

The Kibitzer

Newsletter for Duplicate Bridge Players

ACBL Unit 360

Fall, 2024



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I wish to celebrate the increased energy and ideas that have come forth recently. This includes the idea and follow through energy that started with Fran Pilch, John Dukellis and Phoebe Lostroh that resulted in the successful Robert Todd Workshop. Likewise, it includes the idea and energy for the Four Score Plus Ten Celebration that began with Lorna Perkins.

Also included is the energy and friendship being shown by our newest members in the 0-20 and 0-50 games which has been noticed and is to be celebrated. Certainly, the Board of Directors and the Game Directors are important parts of a successful Unit. But equally important is an energized Unit membership. I encourage people to continue to come forward with ideas and energy and to have a good time at the Bridge Center.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING GAME: Annual Meeting

The Annual Membership Meeting and Game will be held on Saturday, December 14. The schedule will be lunch beginning at 11:30, awards, reports and Board inductions beginning at 12:00, and a Unit Game starting at 12:30. There will be no charge for lunch or for the game. Please come to this annual event. The hope is to see as many members as possible this year.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON GAME: BECKY GILBERT

My main goal for our Thursday afternoon game is to create a fun and pleasant environment for everyone. I love contributing to this by bringing desserts like cake, peach crisp, apple crisp, and date bread. If you have any (dessert) suggestions, I'd be happy to hear them!

To ensure everyone enjoys the game, I want to remind you of our Zero Tolerance policy. In case you're unfamiliar with the policy, it's posted on the Thursday bulletin board for your reference. As bridge players, we share the

Achievements:

Junior Master (5 pts):

Laurine Smith
Virginia Hallberg

New Club Master (20 pts):

Torrie Smith
Christine Blackwell

New Regional Master (x pts):

Cindy Gallagher

Sectional Master (50 pts):

Pat Atkinson

NABC Master (200 pts):

Advanced NABC Master (300 pts):

Life Master: (500 pts)

Bronze Life Master (750 pts):

Ruby Life Master (1500 pts):

Sapphire Life Master (3500 pts):

Diamond Life Master (5000 pts):

Don Patterson

responsibility of maintaining a positive atmosphere by behaving respectfully.

If any issues arise at your table, please don't hesitate to contact the director right away. When there is a bridge rules infraction, players call the director immediately and the issue is resolved. The same should be true of social infractions. If players call right away the issue can be resolved. Thank you for helping to make our games enjoyable for all!

ACBL Unit 360 Board of Directors Candidates 2025-2027

There are four candidates for four vacancies on the Board of Directors. Originally, there were five candidates, but one has withdrawn. As a result, we will not have an election. Instead, we will have introductions and induction of the new board members at the Annual Membership meeting on December 14th.

Pictures and candidate write ups are shown below.

Ed Gardner



Having grown up in a family that enjoyed cut-throat Hearts, at college I watched the nearly constant bridge game, eventually attempting to play. I still remember my first time. I think it was the third hand, I was dealt 28 HCP. I whimpered and said "Help". Told to just bid 3NT, it wasn't hard to make. I've never seen that good a hand since. I later worked in a group that always had lunchtime bridge, as many as four tables. One player and I

decided to try a local duplicate game, played once a week for most of 1979. Then I was transferred to Colorado and stopped playing but enjoyed reading Bridge columns. About nine years ago my wife suggested we visit the Bridge Center; we've been playing ever since.

In the early 70's I took three years off from school to work for what today would be called a start-up. Except that term hadn't been invented yet, nor had today's venture capital financing. I subsequently worked for Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC), which relocated me from New England to Colorado. As DEC started to fail I was among those "sold" to Quantum, a disk drive manufacturer (now part of Seagate). I later worked briefly for a true start-up based in Milpitas. We were about to get venture funding when the entire computer storage industry reported bad quarterly results. Despite their lack of success, both start-up experiences were easily the most enjoyable of my work career.

Claudia Busch Lee



I learned bridge as a young adult and started playing duplicate bridge 2.5 years ago. Since that time, I have developed a passion for the game and discovered a community of kind, caring and competitive colleagues who have supported and challenged me on this journey.

I own Catalyst Consulting, Inc. and have provided Leadership and Team Development training and Executive Coaching for the last 30 years. In my work, I stress the value of continual learning and bridge certainly helps me to constantly practice what I preach. Prior to this career, I was a Marriage and Family Therapist.

I am currently completing a 4 year term on the Board of Kidpower Colorado, where children and teens (and their families) learn safety skills and tools to avoid bullying, abduction and abuse. I am the editor of the Kibbitzer and would be honored to serve on the Board.

Dave Loring



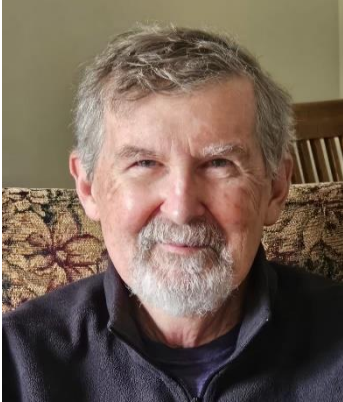
I worked as a leadership coach and consultant focusing on individual, team, and organizational development for over thirty years. I received my bachelor's degree in History and American Studies from the University of Notre Dame and a master's degree in Organizational Development from Loyola University in Chicago.

My wife, Ellen, and I have been married almost 49 years and have two married children and two grandchildren who live in Chicago. Ellen also enjoys playing bridge in our Bridge Center.

I started playing bridge in college, and after I graduated, life got in the way. I began again in November, 2017, when I found the Bridge Center where I've made some wonderful new friendships and improved my bridge playing (I'm on the verge of becoming a life master :)

I served on our Board for two years, 2022-2023, having the responsibility of being Hospitality Director. I enjoyed relaunching out Mentor Program, helping to run our Sectionals, contributing to the decisions of the Board, serving on various Board subcommittees, (and even hunting for mice :)

I took a year off and decided to run again, in part because Ellen and I have continued to work on hospitality and because I think I Can help the Bridge Center be even more effective. Thanks for considering my candidacy.



Bob Wagstaff

I am running for re-election to the Board of Directors. During the past two years I have served as Vice-President and as President. I have enjoyed my time on the board and have been pleased to see the increase in energy and participation by the membership. I hope to see both continue.

The Board of Directors and the game directors have key functions in a unit. Equally important are the individuals who come forward with ideas and who perform the behind the scenes tasks. That participation contributes significantly to a successful unit.

I have lived in Colorado Springs since 1984 and have been retired for 10 years. My employment was as an administrator and as a psychotherapist having worked at The Myron Stratton Home, Penrose-St. Francis Hospitals and in private practice.

Robert Todd Day

On August 6, 2024, our bridge club hosted world class bridge professional Robert Todd. Robert Todd gave a class on Slam Bidding Broadly Defined. Following his class, a fabulous lunch, organized by Jodi Wyss (assisted by Murlene Williams and Maureen Tuttle) was served. The afternoon events consisted of a 24-hand game, directed by Tom Goings, and a Q&A on hands from that game by Mr. Todd. About 100 players attended. The event was well publicized by many members, including Sandy Bateman and Bob Somppi, and Jeff Rapp created exciting e-blasts! Robert really enjoyed his time with us and has expressed enthusiasm for a return visit.

Robert Todd will be the Teaching Bridge Pro on a bridge cruise out of Galveston, February 23-March 3. This is a Regional at Sea, which means that Gold Points are available. Very reasonably priced, the cruise is on Royal Caribbean's Harmony of the Seas, a luxurious new ship that will visit Cozumel, Costa Maya, and Roatan. But hurry – reservations are going fast. Call Alice Travel at 888-816-2457 for reservations and further information. If we book ten staterooms, each person will receive a \$50 credit, if they identify themselves as Colorado Springs Bridge Club.

FOURSCORE PLUS TEN CELEBRATION

Wednesday, October 16th we had a celebration of longevity by honoring Unit 360 members and Senior Center Social Bridge group members who are Fourscore Plus Ten years old. Lorna Perkins had originated the idea for the event and had worked with a committee including Bonnie Bagley, Murlene Williams, Jodi Wyss and Bob Wagstaff in planning the event.

The ACBL Bridge Bulletin has agreed to publish a short article, and a write-up will be submitted to the District 17 newsletter as well. Thanks to Lorna for the creative idea.

MENTOR PROGRAM UPDATE

PAUL GEFREH

This year the club's mentor program has been very successful. We have had 9 different Mentors volunteer their time and nine different mentees, with one doing a repeat. I want to thank all the mentors who have participated, and I have received positive feedback from the mentees. If anyone would like to volunteer to be a mentor please contact me. If anyone would like to have a mentor, please contact me.

DIAMOND LIFE MASTER DON PATTERSON

Don Patterson has achieved his Diamond Life Master which requires 5000 Master Points with all the color points associated. This is certainly a big achievement. Congratulations Don!!!!

BOOK SHELVES MAVEN

KATHY NIMZ

Kathy Nimz has taken over organizing the two sets of bookshelves in the back of the room. The shelves behind the door have books and puzzles. The shelves on the back wall contain bridge books organized from beginner to advance. Have a look and see if something might interest you. Thanks, Kathy, for volunteering.

DISTRICT 17 REPRESENTATIVE

KAY BROCK

Kay Brock is the new District 17 Representative. She replaces Bill Curtis in that position. She will represent Unit 360 and the Fort Collins unit. Congratulations Kay

**MARK
YOUR CALENDAR!**



Denver Sectional November 1 - 3

Tucson 749er Regional November 21 - 23

Las Vegas NABC November 28 - December 8

Palm Springs Regional December 9 - 14

Kansas City Regional December 26 - 31

Denver Sectional January 10 - 12

Phoenix (Chandler) 749er Regional January 16 - 18

Albuquerque Regional January 20 - 26

Colorado Springs Sectional February 5 - 8

Colorado Springs 499er Sectional February 22 - 23

Tucson Regional- February 25-March 1

Denver Sectional March 7-9

Gatlinburg Regional April 21-27

Colorado Springs Sectional May 1-4

Denver Renaissance Regional May 20-26

PRETEND YOU JUST FINISHED THANKSGIVING DINNER

1. *Push your chairs in* please when you leave the table
2. **TAKE BOARDS AND PLACEMATS** to the Director's Table
3. *If anyone is using a walker or a cane, ask if you can carry their dishes to the kitchen*
4. Look around and clean up whatever you notice
- 5. THANK YOU**

Your Editor, who was raised by a very strict German mother



Friday A.M. 299er D JANE VAGGE - JOAN NEWHOUSE



BOB HARWARD - JIM HURLEY Friday, August 30th 73.88%



Saturday 299er A.M. D, E MARK BISHOP - PAT ATKINSON



JODI WYSS - JIM WYSS Tuesday Morning, July 23 72.50%



Friday A.M. 299er F SANDY BRIGHTWELL - CHRYS FOTENAS



Friday Open Pairs A ROBERT LUPTON - SUNG MAE BLECK



MARGIE SCHRADER - MEL LEVINE Friday, July 5th 70.08%



MARY ELIZABETH RUWELL - ED GARDNER Tuesday 499er, September 17th 70.47%



Robert Todd and fans



Saturday Open Pairs A BONNIE BAGLEY - JOHN DUKELLIS



Saturday Open Pairs B, C CHRIS STEURI - LAURIE STEURI



Sunday Bracketed Teams II WILT COOPER - SUNG MAE BLECK - KEVIN STANSBURY - LIND ENDCOTT



Sunday Bracketed Teams III BOB WAGSTAFF - MARK BISHOP - SALLY DONALDSON - DAVID LORING



Thursday Swiss Teams A, B ED TEXEL - FRED CANNON - DOROTHY HYDEN - LEE BROWN



Thursday Swiss Teams C DON WASHBURN - JEAN WASHBURN - CAROL RAABE - BUD RAABE



299er Friday P.M. D, E, F ANDREW and ANNE Maverick Friday A.M.



Happy Birthday John Dukellis



Aug. 27 71.03% game Sharon Kruse and Sandy Coggeshall



Happy Birthday Tom Goings!



Lorna Perkins, organizer extraordinaire, cutting the cake

Fourscore plus Ten Celebration:



Helen Kosley, Kay Malowney, Charles Lewis, Audrey Comford, Inna Malyshev, Jane Rothwell, Mary Gollehon, Margie Schrader, Mel Levine, Pat Hughes, Jeanne Downing

The Kibitzer is published several 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 and Southeastern Colorado region. News contributions and comments can be emailed to the editor Claudia Busch Lee at claudiabuschlee@gmail.com

