

THE KIBITZER

Colorado Springs, Colorado www.bridgewebs.com/coloradosprings/

Upcoming Events

Elections – Please see article below

GNTs – Please see Bonnie Bagley's article and the page of information attached

In Memoriam

In the year since the Bridge Center has been closed we have not had access to our white board so we wanted to remember those who have passed during that time. (These are the ones of which we are aware. Please forgive us if there is someone has been omitted).

Marion Brockett
 Jim Cole
 Joan Hazard
 Dennis Kruse
 Beverly Montgomery
 Donna Murray
 Mike Nussbaum
 Nick Olberding
 Marion Peterson
 Romie Sachs
 Martha Schwab
 Carol Stanton
 Bill Viott
 Elaine West-Fry

President's Message

"Since I'm never going to be an outstanding bridge player, I should always try to be an outstanding bridge partner"

This is a quote I found on the District 17 Web page by Larry over a year ago. I don't have a last name. I've been thinking of this since going online has changed bridge for many players. I no longer play with several of my regular partners as they are not online or Virtual Club players so I have started playing with several new partners. Before I played 2 Over 1. I now play Standard American with a new partner. One of my partners has added some new conventions of which I now feel very comfortable. It took time and before each game I would review them. I realized the other day that she made a conventional bid and I right away knew how to respond. My game is growing.

I think when we return F2F (the newest bridge code for face to face) some will find their previous partner is not ready to play at the Bridge Center. Looking for a new partner is not always easy. Once we return we all need to help everyone who wants to play to get back at the table. I look forward to seeing you all in person instead of chatting on line. Right now we don't know when that will be. Most important is we stay safe. See you at the table either online or F2F.

I am retiring from the board after the election. It has been a pleasure to serve the last 4 years as Vice President and then President. I am currently studying for the Directors exam to be a substitute director when needed. Thank you for all your support.

Karen

Re-Opening the Bridge Center?

It seems like every time you talk to a fellow Colorado Springs bridge player one of the subjects that is discussed is "when with the Colorado Springs Bridge Center reopen for F2F (face to face) play?" Most of the members are eager to play at the same card table with their friends and have some good old bridge games together, as in the past. Please be assured that when the Colorado Springs Bridge Center building is reopened for F2F play, we will provide a safe and secure facility for members, directors, club owners and visitors. The plans for reopening will be in accordance with the El Paso Public Health Department guidelines and the ACBL Club Safety Considerations. A Board of Directors Zoom meeting was held on March 9th and the Board of Directors are starting to develop some preliminary reopening plans.

Bud Raabe, Member of Colorado Springs Bridge Center Board of Directors



What are Grand National Teams?

Grand National Teams is a grass roots team competition with the opportunity to become a National Champion competing with your peers.

This year offers an opportunity to compete in the District GNT Finals with no previous qualification required and at the masterpoint level as of August 6, 2019.

This is the year to field a team, play at the District level, win and go on to the National level to compete against the other District winners. If there are 8 teams or more competing in the Flight B & Flight C District Finals, the top two teams may go on.

Why play this year??

There are no travel expenses to a tournament – since tournaments have been canceled through July both the District and National competitions will be online – you can play at home.

District 17 waives the entry fee for the Flight C players (0-500 MPs, non-Life Master) and ACBL waives the entry for Flights A, B & C at the National level for the first two days of competition, D17 pays the entry fees for teams who progress beyond the first two days.

The D17 GNT Finals will be conducted on Bridge Base Online Wednesday, May 26th and Thursday, May 27th. The National Finals start Wednesday, July 14.

For more information contact Bonnie Bagley, D17 GNT Coordinator at bon1bon@comcast.net or 719 593-0205. See attached flyer for more information.

Let's have Unit 360 teams at the National competition in Flight A, Flight B and Flight C!

Election of New Board Members

Greetings to all Colorado Springs Bridge Center Members,

As you know, 2020 was a difficult year for Unit 360. All of us would have enjoyed playing bridge face-to-face but the COVID situation wouldn't allow us to do so. Because of the uncertainty of the situation, the Board of Directors decided to delay the December 2020 Board of Directors election until 2021. The Board members whose terms would have ended December 31, 2020 were asked to continue serving until May 11, 2021.

The plan is to have an election for Board of Directors in April of 2021. The Board members who are leaving the Board May 11, 2021, are Karen Campbell and John Ochsner and we are most grateful for the time and energy they gave. Two of the Board members, Linda Nicholos and Tom Riley, whose terms are ending, have decided to run for re-election. We also have four additional members who have volunteered to be candidates for Board positions: Kay Brock, Fred Cannon, Ann Couch and Howard Donaldson.

This issue of the *Kibitzer* contains a biography and a photo of each candidate. The Board members who are elected at this time will serve a 19 month term — June 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022. There will be another election for Board of Directors in December 2021 in order to replace or re-elect the four board members whose terms are ending December, 2021. Those four board members are: Bonnie Bagley, Shari Carnelli, Bud Raabe and Robin Spaulding.

Since we cannot vote with paper ballots at the Bridge Center, as we have done in the past, we will be sending ballots to members that have email addresses to vote on-line using Survey Monkey. Members who don't have an email address, or who share an email address, or do not want to be contacted by email, will be mailed a paper ballot. The on-line and paper ballot will have voting instructions and will indicate the deadline of May 3rd for returning the ballots.

If you have questions, please contact one of the members of the Election Committee: Jodi Wyss (719-964-9565), Jeff Rapp (719-264-7775) or Bud Raabe (719-510-5213), Election Committee Chairman



Masterpoint Achievements

Many years ago, long before I was a member of ACBL, I played social bridge against a very nice lady who was a Life Master. I was in awe and commented as such. Her response was that anyone with enough time and money could become a Bridge Life Master. I beg to differ. Yes, it does in fact take time and money but you have to want it enough to study, learn, and work. Several of our Unit 360 members have worked and reached new heights in their Masterpoint Awards. And they could do it in their PJs! ***Congratulations to all!!!*** But extra special congrats to Judy Hummel who has reached the rarified Emerald Life Master level requiring 7500 points. Listed below are those who reached new Masterpoint levels with the required number of points in parentheses:

Junior Master (5)

Bob Wagstaff
Dana Zimmerman

Club Master (20)

Kay Brock
Lauren Conlon
James Dawson
Barry Lempert
Richard Lins
Elizabeth Magoon
Joan Newhouse
Ralph Rothstein
Bob Wagstaff
Peggy Yockey

Sectional Master (50)

Sandy Baur
Mark Bishop
Kay Brock
Kathy Clark
Howard Donaldson
Cindi Gallagher
Steve Long
Phoebe Lostroh
Patrick Sheehy
Mary Willman

Regional Master (100)

Scott Laudert
David Loring
Kathy Nimz

NACB Master (200)

Jim Jost
Tom Riley
Robin Spaulding
Jason Thede
Murlene Williams
Jim Wyss

Bronze Life Master (750)

Sara Lynn Thomas

Ruby Life Master (1500)

Gerry Brenner

Gold Life Master (2500)

Linda Harward
Marilee Van Arsdale

Diamond Life Master (5000)

Bill Curtis

Emerald Life Master (7500)

Judy Hummel

Board Candidate Biographies

Kay Brock



Kay Brock is an attorney licensed to practice law in Colorado and Texas. Her specialty is business bankruptcy law and local taxation. She spent her 35 year legal career working for the State of Texas, Travis

County, and the City of Austin. Kay and her husband Brad moved to Colorado Springs from Austin, Texas in June, 2019 to escape the Texas heat, and they love it here. They have three adult children, some of whom occasionally behave like adults. When Kay is not busy playing bridge, she enjoys playing the piano, singing with the Velvet Hills Chorus, reading, embroidering and keeping fit. She also likes to travel and meet people, and she will be very glad when we can all do those things again.

club recover and grow after the Covid pandemic. It is challenging to learn modern bridge bidding and play, meaning I experience many failures, but the encouragement and mentoring of the more advanced players creates an environment that I find very rewarding. All groups need energy and participation to continue and grow and I would like to contribute to the club, if selected.

The challenge going forward, will be to safely reopen the club to in-person play. We must identify and overcome the hurdles, primarily the health concerns, and emphasize the benefits, i.e. the social aspect and in-person lessons. We should also try to identify local people who played bridge online and introduce them to the benefits of our club. I would bring many years of management experience, but also great enthusiasm and pride in our club and membership.

Fred Cannon



I grew up and started my career in financial services operations in Northern California. My last job brought me to Colorado Springs, which I absolutely love. I retired six years ago and to supplement my enjoyment of the great outdoor activities available here, that I

partake in daily, I decided to renew my interest in bridge. The Bridge Club has become an integral source of mental challenge and social interaction that I find very rewarding and I would like to contribute back to the club, if possible, to help the

Ann Couch



I graduated from the University of Arkansas with a B. A. I am also a registered Medical Technologist and have worked in various hospitals. I was an Air Force wife and served on

many volunteer boards during our twenty plus years in the service. I have been a member of our Bridge club since 2007. It has been a wonderful club, and I have met many terrific fellow bridge players. I served on the board at our Bridge Center for four years as treasurer.

(Ann Couch, Continued)

I have volunteered at my church and served there as treasurer for four years. I have been president and treasurer of my local sorority alumnae club. I have been an officer with my local golf league. I am currently an officer with the Pikes Peak Over the Hill Gang. I enjoy participating and giving back to the organizations I am part of. I would be proud to serve at our Bridge Center.

Howard Donaldson



In September 2016, after almost 44 years of federal service that included a little over two years as a US Army Air Defense Artillery lieutenant, over 28 years as a US Air Force judge advocate and nearly 14 years as a civilian attorney working as the Deputy Director and Senior Civilian Counsel for the Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) Office at North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and United States Northern Command, Peterson AFB, Colorado, the position in which he served until he retired.

Howard is a graduate of the University of Nevada (B.S., Secondary Education, Mathematics), and Golden Gate University, School of Law. During his career, he was licensed to practice before the United States Military Court of Criminal Appeals, the Supreme Court of California as well as the United States Supreme Court.

Howard has been an active member of the ACBL and Unit 360 since 2016. Throughout the Pandemic, he has been involved in various COVID-19 response efforts in

El Paso County, and regularly supports Pikes Peak Roundtable, a community service outreach program. In his spare time, he enjoys participating in the Garden of the Gods Club activities, woodworking and playing Bridge.

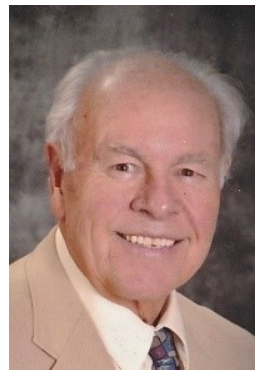
Linda Nicholos



Linda Nicholos is running for her third two-year term on the Bridge Board. She has enjoyed the role of Treasurer and serving the Unit.

Linda and her husband George enjoy playing bridge, reading, boating, traveling, friends, good food, and especially their four grandchildren in Fort Collins.

Tom Riley



It's Pay Back Time

Thomas R. Riley will enjoy serving as your Colorado Springs Bridge Center Board Member.

Janet (my wife) and I started playing duplicate bridge in Ft. Myers, FL. at McGregor Bridge Center many years ago. Our schedule has been such that it has been difficult to play on a regular basis. We are no longer "wintering" in Florida, Mexico or Arizona. We stay in Colorado Springs year-around. I have the time and desire to be your representative.

ACBL District 17

Grand National Teams 2020-2021 Finals

Flights A, B and C ... form your teams and practice *online* now ... *NO club qualification required to compete in the D17 Finals* which will be held online Wednesday and Thursday May 26th and May 27th.



Join the defending 2018-2019 ACBL Championship Flight National GNT Winners at the 2021 National Finals!
Roger Lee, Haig Tchamitch, Daniel Korbel, Sheri Winestock, Fred Gitelman, Geoff Hampson and team mascot, Koda.

Check out the D17 Conditions of Contest:
<https://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/coc/gnt/17.pdf>

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<http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/coc/gnt/GNT2020-21.pdf>

Need more information? Contact D17 GNT Coordinator:
Bonnie Bagley at 719 593-0205 or bon1bon@comcast.net

