

Thank you for the accolades on my new ranking.

I began learning bridge in the 60's from my mother and her bridge club in Wyoming, Ohio. I played in college and on weekends with my husband's parents. Later my husband and I played while serving our country in the Air Force. I took a break while teaching elementary school and raising 2 children while serving our country.

When I retired from teaching in 2010 I found The Bridge House just a little late as I hit the new requirements for obtaining Life Master. I have been playing ever since loving the competitive sport of bridge. It has challenged my mind and fostered many new friendships. Being used to travel with the Air Force helped me think nothing of going away for 4-5 days to regional events. So here I am still chipping away during this pandemic playing online as much as I can.

Now, how can you help us? Continue the regional events paying gold, but make it regional, not worldwide as suggested in one of the letters to the editor in this month's bridge magazine. Up the points for gold dust play. We are stuck at home for at least 6 more months or more with this pandemic. I am not sure I will feel safe playing at a table at all in 2021. It is too dangerous, and many are not willing to get the vaccine.

So here I am with 24 more elusive gold points to try to get when winning section top pays only 1.53 which my partner and I have done twice. I realize at 71 it is not going to happen as ACBL has made it seemingly impossible. I will not pay someone like others to play with me as others are doing in my club.

In closing I am having so much fun playing online. I can accept this will be my last move up. Have a great 2021. Thank you for all that you do!

Kay Swanson