



Welcome

to our first electronic newsletter. We hope you enjoy it. You will meet new members and hear about people, events, special games, classes, and more. We plan to publish quarterly. So, if you know of any significant milestones reached by any of our members or if you have any comments or suggestions about the newsletter, please share them with us at puritanbridge@verizon.net.

Classes

On **Monday mornings**, prior to the 0-750 game, Hal Merzon gives a free lesson at 9:30 aimed at improving bidding and play by the under 750 Masterpoint crowd. The game that follows is the only game at the club where travelers are included with every board (not for scoring – we use the tabletop computer for that). The travelers are for educational purposes to allow immediate feedback on bidding and play. Hal is the chair of our Membership Committee, and while he loves bridge, his first love is his family. He just celebrated his 45th wedding anniversary and loves spending time with his wife, 3 kids, and 7 grandchildren.

Every **Wednesday morning** Ken McNeill gives a free lesson from 9:30-10. The subject matter is primarily bidding and is appropriate for a low level intermediate player and up. If we're lucky, Copper joins the class.

Jim Vierra has agreed to teach a class or two this summer. The class(es) will show how to make those extra tricks that are so critical in winning matchplay. The class(es) will be best suited to low level intermediate and up players. To date the only scheduled class is **Saturday morning, June 14**.

Henry Daley has also agreed to do some teaching this summer for the intermediate and up level players. Look for signs to be posted at the Club.

Beginning in June, every Thursday there will be a beginner game with a lesson for the under 100 Masterpoint crowd. This is in addition to our Thursday Open game. Norm Guivens will run this game.

Upcoming Special Games

Silver Point Games: STaC Week is June 23-28. All games are silver point games. Wednesday, June 25 is a Swiss Team game.

Extra Point Games: May has 13 extra point games. Check the Club calendar for those days. Every game in June is an extra point day (except for the last day of the month, Monday – June 30th).

Monday Games: Monday AM games are reserved for the under 750 Masterpoint players, except when the Monday is a holiday. Then it is an Open Game. So, Monday, May 26 (Memorial Day) is an Extra Point Open game.

Invitational Mentor Games are generally scheduled once a month on a Monday. Look to the Club's calendar for more details.

Social Events

Our Entertainment Chair, Betsey Paige, is planning to have our annual summer barbecue on Saturday, July 26 at 11:30 am prior to game time at noon. Save the date and be on the lookout for signs and sign-up sheets at the Club. There will be hot dogs, watermelon, and lots of other good stuff. In addition to the table fee, there will be \$2.00 charge. The game will be an extra point game.

And finally... with respect to our Finances, in the last several months we have had to pay for some significant capital expenses. Our building needed a new roof and a new furnace. As a result, table fees were increased by \$1. At \$7 for members and \$8 for non-members (for regular games) we still have one of the lowest table fees in the area.



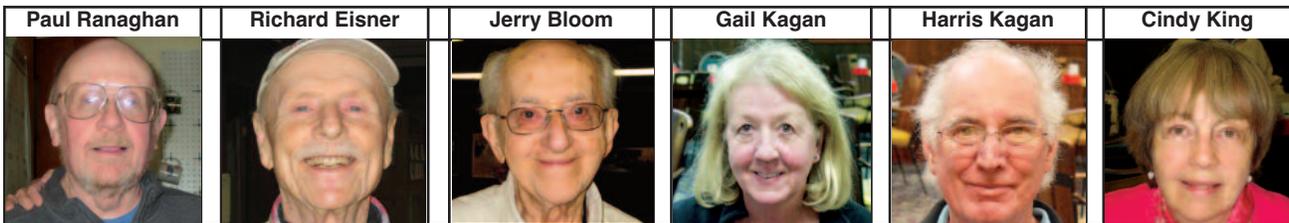
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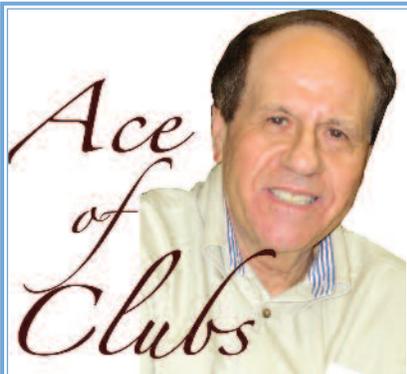


We currently have 136 members: 129 full members (\$25 annual dues), 3 half-year member (\$15 dues), and 4 Lifetime members. Lifetime membership is granted to those rare individuals who devote extraordinary time and energy over a sustained period in order to make our Club a better place. Our 4 Lifetime members are Paul Walorz, Mark Batchelder, Henry Daley, and Bob Prevoir.

We are pleased to introduce our newest members.



We have one additional new member whose picture will appear in a subsequent newsletter: **Paul Church**.



Congratulations to **Bob Carvin**, winner of the **2013 Ace of Clubs for Unit 108** (Eastern Mass) and **2013 Ace of Clubs for District 25** (New England) in the 1,000 to 2,500 Masterpoint category.

Bob was 9th in the country. This is Bob's 4th year in a row to win the Ace of Clubs

Way to go, Bob!

Bob has been a member of our Club for 14 years and served on the Board as Chair of the Bridge Committee for 2 years.

Carolyn Johansson is still recovering from the injuries she received in her car accident several months ago. She has moved to River Bay Club to continue her recovery and hopes to be back to the Club in the fall. When we have an address for her, we'll post it on the bulletin board.

Charlie Halbfinger continues to struggle with some lingering health issues, but hopes to be back at the Club very soon. In the meantime, he loves receiving notes and cards. His address is River Bay Club, 99 Brackett St., Apt. 824, Quincy, MA 02169.

Recently we said a final farewell to two of our longtime members who passed away, **Bernie Sbraccia** and Margaret "**Peggy**" **Madden**.

Congratulations to each of our members who did us proud at the Ethel Keohane Senior Regional Tournament in Hyannis.

Ruth Weston took home 16.45 gold Masterpoints. Her partner in the A/X Swiss Teams on Sunday, **Richard Palmer**, won 14.12 gold. **Bob Carvin** and his team won the Round Robin Teams Bracket 1 on Sunday and he took home 11.34 gold. **Peter and Mimi Roos**, with their teammates, **Jean and Bill Shaffer**, each won 11.12 gold. **Betsey Paige** took home 9.22 gold. **Jenny Koenecke** won 8.37 gold. **Richard Simolari** took home 6.21 gold. **Paul Ranaghan** got 5.55 gold and **Betsy Hines** won 5.16.

Other gold/silver Masterpoint winners include **Gautam Merchant**, **Paul Manganello**, **Maureen Berggren**, **Ken Wirkala**, **Maureen Bitler**, **Jon Guttmacher**, **Rudy Brautigam**, **Paul and Mary Kelley**, **Don Levy**, **Pat Kelleher** and **Kathy Aubrey**. **Wowsers!**



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When we are playing bridge we have such little time to get to really know our fellow Club members. So, we thought it might be fun to feature one member in each newsletter, to the extent he or she is willing to share his/her story.

To that end, we asked **Rudy Brautigam** to tell us a little bit about himself.

In Rudy's words, these are the highlights of his life:



"During the last years of the Nazi occupation there was little if any food available in Amsterdam where I was born and raised. So I went to work (15 years old) on a small farm in the country where I learned how to milk the cows, thresh the wheat and other chores.

After the war I went back to school at the Montessory Lyceum from which I went to New York University (1952) on a scholarship working part time at a Hanscom bakery shop where I occasionally dropped a cake if I was hungry.

After NYU, I went to Columbia on a graduate assistantship. From there I took a job as researcher at Agrico Co. in phosphorus chemistry, generating 7 patents and publishing a paper on elemental phosphorus. Meanwhile in the evening I studied International Relations at the graduate school of Rutgers University.

During this period I got married and fathered two children. After three years I joined Union Carbide Headquarters in their central market research department where, after a study, I became project manager related to nonwoven materials --- generating a patent for the manufacturing of molded shoes and hats.

After three years I went to work as a Market Development Manager in Union Carbide's European Headquarters. My family and I first lived for two years in Belgium. Then we moved to Geneva where we bought a house and lived there for 9 years. I started a Specialty Chemical Division and became its Business Manager covering Europe on both sides of the Iron Curtain, Russia and the Middle East. This business unit flourished to a profitable 20 million dollar volume.

Union Carbide had many problems --- poor management, etc. and the Bhopal disaster in India resulting in downsizing (my brake fluid and metal working fluids were sold to BP European operations). I did not want to join BP. I decided to return to the New York Headquarters as market manager. Eventually I left Union Carbide for a position as Group Director of Bostik Adhesives until the company was acquired by Emhart Corp.

My last position before retiring at age 79 was in market development in Nanotechnology for Microfluidics.

It was all fun and hard work while it lasted."

Closing Thoughts The ACBL is emphasizing its Zero Tolerance Policy with a series of new posters which you can see hanging on the walls of our Club. The message is "play nice". Thanks to a suggestion from Norm Guivens and the follow-up design and implementation by Jenny Koenecke, we now have yellow smiley face cards in our bidding boxes. Their purpose is for each of us to be able to flash the card to remind anyone who is getting close to "not nice" without having to call the director. The hope is that the card will bring a smile to everyone's face and stop the bad behavior.



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