



THE DISTRICT 20 TRUMPET

www.ACBLD20.org



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Bridge Across the District

Spring 2021

The best D20 player you've never heard of

By Amy Casanova
The Trumpet

Jo Morse is District 20's most accomplished member by far. Morse moved to the Boise area in 2019 to be near her two daughters.

She has 10 first-place finishes in NABC+ events. Her last title was in 2003 when she won the Nail Life Master Pairs with Kyle

10-time NABC champion Jo Morse moves to Boise

Larsen. She was the third woman to win that event since it was opened to women in 1990.

Morse dominated women's events for decades, winning the Wagar Women's Knockout five times (1973, 1977, 1979, 1981 and 1986), the Whitehead Women's Pairs

(1983), the Marsha May Sternberg Women's BAM Teams (1990), and the Machlin Women's Swiss Teams (1991, 1998). She also has eight second-place finishes. She leads D20 with 26,000 masterpoints.

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Jo Morse of Boise is a Grand Life Master with 26,000 masterpoints, more than anyone else in District 20. She moved to the area from Florida in 2019.

ACBL revenue is up, even as membership declines

A year ago, I traveled to Horn Lake, Miss., for training as a newly elected district director. Who would have ever guessed what has happened in the last year?

On a positive note, the ACBL made money in the last year and our budget forecast has us making another

\$750,000 in 2021. While in previous years I would have attended meetings three times a year, since covid I've had at least two meetings a month. The board has been meeting via Zoom and committees have met regularly.

As the board is downsizing from 25 to 13 members, we are attempting to streamline tasks and responsibilities. Our management is capable and doesn't need micromanaging. Many clubs are doing well and we are seeing lots of teaching happening online.

We are offering a guest membership which has already led to some becoming regular members. District 20 is breaking even. Thanks again to

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Laurie Rowe
D20 District Director



July Ratley, Pete Grice, Jon Gustafson and Ellen McCumsey are joining the Goodwill Committee.

Giving back to bridge

ACBL Goodwill Committee gets four new members

By Jen Smith
The Trumpet

If there's anything we could all use more of, it's good news. And while it may feel like 2020 never really ended, with the dawn of 2021 comes this foursome to join the Goodwill Committee.

So put on your best comfy quarantine outfit and cozy up to this group of dogooders.

July Ratley

Among the appointees is a trio of district board members. July Ratley of Redding, Calif., represents Area 2 – the California units – and serves as district treasurer.

According to longtime partner and friend Bud Hamilton, Ratley is not only a skilled bridge player, but also an excellent

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Pandemic enters year two

Time remains unclear for return to normalcy

Too much and not enough.

We have lost far too many players in the last few months: Diane Cullen, Barbara Dunn, Mary Hovda, Ian Kirk, Jack Marsh, Jim Milne, Betty Rossmann and so many others.



Mike Eyer
D20 President

It's a reminder to always be kind and grateful to your opponents and especially your partners. And to reach out to those whom we aren't seeing at all, or infrequently, online.

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Bend, Eugene canceled

The ACBL has extended cancellations of tournament sanctions

through July, eliminating both the Oregon High Desert Regional, which had been slated for May 24–30 at the Riverhouse in Bend, and the Emerald Empire Regional, planned for July 26–Aug. 1 at Valley River Inn in Eugene.



Jim Wheeler
Tournament Manager

We are all looking forward to D20's next regional where we can play face-to-face bridge again.

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Hawaiians lead district in masterpoint races

A pair of Hawaiians scored the highest placings in national masterpoint races. Gary Haynie of Kailua was fourth in both the Mini-McKenney and the Ace of Clubs for the 5–20 bracket. Bill Stevenson of Honolulu was fourth in the Ace of Clubs and fifth in the Mini-McKenney for the 100–200 bracket.

Despite being in a low bracket, Stevenson, with 389.92 masterpoints, was third

in the district, behind Irva Kay Neyhart of Portland and Eileen Boal of Albany, Ore. Neyhart, a three-time national Ace of Clubs winner, placed seventh in the Mini-McKenney and ninth in the Ace of Clubs.

Louis Beauchet, the district's only active junior player, placed fifth in youth and sixth in juniors.

The only other district player to crack the top 10 of any race was Jared Jenkins

of Boise, who placed sixth in the Ace of Clubs for 5–20.

In district races, the lower brackets were dominated by Hawaiians across the board, who benefitted from playing in a unified virtual club. All of the clubs in the Honolulu unit pooled to create much larger games than those provided elsewhere.

See results of District 20 races on page 9.

Adjusting to bridge all day, working alone

Last year, on March 9, I sent off the spring issue of *The Trumpet* to the printer. I imagine there are probably many unopened boxes of that issue sitting at empty bridge clubs, or already recycled. The last live game I played was in March — Friday the 13th. Inauspicious.

One year later, it feels like we are beginning to emerge from the darkness of 2020, ready to resume our lives in public. It's difficult to quantify what we have lost.

For me, it is very different to spend so much time at home. I have always done some work at home, but now I realize that this is my full-time future, working from home. No co-workers to joke around with or customers to interact with.

My son Noah and I have been watching a show together called "Superstore." It's about the people who work at a big-box store, like a Walmart or Target. I use the term "work" lightly, as they don't seem to do much except goof off. But they make it look so *fun*, I almost want to get a retail job. Even though I am missing out or giving up interpersonal relationships with a work-from-home job, it's totally worth it.

At first, I felt overwhelmed with bridge. I was reading, writing and playing bridge so many hours per day. If any of those suffered, it was most definitely my play.

There were times when I thought I didn't deserve to be editing any articles about this game. But I adjusted and managed to find a balance. Sometimes I think my game has improved since my immersion program began, but it seems a terrible bid or play lurks around every corner.

Living in Portland, I don't have much of an insider's view of the workings of the ACBL. I don't envy the board or management and the tough decisions they face. There have been hits and misses. I pay attention to the complaints and sometimes I agree with them. I realize I am a reactionary person, and usually after I've cooled down, my perspective changes. Or I acknowledge that I don't always fully understand the situation. I have to believe that anyone involved with bridge and its organization, at whatever level, is only doing it because they love the game and want to do the best.

I also believe the ACBL sincerely cares about its players and employees, and their timeline for reopening is a hit. Remember that there are many directors, players, club owners and managers who might not be vaccinated until much later this year. I am looking forward to live play to resume this summer — first at the clubs, and then hopefully at section-

als and regionals.

Will we wear masks? Will there be food and drinks? How close will the tables be? There are so many questions and, right now, not many answers. The same goes for integrating online play with live club play.

Just like with bridge, unilateral decisions don't always work out. It's best to keep all options open and communicate effectively to get to the best spot.

Online play has been available since the 1990s and, whatever happens, some level of online bridge is here to stay. In addition, whether it's email, results, calendars or schedules, the district's and league's websites will be the best way for us to communicate — and the best place for you to find information.

There won't be copies of *The Trumpet* sitting around for a while. The debate about whether or not to print the paper is still lively and ongoing. For some, it's a no-brainer: newspapers are dead, didn't you hear? Others are staunch defenders of having a print edition.

I think it's certainly reasonable to discontinue printing until our regional tournaments are back in full swing. What do you think? Drop me a line at trumpet-editor@gmail.com and let me know your thoughts.

Amy Casanova can be reached at trumpeteditor@gmail.com.



Amy Casanova
Managing Editor

A quiet partscore or the thrill of a redouble?

What's your favorite contract?

I often have to come up with player roundup questions for the daily bulletin at NABCs, especially during the Youth NABC.

Last time we had one was summer 2019. One of the questions I asked the kids was their favorite contract. There were of course a variety of answers — that's the point — but there was one that was more popular than anything else: 1NT.

Those who picked 1NT also tended to have the most well-thought answers. One reason people like it is that there's such a wide variety of outcomes. It can be difficult to play and fun to defend because you might not make it. But it also offers the greatest prospects for overtricks. Making three is common, four is not unusual, and even five sometimes happens. The bad ones can go down three or four.

My record on defense against 1NT is doubled down five. I liked that one enough to write about it (Nov./Dec. 2013).

In a recent robot game I played 1NT making seven. It was, as robot results often are, ridiculous. Take a look.

Dr: North ♠A J 10
Vul: N-S ♥K Q 9 7 5
♦7 4 3
♣9 6

♠Q 8 5 ♠6 4 2
♥10 6 2 ♥J 6 3
♦A K Q 6 ♦10 9 8 2
♣8 4 3 ♣K J 5
♠K 9 7 3
♥A 4
♦J 5
♣A Q 10 7 2

West	North	East	Chip
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT!	All Pass	

North has a rebid problem, though most experts would have no qualms about raising spades on three good ones. But the robot chose 1NT — without a diamond stopper.

Now suppose after this is passed out that the player sitting East suddenly leaves the table to deal with an emergency, and

you, a passerby, are asked to sit in. Are you going to ask for a review of the bidding? Do you even care what the contract is? Or are you *always* leading the ♦10 because you have no other leads?

Robots are fond of leading low from three small. Out came the ♠2.

This lead helpfully picks off West's queen. I win the ace and play the ♣9, covered by the jack and queen. When that holds, I play a spade back to my ♠10. Now finesse a club to the ♣10. Cash the ♠A, finding the 3-3 break and pitching a diamond. Cash two more clubs, throwing the remaining diamonds. Now the ♥A and a heart to the ♥K. When hearts also break 3-3, I'm making seven.

With only a combined 24 HCP, friendly breaks and everything sitting just right, it legitimately makes 11 tricks in clubs, hearts or spades. Nine in notrump.

Making seven would be more fun if I could get over how offended I am at the failure to lead a diamond.

When I'm asked what my favorite contract is, I say, "some number of clubs doubled." And my favorite result is that with an overtrick. Four making five, five making six, six making seven, I'm not picky. I've played all of those and they're delightful.

This week, though, I might have found a new favorite. Here's my hand:

♠— ♥9 5 4 2 ♦Q J 7 ♣K J 10 9 7 6.

In first seat, both vulnerable, I open 3♣. LHO doubles and my partner redoubles. Oh boy, what does that mean? I think he has defense for whatever they bid and no help in clubs. RHO, a robot, passes. I'm not sure if I should do something, but I pass. And so does LHO. I'm in 3♣ redoubled!

This is a rush — my heart is racing. LHO leads a spade and this is dummy:

♠A J 8 7 2 ♥A Q J 3 ♦A 5 2 ♣3.

I win the ♠A, pitching a diamond, and play the club. The robot plays the ♣8, so I cover with the 9. West wins the ♠A and shifts to a heart.

There's one thing I'm 100% sure of on this hand, and it's that West has the ♥K. The lead of a low spade implies he doesn't

have both spade honors, so East must have one. East is also marked with the ♣Q. West can hardly have a takeout double at the three level vulnerable without all the missing honors.

I play dummy's ♥Q and it loses to the ♥K. It is one of my great pet peeves when people turn up with cards they are known not to have. The robot returns the ♦9 to the Q, K, A. This has given me an entry to my hand, so I play a diamond to the jack and resume pulling trump.

When I cash the ♠K, West shows out, so clubs are 5-1. I would have three natural trump losers if not for the robot's play at trick 2, which made all my spots equal. I continue with the ♣J and East ducks. Then the ♠6, also ducked. East is left with just the high trump, so at this point it's safe to play hearts.

There's one thing I'm 100% sure of on this hand, and it's that hearts are 4-1. Why else would West have doubled with at most 10 HCP if he was not seduced by his perfect 4=4=4=1 shape?

I play a heart to the jack and East follows. OK, I'm giving up on making inferences against this pair — clearly their bids have no meaning whatsoever.

When I cash the ♥A, East declines to ruff, so I return to my hand with a heart to the 9. The ♣7 forces out the ♣Q and I ruff the return with my ♠10 for the last trick.

They took three tricks — two clubs and a heart — so I make four. That's plus 1240!

Dr: South ♠A J 8 7 2

Vul: Both ♥A Q J 3
♦A 5 2
♣3

♠Q 10 9 5 4 ♠K 6 3
♥10 8 6 ♥K 7
♦K 10 6 3 ♦9 8 4
♣A ♣Q 8 5 4 2

♠—
♥9 5 4 2
♦Q J 7
♣K J 10 9 7 6

I think West deserved what he got for that double. Holding just one defensive trick, when the redouble comes around, he should run to 3♠, hoping to get out for 500.

Chip Dombrowski can be reached at chip.dombrowski@acbl.org.

Letters

The roller coaster

I discovered something recently. I used to enjoy the early days on BBO. But over the past couple of months, bridge had begun to fade on the fun meter.

Then I discovered what the problem was. On BBO, we know our scores after each hand. So, 18-20 times a game, I found myself either elated or beating myself up, depending on how the hand went.

What a roller coaster! When we used to play in person, we didn't know how we did until the session was over. My focus was on my partner, the cards and our wonderful community — and the snacks.

The solution! For the past several games, I tried something new. I do NOT look at the history after each hand. I will take a little peak every so often, but mostly I ignore that feature. And I am happy again!

If you are struggling with the roller coaster, give it a try!

Susie Leo
Eugene OR

Deaths

Marilyn Carmichael — 89, of White Salmon WA died April 12, 2020.

Elizabeth Currier — 95, of Albany OR died Dec. 12, 2020.

Barbara Dunn — 86, of Portland OR died Jan. 7, 2021.

Dolores Echanis — 91, of Ontario OR died Jan. 20, 2021.

Mary Hawkins — 96, of Redding CA died Jan. 24, 2021.

Nancy Johnson — 86, of Bend OR died Dec. 25, 2020.

Ian Kirk — 67, of Portland OR died Jan. 30, 2021.

Jack Marsh — 85, of Portland OR died Dec. 16, 2020.

James Milne — 95, of Portland OR died Dec. 21, 2020.

Betty Rossmann — 104, of Portland OR died Feb. 25, 2021.

Ken Stulgis — 86, of Longview WA died Jan. 30, 2021.

Stewart Trimble — 76, of Dallas OR died Aug. 24, 2020.

Gerri Wolfe — 79, of Red Bluff CA died Dec. 31, 2020.

Tom Young — 97, of Vancouver WA died Jan. 1, 2021.



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New Life Masters: Please send a photo for publication by email.

NAP AND GNT

GNTs in progress; NAP goes online

KO phase will begin in April with quarterfinals

Our 2020-21 GNTs are in full swing. This year we have 53 teams playing in our four flights. There are nine teams in the open, 14 teams in both the A and B flights, and 16 teams in C.

We have teams from all parts of D20 participating. Teams are playing round robins in their brackets with the top teams moving on to knockouts. We have already played more than 200 matches. The results of all the matches are available on the D20 website. People might be astounded at all the information about our teams that is available.

Because we have so many teams in A, B and C we are able to qualify eight teams for our KO rounds. We will be contesting KO starting in April and running through mid-May. The winners in the open and A will be eligible to represent D20 at the nationals later this year (either

online this summer or in Austin). Both the winners and the runners-up from B and C will be eligible to represent us.

There is a new wrinkle in our online world. Various platforms now offer some combination of voice or voice and video while playing. BBO just offers voice. The ACBL wants the GNT KO portions to be played with the same type of security that they use in their online KO events. In the future online KOs will need to have virtual screenmates (video connection with one opponent).

Because D20 is so far along, we will not be required to implement these changes in all our KO matches this year. We will require virtual screenmates for the finals in the open and flight A. The ACBL will be providing some training. Several members of the North American Events Committee will participate



Hal Montgomery
NA Events Coordinator

in the training and be available to help teams setup virtual screenmates. We encourage any team to try voice and video for their RR or KO matches.

I would like players to send me interesting hands from their GNT matches. I plan to publish some from every flight and will provide prizes for the most interesting hands and best write-ups. Let us share our triumphs districtwide.

North American Pairs

The 2019-20 NAP finals that were originally going to be contested in Columbus are going to be held online using BBO during the spring online nationals on March 11-12. The pairs that qualified have been notified and are raring to go. Please support your friends as they will be representing us in the national finals.

There were no NAP qualifying games in the 2020 covid summer. We will have qualifying games this summer and face-to-face NAP finals in the spring of 2022.

Hal Montgomery can be reached at dewitt@imaginata.com.

District Board

Budget hinges on whether Seaside is held

Loss of \$17K projected if no regionals this year

President **Mike Eyer** welcomed 22 district officials, tournament directors and guests to the annual meeting held Feb. 27 via Zoom. Some of the more seasoned users schooled others in such niceties as placing oneself on mute when not talking and how to raise your digital hand.

Eyer began by asking for silence while the group remembered players around the district who died recently. Many were named and they will be memorialized in the meeting minutes.

We reviewed 2020 finances and approved a budget for 2021. The only 2020 event was the Oregon Trail tourney. The income from that successful tournament

and the outstanding attendance in the online GNTs allowed us to show a net income of \$1,935.

The budget was a little difficult to develop in these times. The finance committee, in its meeting last week, recommended a budget with no 2021 tournaments. The only one with a chance of



Marie Ashton
Business Manager

being held will be Seaside in the fall. At this time, ACBL is allowing regionals to be held starting in October, but district director **Laurie Rowe** is campaigning for an exception, with a start on Sept. 27. The budget will be revised if that happens, but at this point a loss of \$17,000 is projected.

There were many lively discussions during the nearly four-hour session, not the least of which was about the expense of the Trumpet. The board voted to continue with online only production at this time, but to discuss the option of printing again for the Seaside tourney. Arguments included the lower cost of digital, the attraction of holding a print version in your hands, and reformatting to legal size to allow members to print at home.

The board voted to publish daily bulletins at regionals online only.

Tournaments scheduled for Bend and Eugene this year were canceled as per ACBL guidelines.

Angela Jacob is working with the Nampa Convention Center to schedule a tournament for Aug. 1-7, 2022. **Jim Wheeler** was able to renegotiate the Bend contract to a lower amount for 2021, which might be carried over to 2022.

Raj Garg, finance committee member, presented a proposal for the district to take over sponsorship of the Learn to Play Bridge program. With the Portland Bridge Club in agreement, the board approved the motion.

Learn to Play Bridge is a self-sustaining 24-week program with one hour of lesson, one hour of supervised play and homework for \$15 per week. Volunteers will be tapped to help with the program.

Hal Montgomery reported that the 2021 GNT event has attracted 53 teams, up from 47 in 2020. He also proposed a subsidy schedule for Flights B and C in the teams and pairs events for when travel to NABCs resumes. The board agreed to subsidies of \$200 per person for first-place team members and \$150 per person for second-place members in the GNTs and, for North American Pairs,

Play of the Hand

Stealing under the cover of darkness

One place you can steal something, get caught red-handed, and still come out a winner is at the bridge table.

Take this hand, for instance, played in a virtual club match play game on BBO. After North transferred South to spades and bid game, West led the top of his doubleton hearts.



Jim Flint
Play of the Hand

As is always a good idea, South, before calling for a card, thought about the hand for a few seconds. He knew the field would probably make 11 tricks, likely losing a spade and a club. If he can make an extra trick, that would surely produce a top board.

He decided part of the plan would be to hide his strength in hearts so they wouldn't be considered a threat. So, he played low from dummy and took the trick with his ace, trying to give the impression he didn't have the queen or jack.

OK, the seed was planted. Now it was time to try to pull off the steal. Remember,

Dir: South
Vul: None
Lead: ♥9

♠K J 9
♥9 3
♦9 7 4 3 2
♣A 9 2

♠Q 10 8 6 4 2
♥K 8 2
♦5
♣K Q 6

♠3
♥10 7 5
♦K Q 8 6
♣10 8 7 5 4

♠A 7 5
♥A Q J 6 4
♦A J 10
♣J 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

your attempt to steal a trick might have more chance of success if done "under the cover of darkness." So, don't shine a light on your, um, hole card.

South drew one round of trumps with the ace and led a small spade towards dummy. West played the jack and declarer won the trick with queen, leading a third spade to clear trumps.

West led back a diamond, won by declarer. Now the coup de grâce. South can-

not cash hearts first because there is no way he can avoid a club loser. But if he hides the fact that he has runnable hearts and leads a club first, West might be talked into ducking the first one, hesitant to go up with the ace and making dummy's ♠KQ both good.

And indeed, she ducked, dummy's ♠K winning. Now declarer shifts gears, cashes his hearts, sluffing dummy's remaining two clubs on the last two hearts in his hand, making 12 tricks. West's club trick disappeared.

In this hand, South kept his heart threat in the dark until it was too late for West to defend correctly. If South plays hearts first, sluffing two of dummy's clubs, there is no subterfuge, no steal.

If you have a threat that might gain a trick, keep it in the shade until you're ready to use it.

Sometimes a little larceny pays off. If you pull it off in a future hand, congratulations. But keep quiet about it at the table. Stealing is OK in bridge, but gloating about it is always bad form.

Reach Jim Flint at pubathome@yahoo.com.

In Memoriam

Betty Rossmann

Feb. 18, 1917 – Feb. 25, 2021

By Betsy McCormick

Betty Rossmann was born in the Portland neighborhood of St. Johns. Her mother, Marvel, hosted a dinner party that very night. It's clear that Betty got some of her pluck and love of entertaining from her.

Betty was always independent and challenging. The next-door neighbor used to tell Marvel, "Oh my god! How do you do it? I'd rather raise a wildcat in Africa than a child like Betty!"

Precocious in school, Betty skipped two grades. At age 16 she entered the University of Oregon to study architecture. Betty loved design, creating, working with patterns and solving problems. These interests also served her

well at bridge. She had an uncanny ability to count the cards, find the queen and remember previously played hands.

Betty learned the game from her mother and grandmother; at age 5 she filled in as a fourth.

Betty's father came home one day and told her that Harold Vanderbilt had just invented a new game called contract bridge. He encouraged her to take bridge lessons, which she did – not because she really wanted to learn contract bridge, but because there were so many cute boys in the class. Betty loved men! She was married three times.

Long after Betty became a Life Master, she married her third husband, Wally. He was an excellent bridge player who loved to go to tournaments, but he preferred to play with his



Betty Rossmann

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In Memoriam

Jack Marsh

July 7, 1935 – Dec. 16, 2020

By Nick Flores

My grandfather, Jack Marsh, died in his sleep at OHSU under hospice care on Dec. 16 after suffering two strokes on Nov. 27.

Jack was born in Portland in 1935 and his family eventually settled in Milwaukie, Ore. He was a lifelong athlete, playing football for Milwaukie High School as an offensive lineman, and played golf, caddying at Waverly Country Club. In college he picked up the sport of handball, which he would play for the rest of his life. He won dozens of state and regional handball tournaments into his 60s before introducing me to the game.

After graduating from high school in 1953, Jack spent six months in the Marine Corps, earning the Sharpshooter designation, the second highest sniper rank in the Marine Corps. A perforated eardrum led to an honorable discharge. He then decided to enroll at the University of Oregon, graduating with a degree in business administration in 1958.

During his time at U of O he met the love of his life, Dorothy, whom he married in 1956 and raised three daughters with her. They were married for 59 years until Dorothy's death in 2016. He was a founding partner at Mitchell, Marsh & Dillard, an insurance brokerage in Milwaukie.

In the 1960s, Jack and Dorothy took bridge lessons and began playing in local club games. Dorothy enjoyed the social side of bridge, and transitioned to playing rubber bridge with a small group of friends in their homes. Jack enjoyed the competitive side of bridge and began playing more seriously, developing his bridge skills over many decades.

He played regularly in both club games and sectional and regional tournaments.

When Grandpa introduced me to bridge in 2000, just prior to my 10th birthday, some of his frequent partners were Jim Toner, Don Morey, and his childhood best friend, Tom Weeg. Once he got me hooked on bridge, I quickly became his new favorite partner.

In 2003 we won enough masterpoints to earn me the 2003 Homer J. Schoop scholarship, and I later won the 2009 King of Bridge scholarship as well, both thanks to Grandpa's talent more than mine.

As my teenage years began to fill up with school, handball, and other interests, Grandpa went back to playing with other partners. He was a Gold Life Master with over 4200 masterpoints.

He also continued to play handball with his friends at the Milwaukie Elks Lodge right up until the pandemic forced the courts to shut down.

He remained independent until the end, maintaining his own home and yard. When the family made the decision to carry out his end of life wishes and begin hospice care, the nurses went to his room to remove his feeding tube, only to discover that he had already pulled it out on his own. He passed away four days later, on his own terms.

Our family would like to thank the bridge community for its friendship to my grandfather over the many decades that he participated in the game. Bridge and its wonderful community members helped him live a long and rich life.



Jack Marsh



Nick Flores, the 2009 King of Bridge, is the grandson of Jack Marsh.

Ian Kirk

May 15, 1953 – Jan. 30, 2021

By Margi Redden and Veronica Reeves

It is with great sadness that we report that Ian Kirk passed from colon cancer on Jan. 30, 2021.

Ian was born in Epping, in the county of Essex, England, to John Kenneth Kirk and Madeline Alice Knight. In 1954, he won third place in a beautiful baby competition; his sister Janet still has the newspaper clippings from that memory.

He began playing bridge at a young age with his grandparents, Nancy and "Granddad" Lynch. Later in life, before he moved to the United States, he played with his dad's sister, Margaret, who jokingly said he took bridge way too seriously for her. He loved playing against the Welsh women's bridge team in the '70s.

He maintained his dry British wit throughout his life.

In his years here in Portland, he di-

rected at several clubs and ended up teaching bridge to multiple people and friends. He was known for his booming laugh, and his accent that seemed to get thicker when he met new people. He was married to Linda Kirk of Portland from 1993 to 2003.

Ian's other passion was contra dancing. He remembered contra dancing from his childhood in England. He used to say "If you can count to eight, you can contra dance; if you can count to 40, you can play bridge."

Cancer and covid took contra dancing away from Ian. Bridge continued online until the last week of his life, even in hospice.

His last text, about 15 minutes before he died, was "no bridge today."

He is survived by his two full siblings, Janet and Estelle, three half siblings, Derek, Fiona and Catherine, six nephews, two nieces, one great nephew and one great-great nephew.

Donations can be made in Ian's name to the ACBL Educational Foundation.



Ian Kirk

Jim Milne

Feb. 16, 1925 – Dec. 21, 2020

With a twinkle in his eye and a charming Scottish brogue, Jim Milne was always a fun and worthy opponent at the bridge table.

His extensive obituary in The Oregonian provided an insight into his long and successful career as an engineer and businessman with deep ties to the city of Portland.

He would want to be known for his buildings, his business, his generosity and his commitment to the church.

But it is possible that his relationships with people gave him the most gratification.

In bridge he warned "There is many a man who spent the rest of his life walking the banks of the Thames, broke and penniless for failing to lead out trump!"



Jim Milne

Stay @HOME

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Next ACBL Tournament

April 22-25
acbl.org/virtual

**ACBL District 20
Grand National Teams
2021 Finals**

**Win a trip to the
Fall NABC
in Austin, TX?**

Play in the D20 GNT Finals online. Winning teams in some flights will receive a subsidy of up to \$1,200 if travel is required

District Finals

Online competition via BBO is in progress with Round-Robin matches in each of the four flights! Top teams from the Round-Robin will advance to a playoff round in March/April to determine the champions in each flight. Additional fees will be charged for playoff participants.

National Finals

Winning teams from each of the four flights are eligible to advance from the district finals to the nationals. It has not been determined whether the national finals will be held online this summer or in person in the fall. In the event they are held in Austin, first place teams in flights B and C will receive a subsidy of up to \$1200 depending on the number of players on the team. Additionally, the second place team in flights B and C are eligible and will receive a subsidy of up to \$900. Winning teams in the championship flight and flight A will not receive subsidies.

Need more information?

The ACBL Conditions of Contest is available online at:
<http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/coc/gnt/GNT2020-21.pdf> or
https://web2.acbl.org/NA_Events/GNT/2021/D20_GNT_CoC.pdf or
https://web2.acbl.org/NA_Events/GNT_info.pdf

Or, contact Hal Montgomery, (503) 583-3717, dewitt@imaginata.com



THE IN! CROWD

For Intermediate/Newcomer Players

Where are your eighth and ninth tricks coming from?



Margi Redden
D20 I/N Coordinator

Where's Sherry?

District 20 I/N Coordinator Margi Redden is still looking for Sherry Squirrel following her escape last quarter. As Margi winds down her term as I/N coordinator, we are unsure if she will return.

Until she does or a new I/N coordinator takes over, guest contributors will offer lesson columns. This offering from Hal Montgomery may be difficult for many I/N readers, but more advanced intermediate players may appreciate the expert advice.

We will try to aim for the right level next time.

At teams, after the following auction you find yourself in 3NT with the lead of the ♥8.

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	1♥	1♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	2NT
		All Pass	
	♠K 2		
	♥J 4		
	♦A 8 5 2		
	♣AJ 7 4 2		
	♠A 10 8 7 4		
	♥K Q 5		
	♦K J 9		
	♣8 3		

I played this hand recently and found it interesting. You have seven sure tricks – two spades, two hearts, two diamonds and one club – and must find two more.

There were several lines of play that came to mind. Either spades or diamonds offer hope for bringing in four tricks. I could try to find spades 3-3 or the Q-J doubleton. I could try to bring in four diamond tricks by finessing the jack. Maybe they are 3-3, or if East has the singleton ♦Q, she will show out on the second round and I can finesse against the ♦10. If that is the case, because the diamond suit is blocked, I would need to be

careful with my dummy entries.

How should I play the hearts? If I play low at trick one, East might put up the ace allowing me to unblock a heart honor from my hand and have the ♥J as an entry to the dummy to take the diamond finesse. If I play the ♥J, East might win the ace, fearful that ducking might give me three heart winners. This might serve to cut communications between the defenders if West were to win a late spade.

I had so many choices.

There are 14 missing points. East must have most of the missing points for her opening heart bid. She will have the ♥A, ♣K, and two of the queens at a minimum.

I played the ♥J hoping that it would hold, but East won and returned the ♥6. Now what?

I saw that I might make 3NT if RHO's club holding is K-Q doubleton. When LHO gets in on the third or fourth round of clubs, she won't have a heart to return.

I led a club to the ace but didn't find an honor. Now I was down to either spades splitting or four diamond tricks.

I tried a diamond to the jack, which held. When I cashed the ♦K, East played the queen. When I led the ♦9, LHO played low.

A good defender will always make it hard on declarer by playing the card he is

known to hold in this type of situation. But not everybody plays as well as TGBH. The odds favored finessing. RHO held more hearts, so there was more room for LHO to have four diamonds than for RHO to have three. The diamond finesse won so I made 3NT for a push.

This turns out to be an instructive hand for defenders. East should always play the ♦Q – the card she's known to hold – from a holding such as Q 10 x. Now, when I finesse against presumed 10 x x on my left, I go wrong when diamonds are 3-3.

If RHO had kept the ♥A as an entry, I could not have set up a long spade if the suit split 4-2. Keep your entries and make declarer guess. That is being a tough defender.

Dir: East	♠K 2	
Vul: None	♥J 4	
	♦A 8 5 2	
	♣AJ 7 4 2	
	♠Q J 6 5	♠9 3
	♥8 7 2	♥A 10 9 6 3
	♦10 7 6 3	♦Q 4
	♣10 6	♣K Q 9 5
		♠A 10 8 7 4
		♥K Q 5
		♦K J 9
		♣8 3

Hal Montgomery can be reached at dewitt@imaginata.com.

DISTRICT 20 RANK CHANGES

JUNIOR MASTERS

- Lori Cooke, Waikoloa HI
- Vicki Flier, Boise ID
- Lee Lucas, Sisters OR
- Carol Ogburn, Meridian ID
- Barbara Phipps, Oakridge OR
- Laura Rose, Eureka CA
- Nancy Schwartz, Portland OR
- Bob Speaker, Corvallis OR
- Susan Sprow, Portland OR
- Carol Stams, Honolulu HI
- Cindy Vanover, Kailua HI
- Ron Wolfe, Waikoloa HI

CLUB MASTERS

- Niki Aberle, Portland OR
- Brian Anderson, Springfield OR
- Glenda Anderson, Springfield OR
- Aleen Arbaugh, Eureka CA
- Cristin Babcock, Creswell OR
- Margaret Bartell, Eugene OR
- Jan Burnham, Chico CA
- Mark Chasse, Portland OR
- John Culp, Ridgefield WA
- Christine Donchin, Ashland OR
- Laura Evanisko, Eugene OR
- Susan Ford, Philomath OR
- Rich Frankenfield, Corvallis OR
- Judy Hyde, Kamuela HI
- Deanna McMahon, Boise ID
- Rebecca O'Donnell, Vancouver WA
- Judy Pearce, Pearl City HI
- Barbara Pope, Eugene OR
- Philip Rowberg, Chico CA
- Bob Russell, Portland OR
- David Soderquist, Redmond OR
- Joyce Spoehr, Honolulu HI
- Cindy Vanover, Kailua HI

SECTIONAL MASTERS

- Nikki Blum, Redding CA
- Leslie Caldwell, Silverton OR
- Kevin Campbell, Corvallis OR
- Jean Carroll, Grants Pass OR
- Mary Donley, Portland OR
- Mary Dreyer, Portland OR
- Joanne Fisher-Flammang, Ashland OR
- Wayne Harmon, Grants Pass OR
- Barbara Harrison, Boise ID
- Michael Kerner, Portland OR
- Mary Kessler, Lake Oswego OR
- Dana Luedtke, Portland OR
- Sheri Markwardt, Milwaukie OR
- Carole Ann Milton, Bend OR
- Gwen Mitchell, Medford OR
- Jo Noble, Portland OR
- Judie Rubert, Neskowin OR

REGIONAL MASTERS

- Diane Bending, Corvallis OR
- Jonathan Bles, Redding CA
- Jean Buckley, Portland OR
- Anita Caviglia, Newberg OR
- Alfred Deichsel, Longview WA
- Diane French, Salem OR
- Gay Gale, Honolulu HI
- Susan Jackson, Salem OR
- Stephen Jackson, Salem OR
- Jared Jenkins, Boise ID
- Michael Keeney, Salem OR
- Jean Milner, Grass Valley CA
- Greg Parker, Redding CA
- Steve Parker, Portland OR
- Judith Rosen, Bend OR
- Rollie Seibert, Wilsonville OR

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- Claire Doherty, Portland OR
- Barbara Durkin, Honolulu HI
- Debbie Grasham, Brookings OR
- Ancer Haggerty, Portland OR
- Bruce Hanni, Eagle ID
- Molly Herrle, Portland OR
- Ali Nice, Eugene OR
- Martin Nice, Eugene OR
- Care Parker, Portland OR
- Rebecca Pelissero, Kula HI
- Elisabeth Perchellet, Salem OR
- Stephen Prokop, Brookings OR
- Carl Scheffler, Eugene OR
- William Stine, Central Point OR

ADVANCED NABC MASTERS

- Deborah Ayars, Waipahu HI
- William Stevenson, Honolulu HI
- Beth Unger, Portland OR

BRONZE LIFE MASTERS

- Shirley Gilbreath, Eagle ID
- Mark Hickman, Bend OR
- Donna Janner, Longview WA
- Darrel Mooney, Boise ID
- David Muller, Vancouver WA
- Carol Nystrom, Vancouver WA
- Carol Schmid, Lake Oswego OR
- Linda Smith, Corvallis OR
- Judith Wilkinson, Portland OR

SILVER LIFE MASTERS

- Julia Christensen, Boise ID
- Clyde Coon, Boise ID
- Sherri Faroky, Chico CA
- Ronald Foerster, Bend OR
- Michael Hollins, Redding CA
- Jerry Kenefick, Ashland OR
- George Kuppler, Brookings OR
- Larry MacCaughey, Grass Valley CA
- Douglas Merritt, Grants Pass OR
- Terry Nagel, Eugene OR
- Jessica Onstrom, Portland OR
- Barbara Stirling, Portland OR
- Terry Strand, Lake Oswego OR

RUBY LIFE MASTERS

- Nancy Crawford, Portland OR
- Angie Knight, Central Point OR
- Martin Leftik, Honolulu HI
- Francesca Luzuriaga, Koloa HI
- Anna Sung, Honolulu HI
- Jack Wetherson, Keizer OR

GOLD LIFE MASTERS

- Roger Barker, Albany OR
- Ronald Wong, Honolulu HI

SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTERS

- Steve Kaessner, Chico CA
- Susan Kroning, Seaside OR
- Steven Pessin, Eugene OR

DIAMOND LIFE MASTERS

- Douglas Jacobs, Chico CA
- Robert Scott, Ashland OR

EMERALD LIFE MASTERS

- Dewitt (Hal) Montgomery III, Portland OR
- Irva Neyhart, Portland OR

PLATINUM LIFE MASTERS

- John Ashton, Portland OR



New Life Masters

Congratulations!



Patricia Berg
Princeville HI



Larry Diamant
Ashland OR



Joe Grafe
Kihei HI



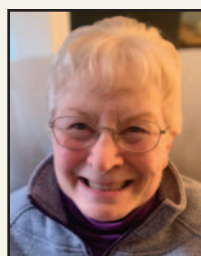
Brad Hanna
Clackamas OR



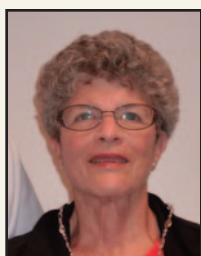
Donna Janner
Longview WA



Carol Juckeland
Portland OR



Jane Lowe
Astoria OR



Marie Miller
Rockaway Beach OR



Paul Miller
Rockaway Beach OR



Ryerson Schwark
West Linn OR



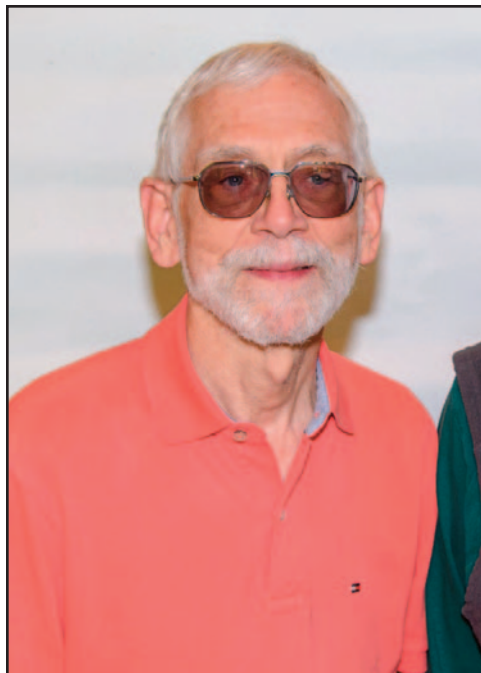
Karen Sharples
Brush Prairie WA



Deanne Takasumi
Tigard OR

- Elizabeth Schuft, Corvallis OR
- Michael Schuft, Corvallis OR
- Jane Siemens-Neary, Boise ID
- John Speckmann, Bend OR
- Roger Speigle, Tualatin OR
- Raymond Teller, Bend OR
- Ed Trachtenberg, Portland OR
- Dennis Viner, Kapaa HI
- Christine Vitalis, Medford OR

Goodwill: Four honored for contributions to bridge community



July Ratley, Pete Grice, Jon Gustafson and Ellen McCumsey are District 20's newest members of the Aileen Osofosky ACBL Goodwill Committee.

July Ratley

Continued from Page 1

teacher. The two met in 2005 and after playing as partners for some time, decided to join the teaching side of the game.

"July and I partnered in teaching the Easybridge 'orange book' classes and enjoyed a 50-candidate class when we offered free bridge lessons," Hamilton explains. "The class was very successful in that we had 15 students join the club, and most are still playing today."

Hamilton says it's Ratley's love of teaching and her ability to put her students at ease that make her good at what she does.

"July not only teaches with ease but students feel comfortable in her classes and her follow-up post-classes," he says. "Former students will email, text, or call for advice about a convention response or explanation, or a bidding situation. The student always feels as though she has their interest at hand."

Hamilton thinks the same can be said of playing with or against her. "July treats the least experienced player the same as the most experienced, with the most respect." And although the two don't play nearly as often these days, Hamilton says when they do play the occasional game, it's just like it was 16 years ago.

When asked what she enjoys most about being a part of the bridge community, Ratley says it's the people first, especially her students. Teaching is a passion.

"Bridge is an important part of my life. It has given me a sense of community and I have made lifelong friends," Ratley says. "I find it rewarding and, of course, I want to give back to the game and to the people who have been so welcoming to me."

District President Mike Eyer says Ratley goes above and beyond in many ways — from promoting bridge to using her accounting background as district treasurer.

"She helped design a new volunteer compensation system to replace the current mode of free plays that is innovative and fair," he explains. "Her effervescent personality is a positive for every game

and encounter with players, and her ebullience is contagious."

Ratley said she was surprised to hear of the Goodwill nomination. "It is an honor to be recognized by my peers in this way," she says. "Of course, we all love awards for merit. But there is something special about this sort of award from my peers. It is an amazing feeling to know that others truly believe that I have earned such a prestigious award."

Pete Grice

Peter Grice represents Area 3 — the Idaho units — having previously served the Boise unit board as treasurer. Taking on additional roles is not outside the norm for him.

According to Ian Martindale, Grice got his start in party bridge. "He then threw himself into duplicate and played frequently, gaining experience and confidence, and started accumulating points and rankings," Martindale explains. "When Boise moved to District 20, Pete was able to play in more tournaments and gained in expertise, progressing to his rank of Silver Life Master." Martindale notes that Grice is now earning respect as a worthy competitor and a genuine nice guy.

"He is always enthusiastic and polite and has been particularly welcoming to newer players, infecting them with his enthusiasm," Martindale says.

Grice joined the board a few years ago and is very involved in the Boise, Nampa and Ontario bridge clubs community, Eyer noted.

"He helped spearhead the arrangements for a regional in that area, especially when our previous Boise location was a disaster and it looked like we would never return," Eyer said. Eyer describes Grice as "polite and resourceful, representing his area well and being respectful of others."

District Director Laurie Rowe first met Grice when he joined the board and says she has appreciated his input.

"When the Boise area tournament needed a new site, Pete worked very hard

to help find a new place," she said. "I am looking forward to seeing the new playing space and hotel." When asked how she would describe Grice, she said: "Pete at the table is like Pete in a board meeting — calm, pleasant and present."

Jon Gustafson

Jon Gustafson represents Area 6, the Oregon Coast — everything from Astoria to as far south as Bandon. He moved to Manzanita from Colorado Springs in 2016 and very quickly got involved in the bridge community.

Sue Kroning said she would describe Gustafson as a computer guru, an expert bridge player and a really nice guy.

"With his technical expertise and knowledge of bridge administration, he has been a wonderful resource for our small unit," she said.

Kroning notes that Gustafson has directed games, been a tournament chair (along with his wife) and served as the webmaster for the unit's website.

According to Jon's wife Barbara, volunteering is not new for Gustafson.

"Jon has volunteered for many jobs in Colorado and here in Oregon. He served on both unit and district boards. In District 17 in the '80s and again in the 2000s he was on the conduct and ethics committee and served as chair," she explains. "He was the unit president for many years in the early 2000s. While working there he designed and managed a website for all clubs. He worked to improve the games with increased attendance, mentoring and teaching."

At his former club, Gustafson was instrumental in adopting new technology, including the use of dealing machines and introducing web movements.

"Currently in Unit 491 Jon again is the 'computer guru' helping with computer questions, and managing the website," Barbara said.

Gustafson worked in the computer industry for Hewlett-Packard after completing graduate school. And while the

Seaside unit he and his wife are a part of is a smaller community than the one they were members at in Colorado, he enjoys the close-knit, active community.

"Receiving this honor has given me the opportunity to reflect on volunteering my time, skills and energy to duplicate bridge," Gustafson said. "Many players have observed that volunteering is essential for the success of the sport. For me, playing bridge has been one of my top sources of interest, enjoyment and amusement. Having the opportunity to contribute to the broad effort of many is truly an honor."

Ellen McCumsey

Ellen McCumsey of Junction City, Ore., is someone who has consistently stepped up for her bridge community.

Most recently, McCumsey was responsible for getting the Eugene area's Emerald Bridge club online.

"It was Ellen's efforts that revived the moribund Wednesday night game at the club," said club owner Don Marsh. "Prior to Sherri and I getting EBC online as a virtual club, Ellen picked up the slack by running free games in the Casual area on BBO. She spent countless hours mentoring folks on the mechanics of online play with BBO."

McCumsey's friend and partner since 2014, Judy Nevell said Ellen went above and beyond to get almost all of the club's members on BBO with instructions and individual help. Their friendship formed after the two began meeting for coffee before the games years ago.

"She has always pushed me to learn more and not be afraid to try new conventions," Nevell says. "Ellen is always willing to help anyone."

Publicity averse, McCumsey did not respond to requests for comment. Eventually she relayed a message that she was hoping to escape the spotlight. But both news value and district policy stipulate that all committee members are profiled in The Trumpet.

Rossmann: Platinum Life Master dies at 104

Continued from Page 3

buddies. Wally told Betty that there was a young kid who wanted to see if he'd like to be a bridge pro; he persuaded her to play with him. That kid was Paul Soloway, who later became one of the greats of the bridge world.

Betty and Paul had a lifelong love/hate relationship. Paul loved to eat and my mom loved to drink. Paul wanted Betty to be more serious and Betty sought amusement. If you've played with her,

you know she always had fun at the table. Having two drinks of scotch at dinner, even if they were in the finals, was an essential element for a good time.

A Platinum Life Master with more than 12,000 masterpoints, Betty felt her accomplishments were a result of her attendance record and longevity. Despite the fact that Betty had a light-hearted approach to bridge, she was extremely competitive.

She once was part of a winning team

of women to qualify for the GNT. Before the NABC, Betty was diagnosed with cancer and started treatment. The men's team, who came in second, protested to the district thinking they should be the ones to go because Betty would be too weak following her surgery. Nothing else could have made Betty get her health on track so fast. She protested right back and the women's team was off to the nationals!

Friends, bridge, and scotch were her winning combination.

Board

Continued from Page 3

\$100 per person for third- and fourth-place B and C players.

There were no new nominations for district officers for 2021, so the current slate was reelected: Eyer, president; **Jon Gustafson**, vice president; **July Ratley**, treasurer; and **Rich Carle**, secretary.

The next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 2 in Seaside.

Marie Ashton can be reached at marieashton@comcast.net.

Regionals

Continued from Page 1

Hopefully, that will be the **Oregon Coast Regional** due to be held Sept. 27 through Oct. 3 at the Seaside Convention Center in Seaside. I am in the process of lining up hotel contracts, so please watch for the flyer to be available on the websites in the not-too-distant future, as well as the next issue of The Trumpet.

The Seaside tournament is a favorite of many players, not only in D20, but from across the country. If this is our first tournament back to F2F bridge, let's make it a knockout!

For more information, contact tournament manager Jim Wheeler at jimpamw@yahoo.com or 503-860-0563.

Eyer

Continued from Page 1

The Big Question continues: When will F2F resume? And the answer is, we still don't know. Our sister district, 19, representing most of Washington and some of Canada, has canceled its tournaments into the summer: no Victoria, no Penticton, no Lynnwood. We had to cancel Bend and Eugene, but your D20 board is still seeking approval to go ahead with Seaside in late September.

Congratulations to many of you for being successful during the pandemic. **John Ashton** made Platinum LM; 10,000 masterpoints is a lot. **Irva Neyhart** reached Emerald LM and is striving towards Platinum. **Rick Prouser** won 2020's Bridge Bulletin "It's Your Call" competition. And **John Lusky** was selected as a national commentator for the latest NAOBC.

Thank you for supporting your clubs and one another. As always, I am most thankful for my board members, for **Marie Ashton** for her tireless work; for Amy Casanova for so ably editing the Trumpet, and now the Bulletin; for **Hal Montgomery** and **Rich Carle** for making D20's GNTs the model for the rest of the ACBL.

District president Mike Eyer can be reached at leela.tardis@gmail.com.

From one pandemic to the next

Eugene player Virginia Garver, 99, survives covid, fall

By Don Marsh
The Trumpet

Tough and tenacious.

The folks who play at the Emerald Bridge Club in Eugene-Springfield, Ore., would agree that those are accurate descriptors when referencing their most senior member, Virginia Garver. Two recent incidents certainly provide added evidence.

On Nov. 22, Virginia fell at home, fracturing her collarbone and some toes. Three days later she was transferred to a rehab facility and was recovering quite nicely. Unfortunately, Virginia contracted the covid-19 virus while at the facility.

This would be a terrible situation for the best of us but there is what might be considered a significant underlying condition for Virginia: she is 99 years old.

While the pandemic has taken down so many of our fellow citizens, Virginia was not going to be one of them. She suffered mild symptoms for a few days and was back in the nonquarantined population in less than two weeks.

Virginia's life almost spans two pandemics as the 1918 flu played itself out in early 1920. In between these two marker events, Virginia has lived an accomplished life.

Her forebears made their way west as members of one of the wagon trains following the Oregon Trail in 1846. Some of those pioneers made the decision to follow a shortcut to the gold fields in California and became known to all of history as the Donner Party.

Virginia's ancestors entered Oregon using the Applegate Trail. After they survived a severe winter in the Oregon hills, they put down roots in the Willamette Valley.



Virginia at birth in 1921; upon getting her master's degree in 1973; and circa 1993.



Virginia with her older sister June in 1927.

Virginia embraced her heritage. She often reminded her family of it during challenging times.

"Remember, we have pioneer blood. We can withstand anything," she would say.

Virginia Jean Craven was born on June 15, 1921, on the 500-acre family farm in Monmouth, Ore. She wasted no time making her mark. In high school, she won the state typing contest at 100 words per minute and was graduated at age 13. She finished college at age 17.

Virginia had to bide her time working in a local bank for six months until she reached 18, the legal age at which she was able to begin her very long teaching career.

Virginia married George Wallace in

1944 who was later killed in World War II. They had a daughter, Sydney, born in June of 1945. A second marriage to Charles Garver produced a son, Charlie, in 1955.

Her husband's career required the family to move frequently and she taught in Yakima, Spokane, Walla Walla and Salem during those years.

Virginia found her way to Eugene in 1964. In addition to teaching full time, she found time to obtain a master's degree from the University of Oregon in speech pathology.

A diagnosis in 1980 of Meniere's disease forced her to retire at the age of 60 after having spent over 40 years in the teaching field.

In addition to nurturing thousands of students along the way, mentoring fellow teachers was something in which Virginia took special pride.

In the bridge community, Virginia is known for her excellent playing ability but also for her kindness and consideration.

All of the players at the Emerald Bridge Club are looking forward to the grand reopening, anticipating celebrating the return to face-to-face play as well as Virginia's 100th birthday.

Morse: Accomplished player coached Congressional team

Continued from Page 1

Morse grew up in a card-playing family, but says she was most fortunate to have started playing duplicate in the D.C. area.

"The players there were all very good," she said. "And they were helpful. I always wanted to play against the best."

Morse remembers trying to enter the Masters Pairs, an event at a D.C. sectional, and being turned away for having less than 20 masterpoints, the requirement at that time.

"After I had 20 points, I tried to enter again. They said they raised it and now it's 50!" She didn't let that stop her and made them let her in anyway. "I always liked to 'play up.'"

She was a natural and quickly became successful at tournaments. Playing in the D.C. area, she partnered a Supreme Court justice and coached the Congressional team. "Members of Congress are not the same today," she lamented.

A Google search of Jo Morse yields disappointingly few results. Such is the fate of a bridge star of the pre-internet era. Morse was, however, featured several times in Alan Truscott's New York Times bridge column. Here is a deal published in 1972 which showcases her in action.

(See next column.)

The piece is titled "Four-Nothing Trump Break Proves to Be a Happy Fate."

Truscott noted the bidding was somewhat eccentric, as was the lead of the ♠A. Many



Jonathan Steinberg

Morse is seen in 2011 with Rose Meltzer, with whom she won the 1998 Machlin Women's Swiss Teams.

Dir: North ♠—
Vul: Both ♥KJ 8 6
♦A 7 4 3 2
♣A K 7 4

♠A 10 7 6 4 ♠K 9 8 2
♥— ♥A Q 7 2
♦Q J 5 ♦K 9 8 6
♣Q J 10 8 3 ♣5

♠Q J 5 3
♥10 9 5 4 3
♦10
♣9 6 2

West	North	East	Morse
1♠	1♦	Dbl	1♥
	4♥	All Pass	

East-West pairs reached 4♠ going down, so setting 4♥ and notching a plus would rate to be a good score.

Morse wasted no time capitalizing on the friendly lead, and began crossruffing

spades and diamonds. When she cashed the ♠A and ruffed a fourth diamond, West discarded, confirming Morse's hunch that the hearts were on her right. She ruffed her last spade with dummy's last trump for her ninth trick, then played the last diamond from dummy in this position:

♠—	♠—
♥—	♥A Q 7 2
♦7	♦—
♣K 7 4	♣—
♠10	♠—
♥—	♥10 5
♦—	♦—
♣Q J 10	♣9 6

East could not prevent Morse from scoring her ♥10 for her 10th trick.

As recently as 2018, Morse was still getting high overalls in national events, 45 years after her first championship. That spring she placed 14th in the Smith Life Master Women's Pairs with current partner Janet Dresden of Florida, picking up more than 20 platinum points.

Since leaving Florida in May 2019, Morse hasn't played much face-to-face bridge. She attended the NABCs in Las Vegas and San Francisco that year, and a sectional in Raleigh, N.C. For the past year she has mainly played in virtual clubs based in Florida and in other BBO games.

Rowe

Continued from Page 1

Hal Montgomery's GNTs last summer, we did have some income.

On the negative side, our membership has declined about 4% each month and there are still less than half of our membership playing online. The board has had lots of discussion about this and marketing is working up plans to help increase our membership.

We have yet to set a date for F2F bridge and the vaccine rollout is slow. While there are a few clubs meeting F2F, I expect most are waiting until covid numbers are down and the vaccine rate is up. Management will protect its directors, so I don't expect sectionals or regionals until those directors are vaccinated.

There continues to be concern about cheating online, and as a member of the appeals and charges committee, I am learning first-hand about this matter. If you are playing with a member of your household, please play in different parts of your house. It is sad to hear how easy it was for spouses to communicate and now they are not members in good standing and regret their actions.

How do we grow this game we all love so much? How do we recruit new members? How do we teach interested players? As always, please share your ideas.

District director Laurie Rowe can be reached at district20director@acbl.org.

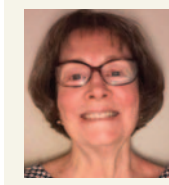
AROUND THE UNITS

Boise holds elections, recognizes race winners

Unit 394 has online games hosted by BBO five days a week, with open games on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 12:30 p.m. and a 299er game on Thursday at 10 a.m.

The January unit board meeting was held by Zoom and the 2021 board was elected: **John Cissel**, president; **Jill Wood**, vice president; **Gene Gerard**, treasurer; **Michael Rohm**, tournament director; **Carol Holmes**, membership director; **Karen Boss**, hospitality director; and **Lindy Hamilton**, secretary.

Congratulations to our local 2020 Mini-



Boise
♣♥♦♠
By Lindy Hamilton
boisebridge.club

McKenney and Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs 2020 winners.

Mini-McKenney — (0-5) Carol Ogburn; (5-20) Jared Jenkins; (20-50) Larry Zgonc; (50-100) Marilyn Brown; (100-200) Alice Kaye Guyer; (200-300) Beverly Fraser; (300-500) Greg Wilson; (500-1000) Duane and Evelyn St. Clair; (1000-1500) Carol Holmes; (1500-2500) John Cissel;

(2500-3500) Pete Grice; (3500-5000) Kathy Downen; (5000-7500) Ian Martindale; (7500-10,000) Suzanne St. Thomas; (over 10,000) Jo Morse.

Ace of Clubs — Same as above unless otherwise listed: (200-300) Jayne James; (1000-1500) Cindy Amos; (3500-5000) John Gram.

Also reaching masterpoint milestones in January are Vicki Flier and Carol Ogburn, Junior Master; Bruce Hanni, NABC Master; and **Shirley Gilbreath**, Bronze Life Master.

Unit 394 has a tournament planned in September. Covid will determine its viability. We all hope literally to get back to the tables. Until then, we will continue online games comfortably in our pajamas.

Election notice

Three of the district's five representatives to the Board of Governors are up for election this year. Representatives meet for one session at each NABC, reviewing actions taken by the board of directors and making recommendations to them. It is a three-year term beginning in 2022.

To declare candidacy for one of these positions, you must send notification to ACBL at elections@acbl.org or ACBL Elections, PO Box 289, Horn Lake, MS, 38637-9902.

Tell them your name, player number and the office you want: Board of Governors. Important: The declaration must be received by May 31, 2021. If four or more declarations are received, an election is held with the units having the vote.

The Oregon Coast Regional

at Seaside

Sept. 27-Oct. 3, 2021

Seaside Convention Center
415 1st Ave., Seaside, OR

Tournament Manager
Jim Wheeler
jimpamw@yahoo.com

Local Chairs
Jon and Barbara Gustafson
jontson@gmail.com;
barb47gus@gmail.com

Partnership Chair
Susan Kroning
skroning@charter.net

Director in Charge
McKenzie Myers

OREGON HIGH DESERT REGIONAL

CANCELED

May 24-30, 2021
Riverhouse on the Deschutes,
Bend, Ore.

Emerald Empire Regional

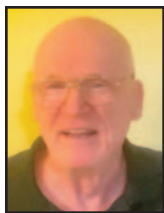
CANCELED

July 26-Aug. 1, 2021
Eugene, Oregon

District 20 Mini-McKenney winners for 2020



Bill Lide



Gary Haynie



Michelle Nordyke



Debbie Ayars



Bill Stevenson



Bonnie Scheeland



Joan Peres



Sandy Syrett



Anna Sung



Eileen Boal

0-5

1. William Lide, Vancouver WA 107
2. Debra Platt, Portland OR 69
3. Janet Lide, Vancouver WA 69
4. Charles Jenney, Portland OR 58
5. Stacey Melnick, Portland OR 33
6. Peter Soni, Newberg OR 33
7. David Wood, Redmond OR 33
8. Wendi Wolfard, Lincoln City OR 32
9. Gary Hansen, Ashland OR 30
10. Dave Knoyle, Longview WA 29

5-20

1. Gary Haynie, Kailua HI 281
2. Jared Jenkins, Boise ID 205
3. Gay Gale, Honolulu HI 107
4. Amy Lowes, Portland OR 70
5. Robert Derbyshire, Keauu HI 63
6. Keith Crudgington, Eugene OR 62
7. Sterling Smith, Middleton ID 62
8. Jean Zoeller, Kailua Kona HI 61
9. Richard Weinstein, Portland OR 61
10. Andrzej Proskurowski, Eugene OR 56

20-50

1. Michelle Nordyke, Honolulu HI 104
2. Dennis Viner, Kapaa HI 100
3. Mary Sewell, Portland OR 90
4. Larry Zgonc, Boise ID 83
5. Michael Keeney, Salem OR 71
6. Tara McMahon, Portland OR 67
7. Wendy Wiltse, Kailua HI 64
8. Mary Gilbert, Beaverton OR 59
9. Leanne Lucas, Portland OR 56
10. Gus Pappelus, Sherwood OR 52

50-100

1. Deborah Ayars, Waipahu HI 179
2. Rebecca Pelissero, Kula HI 148
3. Carl Scheffler, Eugene OR 137
4. Ali Amory, Eugene OR 137
5. Alexander Davie, Medford OR 122
6. Martin Nice, Eugene OR 116
7. Ali Nice, Eugene OR 113
8. Barbara Durkin, Honolulu HI 111
9. Thomas Ahern, Wilsonville OR 108
10. Elliot Wahba, Portland OR 104

100-200

1. Bill Stevenson, Honolulu HI 390
2. David Ouyang, Waianae HI 219
3. Linda McCalla, Kalaheo HI 162
4. Sheryl Williams, Portland OR 159
5. Ginger McCarthy, Portland OR 159
6. Care Parker, Portland OR 138
7. John Seibert, Portland OR 130
8. Beth Unger, Portland OR 128
9. Joseph Morgan, Vancouver WA 121
10. Jane Waldron, Volcano HI 121

200-300

1. Bonnie Scheeland, Portland OR 256
2. Karen Stone, Portland OR 178
3. Sharon Sandell, Makaha HI 165
4. Paul Walker, Oregon City OR 163
5. Keith Kalway, Honolulu HI 154
6. Kristin Steinmetz, Portland OR 152
7. Dorsie Glen, Kihei HI 152
8. Reid Sherwin, Klamath Falls OR 138
9. Jan Hendrix, Lahaina HI 121
10. Ruth Yokoyama, Portland OR 113

300-500

1. Joan Peres, Portland OR 137
2. Deanne Takasumi, Tigard OR 136
3. Dan Edelstein, Vancouver WA 135
4. Stuart Director, Portland OR 127
5. Joanne Ruyle, Portland OR 123
6. Timothy Trinkle, Longview WA 121
7. Leon Joseph Grafe, Kihei HI 119
8. Claudia Maddalena, Honolulu HI 112
9. Bill Bergmark, Bend OR 111
10. Greg Wilson, Boise ID 109

500-1000

1. Sandy Syrett, Corvallis OR 229
2. Michael Hollins, Redding CA 191
3. Daniel Berman, Honolulu HI 176
4. Andrew Nuxoll, Portland OR 167
5. Duane St. Clair, Sun City West AZ 167
6. Evelyn St. Clair, Sun City West AZ 167
7. Heather Breckenridge, Tigard OR 149
8. Patti Moore, Kalaheo HI 145
9. Janet Landesberg, Vancouver WA 144
10. Douglas Merritt, Grants Pass OR 139

1000-1500

1. Anna Sung, Honolulu HI 254
2. Martin Leftik, Honolulu HI 213
3. Ben Bomber, Portland OR 212
4. Carol Davies, Kamuela HI 212
5. Mariam Saner, Vancouver WA 185
6. Pauline Bullert, Vancouver WA 175
7. Douglas McCalla, Kalaheo HI 163
8. Carole Schmitz, Eugene OR 161
9. Alan Kosansky, Kailua HI 151
10. Dennis Kendig, Ashland OR 141

1500-2500

1. Eileen Boal, Albany OR 402
2. Robert Liu, Honolulu HI 329
3. Louis Beauchet, Sherwood OR 273
4. Joseph Bussen, Kailua HI 217
5. Douglas Jansen, Happy Valley OR 212
6. Will Williams, Honolulu HI 205
7. Rick Prouser, Portland OR 198
8. Eileen Milligan, Corvallis OR 197
9. Martie Wright, Honolulu HI 197
10. Tim Rilling, Vancouver WA 196



Amy Casanova



Lily Johannessen



Irva Kay Neyhart



John Ashton



Lynne Schaeffer



Louis Beauchet

2500-3500

1. Amy Casanova, Portland OR 379
2. Brian Breckenridge, Tigard OR 334
3. Dileep Bal, Kapaa HI 284
4. Howard Co, Honolulu HI 252
5. Jim Cheney, Hilo HI 210
6. Carol Harms, Corvallis OR 191
7. Ray Robert, Portland OR 187
8. Paul Wrigley, Troutdale OR 183

3500-5000

1. Lily Johannessen, Kapolei HI 331
2. Edward Lee, Portland OR 263
3. Laurie Rowe, Eugene OR 250
4. Penny Kallaus, Holualoa HI 228
5. Dennis Harms, Corvallis OR 222
6. Molly Tinsley, Ashland OR 194
7. Richard Garvin, Corvallis OR 194
8. Robert Scott, Ashland OR 174

5000-7500

1. Irva Neyhart, Portland OR 703
2. David Brower, Portland OR 356
3. Alan Johnson, Happy Valley OR 344
4. Ann Rickard, Chico CA 283
5. Yasuko Shrenzel, Honolulu HI 283
6. Jean Choi, Honolulu HI 270
7. Ian Martindale, Boise ID 194
8. Charlene Martindale, Boise ID 164

7500-10,000

1. John Ashton, Portland OR 342
2. Richard Carle, Longview WA 320
3. Michael Oechsler, Chico CA 283
4. Merlin Vilhauer, Beaverton OR 264
5. Suzanne St. Thomas, Boise ID 250
6. Garth Gregory, Chico CA 232
7. J. Jay Roll, Kelso WA 231
8. Janie Pearcy, Vancouver WA 155

Over 10,000

1. Lynne Schaeffer, Portland OR 354
2. Jeffrey Taylor, Eugene OR 335
3. Roger McNay, Beaverton OR 309

Juniors

1. Louis Beauchet, Sherwood OR 273
2. Frank Connor, Portland OR 1
3. John Safipour, Truckee CA 1

District 20 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs winners for 2020



Bill Lide



Gary Haynie



Michelle Nordyke



Debbie Ayars



Bill Stevenson



Bonnie Scheeland



Joan Peres



Sandy Syrett



Anna Sung



Eileen Boal

0-5

1. William Lide, Vancouver WA 106
2. Janet Lide, Vancouver WA 69
3. Debra Platt, Portland OR 59
4. Charles Jenney, Portland OR 53
5. Peter Soni, Newberg OR 33
6. David Wood, Redmond OR 31

5-20

1. Gary Haynie, Kailua HI 228
2. Jared Jenkins, Boise ID 194
3. Gay Gale, Honolulu HI 86
4. Keith Crudgington, Eugene OR 62
5. Sterling Smith, Middleton ID 62
6. Richard Weinstein, Portland OR 61

20-50

1. Michelle Nordyke, Honolulu HI 93
2. Mary Sewell, Portland OR 84
3. Dennis Viner, Kapaa HI 82
4. Larry Zgonc, Boise ID 73
5. Tara McMahon, Portland OR 61
6. Michael Keeney, Salem OR 60

50-100

1. Deborah Ayars, Waipahu HI 146
2. Carl Scheffler, Eugene OR 128
3. Ali Amory, Eugene OR 128
4. Rebecca Pelissero, Kula HI 124
5. Martin Nice, Eugene OR 114
6. Ali Nice, Eugene OR 112

100-200

1. Bill Stevenson, Honolulu HI 312
2. David Ouyang, Waianae HI 186
3. Linda McCalla, Kalaheo HI 133
4. Care Parker, Portland OR 132
5. Jane Waldron, Volcano HI 117
6. Ginger McCarthy, Portland OR 116

200-300

1. Bonnie Scheeland, Portland OR 208
2. Karen Stone, Portland OR 156
3. Sharon Sandell, Makaha HI 141
4. Reid Sherwin, Klamath Falls OR 135
5. Keith Kalway, Honolulu HI 133
6. Dorsie Glen, Kihei HI 125

300-500

1. Joan Peres, Portland OR 122
2. Timothy Trinkle, Longview WA 118
3. Stuart Director, Portland OR 113
4. Dan Edelstein, Vancouver WA 112
5. Joanne Ruyle, Portland OR 105
6. Bill Bergmark, Bend OR 104

500-1000

1. Sandy Syrett, Corvallis OR 204
2. Michael Hollins, Redding CA 179
3. Daniel Berman, Honolulu HI 158
4. Duane St. Clair, Sun City West AZ 152
5. Evelyn St. Clair, Sun City West AZ 152
6. Andrew Nuxoll, Portland OR 141

1000-1500

1. Anna Sung, Honolulu HI 216
2. Carol Davies, Kamuela HI 207
3. Martin Leftik, Honolulu HI 183
4. Mariam Saner, Vancouver WA 164
5. Pauline Bullert, Vancouver WA 160
6. Carole Schmitz, Eugene OR 144

1500-2500

1. Eileen Boal, Albany OR 360
2. Robert Liu, Honolulu HI 257
3. Joseph Bussen, Kailua HI 185
4. Douglas Jansen, Happy Valley OR 179
5. Cliff Allen III, Camas WA 172
6. Eileen Milligan, Corvallis OR 171



Brian Breckenridge



Lily Johannessen



Irva Kay Neyhart



Rich Carle



Jeff Taylor



Carol Huston

2500-3500

1. Brian Breckenridge, Tigard OR 298
2. Dileep Bal, Kapaa HI 226
3. Howard Co, Honolulu HI 214
4. Jim Cheney, Hilo HI 190
5. Carol Harms, Corvallis OR 173
6. Amy Casanova, Portland OR 172

3500-5000

1. Lily Johannessen, Kapolei HI 306
2. Dennis Harms, Corvallis OR 212
3. Penny Kallaus, Holualoa HI 194
4. Molly Tinsley, Ashland OR 178
5. Robert Scott, Ashland OR 168
6. Laurie Rowe, Eugene OR 163

5000-7500

1. Irva Neyhart, Portland OR 567
2. Ann Rickard, Chico CA 276
3. Jean Choi, Honolulu HI 244
4. Alan Johnson, Happy Valley OR 226
5. Yasuko Shrenzel, Honolulu HI 221
6. Ian Martindale, Boise ID 171

7500-10,000

1. Richard Carle, Longview WA 290
2. Michael Oechsler, Chico CA 276

Over 10,000

1. Jeffrey Taylor, Eugene OR 273
2. Lynne Schaeffer, Portland OR 262

Online

1. Carol Huston, Chico CA 482
2. Daniel Hoekstra, Portland OR 467
3. Jack Wetherston, Keizer OR 458
4. Ronald Foerster, Bend OR 445
5. Pete Grice, Boise ID 411
6. Steven Pessin, Eugene OR 409

AROUND THE UNITS

Board extension up for vote; fall sectional?



Vancouver/ Longview

♣♦♥♠
By Ginny Griffiths

www.acbld20.org/vbc

VBC adds pro-am

The Vancouver Bridge Club, combined with Longview and Seaside, is doing well with virtual club games.

We have added a pro/am game monthly on Sundays. The first one was on Jan. 17 with seven tables. Am players are those with less than 300 points. They invite the pros so that all the ams and pros sit in the same seats on BBO. After the game, the deals are discussed in a Zoom session.

These games alternate with fast pairs and Swiss teams on the Sunday schedule.

The unit board met via Zoom on Jan. 12 and elected officers: **Joe Morgan**, president; **Virginia Griffiths**, vice president; **Linda Medina**, secretary; and **Kathy Mather**, treasurer.

The committee chairs are as follows: charity, **Joy Fletcher**; I/N, **Kent Livingston**; publicity, **Virginia Griffiths**; educational liaison, **Sandra Canton**; membership, **Liz Fullerton**; and hospitality, **Polly Bullert**.

The unit meeting minutes are available online. We won't be reevaluating reopening the club until May.

Steve Tubbs is receiving hospice care at home. Our thoughts are with Steve and Linda.



Seaside/ Astoria/Illwaco

♣♦♥♠
By David Wigutoff

bridgewebs.com/seasideunit491

Seaside finds online home in Vancouver

Face-to-face bridge is gone for now, but many of our members have been bridge busy!

Congratulations to **Jane Lowe**, a new Life Master, and to **Sue Kroning**, a new Sapphire Life Master.

Our virtual club is maintaining five to six tables weekly. Thanks go out to **Rich Carle** for directing.

Local players are enjoying being pooled with the Vancouver Club, and especially appreciate the opportunities afforded by limited games.



Area 8

♣♦♥♠
By Dennis Harms

www.acbridge.org

Mid-Valley units extend board terms

Online games in our area have been doing quite well online with Mid-Valley Bridge Club, which includes the Salem unit and the Corvallis/Albany unit.

In the Eugene unit, the Emerald Bridge Club provides playing opportunities for their members.

All three of the units in our area decided to pretend 2020 didn't happen. They made bylaw changes, for this year only, to extend the terms of all unit board members and officers.

The Unit 487 board would like to update you on recent local developments.

Both of our local clubs, **Ace of Clubs** and **Portland Bridge Club**, are hanging on, but not by any means thriving. If you are not already doing so, please consider supporting the clubs during this difficult time. I'm sure members agree that we want to make sure local clubs are able to weather the quarantine period so we will have viable bridge clubs in Portland to return to.

Certainly, during this time, BBO has been a savior to keep some income coming into the clubs. However, both clubs continue to have expenses such as some portion of their rent, utilities and staffing/salaries.

The limited games have been doing well. However, the open games have been a struggle and are often too small to continue on some days, canceled at the last minute due to lack of participation. We understand that regular online play offers many options; however, please consider playing local club games as well.

To find these game days and times you



Portland

♣♦♥♠
By Kristin Steinmetz

www.acbld20.org/unit487

can visit the club websites. To find them on BBO, click on Competitive Games and then ACBL Virtual Clubs and select the game you want to play in.

Two board positions are scheduled to roll off this year (Kristin, who already extended an extra year, and Monte Garrett). The board discussed the challenge of filling those positions during quarantine and the fact that there has been less board activity, especially with sectionals canceled.

The board concluded that it made sense for all board members to extend their board service by one year. This proposal needs to be ratified by a vote of unit members, and anyone who wishes to run for a board position at this time is still encouraged to do so.

Finally, we are staying connected with

what the ACBL and districts are doing in terms of planning for future in-person play. At this point we don't see anything likely possible before fall. However, if we find that it looks doable, the unit will hold its fall sectional. We are actively contacting possible venues to see what their policies are for reservations, cancellations, etc.

We hope everyone is doing well and staying safe. As we offered at the beginning of the quarantine, if anyone wants to play online but is unsure how to sign up for a BBO account and get started or has tried and felt uncomfortable with online play, I encourage you to contact me and I can hook you up with someone who would be willing to get on the phone and online and walk you through the process or answer your questions.

Or, contact a member of the board: **Kristin Steinmetz**, president; **Jon Gasaway**, **Monte Garrett**, **Tara McMahon**, **Dee Poujade**, **Paula Koeller**, or **Paul Walker**. Our ancillary members can help as well: **Kathi Marcus**, **Alan Johnson** and **Ray Robert**.

Sectional dates saved; Rowe hosts Zoom talks

The rollout of the program to get the covid-19 vaccine into the arms of as many folks as possible as quickly as possible has stirred talk and discussion about the return of F2F bridge.

Jeff Jacob, the person responsible for tournament scheduling in District 20, has contacted the unit and suggested that we get the dates for the Eugene sectional on the calendar. Since our sectional is always played the first weekend in June, does this mean that F2F will be back by early summer? Right now, that feels just a bit on the optimistic side.

However, it is encouraging that we are at least beginning to start the conversation. Safety, of course, will be Job One. The last thing any of us wants to do is let our guard down prematurely.

The unit board continues to meet monthly in Zoom sessions. The board pro-



Eugene/ Springfield

♣♦♥♠
By Don Marsh

www.emeraldbridgeclub.org

posed, and the members agreed, to have all board members extend their terms for one year rather than try to hold an election.

The unit continues to be on solid footing financially and will be ready to gear up to host the sectional should that become a possibility. As of now, the dates are June 4-6 and the playing site will again be the Morse Event Center, located on the campus of Bushnell University, formerly Northwest Christian University.

We are all disappointed that we will not be holding our annual election party this year at Shadow Hills Country Club. Per-

haps we can all resolve to make the 2022 event an extra special one. No doubt we will all be ready for a good party by then.

Virtual EBC table counts continue to hold steady. **Laurie Rowe** is now doing a Zoom session at the conclusion of the Monday morning game to discuss a few hands. This is a generous of her and we are grateful. We also want to thank Laurie for the work she is doing as District 20's representative to ACBL. Laurie has risen to the challenge quite nicely.

Lastly, another shoutout goes to **Doug Berg**. He has done a remarkable job redoing the EBC website and keeping it current. Doug not only keeps the site looking great, he posts lots of great information, so be sure to check it regularly.



Doug Berg

Club manager, webmaster, more wanted

Here we are, approximately a year into the covid pandemic. We still don't have face-to-face bridge though hoping we can resume it later this year.

While we wait, why don't you hop on over to the Mid-Valley Virtual Club on Bridge Base Online to join the 28 Salem Bridge Club members and 13 Oak Valley Bridge Club members who are playing online.

Dennis Harms (Corvallis) runs this virtual club on behalf of about a dozen clubs in the mid-Valley and on the coast. He'll be happy to get you started. Alternatively, feel free to reach out to me and we can help you start your online bridge experience. Hopefully this will help scratch that bridge itch until we can get the physical clubs safely open again. Until then, stay safe! We miss seeing all of you!

Comings and goings

I've received news of two deaths in recent months, neither related to covid.

Our active player of the two, **Stewart Trimble**, died Aug. 24, 2020. His 35-year bridge career was capped with numerous successes near the end. He won the unit Christmas party (with **Brian Breckenridge**) in December 2019 and was co-leading the 2020 Lewis Award race (with **Wing Yung**) when face-to-face bridge went on hiatus in March.



Salem

♣♦♥♠
By Kevin Kacmarynski

www.salembridgeclub.org

It was also reported that **Jack Lathrop** died during the summer of 2020. Jack was a regular at Salem Bridge Club for many years. It had been approximately 10 years since his last game with us.

We say goodbye to transfers **Bill Georgi**, **Jane Drevo**, and **Susan Braden** who have headed to other pastures. The turnstile rotates both ways, though, and we'd like to welcome back **Shirley Carlson** and **Claudette Coffey** as well as other incoming transfers **Stephen Rasmussen**, **Janet Chambers**, and **Marilyn Lovegren**. We're very glad to have all of you join us!

Help wanted

Our unit and our clubs are both run by a volunteer board of directors. It takes a village to run a bridge club, though perhaps less of a village in these virtual times. Still, various board members have reached the ends of their terms and these boards are looking for people to help fill in.

Unit 490 is looking for someone to take over as treasurer to fill in for **Judy Lathrop** whose term ended in December, as

well as someone to handle care and feeding of the unit website.

Likewise, Salem Bridge Club is looking for both a new secretary (**David Astle's** term has expired) and a new club manager. Please reach out if you are willing to help, even if it's just for a single term.

Yearly awards

During the pandemic, masterpoints earned at virtual club games for the most part count as black points, the same type as you would receive for games at the physical clubs. As such, we still have the unit-level Mini-McKenney Awards to hand out for winning the most points in their masterpoint groupings during 2020.

Congratulations go to Peter Soni, Lynne Hardin, Michael Keeney, Anita Caviglia, Peg Frame, Jean-Pierre Perchellet, Don Pitt, Mike Green, Kevin Kacmarynski, Jane Drevo, David Astle, Steve Drew, and Mike Levy.

Rank changes

A handful of players earned the masterpoints needed to reach the next lifetime achievement rank.

Congratulations to Club Master Peter Soni; Sectional Master Sandra Emmons; Regional Masters Anita Caviglia, Diane French, and Michael Keeney; Silver Life Masters **Dorothy Mayes** and **Mike Green**.

AROUND THE UNITS

Online games daily, sometimes 20+ tables

The brick and mortar, face-to-face bridge experience has been long gone due to the pandemic, but the game in Unit 484 is livelier than ever. Virtual club games on BBO are held every day of the week.

Bob Fox's Phoenix Rising games are Monday, Thursday and Saturday with two sections each day, I/N and open. All games begin at 1 p.m.

Leah McKechnie has added a Sunday game to her Jackson County Bridge Club schedule. Open games are held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, and at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

With some small clubs – near and far – pooling with Unit 484 clubs, table counts are frequently exceeding 20 on days with two sections. The bonus for open players is that masterpoints they win are based on total tables of both open and I/N games on the same day.

Fox has been encouraging his I/N members to play in open games occasionally. He urges them to “get their feet wet” in the open competition before they are forced to leave the I/N game because



Jackson County



By Jim Flint

bridgewebs.com/unit484medford

they've exceeded the maximum masterpoints.

“You will never make significant progress in your game and get to the next level by hiding in the limited game,” he told them in a recent newsletter. “Playing in the open game may be more difficult, but you will learn so much more by playing against experienced players.”

New unit officers

The Unit 484 board of directors elected new officers at a December Zoom meeting, with all outgoing and incoming board members present.

Officers for 2021 are **Doug McKenzie**, president; **Cheryl Cullen**, vice president; **Sheryll Moffat**, secretary; and **Mike Pavlik**, treasurer.

New board members are Cullen, **Jerry Kenefick**, Moffat, and **Bob Pantel**. They join carryover directors McKenzie, Pavlik and **Bob Valine**. Retiring from the board were **Gee Gee Walker** and **Kathleen Moore**.

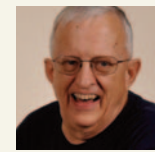
Rank changes

Unit players with new ranks include JoAnne Fisher and Susan Alston, Sectional Masters; **Larry Diamant**, Life Master; **Jerry Kenefick**, Silver Life Master; and **Angie Knight**, Ruby Life Master.

Masterpoint races

The unofficial ACBL tallies reveal the top masterpoint winners in Unit 484 for 2020. Leading the pack are seven players in triple digits: **Molly Tinsley**, 193.81; **Bob Scott**, 174.14; **Jim Flint**, 172.32; **Gee Gee Walker**, 171.56; **Dennis Kendig**, 140.68; **Alexander Davie**, 121.93; and **Jerry Kenefick**, 106.54.

Other notables, leading their masterpoint categories, are **Gary Hansen**, **Lin Robbins**, **Susan Alston**, **Ken Korth**, **Judd Robbins** and **Larry Diamant**.



Klamath Falls



By Bobby Thompson

www.unit482.com

How to lose 75% of your members in 34 years

The last edition of the online Trumpet was my first miss reporting as there was no Klamath Falls bridge.

I was given this job when we were still members in the Western Conference and our bridge paper was the Contract Bridge Forum. Ken Monzingo was the managing editor of the Forum and several years later he would serve as president of the ACBL. Our favorite lady from Seaside, **Sue Kroning**, served as District 20 Forum editor.

Our last bridge game in Klamath Falls was March 12 of last year. We were happy playing with three or four tables and on a rare occasion five — if everyone was in town and showed up to play.

In 1987 we had 114 members with eight Life Masters, plus 23 additional players who would become Life Masters. Sadly, about 30 went back to party bridge as they were not interested in duplicate. They felt that duplicate players were all about winning.

By 1993 we were down to 77 members due to attrition. Some had passed away, others had moved from the area. In 2014 we were down to 61, and by 2021 we had 29 members. Of those, 11 always play, five are snowbirds, six seldom play, and seven don't play at all.

We were pushed around on our sectional tournament dates often by ACBL; however, in 2012 we had our largest sectional in 25 years. Our table count exceeded the previous year by 30. Grants Pass alone sent more than four tables of people coming for the first time. Players came from as far north as Portland and as far south as San Francisco. Co-chairs **Laila Griffith** and **Carol McClure**, along with their brigade of helpers and director Steve Kaessner, ran a smooth show.

Our first tournament was held in 1964. Our final tournament was in 2016. We had 53 consecutive years with a tournament and thought we would have one in 2017 but had to cancel with a date change in the college graduation and all of the accommodations for lodging booked up.

After all duplicate bridge games were shut down because of covid-19, the idea of playing online fell into place. Many players, including our own **Reid Sherwin** and **Laila Griffith**, never missed a step, moving into the online games and enjoying them immensely.

Big advantages are not having to leave home to participate, saving money on car expense, lodging, meals and entry fees in tournament games. The biggest disadvantages are missing seeing your friends in person, a slower game, and not as many boards played. And, of course, there are folks who just don't like computer play.

Central Oregon Coast



www.unit572.org

The Central Oregon Coast unit still has not plunged into the ocean, as far as we know. No club in the area has set up online, though some play with the Mid-Valley Online Bridge Club.



Redding



By Joan Sullens

www.bridgescore.com/redding

More of Redding ventures online

While all of us continue to miss our face-to-face bridge games, several have made the very best of it, playing online and accruing points.

Marvin, Marilyn, Michael, July, Susan, Marlene, Barbara, Nikki, Dorothy, Randy, Joe, Lily, Ted, Pat H., Arlene, Jeff, Jerry A., Sharon, Carolyn, Jan W., Shorty, Bob, Jim H., Faye, Bud, Dolores, Jim N. and Joan have scored points. There may be others. I hope so.

The virtual club game sponsored by the Redding and Chico units continues with a good following. It is stratified game held Wednesdays at 2 p.m.

We lost two players this quarter.

George Mayer Oakes was a real inspiration to us all. He had difficulty walking but was always upbeat.

Gerri Wolfe was a worker bee. She was our unit secretary, always made the coffee and tea, and did whatever was needed for the club. At the Redding Club games she most often put out the table markers, computers and other equipment.

Games grow; board elected

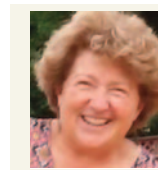
It's with a heavy heart that I share the sad news that **Nancy Johnson** died on Christmas day. She always brightened the room at Widgi where we had the pleasure of playing bridge with her these last three years. Nancy didn't let snow keep her from playing. She took an Uber to bridge. She didn't let technology keep her from playing either, although it was a little rocky at times.

I love that she got to spend her last three years near her family and the new friends she met through Gentle Bridge.

Despite covid, our **Gentle Bridge Group** is growing. We are proud of all



Nancy Johnson



Bend/Redmond



By Candy Baungard

www.bendbridge.org

the virtual club members who have brought our weekly game up to eight and nine tables.

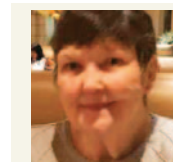
Our newly elected 2021 Unit 476 officers are **Lorraine Rodich**, president; **Mark Hickman**, vice president; **Chip Cleveland**, treasurer; and **Candy Baungard**, secretary. They join fellow board members **Tammy Florio**, Trumpet reporter; **Connie Baker**, membership; and **Greg Schweizer**.

Ontario remains at standstill

Not much to report from Eastern Oregon. We are trying to keep in touch with each other through phone and social media, drive-by birthday wishes, etc.

Many of our members are playing online. It's great practice and keeps us connected.

A few have gotten brave and are playing online with the Caldwell and Boise clubs. Thanks go to **Susan McCoy** for her encouragement and assistance



Ontario



By Billie Willis

from the computer illiterate among us. We are anxiously awaiting a real live bridge game with a partner across the table!

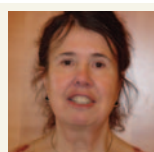
Eureka players recover from illnesses

We miss you all!

Most of us have managed to remain hale and healthy (if lonely) during the pandemic. However, our stalwart director, **Mark Phelps**, and his wife, **Sharon Hebert**, contracted covid, but now are recovered. In addition, Mark has back trouble, which makes it difficult to walk. Our club depends on Mark, so all members are sending him good thoughts to help with healing.

Maureen Yarnall suffered a fall on Christmas Eve and was in the hospital for two days, but no break was found, so she returned home, but with a case of pneumonia, from which she has since recovered.

Many of us have continued playing bridge on BBO, and Mark has connected two novices to that playground. We hope that Mary Kay and Karen will stay with us.



Eureka



By Frederica Aalto

www.acbdld20.org/unit458

I see familiar names at our virtual club games when I play with my son, Emil, who lives in Santa Clara. **Chris Coppole** says that he is playing more in various BBO games, for which he is grateful, but finds it not as welcoming as in-person games.

Several of us have managed to get vaccinated, but it will be months before all of us will feel safe enough to play. The plans for our sectional in September are on hold until we can have a reasonable idea of what the conditions will be like then.



Ask Jeff

ACBL tournament director Jeff Jacob answers your questions on rulings

Barometer scoring

Chris Weigand has retired her column. The Trumpet would like to thank Chris for helping us understand the rules and regulations in recent years, and welcome Jeff Jacob.

Jeff is a native Portlander who has lived in the area all of his life. He is one of the few directors to bypass club-level directing, starting directly with the ACBL before working any club games. He considers directing his "dream job" – being able to travel and work with bridge.

Q: Why is barometer scoring turned on in ACBL-sanctioned games on BBO? In a "real life" pair game, one would typically not know their score until the second-to-last round.

A: Barometer scoring is the process of tabulating results as they happen and allow the participants to know their own personal score. The typical default for ACBL conditions of contest for pairs is not to have barometer scoring. However, it is allowed under item 6, which states: "ACBL management may authorize barometer scoring with publication of previous rounds' results during a session for any pairs event."

One of the most popular events for years in the Portland unit was the barometer at the fall sectional. Some 20-40 identical sets of boards were created, and then the boards were all played at the same time. The results would be known shortly after each hand was played. It was a very exciting event. This game was not stratified due to a qualifying session, and the event lost some of its popularity. Even most of the advanced players felt it was a prestigious event.

The main reason we haven't had more barometer games in face-to-face bridge is a matter of resources. Most clubs and tournament sponsors only had so many decks of cards and boards they could use at the same time. Movements were created so that a group of players could share the same deal in a session. Quite often with these movements, players did not play all the same hands. With the advent of dealing machines, tournaments and clubs were able to create more sets of boards for a game, and we were able to use them so that all the players played the same boards even though it was not at the same time.

When online bridge started in the early to mid-'90s, there was no reason to not have barometer-style scoring. There is no shortage of digital decks. It is not necessary to spend extra time to program in the movements used in face-to-face games. Another benefit is the ability to bring in a sub to play a few boards and not worry if they had already played the same boards.

A few years ago, a European company, Bridge+, developed a machine that could deal the hands at the table. The first iteration cost around \$1000 per unit. The price has come down since then. When they're cheap enough, I expect most bridge clubs will acquire the devices. When clubs acquire the devices, they might run barometer movements more often.

Send questions to jeff.jacob@acbl.org.



TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

ACBL-WIDE ONLINE EVENTS

Month	Dates	Event	Location
MARCH 2021	6 – 8	NABC Robot Individual	Online NABC
	11 – 21	Spring NAOBC	Online NABC
	22 – 28	Stardust Week	Virtual clubs
APRIL 2021	12 – 18	Charity Week	Virtual clubs
	22 – 25	Stay @ Home, Play @ Home	Online regional
MAY 2021	15 – 16	Grass Roots Games	Virtual clubs
	24 – 30	Silver Linings Week	Virtual clubs
JUNE 2021	7 – 13	NAP Club Qualifying	Virtual clubs
	19 – 20	The Longest Day	Virtual clubs
	24 – 27	Endless Summer	Online regional
JULY 2021	5 – 11	NAP Club Qualifying	Virtual clubs
	10 – 12	NABC Robot Individual	Online NABC
	15 – 25	Summer NAOBC	Online NABC
	26 – Aug. 1	Stardust Week	Virtual clubs

DISTRICT 20 REGIONALS & SECTIONALS

MAY 2021	TBA	GNT – All flights	Online at home
	14 – 16	Honolulu Sectional	Ala Wai Clubhouse, Honolulu HI
	May 24 – 30	ORE. HIGH DESERT REGIONAL	Riverhouse on the Deschutes, Bend OR
JUNE 2021	4 – 6	Eugene Sectional	Bushnell University, Eugene OR
JULY 2021	July 26 – Aug. 1	EMERALD EMPIRE REGIONAL	Valley River Inn, Eugene OR
AUGUST 2021	13 – 15	Vancouver Summer Sectional	Washington School for the Deaf, Vancouver WA
SEPTEMBER 2021	10 – 12	Eureka Sectional	Humboldt Area Foundation, Bayside CA
	10 – 12	Honolulu Sectional	Ala Wai Clubhouse, Honolulu HI
Sept. 27 – Oct. 3	OREGON COAST REGIONAL	Seaside Convention Center, Seaside OR	
OCTOBER 2021	16 – 17	Vancouver Fall I/N Sectional	Vancouver Bridge Club, Vancouver WA
	22 – 24	Gold Country Sectional	St. Canice Center, Nevada City CA
	TBA	Central Oregon Coast Sectional	Shilo Inn, Newport OR
NOVEMBER 2021	12 – 14	Honolulu Sectional	Ala Wai Clubhouse, Honolulu HI
	13 – 14	Vancouver Fall Sectional	Washington School for the Deaf, Vancouver WA

TOURNAMENTS IN NEIGHBORING DISTRICTS

DISTRICT 19: www.d19.org	TBA Penticton Regional BC CANCELED
	June 22 – 27 Anchorage Regional AK CANCELED
	Aug. 16 – 22 Lynnwood Regional WA CANCELED
	Sept. 3 – 6 Olympia Sectional WA
DISTRICT 21: www.d21acbl.com	May 31 – June 6 Sacramento Regional CA CANCELED
	Aug. 31 – Sept. 6 All-Western Regional, Santa Clara CA CANCELED
	Sept. 10 – 12 Sacramento Sectional, Orangevale CA
	Oct. 4 – 10 Reno Regional, Sparks NV
DISTRICT 18: www.wasumi.org	May 10 – 16 Saskatoon Regional SK CANCELED
	Aug. 9 – 15 Calgary Regional AB CANCELED
	Sept. 13 – 19 Kalispell Regional MT CANCELED
DISTRICT 17: www.d17acbl.org	May 25 – 31 Denver Regional CO CANCELED
	Aug. 9 – 15 Phoenix Regional, Scottsdale AZ CANCELED
	Nov. 8 – 14 Las Vegas Regional NV
DISTRICT 22: acbldistrict22.com/d22	Sept. 6 – 12 Costa Mesa Regional CA CANCELED
	Oct. 25 – 31 Ventura Regional CA

NORTH AMERICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nov. 25 – Dec. 5	Fall 2021	JW Marriott, Austin TX
March 10 – 20	Spring 2022	Silver Legacy/Circus Circus, Reno NV
July 14 – 24	Summer 2022	Convention Center, Providence RI
Nov. 24 – Dec. 4	Fall 2022	Convention Center, Phoenix AZ

NEW ACBL MEMBERS

Andy Barnett, Portland OR
Suzanne Bishop, Portland OR
Martha W. Cannon, Honolulu HI
Margaret Carey, Whitethorn CA

Sandra Carr, Donnelly ID
Jan Collins, Portland OR
Patricia Ely, Boise ID
Susan Fries, Portland OR

Carol Hyatt, Canby OR

Welcome!

Lois Jones, Ashland OR
Brian Linse, Bend OR
Debra Marsh, Bend OR
Christopher Stuckart, Portland OR