



Newsletter

July–September 2021

President's Letter

by Georgette Weiss



Let me introduce myself: I am Georgette Weiss, your new NVBA president. After two tours of combat duty as your president, Marty Bley has stepped down. She has left big shoes for me to fill, but I will try hard to serve you. My first foray into the bridge world was at age 15 when my best friend's mother was desperate for a 3rd and 4th player and sat us down and taught us to play. We were already avid card players, and I found the game fascinating. I would occasionally stand behind my parents and watch them bid and play in their social games. Having played all of one entire afternoon, when I got to college, I taught my roommate and most of the girls on the floor to play. I didn't even know there was a name for finesses; I just did them. After my freshman year I had to stop playing and get serious about my studies. I didn't play again until after I had my first baby. My husband was in graduate school, and I was bored, so I started teaching my friends, all of whom had babies about the same age as mine, how to play bridge. We started a social bridge group, and I started actually learning bridge terms.

My first attempt at duplicate was at age 24. I started playing at Andrews Air Force Base Officers Club occasionally. Fortunately, I had a very patient partner. Unfortunately, we were soon transferred to Florida. I let my ACBL membership lapse while raising my children, but after the 4th child, I started playing duplicate again. Then, after another transfer, I stopped playing duplicate and only played some party bridge. We eventually moved to Korea, and I started teaching now that all my children were in school. I taught Middle School Math and Science. Once I retired, I re-

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newed my ACBL membership and started playing duplicate again. The game really had changed over the 35 or so years since I had last played duplicate. So many new conventions to learn!

Enough about me, and on to the important stuff. We all want to know when we can play face-to-face (FTF) bridge again. I have actually played FTF twice. I played at The Fairfax in Fort Belvoir. The game is in the Community Center of The Fairfax retirement community. Just let the security guard at the gate know you are there to play bridge, and he will direct you to the parking for the Community Center. It felt great to actually see the people I was playing with. If you are looking for an open game right now, I recommend The Fairfax, which is located at the intersection of Rt. 1 and Telegraph Rd. in Fort Belvoir. There is a game Monday night that can accommodate up to 8 tables. Gene Schuyler's Wednesday morning game at St. Andrew's Church starts up July 7, soon to be followed by other of his games.

The NVBA weekly newsletter will keep you updated on games as they open, please read it. You can also find information on games on the ACBL website, as well as information on future sectionals and regionals. I am very sorry there won't be any FTF regionals until 2022. Most importantly, please stay in touch with your favorite club game's director for the latest information on club openings.

On page 5 of this newsletter is a summary of the latest ACBL requirements for safely holding sanctioned tournaments. Our NVBA Tournament Chair Margot Hennings is hard at work negotiating with the Fairfax Elks Club. We are planning to hold a sectional there in October. When we know the details, we will let you know. We are working with Beth El to start the unit game back up on Thursday evenings. It looks like tentatively the first game will be September 23, 2021. We will keep you posted. June, July and August are the months when clubs are running North American Pairs (NAP) qualifiers. Right now, they are virtual. If you qualify you won't see a Q next to your name online, but a list is being kept, not to worry. Soon you will be able to qualify in a face-to-face game. For those of you who find it easier to play online, especially in the evenings, we anticipate a hybrid in the future with a mix of face to face and online bridge. The details are being worked out by ACBL.

Lastly, and most importantly, our NVBA weekly email editor-in-chief and quarterly newsletter production manager, David Lindley, has retired and will be moving next year to somewhere in the northeast. Some place not hot and muggy. He will be sorely missed. I must warn him the flies in Maine are as big as birds, and they bite! If you would like his volunteer job, please talk to [David](#). This is an extremely important job and we need someone for him to train to take his place.

Stay safe and I hope to see you at the bridge table soon.

—Georgette Weiss, NVBA President

Parade of Winners

In the continuing absence of our usual local tournaments, we list here those NVBA players who finished in the top 20 of their strat in regionally rated online events.

“Stay@Home, Play@Home”

April 22-25, 2021

Thurs Bunny Slippers Top-Flight Pairs (34 Tables)

3 Robert Hopkins Jr – Brad Theurer

Fri Sweatpants Mid-Flight Pairs (79 Tables)

4 Bud Morgan – Alan Munro

Fri Comfy 99er Pairs (8 Tables)

2 Alastair Green – Carol Ann Anderson

Sat. Toe-Socks Top-Flight Pairs (17 Tables)

4 Rusty Krauss – Monique Smith
4 Jay Cherlow – Eric Branfman

Sun. Aft Cozy 499er Pairs (35 Tables)

1 Glenn Wilson – Adam Winsler

Sun. Eve Cozy 499er Pairs (12 Tables)

1 1 Lynn Wilson – Marylou Matoush

“Endless Summer”

June 24-27, 2021

Thurs Ladybug Top-Flight Pairs (18 Tables)

2 Weizhong Bao – Frank Feng

Thurs Butterfly Top-Flight Pairs (32 Tables)

4 Robert Hopkins Jr – Brad Theurer

Thurs Grape Popsicle 99er Pairs (5 Tables)

2/3 Alastair Green – Carol Ann Anderson

Thurs Golden Sunset Gold Rush Pairs (105 Tables)

2 Li Chen – Fanjun Kong

Fri AM Ice Cream Mid-Flight Pairs (72 Tables)

5 3 John Wertman – Joia Hertz

Fri Aft Ice Cream Mid-Flight Pairs (73 Tables)

8 5 Bud Morgan – Alan Munro

Fri Pineapple Side Game (33 Tables)

2 Weizhong Bao – Frank Feng

Sat Golden Sunset Gold Rush Pairs (78 Tables)

3 Thomas Osborne – Paul Cassidy

Sun Golden Sunshine Gold Rush Pairs (223 Tables)

3 Jim Deckant – Kathy L'Hommedieu



Congratulations to Jeffrey Klemm for having amassed the third-most online master-points in ACBL-land last year (see April Bulletin). He also entered the World Bridge Federation-sponsored Bridge International Championship held on BBO in April, and finished fifth overall worldwide and second among U.S. contestants.

Hail and Farewell

We welcome the following new members into our Unit:

David C Dickey
Alesia Frerichs
Jason Geske
David E Gottlieb
Kathleen C Kies
Judy H Moore
John S Moran
Lee Prior
Roopa Sengupta
Kay Willis

We welcome the following transfers into our Unit:

George P Allen
Sarah Allen

Chris Andon
Tina Andon
Ernest E Bartholomew
Dr Beatriz M Cuello
John Gibson
Marcia P Larsen
Suzanne D Padgett
Juanita H Tolbert

We give our regards to the following people who have transferred out of our Unit:

Dewey Calderwood
Barbara P Frisbie
Letty Garek
Carole Grob
Dr Richard C Hart

William Kelleher
Rebecca Rafferty
Dr Frank M Ryan

We are sorry to note the passing of eight of our members:

Nancy Abbott
Paul T Becka Jr
Gene Gallagher
Barbara Goldlust
Ed Heberg
Julia M Michaels
Walt Pumo
William D Smith



Climbing the Ladder

New Junior Masters

Marc Fink
Bonnie Firestone
Dori Humphries
Craig D Johnston
Sue B Kennedy
Linda N Mitchell
Michael J Petrina
Mary C Sophos

New Club Masters

Bruce Dautrich
Linda R Devan
Edward M Egan
Lee Ellis
Alastair W Green
Dr Robert D Hood
Janice C Linett
Mary Ellen H Weber
Stephen F Weber

New Sectional Masters

Karen S Magley
Abhaya Schlesinger

New Regional Masters

Arlene Braff
Jichong Chai
Joan Isenberg
Kathy Langhan
Terrance J Mullin
George Saile
Sharon Saile

New NABC Masters

Dr Georgia A Booker
Sharon A Douaire
Andrea L Fritz
David G Hirschland
Ann P Lawrence
Lynn C Wilson

New Life Masters

Brigette Friedman
Syed R Khan
Nooreen Razi
Ellen Simonoff
Kathleen G Sullivan

New Bronze Life Masters

Robert M Greenburg
Ann O Jennings

Benjamin S Sharp
Nancy S Smagala
John A Wertman
Jeffrey Yutzler

New Silver Life Masters

Sandy Carroll
John Graf
Patrick J Herbst
Joseph Lebaron
David E Street

New Sapphire Life Master

Hal W Jones Jr

New Gold Life Master

Robert L Finkelstein

New Diamond Life Masters

Dr Hal Hindman
Jeffrey Klemm

New Emerald Life Master

Rusty Krauss

NVBA Charity Cookbook

After the great success publishing a cookbook for charity in 2020, Francesca Mazarella has produced a second one. The NVBA Board of Directors has approved posting the Cookbook offer on the NVBA website and has donated the cost of printing. The book was designed and managed by fellow bridge players to raise money for a local charity, [ECHO](#) (Ecumenical Community Helping Others), a non-profit, all volunteer organization that has been in operation for 50 years, located in Springfield, Va.

If you would like to advertise your business and donate to this cause please send [Francesca](#) your advertisement to include in the cookbook and a donation made out to ECHO.

The books are \$20 each. All proceeds go directly to ECHO. The digital PDF version is \$15. The NVBA website has more information, including links to a [sample](#) of the book and a [printable order form](#).



The return of face-to-face bridge...

ACBL recently issued revised guidelines to District presidents, Unit directors and tournament chairs that govern the conduct of any bridge game or tournament that is subject to ACBL regulations. These requirements are in place as of July 1, but may well be revised further in the months to come. The main points are:

- Everyone in the playing area **MUST** wear face masks;
- All staff, players and volunteer **MUST** provide proof of vaccination, unless proving such proof is legally prohibited by local and/or state regulations. In such case, tournaments managers must find an acceptable alternative;
- The vaccination requirement may, on a case-by-case basis, be waived for certain qualifying medical conditions or sincerely held religious beliefs;
- Tables must be at least 9 feet apart, center to center;
- Any provision of food and drink must conform to local regulation and guidance;
- Event organizers must provide masks for those who need them (and may make a small charge), as well as hand sanitizer;
- A designated 'Event Safety Coordinator' will be responsible for checking that these requirements are met.

IMPORTANT: These requirements apply to games under ACBL control, which includes sectional and regional tournaments and also our Unit Game. Managers and directors of independent club games, even those operating under an ACBL sanction, are **NOT** obliged to follow these requirements but can set their own guidelines, consistent with local regulations.

Northern Virginia Bridge Association

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The NVBA Newsletter is published four times a year by the Northern Virginia Bridge Association. If you need membership information or have a change of address to report, contact Eric Poskanzer at NY2VA@yahoo.com; for information/suggestions about newsletter content, contact Lucy McCoy at 703-848-2331 or newsletter@nvba.org.