



## CLUB NEWS

### FOR THE DUPLICATE PLAYERS OF THE VILLAGES

### OCTOBER, 2018

#### NEWS CLIPS:

We have a new Club News reporter. His name is **Jim Strazzere**. He will cover mostly news relating to the 149ers, 199ers, and 299ers. Welcome aboard, Jim! We are very pleased to have you!

**Mike Lotti** and his son, **Chris**, and his brother-in-law, **Craig**, participated for the second time in the RAGBRAI 46<sup>th</sup> annual bicycle race in Iowa. The 480 mile race was held on July 22—28 and they were accompanied by their 2500 closest friends! **Mike** said they had a fantastic time! He didn't say where they finished!

We are all sorry to hear **Dean Robinson and Karen Oberting** are moving to Ohio. Their address in Ohio is: Stoney Point, 3717 Orders Road, Apt. #323, Groves City, OH 43123. We will all miss them very much.



**Sue Frisch** passed on Sept. 13 at Hospice. Sue had brain surgery at Moffitt on August 7. A Memorial Service will be held locally in the near future. We will all miss her friendship, her positive attitude, and being with her on many occasions. She was a true friend to many. So sad and tragic!

**Jeff Koltenuk** became a Diamond Life Master and the Club celebrated his accomplishment with a cake on Monday, July 30, at Seabreeze. Congratulations, **Jeff**!

#### NEWS CLIPS:

**Sandra Gebhardt** played in the Hunt Valley Regional in Maryland and earned 60.02 points! **Ed Schusler** and **Al Simpson** played in the 2018 Summer NABC in Atlanta and they each won 63.75 points. Three BIG WOWS! Congratulations to all three!

**Andy and Mary Ann Kelly and Mauri and Buck Buchanan** jointly celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at the Island Hotel in Cedar Key. Both couples were married August 24, 1963.



Congratulations to both couples!

**Robert Todd** will be the guest speaker beginning March 16, 2019 for two Saturday sessions. Mark your calendars now so you won't miss his presentations!

The Board has called for a special meeting on Sunday, September 30, at Seabreeze at 1:30 pm for voting on certain issues contained in the By-Laws of our Club. Read about it on our website so you will be an informed voter. The Board is hoping for a big turnout.

**Clare Desjarlais** underwent a back procedure. We hope she is doing well and will be back at the bridge table soon.

The winter residents will be back very soon. We have many new directors, so we are ready for them!

## Director's Corner

### Jon Williams

The reservation system we tried out during the summer was well received by the members. It has been approved by the Board for use at other games at the director's option.

Having and using the reservation system is a benefit for players as it eliminates the need to arrive waaay early to insure a seat and facilitates a fairer distribution of strong and not-so-strong players (seeding). It is a benefit for directors as it enables them to set up the field in advance and makes game startup smoother, that is, less hectic.

As of this writing, players may make reservations for 13 games each week. This is reflected in the new Regular Game Schedule, found at the bottom center of the home page on the Club's web site.

Several times during the week, the club has an open and a limited game at the same time. When making a reservation, the player needs to choose the correct type to insure they are getting the game they want. With that in mind, it is important to understand the meaning of the terms open and limited.

- A limited game is one in which there is an upper masterpoint limit on who may play. Examples are 0 to 50 or 0 to 750. Some games are termed 299er or 399er, which also means 0 to 300 and 0 to 400.
- An open game, on the other hand, is one in which any player may participate, without regard to number of masterpoints held.

The reservation system allows the player to take four different actions: make a reservation with a partner, cancel an existing reservation, change the partner for an existing reservation, and check on upcoming reservations. This is done by going to the club's home page [www.bridgewebs.com/villages](http://www.bridgewebs.com/villages), scrolling down to the Regular Game Schedule in the bottom center, and clicking on "Reserve a Seat" for the game you want. Then it's just a matter of entering your ACBL number, clicking on "Submit," and choosing the appropriate options for the game and partner you want.

As the trial period went on, about 90% of the players in the test games were using the reservation system successfully. This led to the expansion of the system to other games, so those can benefit from streamlining the process of setting up the field and starting the games.

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**Jon Williams** reported that on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, in the first such event since mid-July, 20 teams competed in a stratified Swiss game. There was great representation from our newer players, who took 4 of the first 7 places! Way to go, Newcomers!

**NEW 299er REPORTER INTRODUCTION**  
**JIM STRAZZERE**

After accepting Pat Poitingier and Buck Buchanan invitation to become a newsletter source for our 299 folks, it was suggested my first article be about me. That put me back on my heels for a bit, but then I realized I could include all of you out there who have made me and my partner feel so much a part of our Bridge family here.

I grew up in Upstate New York on the Finger Lakes to an Italian family whose men played Pinochle to a level that had I filmed some of their more heated games I could have made serious money on that video. So as I grew up watching my Father and Uncles play I learned the play of the hand while still young. As I got older and began to play myself, my Uncles would plot to put my Father and me together as partners. They found great humor in the fact I could never play the right cards for him no matter my effort. I read everything I can on "leads" now so as to not awaken those scars again.

My introduction to Bridge came from a lady I dated for awhile who purchased for me one Christmas *Eddie Kantar's Bridge for Dummies* book. Four hundred pages thick with a lot to absorb, I was intrigued enough to start. Two and a half years later with a lot of classes and friendly Director help, I'm now a Regional Master. Special thanks to Paul Matheson, Janet Matthews, Pat Holmes, and John Quinn for their guidance and inspiration.

It was 1963 and I had just graduated High School, and as the Draft was in force I was compelled to join the US Navy. I was in the Aviation part of that service and this is where I learned how to become an Air Traffic Controller. My four years completed, I was hired by the FAA and ended up at the most complex and modern facility in the world, New York Tracon. This buzz of activity handles all of the three Metropolitan airports and satellite airports in New Jersey and Long Island. Thirty-two years of this being quite enough, I retired to the South.

I found my current and hopefully last partner by way of a bridge class asking the instructor for help in finding a partner for me for an upcoming Sectional. Nancy McAnnally was placed in my path and my life hasn't been the same since. It was almost two months before I found out she was getting up very early before our 9am class to drop off her husband to daycare so she could attend. After many years as a caregiver to an Army Veteran exposed to Agent Orange, she has become my best friend, teacher, and hero.

I love our bridge family here and I know there are other stories out there about the people we play with every day that we think are nice. I'd be privileged for you to share your background with me to expose more "heroes" amongst us. We have a great mix of people to make us feel comfortable learning, and I am very happy to help in any way to make us better as we grow. Reach me via my email at [jimstrazz@gmail.com](mailto:jimstrazz@gmail.com) or in person.

Thank you all,  
Jim

(We are very pleased to have you as a news reporter! Thanks for accepting our invitation!)

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## **VERY IMPORTANT TO READ**

The following article was written by **Gordon Pfeiffer**, a member of the Board of Directors, to enlighten us and give us more knowledge concerning the inter-workings of our Club regarding charities and helping fulfill the needs of our communities. We feel this information will be well received by our Club members, and we are proud to be part of this giving organization. **Gordon's** article follows:

At various times during the year, you have probably heard references to “charity games” from our directors and/or our website. You’ve probably noticed that masterpoint rewards are higher for successful partnerships in these games, but have you ever wondered which charities these games benefit?

The first thing you should know is that participation in charity games is not mandatory, but our club chooses to do so. The club may designate any or all of the games during the months of January, April, May, and September as charity games. For January, May, and September, all of the charity money goes to the ACBL. In April, the collections are split between ACBL and two local charities—Wildwood Soup Kitchen (WSK) and Wildwood Food Pantry (WFP). For the rest of the months, there is usually one week where all of the games are charity games, and about half of the charity money goes to the two local charities.

How is the charity money spent? The money that goes to the ACBL is primarily used to promote and grow the game. Some of their specific programs are:

International Fund: Supports the participation of North American teams in international events.

Junior Fund: Supports Junior (age 26 and under) training and participation: textbooks, teacher fees, training for college age down to elementary school students, reduced ACBL membership fees, and many other things to encourage younger people to become involved in the game.

Support of the YNABC: A national event for experienced as well as beginning younger players.

Special games: For other worthy causes not related to the game. One example is the recent “Longest Day” initiative to support Alzheimer’s research.

What about the 2 local charities we have been supporting for the last 7 years?

THE WILDWOOD SOUP KITCHEN, which is run out of First Presbyterian Church in Wildwood, served over 85,000 meals to local residents last year. These are provided 6 days a week, and include meals to the following groups:

- Those who come to the Soup Kitchen
- Delivered to elderly and shut-ins who can’t travel to the Soup Kitchen
- House of Hope—an addiction recovery center
- Econolodge Families—those staying temporarily who are sponsored by local churches
- Snack Pack—Nutritional food for qualifying local elementary school children

THE WILDWOOD FOOD PANTRY serves qualifying local families, and is run out of Wildwood United Methodist Church.

WFP emphasizes groceries to families whereas WSK focuses on daily individual meals.  
(continued on page 5)

Both organizations work closely together, as well as with some similar organizations in the area. Both are also well supported by many local restaurants and grocery stores.

Neither pays for any salaries—everything is 100% volunteer.

How much does the club give? In 2017, The Villages Duplicate Bridge Club gave just over \$7,600 to the two local charities (WSK and WFP) combined, and just over \$20,000 to the ACBL charities.

Finally, the club allows the collection of money from time to time to support worthy causes. Though these cannot be classified as donations from the club, the club allows these collections from its members. Examples are the recent raffle to raise money (over \$1,000) for Alzheimer’s research, donations (well over \$1,000 annually) to support postage costs for Operation Shoebox, and a raffle to support a local hospice care facility. Over the years, the club has also donated thousands of decks of used cards to our military.

You should be very proud of the generosity of our club, and should expect to see even more generosity as our club grows. By simply participating in charity games, you are a part of that generosity.

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Thank you, **Gordon**, for submitting this excellent article. All of us now have a deeper understanding of the generosity of our club. Your article will help us want to participate more fully in our club’s endeavors.



**CLARE DESJARLAIS** wants to inform our membership of the passing of **Eileen McClelland’s husband, Jim**, who passed on July 3, 2018. Eileen played in our Club for 5 ½ years. She and her husband, Jim, left The Villages in June. He had a stroke in the spring and the family wanted both of them to return to their winter home in Ocean Pines, MD. Clare and her husband enjoyed dinner with Eileen and Jim the evening before he suffered the stroke. The picture of Eileen will help us all remember her pleasant personality.

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**RUSS PEARLY’S TRIP TO JAPAN, SOUTH KOREA, RUSSIA AND CANADA**

On April 10, my wife Adele and I embarked on this amazing 4 ½ week excursion (with 3 other couples). It began with an uneventful flight to Vancouver and then the long transpacific flight to Tokyo. The only good part of the flight was that we got to watch any of about 100 different movies some of which were not too bad. When we finally landed in Tokyo, we were met at the airport by one of the few people in Japan that spoke English. We were brought to the hotel, got settled in our rooms and inquired about a place to eat. The hotel concierge didn’t speak English but did show us a map of the area, circling her recommended restaurants. Off we went in pursuit of dinner. We might as well have been blindfolded and playing hide and seek. We tried asking people on the streets about restaurants but you would think that we were speaking a foreign language. After about an hour, we stumbled into a restaurant that was appealing simply because they had pictures of food on their menu. It turns out the food wasn’t too bad. Five people in our group ordered various types of sushi whereas I ordered a traditional Japanese meal: fried chicken. It doesn’t get any more adventurous than that. When we got the bill, it resembled something my five-year old grandson did in art class. There were weird characters all over the page. I asked the waitress how much money we owed but I might as well been asking her the score of yesterday’s NY Yankee game. She looked at me like I had three eyes. I did check the mirror before showing her the rectangular piece of plastic in my wallet. She recognized the credit card and we





were in business. I felt like I just became fluent in Japanese. I went back to the table and announced victory to my five dinner mates. Day 1 down, only 33 more to go.

The next two days we spent in Tokyo with 14 million of our closest friends. Besides seeing many temples and shrines, the highlight was a subway ride where they packed us in like sardines. When the subway car is as full as it can get, “pushers” push another 50 people into each car to make sure that no one can breathe. I felt that death was imminent but then there was a ray of hope as the subway cruised into the next stop. A smile came upon my face when at least

ten people exited the car but the smile turned to tears as twenty people entered the car. Breathing was no longer an option.

After Tokyo, we cruised (literally) to our next stop which was Mt. Fuji. I thought Mt. Fuji was just an American restaurant but it actually exists. The mountain itself was very hard to see as it’s constantly covered by clouds and fog. Our guide told us to keep our cameras focused on the mountain top because within seconds, the tip of the mountain would reappear. She was right and suddenly all of us eager tourists got our pictures.

The following days were spent in the cities of Kobe and Kochi. We saw lots of temples, shrines and gardens. Most of them were nice but we were walking 8 to 10 miles/day. A bit tiring. The next day we landed in Nagasaki. In what is called the Atomic Bomb Museum, we learned about the history of the dropping of the bomb and saw lots of remains of the damage that it caused. Across the street from the museum is the Nagasaki Peace Park which contains many beautiful sculptures donated by various countries around the world.

Our next stop was Busan, South Korea. This was quite the modern city. I didn’t expect that even knowing that it was the second largest city in South Korea. We spent some time on the top of a tower which gave us a great panoramic view of much of the city.

It was now onto Aomori, Japan, where we saw more temples, shrines and gardens. We also went to a beautiful national park where we finally got to see cherry blossoms. I think that we walked another 10 miles seemingly all uphill. The biggest highlight of Aomori was that they had a large department store where Adele found a kimono to buy. She was thrilled since she now acquired the item that she traveled 12,000 miles to possess.

Our next stop was back in Tokyo where we went sightseeing. It was hard for me to believe but there was actually a temple or shrine (not sure what it was) that we missed the first time there. I thought that we had seen every temple and shrine in the entire country of Japan. Maybe they built one in the 10 days since we were last in Tokyo.

We were soon back on the ship and headed to Hakodate, Japan. This was a quaint old city that was full of shops and a skyride that took you to the top of a hill where you could see almost the entire city. After the skyride, we headed to a large crowded park where we saw literally thousands of cherry blossom trees. Quite a sight. We were very lucky to see the cherry blossom trees in all their glory since they only bloom 6-7 days a year.

Our next stop was Sapporo, Japan, home of the 1972 Winter Olympics. The city of Sapporo is actually 2+ hours from the port so not many of the ship’s populace took the long bus ride. Who could blame them after 3 weeks of cruising. We were all tired.

After Sapporo, we left for the freezing port city of Petropavlovsk, Russia. Even though it was now early May, the temperature was 1 degree Celsius. Very few people on the ship got off, including us. Not surprisingly, since I prefer the warmer climates.

After our brief stay in Russia, we started on our week long voyage crossing the Pacific Ocean, the highlight of which was crossing the International Date Line. We actually got to experience May 4<sup>th</sup> twice which

reminds me if one more Star Wars fan says "May the Force (4<sup>th</sup>) be with you" to me again, I'm going to stab him with my light saber.

Anyway, after our long trip across the Pacific Ocean, we landed safely in Vancouver, Canada. This is truly a beautiful city with a multitude of buildings many of which were built within the last 5-10 years. We spent the first day there visiting Granville Island which is somewhat like Mr. Dora with its many shops. The women went from shop to shop and the men relaxed at an ice cream stand. We definitely got the better of it.

The next day was spent sightseeing on a "hop on hop off" bus visiting many of the major sights of Vancouver. That proved very interesting but the following day was my favorite as we took the ferry over to Victoria Island and saw Butchart Gardens. The Gardens covers 55 acres (another 10 miles of walking) and was without a doubt, the most beautiful gardens we ever saw. Adele took more pictures here than anywhere on our trip which is saying a lot since she took over 1000 pictures. No, that was not a misprint, she likes taking pictures.

After Vancouver, it was back to The Villages. Lucky for us, the flights were uneventful even if the last flight was delayed for five hours in Dallas causing us to arrive in The Villages about 3am. After almost no sleep, Adele twisted my arm and made me play bridge that day. The torture that I go through in my life! Anyway, we made it back safe and sound. That's my story and I'm sticking to it!

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**NANCY TURNER** loved horses as a kid but her family could never afford to own one. Then, about 25 years ago, after graduate school, she decided she would buy one. She says it was a tossup whether to buy a house or a horse and the horse won!

Her current horse is named Jense. He originally came from California and now likes the green pastures here in Florida. He is an "opinionated" horse so occasionally there is a "discussion" about what is going to happen next. Since he weighs in at 1300 pounds, he is very powerful and could possibly win a "discussion!! I wonder if that is why she was walking around with a walker for months last winter.

She rides Dressage and has competed in a few shows here in Florida, but not during the summer due to the heat. During the summer, she rides in the morning to avoid the high temperatures. Then she can play bridge in the afternoon. The best of all worlds!

Nancy says horseback riding is a lot like playing bridge...both are a partnership. She reminds us that you can't yell at your partner, whether it is your horse or your partner across the bridge table. Neither will turn out well. (submitted by **Nancy Jaffe**)

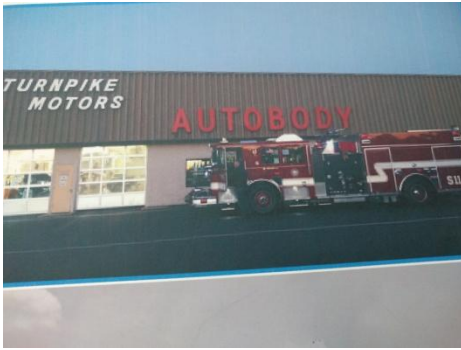
(Dressage is a sport of beauty and it is only possible where there is a true partnership with the horse and the rider. It is the highest expression of horse training where horse and rider are expected to perform from memory a series of predetermined movements.)

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#### **NEW MEMBERS IN JULY AND AUGUST**

Jennie Cleary	Linda Gordon	Dan Graesser	Linda F. Hall	Kathleen Hodgson
Sonnie Holman	Brad Kallus	Diane Kline	Jackie Knight	Mary Malloy
Connie May	Marjorie Miller	Jackie Schwartz	Karen Stamos	Rebecca Steely
Gary Welch				

**A BIG WELCOME TO ALL! WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU AS MEMBERS!**



## JOE FERNANDEZ

When Joe was 16 and his younger brother Doug was 11, they were able to commandeer a small barn on their parent's property in Connecticut and turned it into a makeshift auto body shop. They mowed lawns to get money for the auto body tools they needed. It was a "learn as you go experience" and they practiced on junk cars.

The rage at that time was to customize a car, removing the chrome hood ornament and the trunk badging and giving the vehicle a fancy hand-rubbed lacquer paint job. Both Joe and his brother Doug

learned a lot and were soon working on other kids cars.

From there Joe went on to get a degree in Mechanical Engineering and his brother's degree was in Civil Engineering. After working for Allen Manufacturing (the Allen wrench company) for a few years, Joe was offered a job working for a Pontiac dealership. The benefit that clinched the deal was the use of a free full-size Pontiac every year!

After 6 years of scrimping and saving, the guys purchased a boarded up gas station on a highway just outside of Hartford, CT. They started out with only 2 bays and an office. Joe did all the estimating and ran the front office and Doug managed the shop and got the work completed. Initially, they brought a few salvaged wrecks over from the old barn, parked them in the front yard and went to work on them. As people drove by, they saw these smashed up vehicles turn into beautiful used cars for sale.

The business is now approximately 26,000 sq ft, has 50 bays and employs 42 people. It is called Turnpike Motors in Newington, CT and is currently owned and operated by Doug's son.

Joe says he still likes to get his hands dirty (when he is not playing bridge, of course) and enjoys tinkering on a hot rod or custom car once in a while. Three years ago he bought a new toy...a 1935 Chevrolet 3-window coup. Watch the roads for Joe riding around in his shiny red car looking like the "King of the Road"!!

(submitted by **Nancy Jaffe**)



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT BOB MATTHEWS

It never fails to amaze me just how fast time seems to fly as I grow older.

It is suddenly September and I am being asked at the first Board Meeting of the year if I would take this role on for the Club.

But, if I stop for a moment and consider what has been achieved whilst I have been in this seat, then all of a sudden, the real, actual time which has elapsed since January becomes a lot more clear.

During the past 9 months so much has been accomplished within the club as a whole. New games have been added, new game directors have been recruited, trained, successfully examined and now have games of their own to take care of. We have become incorporated and now have insurance that could protect us in ways where we might have been very exposed beforehand. We have run the most successful Sectional Tournament to date and are looking forward to another very soon. We held the very first of (what I hope will become a regular annual event), a new club social designed with spouses and non-playing partners first and foremost in mind. We have reviewed and addressed the compensation packages for many of those who work for us. Our education program has been updated to regularly include two levels of lessons each week...and work on developing that further is ongoing and looks very promising. We have reached the status of being



one of the top clubs numerically in the USA, known by reputation wherever we go. And we have continued to develop good (I want to actually say *great*), relationships with the Developer and the Recreation Department here in The Villages. That in itself is no mean feat!

But I want to make one important point very clear....I am not for a moment suggesting that any of this has happened because it is me, and not another person, sitting here and writing as the President.

Everything that has taken place during these past 9 months has been accomplished through the hard work and effort of the *entire* Board and *many others*, too many to mention in fact, who have given of their time and experience to help sustain, foster and develop the club that we all enjoy.

I won't go through and itemize the list of matters that your Board and the officers of the club have done on behalf of us all...you either already know it, or maybe don't concern yourself with such things, being happy just to enjoy the benefits without the need to be worried how they all come about. But I will just say that the year to date has been filled with one issue after another that, in my own mind, has been tackled in a professional manner and resolved through the hard work and good offices of your elected officials.

Now as I write today, we, as your Board, are once more dealing with a matter that we consider is important and worthwhile and will help us, as a club, to move more smoothly together into the future.

I refer to the proposed changes in the By-Laws which we will be placing before the whole club at a General Meeting on September 30<sup>th</sup>, so the outcome will already be decided by the time you get to read this. Of course I have no crystal ball to know as yet if what we have worked on for months will have been considered acceptable to a majority or not, or if parts of our recommendations need to be adapted before they become acceptable to all. But whichever way the meeting has gone by the time this is published, we will have tried, as best we can, to yet again steer the club down what we feel to be a good and safe path into the future.

So, why mention all of this? Why am I taking up so much of your time having you read this far? One reason is that no matter how the decision has gone on September the 30<sup>th</sup>, at least two new members will be joining the Board next January to serve you as they best can. It will require that they make a commitment; that they have to be ready to forego personal wishes on occasion and think instead of the majority needs; that they remain unbiased in all matters; that they put the club first; that, very unfortunately, they sometimes have to be ready to sanction their friends and fellow players who might have stepped out of line! And they have to do all of this without any reward other than the knowledge that they were chosen to serve because other people had faith in them to do the job right on everyone else's behalf.

We will all, I hope, be looking over the next two months at one another and asking the question, would this person make a good addition to The Board?.....Would ***I make a good addition if I were to be asked?*** And if the answers to either of those questions is a 'yes' then you need to act.

If it is someone else, you need to approach them...they may not want such a commitment at this time in their lives and we need to respect that if such is the case. If you think that you have what it takes and want to serve, then you need to let others become aware that you would be willing should they agree with your assessment of your own merits.

Whatever, as I approach the end of my own third year on The Board, I now understand far more clearly than ever before the need to have good, hard working and reliable folks elected; people willing to go the extra mile if need be and do that with a smile!

I have every faith that you will all take very seriously the matter of making the right choices that will be coming up very soon. The election of new Board Members is perhaps the single most effective way that you can **ALL** play your part in us getting the club we want. Please don't leave it to others. This is **your** club; think and research who you want to represent you, then use your vote and be involved.

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**Team from The Villages Places Second in Grand National Tournament (by ED SCHUSLER)**

Twenty-five teams representing Districts across North America met in Atlanta, Georgia last month for the National Duplicate Bridge Tournament. Representing the State of Florida (District 9) were residents of The Villages—Ed Schusler and Al Simpson. In order to earn a spot in the National Finals, Ed and Al—along with their teammates—won a qualifying tournament in April to become the District 9 champions.

Armed with this victory, the pair traveled to Atlanta for five days of competition, seeing the 25 North American teams reduced to a round of 16, and then daily knockout rounds to reach the Finals on Sunday, losing a close match to the Ontario, Canada District to finish in second place overall.

**PLAYER PROFILES**

**Al Simpson.** A Midwesterner by birth, Al attended the University of Missouri and went on to graduate from the University of Michigan Law School with a focus on International Tax law. It was in law school that Al developed the duplicate bridge “bug.” He honed his skills in London, England bridge clubs and on military bases in Germany, settling into a 30- year career in Sydney, Australia. Upon retirement and a return to the Midwest in 2017, Al discovered the fastest growing duplicate bridge club in the U.S. was in a place called The Villages, Florida, so he headed to the Sunshine State.

**Ed Schusler.** Captain of the 2018 team, Ed was a member of the District 9 2017 team and competed, but lost in the first round of the knockouts last year in Toronto. Two members of that team and Ed vowed to get further in the Grand Nationals next year. A long-time resident of The Villages, Ed retired from a distinguished career as the Senior Vice President of a Corning, New York boutique investment firm. This, after a 20-year career as a New York State Trooper. As if that combination of skills wasn’t unique enough, Ed credits his bridge skills with the forced servitude of he and his brother to create a foursome with their mom and dad, while primitive camping in the Adirondack Mountains. After too many New York winters, retirement in The Villages was a blessing.

Al Simpson and Ed Schusler both credit The Villages Bridge Club with the reason they are where they are. Together, they practiced their strategies in local Villages tournaments. With over ??4,000?? members in The Villages Bridge Club, its Directors run 19 sanctioned duplicate bridge games each week. It is undoubtably, according to Ed and Al, one of the strongest environments in the country for teaching and supporting all levels of players—Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced.

Congratulations to District 9 and congratulations to Ed Schusler, Al Simpson, and The Villages Bridge Club for a successful and inspiring 2018 result.

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(Picture is on page 11)



Congratulations to team Captain, **Ed Schusler** and his teammate **Al Simpson**! **Our Club is proud of your accomplishment!**

Other players from our Club also participated, and their names will appear under 'Tournament Results'.

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#### MOST POINTS EARNED FROM ALL ACBL EVENTS

Sandra	Gebhardt	460.71	Frances	Doss	221.32	Mike	Kwiatkowski	117.61
Jeff	Koltenuk	415	Gina	Sloan	213.84	Lee	Esworthy	117.12
Charles	Showalter	355.44	Andy	Thiher	186.22	Gail	Singer	115.79
Philip	Benner	340.31	Bruce	Birman	183.53	Neil	Timm	115.09
Russ	Pearly	315.7	Alex	Parrish	180.74	Carol	Alspach	113.06
Ed	Schusler	310.5	Beverly	Parrish	180.74	Carol	Alspach	113.06
Paul	Hassett	307.49	Lucy	Tillman	180.31	Buck	Buchanan	112.89
Dave	Hudson	306.14	Albert P	Simpson	176.77	George	Murray	109.18
Carolyn	Benner	304.72	Marilyn	Williams	155.28	Don	Schreifels	108.96
Janet	Matthews	278.05	Paul	Matheson	154.84	Jane	Hudson	108.57
Dean	Robinson	273.86	Sandy	Booke	150.23	Victoria	Adams	106.63
Jon	Williams	264.75	Alex	Booke	149.81	Lawrence	Adams	106.63
Rich	Seidman	245.61	Barry	Erlich	131.25	Dave	Stentz	106.56
Gladys	Mikel	243.56	Sheila	Naylor	128.04	Ruth	Goodpasture	103.55
Susan	Fraser	239.4	Greg	Saunders	127.63	Alina	Grier	102.48
Joe	Sacco	230.47	Nancy	Turner	120.23	Donna	Brown	102.41
Colleen	Treanor	226.7	Ethel	Levine	119.65	Gordon	Pfeiffer	102.35
			Sue	Frisch	117.67			

## MOST CLUB POINTS IN 2018

OVER 1,000 MASTER POINTS			300 – 999 MASTER POINTS			UNDER 300 MASTER POINTS		
Jeff	Koltenuk	421.77	Alex	Birman	175.1	Don	Schreifels	95.04
Charles	Showalter	382.46	Mike	Kwiatkowski	105.96	Jim	Strazzere	94.54
Dave	Hudson	346.75	Donna	Brown	101.54	Gordon	Pfeiffer	93.55
Paul	Hassett	325.23	David	Michaelson	99.43	Joe	Bosch	90.98
Russ	Pearly	289.18	Margaret	Sarno	98.55	Jack	Franklin	89.64
Joe	Sacco	285.94	Michael	Lotti	95.99	Eric	Voss	89.27
Rich	Seidman	284.42	Larry	Abramovitz	94.68	Harry	Freedman	85.07
Philip	Benner	270.24	Joseph	Ogi	87.51	Nancy	McAnnally	84.63
Gladys	Mikel	263	Ruth	McCann	85.64	Ralph	Rosenfeld	84.48
Jon	Williams	260.63	Doug	Smith	81	Nancy	Rosenfeld	56.53
Beverly	Parrish	258.57	Mary	Rowe	77.26	Bernie	Carleton	55.71
Ed	Schusler	252.69	Karen	Pekkanen	76.58	George	Mast	55.09
Carolyn	Benner	232.1	Gail	Singer	70.39	Eileen	Rush	54.68
Andy	Sloan	220.79	Patricia	Holmes	66.98	Bob	Martin	54.55
Frances	Doss	195.47	Dave	Harris	65.23	Harry	Brady	54.27
Gina	Treanor	189.57	Sandy	Ainsworth	65.19	Nancy	Turner	54.06
Colleen	Fraser	184.47	Lynn	Patterson	63.23	Kelley	Dryden	53.15
Susan	Matthews	177.74	Deb	Brunoehler	63.2	LaVonne	Williams	52.61
Janet	Booke	173.76	Barry	Dexter	61.81	Susan	Mast	51.47
Alex	Booke	173.51	Richard	Gauthier	61.16	Pamela	Nettelbeck	51.09
Sandy								

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## BUCK BUCHANAN'S PHOTO CONTEST

In the August issue of the newsletter, we announced a photo contest, and invited people to send in photos of themselves in their twenties. We said we would then publish these and there would be a prize for the person who successfully guessed the most people.

We weren't sure how this would be received, and were surprised at the large number of photos we received. There were so many that we weren't able to publish all of them, for which we apologize. Two women promised to send pictures of themselves in a bikini, but as of yet, we haven't received any.

At any rate, we have published the photos of nine bridge players. You are invited to send in who you think they may be. Please email them to [buckandmauri@aol.com](mailto:buckandmauri@aol.com).

There will be a prize for the person who guesses the highest number of bridge players. Pat and I haven't decided what this prize will be. The Board will help us with our decision. But, you will certainly receive the "honor" of winning!

Please continue to send in photos. We might have another photo contest in a future issue.

Pictures are on page 13. Due to a mechanical error, there are no numbers under pictures 7,8 and 9. Please put those numbers in your reply.





Number 1



m

Number 2



Number 3



Number 4



Number 5



Number 6





## AUTOBIO OF MARGARET SARNO



I first started playing bridge when I was in high school; my older (10 years older) brother taught me how to play. I continued to play in college, between classes or during a study break, just a lot of fun hands. I went to Michigan State University majoring in Art.

When I got a job at United Airlines, there was no time to play. I traveled a lot. One of my trips was to Japan, Hong Kong, Taipei, Bangkok, and Hawaii. In Hong Kong the love of my life found me, my now husband Mike. He was stationed in Vietnam in the Marine Corps. After our long distance romance, we married and had 2 girls while living in Livonia, Michigan, near Detroit.

My art creations have been in several different media: oil painting, watercolor, mixed media, and pastels, and then I got started making jewelry when we were still living in Michigan. Most of you have seen some of my jewelry creations.

Our daughters went to George Washington University in DC, and the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA. They married and now live in Georgia and Virginia. We now have 6 grandchildren and 6 grand cats.

From Michigan, we moved to North Carolina for 5 years then to The Villages. I wanted to play bridge again, so I started a Friendly Bridge group at Bacall Recreation Center on Monday afternoons. Then Janet Matthews, my neighbor, wanted me to try duplicate. So another friend, Merle, and I went to our first try at duplicate. We were so nervous and made so many mistakes; we made Janet buy us a drink! After taking some more bridge lessons, I tried duplicate again, and now, of course, I am hooked.

After 11 years, Merle and I are still running the Friendly Bridge group at Bacall on Mondays. It has been a very popular game through the years for all different levels of bridge players. Many players have moved on to the duplicate game, but most of them don't want to change.

This year Mike and I celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. For our party we took our whole family on a cruise to Nassau in May. We enjoyed being all together. The family picture was taken on our cruise.

(Thanks, Margaret, for sharing your wonderful life story with us. You and Mike have such a beautiful family!)

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## NEIL AND VERENA TIMM

Neil and Verena Timm settled full-time in The Villages in 2004, but bought their first home in the year 2000 (at that time golf carts were NOT allowed on the road after dusk). To navigate The Villages you needed a Low Speed Vehicle after dusk.

They were "summer birds" since Neil taught statistics 8 months of the year at University of Pittsburgh in the School of Education and the Department of Statistics for 35 year.

(continued on page 15)



Verena was born in Latrobe, PA and he in Patterson, NJ; Neil moved to California at the age of 10 with his twin sister Sharon. He met Verena on the ski slopes in PA and they have been married since July 17, 1996.

Neil has been playing bridge full time since 2004 and in 2006 as past president of our Bridge Club, he started the club newsletter called “Bridge News”; now Club News. In 2000, he played bridge one day a week at the Paradise Recreation Center. Earl Vibbard was the Director.

Together Neil and Verena enjoy Pattern Partner dancing about 10 times a month, play golf, and pickle ball together. They take annual trips to the Mishnock Barn in Rhode Island to dance. Verena does not play bridge, but enjoys the games of Spades and Triple Play.

Neil attended Helix High School in La Mesa, California where he lettered in football, track, basketball, and wrestling. In the 2016 and 2017 senior games he earned gold, silver and bronze medals in the High Jump and the Triple Jump events in the 75+ categories.

After High School Neil attended UCLA and Berkeley majoring in Mathematics and Statistics. While teaching and writing books in Statistics (Multivariate Analysis and Linear Models) at the University of Pittsburgh, he farmed a 100-acre farm for 10 years. He sowed alfalfa, corn, wheat, and barley; had 120 head of sheep, one horse, two cattle, 100 meat chickens (brown eggs), 20 rabbits, 4 goats, 4 dogs, 6 pigs and 15 barn cats. When the sun was shining, he was sowing his “oats” and bailing hay! The graduate students understood that dissertations and master thesis were on hold. Dr. T (as he was known) was farming!

Currently, Neil and Verena reside in the Village of Gilchrist where they have lived for the last 5 years. He has written bridge books on The Two-Over-One Game Force System (6<sup>th</sup> edition) and Precision Simplified (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). You may visit his bridge website at [www.bridgewebs.com/ocala](http://www.bridgewebs.com/ocala) for bridge Bits, Tips and Lessons. He also has several lessons on our Village website under the “Education” tab.

His next lesson will be on Interfering over Strong and Weak Notrumps scheduled for **October 16, 2018** at the Odell Recreation Center. Also discussed in the bridge lesson will be a discussion of conventions for interfering over the Precision Club convention.

(Thanks, Neil, for sharing your interesting life story with us.)

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**The Villages 499er NLM Sectional** is scheduled for November 16—18. Good luck to all!

We hope **Lou Fischer** is doing well. He was taken to Ocala Hospital in September. Our thoughts and prayers are with **Lou and Babs**. If you wish to send a card, their home address is 2603 Landale Loop, The Villages, FL 32162-5093

It has been reported that **Maureen and Sam Ottenlips** had a 76.98% game in the Friday night Newcomers section at Laurel Manor on September 14. WOW! This feat will give all of our newcomers a boost!

Please check the **Milestone** link on our website for rank changes. There are some notable achievements!



Does anyone recognize this bridge player that came to the table eating health foods and wearing a nice shirt???????

(submitted by Margaret Sarno)

## **TOURNAMENT RESULTS**

### **ORLANDO SECTIONAL JULY 20—23**

4.81 James Gould    4.81 Guy Emmons    2.81 Carol Ketterer    1.41 Kristie Carter    1.41 Gail Singer

### **2018 SUMMER NABC, ATLANTA, GA JULY 25—AUGUST 5**

63.75 Ed Schusler	63.75 Al Simpson	15.82 Janet Matthews	13.71 Terry Oleske
13.12 Jon Greenspan	10.77 Paul Matheson	9.94 Ed Schwartz	7.20 Michael Kwiatkowski
7.20 Gordon Pfeiffer	6.25 Rebecca Riehl	6.25 Diane Guffey	3.28 Sheila Naylor
3.28 Roger Flickinger	3.28 Judy Flickinger	3.28 Bill Lau	2.94 Charlie Showalter
1.95 David Hudson	1.69 Bob Matthews	1.15 Lucy Tillman	.96 Leon Zaczek
.96 Bruce Thiher	.41 Doris Reeves		

### **DELAND 299ers SECTIONAL, DELAND, FL AUGUST 1—AUGUST 2**

7.31 Nancy McAnnually	7.31 Jim Strazzere	2.56 Nancy Turner	2.56 Cathy Thomas
2.53 George Mast	2.53 Susan Mast	2.27 Vernon Sikora	2.27 Sharon Kruger
2.16 Barb Ryburn	1.84 Betty Jane Chiota	1.83 Barbara Neri	1.83 Bruce Neri
1.72 Carlyn Bryan	1.70 Kathryn Bentley	1.70 Connie Goldfarb	1.51 Marty Smith
1.51 Bob Smith	1.40 Don Schreifels	.93 Teri Weed	.93 Anita Piotrowski
.70 Joyce Knapp	.70 Betty Einstman	.54 Ted DiCorpo	.54 Jo DiCorpo
.49 Sally Yoder	.49 Mary Ann Kowalski	.44 Nancy Brickley	.44 Marcia Paholski
.40 Joe Bosch	.40 Barbara Nelson	.39 Gail Hudon	.39 Barbara Knight

### **DESERT EMPIRE REGIONAL SCOTTSDALE, AZ AUGUST 13—19**

17.27 Philip Benner    17.27 Carolyn Benner    6.78 Sheila Naylor    6.78 John Quinn

### **HUNT VALLEY REGIONAL HUNT VALLEY, MD AUGUST 13—19**

60.02 Sandra Gebhardt

### **UPSTATE NY DISTRICT 4 REGIONAL LIVERPOOL, NY AUGUST 13—19**

5.25 Dale Marx

### **SUMMER REGIONAL PALM BEACH GARDEN AUGUST 20—26**

17.87 R Douglas Smith	17.87 Donald Schreifels	13.24 Victoria Adams	13.24 Lawrence Adams
6.63 Sheila Naylor	6.63 Bill Lau	2.55 Kelley Dryden	2.55 Joyce Jackson
1.89 Margaret Sarno	1.89 Arlene McIntosh		

## MILWAUKEE SUMMER REGIONAL MILWAUKEE, WI AUGUST 21—26

11.63 Colleen Treanor

## OCEAN STATE REGIONAL WARWICK, RI AUGUST 28—SEPTEMBER 2

1.80 Carolee Litwinka

## DAYTONA BEACH SECTIONAL SEPTEMBER 13—16

7.92 Gordon Pfeiffer	6.27 Michael Kwiatkowski	2.92 Barry Dexter	2.41 Susan Schrand
2.43 Jeff Power	2.36 Paul Matheson	1.87 Wilson Rivera	1.87 Dick Stieglitz
1.47 Dolford Payne	1.47 Charlotte Oconner	1.46 Leroy Antetomaso	1.45 Jeffrey Bond
1.10 Sally Yoder	1.10 Dotti Williams	.81 Edward Schwartz	.81 Charles Showalter

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On September 22, a fantastic picture of **Pat Holmes and her husband Mike** appeared in *The Daily Sun*. They were shown exploring Mendenhall Glacier, Alaska, in August.

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A Warren Buffett quote: “The more you learn, the more you earn.” Masterpoints????? Check out the educational programs on our website!

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**UPDATE ON SUE FRISCH MEMORIAL SERVICE:** We were first told there would likely be a Memorial Service honoring Sue’s life. We are now learning that may not occur. **Addy Adler** has talked with Sue Frisch’s son, Andrew, and he very much appreciates the caring friendships Sue developed here and all the kindnesses those friends and neighbors showed during her illness.

For those who wish to do so, he said cards and thoughts of condolences can be sent to Sue’s home address (2020 Peaceful Place, The Villages 32162) as that mail will be forwarded to him or send directly to him at Andrew Frisch, 9 Hidden Wood Path, Lincoln, MA 01773. A few people have indicated they wish to make a donation in Sue’s name. Andrew said that her all time favorite charity was The American Red Cross.

**Kathy Berman** has also talked to Andrew. Andrew would appreciate sending him any pictures you have of Sue. **Ruth Srulevitch** has also been instrumental in getting a lot of information out to many of Sue’s friends.

**Buck and Mauri** sent a note of condolence: “Sue Frisch died September 13 following an operation for a massive brain tumor at Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa. Sue was my regular Monday and Wednesday night partner, as well as being a close personal friend to Mauri and myself. Sue was a Ruby Life Master, but what I will remember about her is her warm and sunny nature. As a partner, I can’t remember a single instance when she criticized me, plus she always laughed at my many mistakes.

Sue moved to The Villages five years ago from Columbia, Maryland. She told me her husband was her best friend, but he unfortunately died in 2001. Despite this loss and several other tragedies, Sue never lost her warm and loving nature. She was always kind and considerate and was always laughing. Mauri and I will both miss her.”

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**CLUB NEWS REPORTERS:** Margaret Sarno, Jim Strazzere, Nancy Jaffe, Leon Zaczek, Co-editors: Buck Buchanan and Pat Poitinger.

Page 18 has one of **Neil Timm’s –What is your agreement?**

## What is your agreement? A bridge Tip

By Neil H. Timm

The bidding goes 1♥/1♠ - Pass - 1NT (7-12 HCP) which is announced as forcing. And you have 10+ HCP and want to compete, what is your agreement?

While some may play all bids as natural, sometimes you need a way to show hands that are widely varying in strength or two suited. A cleaver way is to switch some bids, which allows one to compete in the fourth position. Using the Useful Space Principle, one may employ the Aleksandr **Vasilevsky** Convention.

In the above forcing 1NT sequence, your bids are:

Dbl	transfer to clubs, 5/6+ cards
2♣	transfer to diamonds, 5/6+cards
2♦	transfer to the un-bid major, 5/6+ cards
2M their major	good, distributional takeout “double” & 4+other Major
2M un-bid major	weaker takeout double, guaranteeing 4/5+ cards
2NT	distributional takeout for the minors, 5-5
3♣/3♦	natural but shows 6m-4M, with 4 in the un-bid major

Let’s see how it works. The bidding goes 1♥ - Pass - 1NT-? And you hold:

♠Q10654 ♥A5 ♦9 ♣KJ1076

Double shows clubs. If opener passes and partner bids 2♣, you next bid 2♠, showing a two-suited 5-5 hand. If you were 6-4 in clubs and spades, you would bid 3♣.

♠AJ52 ♥7 ♦AK74 ♣A1065

Bid 2♠ (their major), a strong take-out double that shows 4+ spades. With a weak hand, bid 2♥ (un-bid major).