



Newsletter

January–March 2022

President's Letter

by Georgette Weiss



I was hoping that this newsletter would be full of good news, instead I am hoping you haven't been impacted by omicron. I wish I could say the same for my family. We were missing two families Christmas day. One son and two granddaughters have it. Fortunately, they were all fully boosted so symptoms are mild. Please be sure to wear your masks and get boosted.

We still do not have a re-opening date for the face-to-face version of the Unit game, but at this point we are hoping to start up in April. Wish us luck. There will still be an on-line game on Thursday evenings as long as bridge players participate. The

Board decided to cancel the February 2022 NVBA Sectional. We sent out a survey to get your opinions on holding the sectional, and did not get enough positive responses as far as number of players interested in attending, so canceled it to avoid a major financial loss. We are still optimistic about holding the NVBA Sectional scheduled for May 12-15.

We are investigating finding a new place to hold the Unit game. The synagogue is great but has become very expensive for the number of players we think will be returning to face-to-face bridge in the near future. If you have any ideas, please let us know. We appreciate all help.

There is progress being made on our next District 6 regional. We are already lining up volunteers and we need your help (yes you!). It will be held in Baltimore in August 2022. By then, there should definitely be a handle on the corona virus. Stay safe and healthy.

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2021-2022 District Six Grand National Teams Competition

Reasons to play in the 2021-2022 District Six GNT (Entire event will be played online):

1. Win red/gold masterpoints
2. Play to represent your District at the 2022 Summer NABC in Providence, RI.
3. Win a District Championship and play competitive bridge against your peer group.
4. There will be a \$2,000 stipend per winning team to offset travel and hotel costs at the Summer Nationals in Providence, Rhode Island in July 2022. District Six will send one team from the Open and Flight A brackets and two teams from the Flight B and Flight C brackets to the NABC. The second place teams will each receive \$800 towards their expenses.
5. Put a team together and reunite with your friends. The GNT will be run over two weekends for each Flight (Flight A is run on a separate set of weekends from the Open, Flight B, and Flight C competition, and the second weekend of the Open is separate from that of Flight B and Flight C). It will be run the same way as previous years except all boards will be played online. For this year there will be NO club qualifying. Everyone who is a member of District 6 in good standing and who has kept their ACBL dues current is eligible to form a team and enter the District-level competition. By ACBL rules, masterpoint eligibility for each flight is determined by the number of masterpoints you had in the ACBL database as of September 1, 2021.
6. The competition contains four brackets.
 - In the Open all players may enter.
 - The Flight A bracket is limited to players with 0-6000 masterpoints;
 - The Flight B bracket to players with 0-2500 masterpoints;
 - The Flight C bracket to players with 0-500 masterpoints who are NLM.

Players can enter more than one Flight; if qualified for B and C, and you don't make the cut on Saturday, you can play in the C on Sunday. You can play in the 0-6000 one weekend and the Open, B, or C on the other weekend. The GNT is an easier way to earn red and gold masterpoints without traveling.

How to enter:

Your team must pre-register to play. Pre-registration ends the Tuesday eleven days before the Saturday of the event. Team captains must submit a check for \$100.00 made out to District Six. This covers your team for the first two sessions. Please include with the check the following information:

- Team Captain's email address and phone number
- All team members' names
- All team members' ACBL numbers
- All team members' BBO names.
- Flight your team will enter.

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For the Open and Flight B and Flight C, send the player information and check to:

Lucy McCoy
3353 Taleen Court
Annandale, Virginia 22003-1161

For Flight A (0-6000) send the player information and check to:

Steve Robinson
2891 S. Abingdon Street
Arlington, Virginia 22206-1329

Dates of 2021-2022 GNT Championship Flight (Open)

Deadline for pre-registration is February 15, 2022
First weekend: February 26-27, 2022
Second weekend for Open Flight: May 7-8, 2022

Dates of 2021-2022 Flight A (0-6000) GNT

Deadline for pre-registration is January 25, 2022
First weekend: February 5-6, 2022
Second weekend: April 2-3, 2022

Dates of Flight B (0-2500) GNT

Deadline for pre-registration is February 15, 2022
First weekend: February 26-27, 2022
Second weekend: April 30-May 1, 2022

Dates of Flight C (0-500 NLM) GNT

Deadline for pre-registration is February 16, 2022
First weekend: February 27, 2022 (Sunday only)
Second Weekend: May 1, 2022 (Sunday only)

For additional information see districtsixbridge.org

Click on the GNT Logo where you will see:

- An overview of how the event(s) run
- Frequently asked questions (FAQ)
- FAQ centering around online play (Separate)
- How the event will be run on BBO. Anyone with familiarity with BBO will have no problem playing in our event. I think all players will enjoy playing good, competitive bridge against their peers. **If you have any questions about the 2022 online GNT competition, call Bill Cole at 301-602-9024 or email colebridge@aol.com.**



In Memoriam: George A. Parkins III



George Parkins, a Gold Life Master and former NVBA Board member, was born in Nebraska in 1936 and passed away on Dec. 29, 2021. He grew up in California and, at the age of 16, joined the Air Force for a four-year tour that took him to Pakistan and Taiwan. On returning to California, he studied mathematics at Long Beach State College, where he met his future wife, Kathleen. Kathleen survives him, along with his sons Geoff and Greg, and five grandchildren.

George spent 17 years with IBM as a systems engineer and program manager and later helped develop the FBI's national fingerprint identification system and FEMA's mobile command center vehicles.

According to Kathy, his three passions in life were his family, Morgan cars, and bridge. He was also a devotee of crosswords.

The family requests that any memorial gifts be sent to the Special Forces Foundation, <https://www.specialforcesfoundation.org/donate/>

Former NVBA President Marty Bley remembers well how George viewed the game we all love. Marty writes:

"Bridge is a BARGAIN!!! Where can you get 24 to 27 puzzles to play with over the course of three plus hours for 10 to 12 dollars?" This question was posed to me by George Parkins, who is I am sure playing at that big bridge table in the sky with other loyal and dedicated members of the NVBA. I first met George at the Unit game and later came to know him much better while he and I served on the Board together. He kept us all straight with the agenda and action items from each meeting, and on time during the meetings. If I didn't keep the time, he did it for me. He was a quiet, sincere gentleman at all times, and I know that I am not the only person who will miss him when we do return to face-to-face bridge. He arrived early and stayed late and helped with any task until the work was completed. Hugs to Kathy and family from Ross (Marty's husband) and me.

George went to many tournaments and club games to play with NVBA Treasurer, Ann Atcheson, who writes:

George and I started playing together in 2015. It was an easy partnering for me. George did all the heavy work. He researched all the conventions we played, after analyzing many on one of his great spreadsheets, and we would select which we would play. George kept a record of every game we played with full statistics. His attention to detail was amazing. When we had played our 1000th game, he sent me flowers! He was a gentle, funny, articulate, forgiving, and happy man. He loved Bridge...compared it to puzzles (he loved crosswords) and every hand was a new puzzle.

Traveling with George and Kathy to most Nationals and almost every Regional within a day's drive was a delight. Our end of day nightcap was accompanied by a rehashing of hands bid and played. George had helped Kathy begin her Bridge playing and her lessons continued in these discussions.

George loved his family. His two sons were his pride and joy. Often, after our end of day discussions at tournaments, George would retreat to his room and have long calls with both his sons into early hours. He would recap his calls the next day with great pride recounting

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tales of his sons' and grandchildren's accomplishments.

Another love in his life was his light blue 1964 Morgan sports car. In convertible weather he would pick me up and we would drive to local games. He truly enjoyed driving that car.

I will miss George in many ways. He was a friend and a great Bridge Partner.



Parade of Winners

Congratulations to Jose Cortina who finished first overall in the first day of the Fall 2021 NABC Robot Individual, and fourth overall in the 3-day tournament held online on BBO from November 20-22, 2021.

Fall NABC – Austin, TX November 25-December 3, 2021 (finishers in top 10)

International Fund Open Pairs (45 Pairs)

9 Hal Jones Jr – Mark Tonnesen

NABC 0-10,000 Swiss Teams (16 Teams)

1 Margot Hennings – AJ Stephani – Carole Weinstein – Bob Gursej

4 Hal Jones Jr – Mark Tonnesen – Larry Davis – Robert Donathan

Monday A/X/Y Swiss Teams (36 Teams)

4 2 Jonathan Rodney – Daniel Rodney – David Rodney – Avril Rodney

Wednesday A/X/Y Swiss Teams (52 Teams)

5 David Rodney – Avril Rodney – Jeff Overby – David Moss

Several of our Unit players made the Barry Crane Top 500 list of masterpoint winners for 2021:

11 Hal Jones Jr 1,084.73
88 Lucy McCoy 630.06

304 James Dahlberg 407.66
492 Alan Schwartz 286.81

Win More Masterpoints Online!

In addition to playing in virtual club games online, District 6 is inviting you to play in a District-wide game online the third Wednesday of every month. Next game is scheduled for January 19, 2022. Game times are 7:05 PM for the 0-199er game, 7:10 PM for the 0-999er game if attendance warrants, and 7:15 for the Open game. Any District 6 member is eligible to play in the game and can invite a partner of their choice from inside or outside the District. It is an opportunity to play against some opponents who don't play regularly in your local club games and the bigger field means larger masterpoint awards.

Hail and Farewell

We welcome the following new members into our Unit:

Kathy Bowdring
Bonita S Byers
Joseph Celio
Janet Hansen
Khandaker Islam
Tridib Mazumdar
Art Muirhead
Meryl H Ram
Catherine M Suggs

We welcome the following transfers into our Unit:

Birgitt S Adams
Patricia J Beck Hanken
Nancy Charbonneau
Milly Das
Diana R Duffy

Lynn A Edman
Renie M Federighi
William N Fitch
Kathryn W Larsen
Joanne Rankin
Andrew J. Rowberg
Aditi K Sardar
Marlene L Sienicki
Christine Skibell

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

Louis B Adams
Douglas W Browning
Pat Cook
Ralph Driscoll
Joan S Flippin
A F Gersman

David E Hohman
Judith E Hohman
Jennifer McCreddie
Janet B McKechnie
Sandra Novack
Bushra Shamma
Michael K Siebenhaar
Deborah Wilson

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

Laverne M Gobs
Richard Kekic
Donald F Moen Jr
Norma E Morganbesser
George Parkins
Edwin B Smedberg
William F Vess Jr



Climbing the Ladder

New Junior Masters

Brenda J Frank
Judy H Moore
Louis J Roman
Erica P Weber
John M Williams

New Club Masters

Kathy D Bailey
Craig D Johnston
Jane Marcus
Joe Marshall Jr
Nancy C Miller
Christel M Nugent

New Sectional Masters

Susan E Austin
Shelley Beckwith
Anne C Carter
Jane Mitchell
Mark E Nusbaum
Joyce Suydam
Carol Voss

New Regional Masters

Joan Kadonoff
Michael J Murphy
David S Rubin
Isabel Schell
Alden Sherman

New NABC Masters

Jo Ann Allen
Michael S Battles
Marian F Corey
Florence K Levine
Karen S Magley

New Life Master

Sharon Kellett

New Bronze Life Masters

Jason E Carter
Alice C Ling
Richard F Padgett

New Silver Life Masters

Rich E Ardini
Paul B Mohler
Colin Schloss

New Ruby Life Masters

James L Dahlberg
Frank Feng
Fred Gramlich
William I Lowry
Jean H Schoepe

New Gold Life Master

Phillip Tseng

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.