlgren .20
Elaine Lacroix .20

It was a great turn-out by our Club members!

BILOXI, MS JAN. 11-17

Barbara Fallone 1.00

DAYTONA BEACH SECTIONAL JAN. 14-17

Judy Flickinger .78 Gloria Bennett .78

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**PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK THE WEBSITE DAILY FOR
UPDATES TO GAMES, BOARD MINUTES, MILESTONES,
AND ANY OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION.**



CLARE KROMER—DIRECTOR



WATERFRONT INN (submitted by Mary Ann Kelly)

Carole Jackson hosted a very nice 80th birthday bash for **Bob Armstrong**. It included lots of friends, delicious food, and entertainment!

Mike Lawrence will be at The Villages March 16-17 for a 2-day seminar at Rohan Recreational Center. The fee includes lunch for both days. Please read about it on the website. Tickets are now on sale and only 100 tickets will be sold.