

The Kibitzer

Newsletter for Duplicate Bridge Players

ACBL Unit 360

Nov-Dec, 2021



Annual Meeting of the Unit 360 Membership

WHEN: December 11, 2021

WHERE: At the Bridge Center

START: 11:30 am. After the meeting there will be a bridge game. This game will be stratified and will be a STaC Game with Silver points.

FEE: \$5.00

All players are Welcome.* Beginner's, 99'ers, 299'ers, 499'ers and Open players.

A committee (Shari Carnelli, Jeff Rapp, Linda Nicholos and Ann Couch) will be organizing snacks, coffee and drinks for this meeting. Please contact someone on the committee or sign up at the Bridge Center to let them know that you are planning to attend.

AGENDA:

1. Introduce members of the Board of Directors
2. Unit 360 Treasurer's report
3. Recognition of new Life Masters and other awards

(*Unit 360's standard Covid protocols apply).

Achievements:

Regional Master (100 pts):

Joan Morris

NABC Master (200 pts):

Sally Donaldson

Brett L. Hulet

David Loring

Advanced NABC Master (300 pts):

Jodi Wyss

Silver Life Master (1,000 pts):

Susan Benbow

Michael R. Hellman

Sam Taylor

Patricia Towle

Al Walsh

Ruby Life Master (1,500 pts):

Bill Longfellow

BJ McNamara

Gold Life Master (2,500 pts):

Virginia C. Moore

Platinum Life Master (10,000 pts):

Dennis Goldston

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Come on Back!

Unit 360 continues to progress toward the goal of being able to return to normal . . . but we are not there yet. That doesn't mean we haven't made significant progress, however. We are up and running, and table counts are rising steadily. More and more of our Bridge family members are again enjoying F2F Bridge at the Bridge Center. We are continuing to follow our COVID-19 protocols rigorously, and while we remain vigilant and committed to protecting one another, we have altered our rules to take into account changed circumstances. Some of you may not be aware of these changes.

For example, we have done away with the mandatory mask rule, and even though you still must be fully vaccinated to participate in all activities at the Bridge Center, you now have the option of showing your COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card, OR signing the Unit 360 certification form. Both of these are ONE-TIME requirements. If you have been hesitant about coming back to the Bridge Center, we urge you to consider returning. We have missed you!

. . . And what better opportunity than the Election Game on Saturday, December 11, 2021? Not only will this be a STaC game (with Silver points up for grabs), there will be refreshments AND the chance to meet the 2022 Board of Directors. You will also be able hear the Treasurer's report and learn about our 2022 goals as well as join us in honoring our new Life Masters and other award recipients.

So . . . "Come On Back!" We hope to see you soon!

--Howard Donaldson and Bud Raabe

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Although 2021 has been a particularly challenging time for Unit 360, it is time to reflect on the positives and look forward to 2022.

It is great to see people back at the Bridge Center playing with their friends and enjoying the game of bridge. Weekly table counts have increased from an average of 28 in August to an average of 56 in November. We look forward to the weekly table counts continuing to increase. We hope to see an increase in the number of new players and the return of some of our long-time players.

Thank you for cooperating with the COVID protocols that were implemented at the Bridge Center. We have over two hundred players on the list of players that are fully vaccinated. Each week we are adding players to this list.

I wish everyone a Happy Holiday season. Stay healthy! Let us make 2022 a fun time for playing bridge in Southern Colorado.

See you at the bridge table.

-Bud Raabe

A letter from Unit 360's Treasurer:

Nov. 12, 2021

Dear Bridge Members,

It's been a tough two years for Unit 360. In 2020, we not only lost lives, but we were in the hole \$6,885. In 2021 to date, we have lost \$12,612. Fortunately, we had saved enough in our Building Fund to cushion these losses and also make much needed repairs to our parking lot as well as other small maintenance items due on our building. But our security funds are dwindling.

We are now facing tough economic times and lingering Covid issues. Our numbers are down at the clubs, and we are still losing money. The Board took a long hard look at the Budget proposals for 2022 and made some tough decisions.

With a goal of 3200 tables for 2022, the following is an example of what our Budget would look like:

Income	\$24,142
Expenses	38,542
Net Loss	-\$14,400

Therefore, we needed to add to our income to balance our budget. Beginning January 1, 2022, we are increasing playing fees to \$6. The Directors are also doing their part in taking a rent decrease of 50 cents per table. Please note that the Board is doing all we can to increase table count, and we are confident that these increases will be TEMPORARY.

This is what our approved budget looks like: (If you would like a detailed budget, please contact me at lnicholos@gmail.com.)

Income	\$38,542
Expenses	38,542
Net Loss	-0-

You can do your part by playing at the club and encouraging your friends to play as well. Our focus is to bring new players into the club, and you will be hearing about our plans soon.

Thank you.

Linda Nicholos, Treasurer

BRIDGE ACADEMY IS COMING!

The Bridge Center Board has created a bold and exciting new initiative in an effort to increase membership, enrich the bridge experience of existing and prospective members, and attract new players to the world of bridge. The **Bridge Academy**, under the auspices of the Bridge Center, will be under the leadership of John Dukellis, the new Director of Bridge Education.

In January, John will introduce a new curriculum of bridge classes that is sure to include "Learning Bridge for Beginners," plus a logical assortment of classes for intermediate and advanced players. In addition, he will be updating our Bridge Center webpage to include more complete information on conventions.

John is requesting help from our membership for several important things – first, if you know of anyone who plays bridge but has not played at the Bridge Center or has not returned to the Center recently, please give him their names and contact information. Second, if you are aware of anyone who would like to learn how to play bridge, or improve their bridge games through classes, please refer them to him at johndukellis@comcast.net.

Finally, the Bridge Academy, with the help of Kathy Nimz and Fred Cannon, will be starting an outreach campaign in order to attract more learners and players. After the holidays John will be asking you to help publicize this in various ways – through Next Door, Facebook, flyers to the organizations in which you are a member, etc.

Thanks for your help as we launch the Bridge Academy and pull out all the stops to make our Bridge Center even more exciting and valuable than it already is!

-Fran Pilch

UNIT 360 ELECTION RESULTS

Voting in the 2021 Unit 360 Board of Directors election concluded on November 1, 2021. Our members re-elected three incumbents to serve new two-year terms: Bonnie Bagley, Bud Raabe and Robin Spaulding. One new member--David Loring--was elected.

These Board Members will be formally introduced at the Election Game on

Saturday, December 11, and will serve their two-year BOD terms January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023.

One incumbent member--Shari Carnelli--decided not to seek re-election this year. The Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to thank Shari for serving 4 years on the BOD and for her significant contributions to Unit 360 and recognize her legacy of excellence, selfless service and dedication.

-Bud Raabe

UPCOMING SECTIONALS

Plan now for our 2022 Unit 360 Tournaments.

Tentatively scheduled for 2022 (pending ACBL approval)



299er Winter Sectional

Saturday and Sunday February 26 & 27

at the Unit 360 Bridge Center



Unit 360 Spring Sectional

Thursday Evening April 21 at the Unit 360 Bridge Center

Friday – Sunday April 22 - 24

at the Colorado Springs Masonic Lodge



Unit 360 Fall Sectional

Thursday Evening September 8 at the Unit 360 Bridge Center

Friday – Sunday September 9 - 11

at the Colorado Springs Masonic Lodge

Put these dates on your calendar.

Help is needed and appreciated – please contact Bonnie Bagley

719-593-0205 or bon1bon@comcast.net

-Bonnie Bagley

Bridge Jokes

I have a friend who wants to get over his fear of trolls, but he'll cross that BRIDGE when he gets to it.

East: Every night when I go to bed I think about all the mistakes I made playing bridge that day.

West: Gee, how do you ever get any sleep?

Non-Bridge Joke

A man and a woman who have never met before find themselves in the same sleeping carriage of a train. After the initial embarrassment they both go to sleep, the man on the top bunk, the woman on the lower.

In the middle of the night the man leans over, wakes the woman and says, "I'm sorry to bother you, but I'm awfully cold and I was wondering if you could possibly get me another blanket?"

The woman leans out and, with a glint in her eye, says, "I have a better idea, just for tonight, let's pretend that we're married."

The man says happily, "OK! AWESOME!"

The woman says, "GOOD --- get your own darn blanket!!"

(from www.jokesoftheday.net)

The Kibitzer is published 4 to 6 times a year by the Colorado Springs Bridge Center, Unit 360 of the American Contract Bridge League. Our unit is dedicated to the enjoyment and promotion of the game of duplicate bridge in the Pikes Peak region. News contributions and comments can be emailed to the editor Kay Brock at kay.brock@yahoo.com