

# The Kibitzer

Newsletter for Duplicate Bridge Players

ACBL Unit 360

Summer, 2024



## President's Message

Unit 360 is a collection of clubs and a collection of volunteers. Some of our volunteers are in plain sight. While as John Dukellis pointed out recently, some are hidden. So, I want to point out a few of our somewhat hidden volunteers.

Lee Kubitski prints out hand records and uploads the thumb drive which is used to assemble the cards in the card holders using the dealing machines.

Jay Francis is teaching in the 0-20 Thursday morning class. He has created and printed the class materials on his own computer.

Kay Nimz has taken over the two bookshelves in the north end of the room, organizing and cleaning the shelves.

Dave Loring continues to be our mouse eliminator. Thank you Dave.

Finally, perhaps known but maybe not widely known, Jeff Rapp who has been on leave from directing, continues to be webmaster and more. For instance, Jeff made all the hands for the Winter Sectional.

John further suggested that Unit 360 members should be challenged to think of ways that they could volunteer in plain sight or behind the scenes. I agree. So, please consider yourselves challenged.

## Achievements:

### Junior Master (5 pts):

Lynne Telford  
Bill Hurt  
Carol Hurt  
Aileen Tracy

### Club Masters (20 pts):

Pat Atkinson  
Key G. Day  
Arlene Supple  
Terry Hensel  
Ellen Loring

### Sectional Master (50 pts):

Crysandra Fotentos

### Regional Master (100 pts):

Claudia Busch Lee

### NABC Master (200 pts):

Bob Wagstaff  
Sue Bauer  
Sanjiv Damle  
Edward Gardner

### Advanced NABC Master (300 pts):

### Life Master:

### Ruby Life Master (1500 pts):

### Gold Life Master (2500 pts):

### Sapphire Life Master (3500 pts):

### Diamond Life Master (5000 pts):

Tom Goings  
Don Patterson



**BETTER BRIDGE WITH**

**ROBERT TODD**

**World Class Bridge Professional  
and President of ACBL  
Educational Arm**

**When: Tuesday August 6**

**Where: Colorado Springs Bridge Center**

**901 N 17<sup>th</sup> St.**

**Schedule of events: 9:30 AM. 2 ½-hr seminar**

**Lunch**

**1:00 Stratified Open Game**

**Q&A on hands from game**

**All-inclusive ticket price - \$55**

**Make out checks to Unit 360**

**See directors or Ann Couch or Fran Pilch for tickets**

**EVERYONE WELCOME. APPROPRIATE FOR ALL LEVELS OF  
EXPERTISE!**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL Fran at 719-373-0456**

We have 5 generous sponsors who paid 100 for their tickets! John Dukellis, Phoebe Lostroh, Randy Rush, Robin Spaulding, and one anonymous donor. We have three very generous players who are paying for our lunch - Jodi Wyss, Martha Rzasa, and Maureen Tuttle! Really grateful to all those who encouraged ticket sales - to include Bob Somppi and Sandy Bateman!

It's going to be a great day!!!

## PUEBLO BRIDGE CLUB AT THE ELKS

Pueblo Bridge Club at the Elks is one of the clubs located outside Colorado Springs. Ed Hill, who is on the Board of Directors, is from Pueblo and plays in that club and has written an article about the Pueblo club.

### Greetings from the Southern Boundary by Ed Hill

Here in Pueblo, we have a 2 to 4 table game weekly, depending on the time of year. This week for example, a player returned from Florida so we had 2 and a half tables. Many play golf on Thursdays. Our player with the most master points is taking a sketching class. Others have illness in the family or physical limitations that keep them at home. Most of our players play American Standard, no key card, nor NMF, *etc.*: Simple, but generally effective, and not mind boggling.

I have been running a Monday study group for a few years, and we have added a few players. There are some folks who might play if we had a second game each week or moved it to another day. But if we move to another day, others will miss out.

Our regular players range from flighty to focused, quiet to loud, boastful to self-belittling, playful to serious. Some play KISS (Keep It Simple Sweetie) while others play a rather complex card. Some never get any cards.

George Hanzas runs his club at the Elks here in Pueblo, each Thursday if we have 4 or more pairs. He also runs a Monday club in Rocky Ford (home of the Fighting Meloneers). Interestingly, we tried a 2-table **team** game the other day, at the suggestion of Edgar Butler, who runs the club in Buena Vista. It was well received by some and detested by others. (We later found out that Ed Butler wrote his own program to facilitate scoring.) I call our director "St. George" sometimes, but not because he has killed a dragon. When asked if there was anything he would like me to add to this piece, George said "Tell them that I make the best prime rib in the state of Colorado, and that I serve it to my club at least once a year." He also said you all are invited to come down for the feast: "The more the merrier!"

*We have doctors and lawyers, pilots and engineers,  
Psychologists, realtors, teachers, even meloneers!*

## MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The Mentorship Program is up and running. To be a mentor or a mentee please contact Paul Gefreh, Mentorship Program Director at [pgefh1@earthlink.net](mailto:pgefh1@earthlink.net) or 719 659 0248. Details of the program can be found on the website and on the bulletin board near the kitchen area.

## PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Partnership Committee is up and running as well. For Open games contact Diane Black at [BalloonBlack@comcast.net](mailto:BalloonBlack@comcast.net). For 499er games contact Sandi Bateman at [slb7814@gmail.com](mailto:slb7814@gmail.com). For 299er games contact Maureen Tuttle at [mhtuttle@gmail.com](mailto:mhtuttle@gmail.com). This information can also be found on the website and on the bulletin board near the men's restroom.

## WELCOME

Becky Gilbert is directing the Thursday afternoon game and Phoebe Lostroh is doing substitute directing. Please welcome these two and have patience in allowing them time to adjust to directing. Most helpful will be arriving early allowing them time to set up the tables and complete the computer and BridgeMate tasks.

## GNT TEAMS

Unit 360 had five GNT teams participate in the Denver Regional Tournament, two A teams, one B team and two C teams. The team composed of Bill Curtis, Don Patterson, Marilee Van Arsdale, David Ruttner and Bob Harward placed second in the A category.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Murlene Williams and the team working with her on the 5-5-5 ACBL unit reimbursement program was recently told that Unit 360 is one of the highest performing units in the country on this program. Lots of work has been and continues to be done on this project. And thanks to the members who have re-joined and joined ACBL. Remember that if you aren't a current member, game fees are a dollar extra.

## REMINDER: COLORADO SPRINGS SECTIONAL

Unit 360 will hold its Fall Sectional Tournament on September 5-8. While it's a way off, it's not too soon to mark your calendars.

## Reminder: Please Clean up After Yourself

Many of you are doing a great job picking up your glasses and trash and putting it in the appropriate places when you are finished with bridge. Thank you for your diligence.

Some of you need reminders to ***please pick up your wrappers/Kleenex/glasses/cups when finished with your bridge game.***

## The Longest Day

Final numbers have not been tallied for this year's fundraiser for the Alzheimer's Association on June 20, but it seems to have been a great success! The Longest Day bridge games are an effort by ACBL to help research about Alzheimer's disease. June 20 was actually the summer solstice for 2024, which is the longest day in 2024. If you have been following the news, there are some definite breakthroughs in Alzheimer's care, and bridge has been acknowledged as a memory challenge that has a positive influence in countering the effects of Alzheimer's.

Thanks especially to the directors John, Becky and Tom who donated their time to chair the games. Thanks also to Mary Elizabeth Ruwell, helped by Sandy Brightwell, Kathy Dawson, Ellie Loring, Mark Bishop, Sarah Howard, Carol Hansen, Bonnie Bagley, Chris Fotenos and numerous others who organized the lunch, raffle, and silent auction. Thanks to those who brought lunch yummys. And thanks to all who brought items or bought treasures from the auction! Preliminary results show that the silent auction raised over \$2000 while there was a definite increase in donations. Last year our bridge club was 30th in the US for funds raised. We'll let you know how we did this year!

**MARK  
YOUR CALENDAR!**



Denver NLM 749er Regional July 12 - 14

Toronto NABC July 18 - 28

Vail (Avon) Regional August 2-4

Omaha Regional August 5-11

Phoenix Regional August 12 - 17

Grand Junction Sectional August 23-25

Colorado Springs Sectional Sept. 5 - 8

Denver 499 Sectional Sept. 14-15

Taos Regional September 23 - 29

Las Vegas NABC Nov. 28 - December 8

Palm Springs Regional Dec. 9-14





A sincere thank you to Karen Campbell, who has shared her talents with us for years. We will miss you.



Tom Baesl and Lee Brown, 70.1% game May3



Roy Nachand and Ron Bliss 75% game April 16 0-50 MP





Ron Bliss/Pat McCutcheon May 16 81.6% game 20 MP  
June 4 73.1% game 50 MP



Mary Elizabeth Ruwell Unit 360 TLD Chair with John Dukellis and Tom Goings, who donated their game receipts to The Longest Day



Mary Elizabeth Ruwell with auction items



Mary Elizabeth Ruwell presenting Lorna Perkins a Coach purse from the auction



*The Kibitzer* is published several times a year by the Colorado Springs Bridge Center, Unit 360 of the American Contract Bridge League. Our unit is dedicated to the enjoyment and promotion of the game of

duplicate bridge in the Pikes Peak and Southeastern Colorado region. News contributions and comments can be emailed to the editor Claudia Busch Lee at [claudiabuschlee@gmail.com](mailto:claudiabuschlee@gmail.com)



# AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE

— DEALING INFINITE POSSIBILITIES —