



SOUTH BEND BRIDGE CLUB

Volume 11, No. 7

Website: www.sbbc.info Phone: 574-255-6613

January 2021



Here is Director Dawg all dressed up in his New Year's finery wishing you and yours a Happy New Year. He is, like many of us, looking forward to a new year full of positive and normal activities resuming - particularly at the Bridge Club. While we're waiting, continue your vigilance so that we can see each other again.



May you have a happy & healthy New Year! *Jo Ann, Editor*

2020 - Historic Year

The SBBC newsletters have become a history of the club since July 2010. This past year has been a tough time for all of us but there were welcome bright spots.

Some of our life masters achieved a new level of accomplishment. For instance:

DIAMOND LIFE MASTER (5000 masterpoints) - John Killeen

SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTERS (3500 masterpoints) - John Bodish and Cappy Cagnon

SILVER LIFE MASTERS (1000 masterpoints) - Martin Alig and John Scheibelhut

Also, among the non-Life Masters we saw upward awards earned by:

Kathy Stegmaier - Sectional Master

Patricia Short - Club Master

Miki Grant - Sectional Master

Unfortunately, there were dear friends who are no longer with us and will be greatly missed

January - Betty Jo Miller, Norm Muller

April - Edward Trubac

July - Mary Powell

September - Conrad Adams II

During this past year, our members were able to discover and re-discover books to read, hobbies to resurrect, board games to play, leisurely walks, exercise, an occasional golf game (which Mark Twain said "is a good walk spoiled"), the availability of playing bridge by way of BBO, and how to use ZOOM to keep in touch with our families and friends. The future will give us a new year which all of us hope will bring a reasonable return to normal. It will take some time but, with the advent of the vaccines, we may be able to see our friends' smiles instead of masks. All of you have been courageous, creative, and very patient.

Be sure to take care of you and yours!
A BLESSED NEW YEAR'S WISH
TO ALL OF YOU!



Bud Hinkley

We thank Bud for making it possible for us to feed our addiction. Through his efforts and working with ACBL, he has made it possible for us to continue playing our favorite game at the club level. The Michigan City Bridge Club and the Valparaiso Club have joined with us so we have a good nucleus of players to go on BBO (Bridge Base Online) and earn masterpoints. Members pay \$6 and part of the money goes to each club. Bud and his fellow directors, Rich Mao and Bill Searcy, have managed to schedule open games Monday thru Friday. In addition there are games interspersed for players with fewer masterpoints than 99, 149, 199, 399, 749 and 1000 (check the SBBC.info website to see the latest BBO bridge schedule). Another innovation on the horizon is a "teaching table" for about 20+ minutes which will be offered after a game and will cover hands played that day. Another way to improve your game.

Thanks again to our very capable directors, Bud, Rich and Bill.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

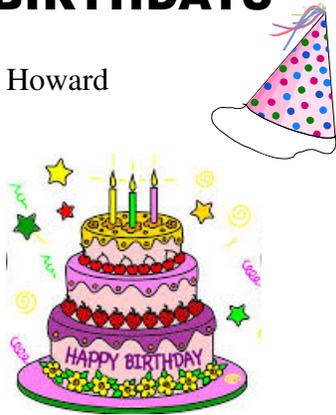
 If one of your resolutions is to stay in touch with your bridge friends, there is a phone and e-mail list of our members available. I can send it by e-mail (pdf) or by snail mail. If you would like it sent to you, contact me by e-mail at joann1107@comcast.net or by phone at 574-243-1355. 
Jo Ann

REMEMBER TO.....



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 03 Miki Grant
- 05 Barbara Fedder, Lena Howard
- 09 Reggie Lowenhar
- 13 Gail Wells
- 14 Merrill Crull
- 15 Clarke Dippell
- 17 Connie Hebron
- 21 Joyce Foley
- 26 Jane Bailey
- 28 George Cramer
- 30 John Bodish
- 31 Bill Blum, Barbara Myers



Top Games in December

399ers:	12/24 Anita Nunemaker & Miki Grant	65.87%
	12/11 Dave Barkmaier & Kathy Peterson	65.00%
149ers:	12/09 Candace Hurwich & Raji Sundar..	58.18%
	12/16 Pam Johnson & Mary Newbold	54.76%
Open:	12/08 Bud Hinckley & Rich Mao	70.45%
	12/09 Ted Mullet and Roger Skurski	68.06%

MOVING ON UP

Kathy Stegmaier Sectional Master



News of, from & about our SBBC Friends

Hugh Metzger - The only thing new in my life was my granddaughter Brittany Metzger Nierste giving birth to great grandson Augustus Leon Nierste in Warsaw 10/31. This elevated Amelia, who just turned two, to the important status of big sister. Leon was the name of my Father of Blessed Memory. This honor pleased both my brother and me very much. I have been staying home most of the time trying to avoid the virus. I have been told that I am classified as elderly. Hard to believe. I feel great!

Pat Borchert - The only thing new on my agenda is that I belong to a book club and we meet by Zoom. Because of the Queen's Gambit on Netflix, which by the way is the number one show in 60 countries, I started playing chess on line. I was familiar with the game, but wasn't that much into it years ago. However, things change and I want to do something new.

I want to wish all of you a Happy New Year. A new year is coming, I'm not sure it will be lots of fun; however, let's toast to the new year 2021!

Gail Wells - I have been writing a newsletter for our club. I call it Bridge Bits and information is slow to come. Aside from that we have been busy with church activities My husband is the treasurer so I help him out as he has been sick since before Thanksgiving and was in the hospital for 2 weeks. Been playing on BBO ... and "see" some of my South Bend friends virtually. We will be staying home on New Year's Eve. I really miss coming to South Bend to play with all my dear friends. **Happy New Year, stay well!**

Rosemary Zonker - Chris Barker talked to her on the phone and Rosemary, after a 10-day stay in bed with a virus (not THE virus), says she is doing very well. She misses our people and we miss her!

More News of, from & about our SBBC Friends (cont'd)

Rich Mao - Why stuck at home is so nice? We're always close to chargers for our Smart Phone and desk pad computers. This is also the time you can purge your e-mail lists, eliminate unused contacts, get rid of excessive e-mails, and dump unneeded information. Again make it easy, one folder at a time.

Xmas gifts I appreciate: On the Other Hand and Defense: On the Other Hand both by David Bird and Larry Cohen, highly respected authors. Easy to read and you can absorb one or a couple of pairs of hands at a time and set the books aside to be continued later. Great for advanced beginners and intermediate players.

And finally, New Year's resolutions: Learn how not to get on your spouse's nerves while you are trapped in your togetherness. **Cheers!**

Donna Tieman - I am very optimistic about 2021! We have managed to avoid contracting covid, while many of our close friends have had it! My husband received his first covid vaccine 10 days ago. Under strict adherence to safety precautions, we traveled to Colorado in October for hiking and fishing, and are currently in the Dominican Republic with our entire family for the New Year holiday. My husband and I played golf more in 2020 than ever before. 2020 has taught our family how much we have to be thankful for. Life is wonderful as long as we are together. I wish you all a Happy New Year, and hope to eventually see you on the other side?

Cappy Gagnon - Not going to do any crochetingis that like being crotchety?.....but will be playing as much golf as the weather permits. One of the things I am enjoying in my geezerhood is watching old movies. I love movies from the 40's and 50's, particularly those in black and white.

Film noir is one of my favorite genres.



Tom Hebron - He's at again! Pictured are table & stools Tom made for Eli, his daughter's 8 month old nephew. Made of scrap wood collected at a house building site down the road. What a creative genius!

LEADS AGAINST NO TRUMP

Last month we discussed opening leads against a suit contract. Now let's. discuss leads against No Trump.

The most desirable lead is a sequence (actually against any contract): **K Q J; Q J 10; J 10 9;** etc,. With this lead you can promote your holding. For instance, leading the K from K Q J will knock out the Ace and Q, J become winners.

If your partner has bid, try to help her by leading her suit following the lead suggestions of BOSTON covered last month. High low for a doubleton and low from 3+ with an honor.

Another lead, if the aforementioned leads are not available, is 4th best from your longest suit. The 4th best is counted from the top down. For instance, holding K 9 8 2 you would lead the 2, and from K 9 8 7 2 you would lead the 7. For those of you who say never lead from a king, what do you do if you hold all 4 kings and it's your lead? Do not despair. All you need from your partner is the Q or the A to promote your K and she could hold either of those cards.