

C Winners



Teams which scored overall —
Joe Chin, Barbara Graegin, George Goewey
and Jim O'Connell — 2.80
Dave Bigler, Wayne Carpenter, Laverne
Niksich and Yuan Hsu — 2.10
George Roeper, Pat Valiska, Lynne Kostopoulous
and Indra Gupta — 1.63

(cont. along side)

December Team Game



A Winners

Congratulations to all!



B Winners

Happy New Year!



A question has arisen about whether it is permissible to open with a 1 No Trump bid when holding a 6-card suit. To quote a top ACBL director, a bid with a 6-3-2-2 shape is acceptable according to the guidelines. If you look under Convention Charts online under #2 "Natural Bids" letter (h) it reads — "A natural bid is a NT opening bid or overcall that

contains no voids, no more than one singleton, which must be an ace, king, or queen, and that does not contain 10 cards in two suits combined." This document has a date of 18 September 2019, so it is current, and it does designate that a 6-card suit is a suitable holding for a NT bid. You might also wish to refer to "Ruling the Game" on page 30 in the October *Bridge Bulletin* for further reiteration.

Dan Spain, Norm Szewczyk, Lou Nimnicht and Jerry Palm — 1.58
Jackie Chavez, Jan Merrick, Anna Urosevich and Joan Adams — 1.22
Terry Bauer, Dee Marshall and Sally and Rich Will — 1.01
Dan and Donna Simon, Barbara Walczak and Ed d'Ouville — 0.78
Pat Mikuta, Trudi McKamey and Alan and Arlyne Filler — 0.69
Hilda Connor, Carolyn Potasnik, Patsy Thomas and Marilyn Ginzel — 0.67
Delphine Slater, Earl Duffin, Caroline Hudson and Sarah Ayers — 0.67



Newcomer

Jerry Paucak was invited to the 299er bridge game in Portage on December 17. This was his first time playing with “professional” bridge players. He knew he was going to make mistakes but, thankfully, he considered his partner, Dottie Hart, the most considerate partner possible.

For over 60 years Jerry has been a pinochle player and now has decided to take on a more complicated and demanding game — bridge.

Jerry thanks his great friend, Barbara Graegin, who got him enrolled for lessons with Mr. Alan Yngve, at the Calumet Township facility. He has found Alan to be very patient and thorough, and

his handouts do a great job of getting one started on the right foot.

For 35 years Jerry was president of a fastener manufacturer and distribution company. The company — Mighty Mill Supply — specialized in supplying products to refineries, steel mills and contractors. He is currently semi-retired, as he occasionally will do some consulting on Quality Assurance Programs and distribution. His passion is serving on a few not-for-profit charity boards. He lives in Highland with a wife and two cats, and is occasionally visited with his two children and four grandchildren. The Paucak family are die-hard Purdue fans.

Jerry wishes all bridge players a healthy and happy new year, and adds, “May you receive a few over 30-point hands in 2020.”

welcome



- Top scorers — 
- Lou Nimnicht — 12.94
 - Terry Bauer — 11.55
 - Barb Graegin — 11.16
 - Zafar Khan — 10.86
 - Trudi McKamey — 7.69
 - Joel Charpentier — 6.88
 - Jim O’Connell — 6.87
 - Joe Chin — 6.33
 - Bill Birk — 6.19
 - Bob Ferguson — 5.59 
 - Jim Lane — 5.46



- Those who have advanced a rank in the past 5 months —
- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Club Master | Barbara Nikceovich | Ram Prasad |
| - 20 mp | Ginfern Qian Ye | Jim Carson |
| Paul Muszik | Sectional Master | Paul Muszik |
| Terry Brendel | - 50 mp | Tom Rea |

- Regional Master**
- 100 mp
- Don Giedemann
 - Donna Penn
 - Helen Thiros

- Gerri Tyler
- NABC Master**
- 200 mp
- Sally Will
 - Rich Will

- Advanced NABC Master**
- 300 mp
- Fred Princehorn



COMMUNITY SPORTS RESULTS

Marcy and Chuck Tomes 1.00
Sally and Rich Will 0.70
Tom and Lori Rea 0.50
Terry Bauer and Dottie Hart 0.35
Carol Miller and Barbara Lawson 0.25

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 4 Results

Jim O’Connell and Barbara Graegin 3.19
Jim Angell and Trudi McKamey 2.39
Daryl Fraley and Anna Urlick 1.97
Zafar Khan and Lou Nimnicht 1.79
Barbara Walczak and Mary Kocovar 1.48
Terry Bauer and Dee Marshall 1.28
Pat Mikuta and Bob Porter 1.28

VALPARAISO BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 4 Results

Knoefel and Janet Jones 2.63
Carol Miller and Fred Green 1.97
Joel Charpentier and Ed Hollander 1.48
Sylvia and Tom Luekens 1.11
Norm Filipiak and Jim Lane 0.83
Dottie Hart and Helen Boothe 0.64

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 7 Results

North-South
Joe Chin and Zafar Khan 2.48
Pat Mikuta and Carolyn Potasnik 1.69
Helen Miller and Anne Murphy 1.27
Jim and Kay Lively 0.55

East-West

Lou Nimnicht and Barbara Graegin 1.86
Paul Muszik and Mary Kocovar 1.09
Indra Gupta and Lynne Kostopoulos 0.95

Dottie Hart and Alan Yngve 0.82
Bill Birk and Terry Bauer 0.71

CALUMET BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 9 Results

North-West
Helen Miller and Anne Murphy 2.16
Lou Nimnicht and Dan Spain 1.51
Bob Porter and Jim Angell 1.08
Peggy Kiernan and Hilda Connor 0.81
Carol Miller and Barbara Lawson 0.74
Jane Krueger and Jim Lively 0.52
Paul Muszik and Yuan Hsu 0.41

East-West

Al Simmons and Ruth Westberg 2.16
Pat Valiska and Lynne Kostopoulos 1.51
Bob and Joan Butz 1.08
Ginney Ye and Jackie Chavez 0.91
Terry Bauer and Bill Birk 0.64

BEACH BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 10 Results

Norm Swecznyk and Yuan Hsu 1.69
Wayne Carpenter and Laverne Niksch 1.18
Joel Charpentier and Lou Nimnicht 0.85
Fred Green and Terry Brendel 0.79

DUNELAND BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 10 Results

Terry Bauer and Dottie Hart 2.33
Marcia and Jim Carson 1.75
Chuck and Marcy Tomes 1.31
Charlie Halberstadt and Jim Lane 0.98
Sally and Rich Will 0.52

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 11 Results

Indra Gupta and Zafar Khan 2.06
George Roeper and Barbara Graegin 1.44
Dave Bigler and Wayne Carpenter 1.03
Helen Miller and Trudi McKamey 0.73
Alta Allen and Jennie Alsobrooks 0.64
Dan Spain and Lou Nimnicht 0.57
Pat Mikuta and Bob Porter 0.44

VALPARAISO BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 11 Results

Mary Kocovar and Pam Missman 1.20
Rick Friedman and Jim Lane 0.84
Terry Brendel and Fred Green 0.60
Lori and Tom Rea 0.42
Nancy and Jim Bell 0.25
Dolores Browne and Chuck Tomes 0.24
Mike Brown and Al Marks 0.24

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 14 Results

Barbara Walczak and Yuan Hsu 2.44
Jim O’Connell and Barbara Graegin 1.71
Pat Mikuta and Trudi McKamey 1.28
Joe Chin and Ginney Ye 1.04
Lou Nimnicht and Alan Yngve 1.04
Terry Bauer and Bill Birk 0.90
Helen Miller and Hilda Connor 0.64
Darrell Clinton and Larry Brown 0.62
Joel Charpentier and Paul Muszik 0.45

CALUMET BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 16 Results

North-South
Lou Nimnicht and John Goring 3.35
Lou Gaspardo and Zafar Khan 1.90
George Roeper and Joe Chin 1.88

Bob Porter and Trudi McKamey 1.43
Yuan Hsu and Pat Mikuta 0.60
Jackie Chavez and Anna Urosvich 0.54
Pat Princehorn and Caron Espinosa 0.38

East-West

Joan and Bob Butz 2.51
Daryl Fraley and Carol Miller 1.18
Marilyn Ginzal and Patsy Thomas 0.86
Barbara Walczak and Wayne Hiser 0.84
Paul Muszik and Joel Charpentier 0.65

BEACH BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 17 results

Laverne Niksch and Alan Yngve 2.48
Barbara Stroud and Trudi McKamey 1.86
Mary Kocovar and Terry Bauer 1.40

INTERMEDIATE/NOVICE GAME

Fred Green and Terry Brendel 0.85
Paul Muszik and Joel Charpentier 0.64

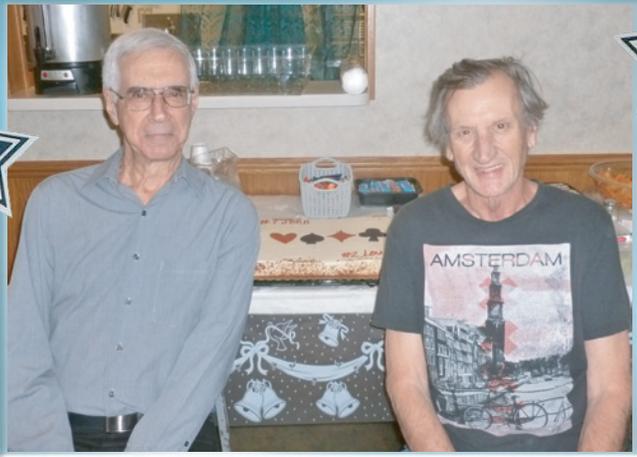
DUNELAND BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 17 Results

Jim Lane and Joel Charpentier 2.81
Chuck and Marcy Tomes 2.11
Tom and Lori Rea 1.58
Judy Selund and Don Giedemann 1.19
Jim and Marcia Carson 0.39



I can’t explain how grapes, lemons and strawberries and they can communicate, but they do send their **CONGRATULATIONS** to all the 97 different players listed for these 15 games in December.

CELEBRITIES AMONG US



John Goring and Lou Nimnicht were first and second, respectively, for December in The Common Game — for points awarded for each finish in a Common Game event. Clearly, they played in a number of games — one together that we know about (Monday, December 16 with a 70.99%) but they must have consistently played well all month long.
Hats off!

I don't know how the points are assigned. On the listing, John's total Common Game points are 102.36 and Lou's are 102.20. (The third highest on the Leader Board has a total of 93.92 points.)

The congratulatory cake was contributed by Mary Schultz. We all express our compliments as well —

CONGRATULATIONS!



Those players listed below, who placed in the top ten in the **Ace of Clubs Race** from Unit 154, were the winners for the year — 2019. Their listing is not official until February 6, when any additions or corrections have been made. The Ace of Clubs standing is based on masterpoints earned at local clubs only and does not count STaC game results (since the "S" in STaC says they're sectional points and not the usual black points). The numbers in blue following the names indicate placement in the top 25 in all of District 12. Aren't the results impressive! Out of 601 members in our unit, 48 are from Unit 154 in the top 10. Connie Stevens placed #18 in the district with 114.22 points, and Jim O'Connell placed #16 district-wide with 118.07 points in their categories, so there are 44 players who placed in the top 25 out of 6 units in District 12. (Total members in our district are 3917.) There are also 6 players who placed in the top 100 in all of ACBL.

0 - 5 mp

2. Terry Brendel — 26.50 **#4**
4. Barbara Nikceovich — 18.75 **#11**

5 - 20 mp

1. Ram Prasad — 42.79 **#1**
2. Jim Lane — 33.57 **#2**
3. Paul Muszik — 30.38 **#6**

20 - 50 mp

1. Joel Charpentier — 60.84 **#1**
10. Fred Green — 28.11 **#20**

100 - 200 mp

1. Rich Will — 73.32 **#4**
2. Creighton Rawlings — 68.72 **#6**
4. Sally Will — 59.33 **#9**
5. Marcy Tomes — 48.86 **#10**
6. Charlie Halberstadt — 41.84 **#20**
7. Don Giedemann — 38.98 **#23**
9. Mary Ennes — 37.62

200 - 300 mp

1. Chuck Tomes — 73.00 **#1**
4. Judy Selund — 38.32 **#14**
6. Wayne Hiser — 32.91
10. Jennie Alsobrooks — 24.49

300 - 500 mp

1. Terry Bauer — 131.56 **#1**
2. Larry Dunford — 95.72 **#5**
4. Mary Kocevar — 74.66 **#9**
8. Dee Marshall — 51.99

500 - 1000 mp

1. Alan Yngve — 102.91 **#2**
2. John Teshima — 87.52 **#12**
6. Karen Sarsfield — 79.44 **#18**
8. Bill Wendt — 76.86 **#23**
9. Bob Porter — 76.11
10. Bob Ferguson — 70.58

1000 - 1500 mp

1. Zafar Khan — 162.11 **#1**
2. Yuan Hsu — 138.47 **#2**
3. Laverne Niksch — 137.78 **#3**
4. Trudi McKamey — 124.94 **#4**
6. Anna Urick — 121.43 **#6**
7. Indra Gupta — 95.32 **#11**
8. Charlotte Abernethy — 88.90 **#17**

1500 - 2500 mp

1. Lynne Kostopoulos — 165.58 **#1**
3. Jerry Palm — 147.30 **#4**
4. Wayne Carpenter — 143.77 **#6**
6. Dave Bigler — 136.47 **#9**
8. Don Valiska — 128.31 **#11**
9. Barbara Walczak — 124.85 **#12**

2500 - 3500 mp

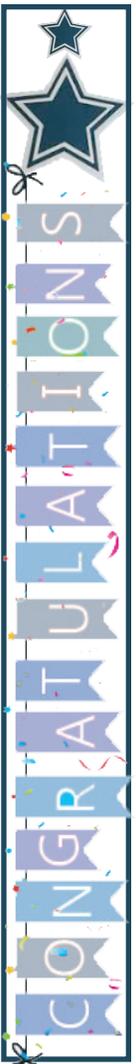
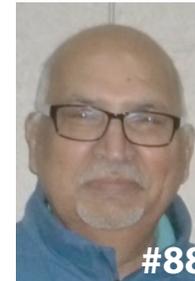
6. Norm Szewczyk — 117.17 **#17**

3500 - 5000 mp

1. Lou Nimnicht — 255.51 **#1**
6. Steve Watson — 149.63 **#8**
7. Barbara Graegin — 137.16 **#11**

5000 - 7500 mp

1. Joe Chin — 271.86 **#1**
5. Carol Osgerby — 103.55 **#15**
7. Tom Hallum — 93.61 **#18**





MINI -McKENNEY RACE

UNIT 154 – NORTHERN INDIANA



0 - 5 mp

2. Terry Brendl — 31.67 #5
3. Barbara Nikceвич — 24.91 #9

5 - 20 mp

1. Paul Muszik — 65.33 #1
2. Ram Prasad — 58.03 #3
3. Jim Lane — 33.57 #7

20 - 50 mp

1. Joel Charpentier — 70.74 #4
9. Fred Green — 31.17 #21

50 - 100 mp

9. Barbara Lawson — 35.09

100 - 200 mp

1. Rich Will — 122.08 #5
2. Sally Will — 108.09 #6
4. Creighton Rawlings — 79.62 #11
5. Marcy Tomes — 59.86 #25
6. Don Giedemann — 47.51
7. Charlie Halberstadt — 44.61
9. Mary Ennes — 38.95

200 - 300 mp

1. Chuck Tomes — 85.22 #6
4. Judy Selund — 46.85
6. Wayne Hiser — 35.54
10. Jennie Alsobrooks — 25.13

300 - 500 mp

1. Terry Bauer — 189.50 #2
2. Larry Dunford — 147.50 #6
3. Mary Kocevar — 123.76 #9
8. Dee Marshall — 54.77

500 - 1000 mp

1. Bill Wendt — 167.00 #6
2. Alan Yngve — 115.31 #21
4. John Teshima — 95.05
7. Carolyn Potasnik — 91.63
8. Karen Sarsfield — 90.79
10. Lynn Bayman — 82.42

1000 - 1500 mp

1. Zafar Khan — 209.43 #2
2. Yuan Hsu — 202.96 #3
3. Laverne Niksch — 182.34 #5

4. Anna Urick — 142.54 #11
5. Trudi McKamey — 135.46 #16
6. Indra Gupta — 126.98 #21
8. Charlotte Abernethy — 106.76

1500 - 2500 mp

2. Lynne Kostopoulos — 189.68 #14
3. Wayne Carpenter — 179.82 #18
4. Jerry Palm — 162.14 #23
7. Dave Bigler — 155.09
8. Barbara Walczak — 146.65
9. Don Valiska — 139.52

2500 - 3500 mp

7. Norm Szewczyk — 143.62

3500 - 5000 mp

1. Lou Nimnicht — 343.61 #4
5. Steve Watson — 219.40 #9
8. Barbara Graegin — 151.92 #19

5000 - 7500 mp

1. Joe Chin — 398.38 #5
5. Carol Osgerby — 118.57
6. Tom Hallum — 115.03



These are overall points (excepting on-line points) for 2019. Numbers to the left of your name rank you in the top 10 in your unit, and numbers in red to the right of your name rank you in the top 25 in District 12. Paul Muszik, Terry Bauer and Ram Prasad ranked in the top 100 in all of ACBL. There were four categories where more than half of the players were from Northwest Indiana. And also note — There are 21 players who rank #1, #2 or #3 in Unit 154. 49 players made this year-end list — 30 of which also placed in the district.



Bridge players have written so many beautiful words in Claire Murvihill's memory —

So sad about Claire. She was such a GOOD person. I'll miss her smile and good words. I won't be back until mid-February, but I'll be praying for her. ~ Larry Dunford

We have been blessed to have called her our friend. Soon and very soon, His people will see her again. His peace ~ Bill Birk

Claire was such a kind and giving person. We will miss her very much. I felt badly that I never called her to tell her how special she was. Claire belonged to two churches. ~ Pat and Fred Princehorn

Kind and gentle soul was Claire. We had one chance to be bridge partners at SSBC, but we missed it for some reason. Reserve a seat across from you up there, and I'll be there soon. ~ Joe Chin

A great person! I knew her for about a year only. May she find good bridge company in her present abode. ~ Ram Prasad

I feel very sad to hear such bad news. Claire was a very friendly and loving person. Whenever I played at SSBC, she would patiently explain how to bid and play bridge. I will always be grateful to her and remember her smile forever. I hope she has no pain in heaven and is happy to play bridge every day. ~ Ginney Ye

WEDNESDAY TEAM GAME WINNERS

Congratulations

A WINNERS



B AND C WINNERS



Teams who scored overall in November —

Yuan Hsu, Dave Bigler, Laverne Niksch and Wayne Carpenter — 3.27
 Dan Spain, Norm Szewczyk, Jerry Palm and Lou Nimnicht — 2.45
 Martha Harris, Lydia Hawkins, Ram Prasad and Joel Charpentier — 1.88
 Barbara Stroud, Karen Sarsfield, Daryl Fraley and Janice Custer — 1.41
 Shawn Concannon, Rose McCarthy, Al Simmons and Zafar Khan — 1.38

Jackie Chavez, Jan Merrick, Susan Stromberg and Anna Urosevich — 1.06
 Joe Chin, Barbara Graegin, Jim O'Connell and George Goewey — 0.91
 Delphine Slater, Earl Duffin, Sarah Ayers and Caroline Hudson — 0.82
 George Roeper, Pat Valiska, Lynne Kostopoulos and Diane Martin — 0.79
 Bob Porter, Bob Ferguson, Wayne Hiser and Bill Hahn — 0.61



AT CLAIRE MURVIHILL'S VISITATION

It was Claire's request that the last hour of her funeral celebration was devoted to bridge. We wound up having seven tables of people playing cards in her memory. Of course, there were many more people there. But her family was so pleased with the huge bridge family that came out.



This article was published in *The Times* on January 12. Another portion of the article that sent in was omitted — the paragraph and photo of the presentation of an excellent assortment of toys, books and games that Pat Valiska donated to the shelter. Shucks!

Two months ago Jackie Chavez was highly touted for having arrived at Life Master status — but we find out now that she also became a Bronze Life Master at this same time!



Top 50 bridge players named

TIMES STAFF

The top November players at the duplicate bridge games in Lake and Porter counties in Valparaiso, Highland, Portage, Calumet Township and Chesterton, have been named.

They are Louis Nimnicht, Barbara Graegin, Joel Charpentier, James O'Connell, Wayne Carpenter, Joseph Chin, Indra

Gupta, Patricia Mikuta, Barbara Walczak, Steven Watson, Helen Miller, Yuan Hsu, Terry Bauer, Dave Bigler, Daniel Spain, Laverne Niksch, Charlotte Abernethy, Carolyn Potasnik, Trudi McKamey, Paul Muszick, Alan Yngve, Mary Kocovar, Zafar Khan, Lynne Kostopoulos.

Also Robert Porter, Hilda Connor, Ram Prasad, Wil-

liam Birk, George Roeper, James Angell, Gale Osgerby, Daryl Fraley, Charles Tomes, Dolores Marshall, Terry Brendel, Fred Green, Norman Szewczyk, Carol Miller, James Lane, Marcy Tomes, Anna Urick, Jane Krueger, Dorothy Hart, Dolores Browne, Richard Will, Sally Will, Tom Hallum, Wayne Hiser, Robert Ferguson and Anne Murphy.

Life Master



Jim McDonald from Delphi stops by every so often (but not nearly enough), so that some of you remember him. Well, he did make Life Master and we wish to send him our heartiest congratulations.



84.38%



Jim Jurik and Lou Gaspardo have managed to achieve this amazing percentage at a Tuesday afternoon game at South Suburban. WOW! You don't see a score like that very often!

Jim comments — Lou and I are not very fancy. We play a simple game with a minimal number of conventions. All the stars were in alignment on Tuesday so we got quite lucky. I did a quick review and noted that we were on defense 14 of the 24 boards. We exercised some restraint and took no phantom sacrifices. We may have received a little assistance from our opponents, as well we should. We certainly have been very generous toward them in the past. In the end it is a partnership game and the communication between the two of us was quite good that day. This is a humbling game so we are enjoying this one while we can.

Lou adds — In our game on Tuesday it seemed like every decision we made turned out to be correct. We knew we had a good score as the day went along, but never dreamed we could possibly score as high as we did. I realize that this is a once-in-a-lifetime happening. I am also grateful for having such a good partner.

CONGRATULATIONS!

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB Dec. 18 Results
Joe Chin, Jim O'Connell, Barbara Graegin and George Goewey 2.80
Dave Bigler, Wayne Carpenter, Laverne Niksch and Yuan Hsu 2.10
George Roeper, Indra Gupta, Lynne Kostopoulos and Pat Valiska 1.63
Dan Spain, Norm Szewczyk, Lou Nimnicht and Jerry Palm 1.58
Jackie Chavez, Jan Merrick, Anna Urosevich and Joan Adams 1.22
Terry Bauer, Dee Marshall, and Rich and Sally Will 1.01
Dan and Donna Simon, Barbara Walczak and Ed d'Ouville 0.78
Pat Mikuta, Alan and Arlyne Filler and Trudi McKamey 0.69
Delphine Slater, Earl Duffin, Sarah Ayers and Caroline Hudson 0.67
Hilda Connor, Carolyn Potasnik, Marilyn Ginzal and Patsy Thomas 0.67
Barbara Stroud, Janice Custer, Helen Miller and Daryl Fraley 0.12
Anna Urlick, Charlotte Abernethy, Esther Walenga and Peggy Kiernan 0.12
Bob Porter, Bob Ferguson, Wayne Hiser and Bill Hahn 0.12

VALPARAISO BRIDGE CLUB Dec. 18 Results
North-South
Lynn Bayman and Marcy Tomes 0.70
Mary Ann and Norm Filipiak 0.49
Pam Missman and Lila Cohen 0.35
Vikki Voller and Naomi Goodman 0.22
East-West
Nancy and Jim Bell 0.70
Al Marks and Jim Lane 0.49
Chuck Tomes and Fred Green 0.35

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB Dec. 21 Results
North-South
Hilda Connor and Carolyn Potasnik 1.69
Pat Mikuta and Mary Kocevar 1.27
Jenny Alsobrooks and Joel Charpentier 0.78
Jim Angell and Barbara Walczak 0.62
East-West
John Teshima and Al Simmons 2.48
Lou Nimnicht and Barbara Graegin 1.86
Donna Penn and Helen Thiros 1.04
Trudi McKamey and Yuan Hsu 0.95
Anna Urlick and Daryl Fraley 0.71

CALUMET BRIDGE CLUB Dec. 23 Results
North-South
Norm Szewczyk and Lou Nimnicht 2.08
Lou Gaspardo and Zafar Khan 1.56
Joe Chin and Al Simmons 0.88
Bill Birk and Terry Bauer 0.86
Michael Adami and Joan Adams 0.47
East-West
Trudi McKamey and Yuan Hsu 2.77
Bob Butz and John Goring 1.17
Ginny Qian Ye and Jackie Chavez 0.95
Ed Fesenmyer and Jack Mateja 0.71
Barbara Walczak and Richard Flood 0.70
George Roeper and Ruth Goodpasture 0.39

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB Dec. 28 Results
Dan Spain and Lou Nimnicht 3.00
Dave Bigler and Jenny Alsobrooks 2.25
Joe Chin and John Teshima 1.69
Barbara Walczak and Ed d'Ouville 1.58
Dee Marshall and Dottie Hart 1.40
Jerry Palm and Zafar Khan 1.19
Mary Kocevar and Jane Krueger 1.05
Jim O'Connell and Barbara Graegin 0.41

Top scorers are —

Lou Nimnicht - 8.52; Yuan Hsu - 5.82; Joe Chin - 5.37; Barb Graegin - 5.07; Dan Spain - 4.58; Trudi McKamey - 4.41; Dave Bigler - 4.35; John Teshima - 4.17; Barb Walczak - 3.68



Jan Summers has become a Life Master (several months ago). She used to be quite a regular, but she baby-sits now on Wednesdays, so she seldom gets to Indiana. This is a photo from her Naperville club. Her mom, Dee Marshall, is very proud of her daughter's accomplishment. Jan says, "Hi!" to all



Newcomer — Rich Matthews

Rich Matthews visited us at a Monday game as a guest of Jack Mateja. He and his wife, Shirley, came to one or two 99er games way back when that game was being started at Calumet Township, but Shirley didn't want to play duplicate bridge. The Matthews live in Schererville.

After college Rich started to play couples bridge and has been playing for 55 years — playing a couple of times a week.

Rich went to Purdue University, graduating as a mechanical engineer. He worked for AMOCO (formerly Standard Oil) in Whiting for 40 years. In his retirement he did a bit of real estate appraisal.

He has two sons plus 2 more sons of his wife and 6 grandchildren. He plays golf twice a week. He travels quite a lot — has been to almost all the national parks and enjoys cruises. His hope is to continue to improve his bridge skills.

We are most happy to have you join us as you sharpen your mental acuity!

75.00%



Norm Szewczyk and Yuan Hsu came up with this rather commendable score in a 2½-table game in Portage.

Yuan notes — Norm is a good bridge player with a good sense of humor that lightens up a situation.

I play two or three times a month with him in Portage and enjoy it very much all the time. Once in a while we get lucky and finish really well. Thanks, Norm!

Norm's thoughts — Yuan is always a pleasure to play with. His experience proves itself at the table all the time in competitive auctions. He excels in declarer play, as well as in defense. Yuan is a very congenial person and he treats his partners with dignity.



East-West
Barbara Graegin and Mary Schultz 2.08
Charlotte Abernethy and Gale Osgerby 1.74
Barbara Walczak and Michael Adami 0.55
Joan and Bob Butz 0.32

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB
Jan. 4 Results

North-South
Joe Chin and Dick Flood 1.48
Anna Urlick and Paul Muszik 1.11
Anna Urosevich and Mary Kocevar 0.78
Barbara Stroud and Janice Custer 0.66

East-West
Yuan Hsu and Trudi McKamey 2.63
Zafar Khan and Alan Yngve 1.97
Donna Penn and Helen Thiros 1.04
Chris and Sara Grande 0.73

CALUMET BRIDGE CLUB
Jan. 6 Results

North-South
Carol Miller and Barbara Lawson 1.72
Jim Lively and Marilyn Ginzel 1.29
Arlyne and Alan Filler 0.97
Hilda Connor and Pat Mikuta 0.73

East-West
John Goring and Joe Chin 3.06
Barbara Walczak and Dick Flood 2.30
Ginney Qian Ye and Yuan Hsu 0.78
Paul Muszik and Lynne Kostopoulos 0.56
Mike Adami and Ruth Westberg 0.54
Carolyn Potasnik and Mary Kocevar 0.41

BEACH BRIDGE CLUB
Jan. 7 Results

Lou Nimnicht and Jim O'Connell 2.04
Laverne Niksch and Alan Yngve 1.53
Janice Custer and Anne Murphy 1.15

DUNELAND BRIDGE CLUB
Jan. 7 Results

Marcy and Chuck Tomes 1.00
Helen Boothe and Alan Yngve 0.70
Judy Selund and Don Giedemann 0.50
Charlie Halberstadt and Jim Lane 0.35
Tom and Lori Rea 0.20

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB
Jan. 8 Results

Dave Bigler and Wayne Carpenter 2.33

Jim O'Connell and Lou Nimnicht 1.75
Helen Miller and Trudi McKamey 1.53
Zafar Khan and Alan Yngve 1.15
Anna Urosevich and Ram Prasad 0.86
Barbara Walczak and Bob Ferguson 0.65
Delphine Slater and Jennie Alsobrooks 0.39
Barbara Graegin and George Roeper 0.32

VALPARAISO BRIDGE CLUB
Jan. 8 Results

Jim Lane and Mary Kocevar 1.20
Fred Green and Terry Brendel 0.84
Janet and Knoefel Jones 0.72
Chuck Tomes and Dolores Browne 0.60
Bill Hahn and Wayne Hiser 0.50
Lori and Tom Rea 0.36
Rick Friedman and Ed Hollander 0.32
Mike Brown and Dottie Hart 0.22



COMMUNITY SPORTS RESULTS

CALUMET BRIDGE CLUB
Dec. 30 Results
North-South
Lou Nimnicht and Norm Szewczyk 2.77
Carol Osgerby and Don Valiska 1.56
Yuan Hsu and Trudi McKamey 1.31
Terry Bauer and Bill Birk 0.98
Marge Hedegard and Anna Urlick 0.73

February Special Games

All games in Highland, Portage and Calumet Township will be Educational Foundation games where your extra \$1.00 supports education and promotion of bridge. February 19 — team game — potluck McL - Z

Top 12 scorers as the year turns —

- Lou Nimnicht — 6.56
- Trudi McKamey — 5.47
- Alan Yngve — 5.35
- Yuan Hsu — 4.72
- Joe Chin — 4.54
- Jim O'Connell — 3.79
- Dick Flood — 3.78
- Barbara Walczak — 3.50
- Zafar Khan — 3.12
- John Goring — 3.06
- Norm Szewczyk — 2.77
- Barbara Graegin — 2.40



★ 72.50% ★

Connie Stevens and Jerry Palm (less than two months after their previous big game), came in again at a Wednesday evening game at South Suburban Bridge Center.

You read a couple of weeks ago how Joe Chin found the recipe for success in earning bushfuls of masterpoints. Well here's another recipe from the Emeril Joe's book on how to accomplish an over 70% game —

Stir together a mixture of

- a healthy amount of bridge know-how
 - a couple of spoonfuls of opponents' lapses
 - a sprinkle of sparkling stardust
- and simmer over a low flame for 3¾ hours.



CONGRATULATIONS!

★ NEWCOMERS ★



Deedee Zabski is Connie Stevens' sister visiting from Trevor WI. Connie taught Deedee how to play bridge, which began when the 2 of them and 2 cousins got together on camping trips. Deedee plays duplicate at a senior center, but it is not sanctioned bridge. She plays party bridge every other week.

Deedee worked at Abbott Lab — training people in the computer room. After 26 years she retired and then did volunteer work in a hospital. She has 4 children and 3 grandchildren. She adores animals — has 2 cats and will get another dog in the spring, since her dog has just passed away.



Gosia Caldwell joined us at a 299er game in Portage. She lives in Miller. She began playing bridge about 10 years ago when a Polish friend from Chicago asked her if she wanted to learn the game. All her life she had wanted to play bridge. She loves the game — "lots of fun!" — and plays on the computer in her spare time. She is beginning to learn the Standard American bridge system.

She is now retired. In Poland she had a private business. Gosia was trained to be a librarian, but never followed through on that. When she came to the U.S. 19 years ago, she was a nanny. She has 1 son and 1 granddaughter. She has an affinity for painting (Donna Simon says that she is fantastic!), is a voracious reader, loves the theater and likes to dance.

Hope to see more of this delightful lady!



**WINTERFEST
SECTIONAL
JAN 23 - 26
WHEELING, IL**

Those who scratched —

- Mary Schultz — 7.72
- Jan Summers — 6.76
- Martha Harris — 3.85
- Don Cohen — 2.92
- Joe Connelly — 0.83
- John Goring — 0.80
- Brian Beecher — 0.80



Helen Miller is at The Symphony in Dyer for two weeks following a hospital stay.

2020 Indianapolis Crossroads of America Regional



These are the happy winners of masterpoints in Indianapolis during Jan 27 - Feb 2 —

- Chris Grande — 10.52
- Chuck and Marcy Tomes — 6.40
- John Polles and Alan Yngve — 5.78
- Mary Kocevar and Larry Dunford — 5.39
- Bill Birk and Terry Bauer — 4.90
- Larry Brown and Darrell Clinton — 4.90
- Sally and Rich Will — 4.09
- Carol Miller and Barbara Lawson — 3.74
- Patrice and Fred Princehorn — 2.51
- Jim McDonald — 2.48



Congratulations!

Chuck and Marcy Tomes attended their first regional with Sally and Rich Will in Indianapolis this past week. In the first Gold Rush event that they ever played, they won the whole Wednesday event with 15 tables and received 5.74 gold points! The next day the Wills and Tomes played Swiss teams and earned 0.66 red. It was a delightful time for all!



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COMMUNITY SPORTS RESULTS

BRIDGE

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB

JAN. 11 RESULTS

Dan Spain and Lou Nimnicht 2.63
Lynne Kostopoulos and Indra Gupta 1.97
Bill Birk and Anna Urosevich 1.48
Mary Kocevar and Susan Stromberg 0.98
Jim O'Connell and Barbara Graegin 0.97
Joe Chin and Paul Muszik 0.97
Jennie Alsobrooks and Dee Marshall 0.74
Barbara Walczak and Yuan Hsu 0.63
Helen Miller and Hilda Connor 0.63

CALUMET BRIDGE CLUB

JAN. 13 RESULTS

North-South
Lou Nimnicht and Dan Spain 3.21
Lynne Kostopoulos and Pat Valiska 2.41
Lou and Carol Gasparido 1.12
George Roeper and Paul Muszik 0.80
Don Valiska and Carol Osgerby 0.56
Alan and Arlyne Filler 0.39
Bob Porter and Jim Angell 0.38

East-West

Indra Gupta and Yuan Hsu 1.81
Barbara Walczak and Ram Prasad 1.35
Charlotte Abernethy and Anna Urlick 1.02
Mary Schultz and Mike Adami 0.84

John Goring and Marshall Levine 0.76
Pat Princehorn and Caron Espinosa 0.63
Daryl Fraley and Jerry Palm 0.52

BEACH BRIDGE CLUB

JAN. 14 RESULTS

Norm Szweczyk and Yuan Hsu 1.90
Wayne Carpenter and Laverne Niksch 1.43

DUNELAND BRIDGE CLUB

JAN. 14 RESULTS

Tom Rea and Chuck Tomes 0.60
Barbara Lawson and Carol Miller 0.42
Joel Charpentier and Dottie Hart 0.21
Don Giedemann and Judy Selund 0.21

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB

JAN. 15 RESULTS

Dave Bigler, Wayne Carpenter, Yuan Hsu and Laverne Niksch 3.27
Dan Spain, Norm Szweczyk, Jerry Palm and Lou Nimnicht 2.45
Martha Harris, Lydia Hawkins, Ram Prasad and Joel Charpentier 1.88
Barbara Stroud, Karen Sarsfield, Daryl Fraley and Janice Custer 1.41
Shawn Concannon, Rosemary McCarthy, Al Simmons and Zafar Khan 1.38
Jackie Chavez, Jan Merrick, Susan Stromberg and Anna Urosevich 1.06
Joe Chin, Barbara Graegin Jim O'Connell and George Goewey 0.91
Delphine Slater, Earl Duffin, Sarah Ayers and Caroline Hudson 0.82
George Roeper, Pat Valiska, Lynne Kostopoulos and Diane Martin 0.79
Bob Porter, Bob Ferguson, Wayne Hiser and Bill Hahn 0.61
Barbara Walczak, Ed d'Ouville, and Dan and Donna Simon 0.48
Pat Mikuta, Trudi McKamey and Alan and Arlyne Filler 0.48
Anna Urlick, Charlotte Abernethy, Esther Walenga and Peggy Kiernan 0.32
Ruth Hatcher, Mel Brown, Nick Steward and Jennie Alsobrooks 0.32
Bill Birk, Paul Muszik and Tony and Mary Ann Veeneman 0.32
Hilda Connor, Carolyn Potasnik, Marilyn Ginzal and Norma Vierrk 0.16
Monica Brown, Doris Green, Alta Allen and Elaine McGregory 0.16

VALPARAISO BRIDGE CLUB

JAN. 15 RESULTS

Chuck and Marcy Tomes 1.20

Anne Gott and Joan Armstrong 0.84
Judy Selund and Don Giedemann 0.60
Dolores Browne and Sharon Snyder 0.42
Ed Hollander and Rick Friedman 0.34

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB

Jan. 18 Results

Joe Chin and Jim O'Connell 2.48
Bill Birk and Terry Bauer 1.86
Dave Bigler and Ram Prasad 1.40
Yuan Hsu and Trudi McKamey 1.15
Hilda Connor and Carolyn Potasnik 0.86
Lou Nimnicht and Barbara Graegin 0.78
Pat Mikuta and Mary Kocevar 0.65
Donna Penn and Helen Thiros 0.52

CALUMET BRIDGE CLUB

Jan. 20 Results

North-South

George Roeper and Joe Chin 2.77
Jim O'Connell and Bob Ferguson 1.56
Jim Lively and Jane Krueger 1.14
Lou Gasparido and Fred Princehorn 0.83
Carol Osgerby and Don Valiska 0.70

East-West

Trudi McKamey and Bob Porter 2.08
Barbara Graegin and Mary Schultz 1.17
John Goring and Lou Nimnicht 0.88
Barbara Walczak and Dick Flood 0.86
Pat Princehorn and Caron Espinosa 0.62
Connie Stevens and Jerry Palm 0.49

BEACH BRIDGE CLUB

Jan. 21 Results

Alan Yngve and Mary Kocevar 1.90
Lou Nimnicht and Dan Spain 1.43
Joel Charpentier and Laverne Niksch 0.42
Trudi McKamey and Barbara Stroud 0.42

DUNELAND BRIDGE CLUB

Jan. 21 Results

Marcy and Chuck Tomes 1.00
Sally and Rich Will 0.70
Kris Prohl and Alan Yngve 0.50
Dolores Browne and Sharon Snyder 0.28
Trudi McKamey and Mary Kocevar 0.28
Barbara Stroud and Suzana Philbrick 0.22

COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB

Jan. 22 Results

Jim Angell and Alan Yngve 2.33
Wayne Carpenter and Dave Bigler 1.75
Dee Marshall and Terry Bauer 1.43
Barbara Graegin and Jim O'Connell 1.31
Paul Muszik and Jennie Alsobrooks 1.07
Pat Mikuta and Daryl Fraley 0.80

VALPARAISO BRIDGE CLUB

Jan. 22 Results

Donna Penn and Mary Kocevar 0.80
Rick Friedman and Ed Hollander 0.56
Jim Lane and Dolores Browne 0.48
Bill Hahn and Wayne Hiser 0.34

Community Bridge Club

Jan. 25 Results

Pat Mikuta and Hilda Connor 2.33
Jim O'Connell and Barbara Graegin 1.75
Daryl Fraley and Anna Urlick 1.31
Joe Chin and John Teshima 0.98
Jim Angell and Indra Gupta 0.98
Jim and Kay Lively 0.74
Larry Dunford and Mary Kocevar 0.41

Calumet Bridge Club

Jan. 27 Results

NORTH-SOUTH

Lou Nimnicht and Norm Szweczyk 1.72
Lynne Kostopoulos and Pat Valiska 1.29
Patrice and Fred Princehorn 0.77
Lou and Carol Gasparido 0.73
Carol Osgerby and Don Valiska 0.54
Arlyne and Alan Filler 0.37

EAST-WEST

Hilda Connor and Marilyn Ginzal 3.06
Al Simmons and Joe Chin 2.30
Barbara Walczak and Wayne Hiser 1.19
Barbara Stroud and Daryl Fraley 0.97
Yuan Hsu and Paul Muszik 0.44

Beach Bridge Club

Jan. 28 Results

Terry Bauer and Laverne Niksch 2.63
Dan Spain and Lou Nimnicht 1.97
Norm Szweczyk and Barbara Walczak 1.48
Alan Yngve and Mary Kocevar 0.48

INTERMEDIATE/NOVICE GAME

Joel Charpentier and Paul Muszik 0.92
Rick Friedman and Juwanna Walton 0.69
Kay and Jim Lively 0.52
Viktoria Voller and June Reisinger 0.29

Duneland Bridge Club

Jan. 28 Results

Lori and Tom Rea 0.60
Dolores Browne and Sharon Snyder 0.42
Bill Hahn and Wayne Hiser 0.22

Community Bridge Club

Jan. 29 Results

Dan Spain and Lou Nimnicht 2.19
Carolyn Potasnik and Yuan Hsu 1.64

Top 10 scorers for these 3 weeks — Lou Nimnicht — 17.26; Dan Spain — 13.88; Yuan Hsu — 10.84; Jim O'Connell — 8.98; Laverne Niksch — 7.75; Joe Chin — 7.64; Norm Szweczyk — 7.55; Barbara Walczak — 7.07; Hilda Connor — 7.04 and Barbara Graegin — 6.89 **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Valparaiso Bridge Club

Jan. 29 Results

Barbara Walczak and Bob Ferguson 1.08
Jim Angell and Bob Porter 1.08
Jim and Kay Lively 0.59
Martha Harris and Daryl Fraley 0.41
Terry Brendel and Fred Green 1.00
Don Giedemann and Judy Selund 0.70
Tom and Sylvia Luekens 0.50
Jim Lane and Dottie Hart 0.35

72.00%



Congratulations!

I checked back in the records, and I found 36 photos of Wayne Carpenter and Laverne Niksch who have had 70%+ games since I've been keeping track of that stat. The first one that appeared in the newsletter was on 7/25/06.

Laverne wrote, "Wayne and I had a good game in Portage. The cards favored our direction. Many of the hands were wild. Out of 25 boards we had 21 positive scores, 2 slams and 9 games. On 3 boards I thought Wayne should not have gone to game, but he did and we made them. Good job, Wayne!"

Wayne adds, "Anytime you get a 70% game, it's special. Laverne was playing well, so I put him in a few contracts that made him think a little harder. He came through! We played good defense, which makes for a better result. Writing about this game was a little harder, because I know this is maybe the last newsletter from Barb, but it does give me another chance to say thank you for your great work these past years."

UW Newcomers

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Anne and Jim Clark were newcomers to last Monday's game. They became involved in bridge last year when they went on a cruise vacation and learned the basics. They learned more about the game by playing some online games. And now — they were so excited to be part of a local group so that they could keep learning and meet new friends. Monday was a great experience for them — becoming aware of what they could strive for.

The Clarks are relatively new to Munster. They previously lived in the Chicago area and are now enjoying the Munster community. Jim was in advertising before retirement and Anne was (and still is) a homemaker. They have 3 children and 2 grandchildren. They both enjoy traveling and are golfers. But their most rewarding activity is spending time with family.



Love and kindness are never wasted. They bless those who receive them, and they bless the giver. Be kind to your fellow bridge players.

Happy Valentine's Day

Thank you to Terry Bauer who has volunteered to be our Northwest Indiana bi-monthly reporter to the Unit 154 newsletter, so that our unit and District 12 is informed of what we're up to and who's doing what and why.



THE END

Thank you for having been staunchly supportive of this endeavor.

LIFE MASTER



I started to play duplicate in 2014 to fill in the time after my wife died in 2014. I had no desire to get masterpoints or anything. I have had a wonderful time playing bridge and meeting my bridge family.

I need to thank several people. First, Marge Hedegard for teaching me discipline and to be accurate in my bidding. Next, Massimo for being such a great partner. Playing with Bill Birk and Karen Sarsfield helped me fine tune my game. Finally, but not least, Mary Kocevar for playing with me at gold events and teaching me to bid and play. It has been fun and I will continue to have a good time. Thank you all.

From **Mary Kocevar** — Congratulations Larry! Playing with Larry has been quite an adventure. We enjoy playing together, and we seem to like most, if not the same, conventions. He does not seem to be afraid to go for it. It certainly has paid off. I am so happy for him that he has achieved this goal. I hope we can continue to play together. Having fun is one of the perks of the game.

From **Karen Sarsfield** — I met Larry when we both walked into the Highland game, looking for a partner. He mentioned that he was on the quest for Life Master, and I agreed to help him achieve his goal. Since that time, we have partnered a lot and usually scratched. Larry has a good sense of the cards and rarely disappoints his partner. I am happy to hear that he has achieved the rank of Life Master. Well done, Larry!

From **Bill Birk** — Here comes the judge! To the ranks of Life Master!

Larry and I first partnered on December 19, 2017 at South Suburban Bridge. Since we were fortunate to place first out of 23 pairs, we formed a partnership that has continued to this day. Our highest club score was 67.9%, and our low was a humbling 39.4%. Our best tournament success was a 67.05% game. Larry is a passionate competitor and thoughtful partner. He overlooks my foolish bids and bumbleheaded errors. I regret not having been his partner when he achieved his Life Master rating. (Go Mary!) Larry, maybe I can be there when you become a Silver Life Master. Thank you for being a blessing in my life.



NEWCOMER LYDIA HAWKINS

This is actually Lydia's second visit to the Wednesday game. She came as a teammate for Martha Harris last month, and their picture was in the newsletter for coming in first in C (with Joel Charpentier and Ram Prasad).

Lydia's first bridge teacher was a professor at Rust College in Holly Springs MS. She lived in the same dormitory that Lydia lived in. The professor took 3 students into her room where she started teaching them bridge.

When Lydia first came to Gary there were social bridge clubs that needed members. She was working at West Side High School, where Jennie Also-brooks, Elwood Lumpkin, Joyce Dixon, Joe Chin and she played bridge at lunch time. As time went on she joined 3 other bridge clubs - Salguod (check it spelled backwards) at Douglas School, Los Novetts and the YWCA. She was also a member of the duplicate club in Tolleston.

Lydia was a Business Ed teacher. She has 2 children and 4 grandchildren. She loves singing — does most of it in a Baptist Church and at AME Zion Church. She is also a member of the Gary Civic Chorale which sings for the city of Gary.

LIFE MASTER + BRONZE LIFE MASTER



Pat Princehorn became a Life Master and a Bronze Life Master just overnight. Here is her story —

Fred and I took bridge lessons together in 1968 at Bowling Green State University. Then before we were married we played duplicate in the early 1970s in Toledo, Ohio and earned masterpoints. We thought that since I threw the masterpoint papers away, we were under the new system. Recently in Indianapolis, we met some men who had a similar situation. They encouraged us to call ACBL, who found a record of me under my maiden name. I actually became a Life Master on June 19, 2018, but I just learned this. I want to thank all of my dear partners and encouragers. Fred, Caron Espinosa, Pat D'Errico and I shared many bridge hands, hearty laughs, meals, car journeys and exhilarating times on our numerous tournament adventures. Lynne Kostopoulos always has been a most supportive teacher to me. These awards took me by surprise!

Congratulations, Pat! I am so lucky to have Pat as a partner and a best friend for thirty years. She is a gracious and skillful

player who is never critical. Whether traveling to tournaments or playing party bridge, she is always fun. Thank you for your generous and tireless work as a board member. You are truly a gift to those around you.

Fondly, ~ **Caron Espinosa** (That is Caron's picture in the blue in the photo with Pat.)

I first met Pat Princehorn when she started coming to our South Suburban Club when we were in Thornton. Although we have never partnered up, I have played against her countless times in these past 7 years. She is a very serious player and a very formidable opponent. She has contributed in so many ways to our club. She is a board member, an officer and someone who can be relied on at all times to pitch in. I was absolutely thrilled for her when she called me last week to say that she had achieved her Life Master status! It is very well deserved.

Congratulations, Pat! ~ **Lynne Kostopoulos**

Being Pat Princehorn's friend playing bridge, attending book club, enjoying plays or just chatting makes my times with her very special. She is always seriously concerned about the welfare of others. Even when she tops me at the bridge table, I feel happy because she wins with grace and poise. Attending tournaments with Pat is a guaranteed good time — win or lose.

Congratulations! ~ **Pat Derrico**

Pat and I have been playing bridge together for over 50 years — longer than we have been married. We took bridge lessons in college and played some duplicate in the 70s. We played some party/rubber bridge when we were raising our family, but returned to more serious duplicate bridge in 2014 after we retired.

Pat and I play together on a regular basis — generally 2 to 4 times per week. We don't use too many conventions but are in the process of perfecting Two Over One. She is solid and consistent in her bidding and play. We try to learn from our own and each others' mistakes.

I am extremely proud of Pat for these recent achievements. What a great benefit it is to have the same person for your best bridge partner and life partner, as well! ~ **Fred Princehorn**

