

Northern Indiana Unit 154

APRIL 2019 Newsletter

Editor: Kim Grant

President's
Corner



Gary Chaney

Spring, yes, Spring is really here. April showers leading to May flowers. The birds are singing. The flowers and trees are blooming. All is right with the world. Well, okay, maybe the allergies are kicking in and possibly a stray snowflake or two flutter down now and then, but, hey, Spring is here. The snowbirds are returning and the table count is increasing. More players making more competition. As a duplicate player, you gotta love it.

With the warmer weather comes the Unit 154 sectionals: Fort Wayne, May 3-5; South Bend, August 2-4; and Highland, October 11-13. Each of these tournaments will have pair/team games on Friday and Saturday followed by a Sunday Swiss. In South Bend this year the organizers (Bill, Dave, and Bud) will be offering a dupli-Swiss on Sunday, August 4, with hand records available for all. Each of the Unit sectionals will also offer limited games on Friday and Saturday, and, with enough teams, a separate Swiss team game for the limited-masterpoint players on Sunday.

In my last message I discussed the importance of Unit members stepping forward to be part of the governing board of the Unit. Now is the time. Up until May 15, nominations for open Board seats will be accepted for Angola, South Bend/Mishawaka, Kokomo, Long Beach/Michigan City, and Highland. All candidates are self-nominated. Simply fill out the short form found on the Unit website (Unit 154.org) and mail, email, or transmit it to the election committee noted on the form. That is all it takes. Competitive elections will be held during a week in June if there are two or more candidates for any one of the open seats. A love of bridge and a desire to serve your fellow Unit members are the only requirements.

I wish each and every one of you an enjoyable Spring, Summer, and Fall tournament season. And, remember, that person sitting across from you is your best friend for this session. Be a good partner.

Bylaw revision to be voted on at the Annual Meeting in South Bend

Hello, Unit 154 Members. At its meeting on October 20, 2018, in Highland, the Board discussed and then approved a motion to submit to the Membership for approval a slight revision to the Unit Bylaws. Section 6.6 says in part "...The Board shall consist of thirteen voting members..." The Board is requesting revision of this section to read "...The Board shall consist of **at least nine but not more than** thirteen voting members..."

The reason for the revision is, with the ongoing problem of unfilled Board vacancies, the Board may not meet the quorum requirements of the Bylaws, and, thus, be unable to transact needed business. With five Board seats up for election this year, I encourage all interested members to stand for election to the Board.

NEW LANGUAGE

Section 6.6 Number of Board Members

The Board of Directors, including all officers, shall consist of at least nine (9), but not more than thirteen (13) voting members. All Directors must be members in good standing of the ACBL as well as members of the Unit. The immediate Past President, if not an elected member of the Board, shall serve for one year, as a non-voting Board member.

ANNUAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 4 AT 1PM. MUST BE A UNIT 154 MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING TO VOTE.

Ace of Clubs & Mini-McKenney Winners

1st

2018 Unit 154

Race	2018 Mini-McKenney Winners		2018 Ace of Club Winners	
0 to 5	David Himmelhaver, Fort Wayne	29.19	Rajalakshmy Sundara, Granger	26.49
5 to 20	Gerry Wardzinski, South Bend	50.20	Gerry Wardzinski, South Bend	48.35
20 to 50	Robert Enyeart, Fort Wayne	92.74	Robert Enyeart, Fort Wayne	78.72
50 to 100	Creighton Rawlings, Munster	51.36	Creighton Rawlings, Munster	42.63
100 to 200	Terry Bauer, Portage	186.06	Terry Bauer, Portage	84.99
200 to 300	Laurence Dunford, Dyer	208.00	Laurence Dunford, Dyer	131.45
300 to 500	Mary Kocevar, Hobart	111.52	William Flanagan, Granger	68.15
500 to 1000	Zafar Khan, Crown Point	178.74	Zafar Khan, Crown Point	140.34
1000 to 1500	Laverne Niksch, Portage	215.51	Laverne Niksch, Portage	167.68
1500 to 2500	Kimberly Grant, Fort Wayne	336.91	Wayne Carpenter, Chesterton	195.34
2500 to 3500	Gary Chaney, Woodburn	270.53	Virginia Stipp, South Bend	181.21
3500 to 5000	Louis Nimnicht, Crown Point	310.25	Patricia Killeen, Mishawaka	251.42
5000 to 7500	Joseph, Chin, Highland	348.00	Elaine Delaney, South Bend	271.84



Fort Wayne Sectional

May 3, 4, & 5, 2019



Fort Wayne Bridge Center

4618 East State Blvd., Suite 101

Fort Wayne, IN 46815

260-373-0422

unit154.org

Tournament Chair:

Kim Grant

(260) 740-7348

kimfwi@aol.com

Partnerships:

Gary Chaney

(419) 438-2175

chaneygary47@gmail.com

Hotel Information:

Holiday Inn at IPFW

4111 Paul Shaffer Drive

(260) 482-3800

4 minutes from playing site

Bridge Rate/\$124 until 4/3/19

Double Queen or King Rooms

In the Northwest...

ACBL wide Junior Fund Game Winners

Creighton Rawlings and **Joe Chin** came up with an excellent game in Lynwood, IL on January 22 — an ACBLwide Junior Fund game — with a **67.08%** score — to place first in District 13 for 10.00 masterpoints. Congratulations to an awesome twosome!

New Valparaiso Director



Terry Brendel

Congratulations to **Terry Brendel** for passing his ACBL Club Directors' exam and who now has become a certified director. This will be a great help to the Valparaiso Duplicate Club, since it now has two certified directors, and Charlie Halberstadt does not have the imperativeness to be at the game every Wednesday.

These are the essential requirements of a good club director —

- Technical skills needed to run bridge games of all types
- Knowledge and understanding of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge and ACBL regulations
- Knowledge of ACBLScore and ability to work with required software and hardware
- Public relations skills to balance the roles of referee, judge, teacher, psychologist and entertainment director

From MC/LB/South Bend...

Do you remember where you earned your first Gold points?



Ivye Benson from Michigan City has earned her first gold points in the Gold Rush Pairs at the Sarasota-Manatee Regional in Palmetto, Florida. Ivye began playing party bridge with her parents when she was 16 and started playing duplicate in 2009 at the urging of her Aunt Vivian Carlson, who at age 92 earned her Silver Life Master last year. Sadly Vivian passed away in March, but Ivye will have fond memories of stopping in North Carolina and playing with her on her way to Florida every year. Ivye plays daily during the winter in Daytona, FL. and in the summers you will see her playing in South Bend, Michigan City and Long Beach.

Ivye grew up in South Bend, worked for the mayor of South Bend back in the 60's, worked for a congressman from Alaska for eight months, and then married a Lutheran pastor. Her marriage lasted 27 years and produced her three beautiful daughters. She has three granddaughters with one more on the way. Following stints working for a television station in Sioux City, IA., and being a counselor for L.A. Weight Loss for five years, she moved back to South Bend and then to Michigan City to be with her mother when her father passed away.

Ivye met Verne Lee from Michigan City in the choir loft at church eight years ago. Verne has taken up bridge, joined ACBL, and partners occasionally with Ivye.

Ivye is planning to play in as many Regionals as possible to reach the Life Master rank, and will probably be earning her Bronze at the same time with the points she is winning along the way.

70% + Games!

Joe Chin, Highland & John Goring, Frankfort, IL: **70.14%** 2/4

Kimberly Grant & Gary Chaney, Fort Wayne: **70.83%** 2/9

Bill Searcy, Elkhart & Raji Sundararajan, Granger: **71%** 2/12

Elaine Thompson, South Bend & John Scheibelhut, Notre Dame: **70.83%** 2/15

Laverne Niksch, Portage & Barbara Walczak, Munster: **70.00%** 2/16

Lou Nimnicht, Crown Point & Alan Yngve, Chesterton: **71.80%** 3/2

Barbara Lawson, Valparaiso & Carol Miller, Valparaiso: **76.39%** 3/5

Kevin Miller, Goshen & Phill Kolski, Elkhart: **70.14%** 3/7

Ren Singleton, South Bend & Lee Boser, Elkhart: **70.51%** 3/14

Jim Kart, Fort Wayne, & Gary Chaney, Woodburn: **71.88%** 3/16

Ahnee Conner, Fort Wayne & Patrick Kelly, Wolcottville: **72.40%** 3/16

Stacy Jacobs, Hinsdale, IL & Zafar Khan, Crown Point: **73.93%** 3/19

Kathy Klein & Gerry Kulp, Fort Wayne: **70.91%** 3/20

Elaine DeLaney & Jimmy Cordas, South Bend: **75.13%** 3/25



RIISING IN THE RANKS

JUNIOR MASTER (5)

Paul Marks, Kouts

SECTIONAL MASTER (50)

Barbara Gasser, Fort Wayne

Ron Richey, North Webster

Robert Young, Fort Wayne

RUBY LIFE MASTER (1500)

Laverne Niksch, Portage



Laverne Niksch of Portage has advanced to the next level in the bridge hierarchy. By virtue of having amassed 1500 masterpoints, he is now a Ruby Life Master! We celebrated this momentous achievement in Portage.

Laverne's almost exclusive partner — Wayne Carpenter — had a few words to say on this auspicious occasion — "For all of the bridge players who have achieved the rank of Ruby Life Master, you know what an accomplishment this is. It has been my pleasure to be with Laverne on this adventure. We started out playing bridge in college and played party bridge for over thirty years with our long-time friends. After graduating with a degree in 'retirement', we play as partners two or three times a week and plan on playing until we get it right. This has been a great ride, and I can't think of a more deserving person. Congratulations to my favorite partner!

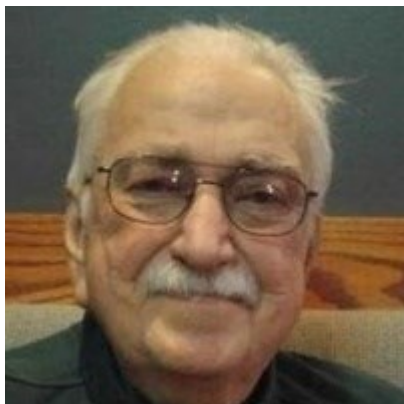
All of us in Northwest Indiana also join in the chorus — Congratulations, Laverne, on a job well done!

Friends That Will Be Missed



STAN BRENNEMAN, Berne

March 27, 1934 – February 10, 2019



Stan Brenneman passed away after several years of declining health. Stan, a regular in the Wednesday afternoon game in Fort Wayne, was never not noticed in a room of people. Stan's booming voice and good cheer made him a point of interest wherever he went. His talent for entertaining people with song and story was well known throughout northeastern Indiana. He and his usual partner of the last several years, Bob Heiny, could be found every Wednesday at Table 1 with Stan telling Bob how the hand could have been played and Bob responding that that was only Stan's opinion.

Any pair of opponents who occupied the chairs at Table 1 were sure to hear a story from one or both of these gentlemen. It is only fitting that they both passed away within a couple months of each other. Some players have remarked that when they

hear thunder, they are not sure whether it is Mother Nature or Stan and Bob discussing the merits of their respective games. Move the boards, Stan.

JANE SCOTT, Fort Wayne

March 15, 1947 – February 7, 2019



Jane Scott, a lady of regal bearing and intelligent wit, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on Thursday, February 7. Jane, a native Hoosier, was a community leader in the Fort Wayne community for decades with her many civic, charitable, and religious activities and duties with her leadership in the local Habit for Humanity organization being her latest and most notable. Jane's love of her family, especially her grandchildren, shone through with each and every story she related.

Jane and Betty Walston, her regular Wednesday afternoon bridge partner, could frequently be found smiling and laughing in the 0-299er game on Wednesdays. While frequently finishing in-the-money, it made little difference to Jane whether they had a good game or one not-so-good. She and Betty were fun to be around

and always had a smile and kind words for the opponents at any table at which they played. Jane's smiling face and dry wit will be missed by all of us who knew her. Keep 'em smiling, Jane.