



Welcome to our Winter 2016/17 issue!

MANSFIELD REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to all who participated and scratched at Mansfield. Among the big winners were **Ruth Weston, Richard Palmer, Peter Griff, Ed Goltz, Betsey Paige, Maureen Berggren, William Kondrath, Hal Merzon, Jean Shaffer & Bob Carvin.**



The winning team of **Ed, Betsey, Maureen and Peter** came in first in the 0-1500 Sunday Swiss Team competition, each taking home a whopping 8.61 gold for that win!

MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to our members who have advanced in status.

Peg D'Onofrio and Karen Shapiro have advanced to Junior Master

Peter Griff, Astrid Peisch, Dorothy Smith, Jim Buiel, Jen Reidy, Jon Kasdan, and Maureen Westgate to Club Master

Maureen Cullen, Gretchen Maull, Arthur Keefe and Barry Reynolds to Sectional Master

Kathleen Galvin and Ed Goltz to Regional Master

Marjory Nimberg and Nora Schneider to Bronze Life Master and **Margie Wollam** to Silver Life Master.

SAVE THE DATES

Two Holiday Parties

Saturday, **December 17**

Tuesday, **December 20**



Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board. Saturday's party will be a pot luck lunch at 11:45. Those bringing in hot food entrees are asked to have them at the Club hot by 11:30. Bridge play will begin around 12:30.

Tuesday's party will be a catered lunch and an extra \$4 fee will be charged.

Santa and Elf costumes are optional.



Competitive Bridge in a Friendly Environment



WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

We are at our highest number of members in many years - 195



Carol Zartman



Jon Kasdan



Ken Einstein



Carol Reymos



Marjorie Sullivan



Judy Bell



Terri Libby



Joan Williams

WELCOMING AND TEACHING NEWBIES



Hal Merzon, Elaine Sheeran, and Judy Goranson are running our newbie programs with outstanding success. Elaine is teaching the basics. Currently she has classes scheduled throughout January. Stay tuned for more. Those students can then progress to Judy's Newcomer Game (under 20 master points) on Fridays. Hal runs the 299er game on Thursdays, as well as the 499er game on Mondays. Membership is at an all time high due in large part to the efforts of these three. The rest of us benefit with extra master point awards in the Monday and Thursday open games because the open game gets credit for all of the newbie tables. **Talk About a Win-Win Situation!**



Competitive Bridge in a Friendly Environment

22 Faxon Street, Braintree, MA 02184 • 781.843.9621 • www.PuritanBridge.org



Pat and Gino Di Sciullo

Pat and Gino have known each other since Gino's kindergarten days when he was the classmate of Pat's two older brothers. Today, after 51 years of marriage, they look back on what brought them to the bridge table.

They were living the good life in Easton. In the late 70s it was Pat who brought Gino & the family to the ski slopes to try out a new sport. Later in the 70s Pat took up tennis and joined the tennis team. Her love of tennis also dragged Gino into the sport. A great active life with fabulous friends which all ended abruptly on the tennis court, in 1992. Pat suffered a serious ankle injury which resulted in a 5 year hiatus from skiing and never again being able to play tennis. With competitive sports off the table it was time for a new venue. Hence Bridge.

Pat's tennis friends felt her loss, and when she suggested she would like to try bridge, they were all in. Marybeth Lombardi led the charge. She was the only one who knew anything about the game. Marybeth had an instructional tablecloth with the bids and rebids printed on it. She invited the tennis friends to her home, and together they began to learn bridge. It was slow going. Marybeth investigated the Puritan Bridge Club for lessons. The tennis crew showed up and very quickly realized they were in over their heads. Then Pat hired Ed Rodgers to teach a private ten week group lesson for twelve tennis ladies.

By 1996, Pat had joined the Puritan Bridge Club and was hooked. Gino was not so easily convinced. Skiing was his thing and he was sticking to it. Finally in 2005, Gino consented to take a few lessons with Bob Previor on Monday nights, but his heart was not in it. As long as Gino & Pat could ski together, that was good enough. Bridge was just a night out together. Then, in 2011, Pat decided she had one too many painful ski accidents and gave up skiing. Now Gino would make another effort to learn bridge and take it a little more seriously. He never expected it to be this difficult. That is when Gino began coming to the Club more often.

Over the years, Pat has introduced many to Puritan, including Francine Brodsky, Lynda Edson, Maureen Yachimski, Leon and Sara Lombardi, Bill and Debbie Brown, and many others who come less frequently, Pat Rosiana, Mary Clay, Sue Lincoln and more. Today Pat is a Bronze Life Master with over 700 points. Gino still loves his skiing, having taught their kids, grandkids, friends and lots of strangers how to ski. He's beginning to catch up on his bridge with over 80 points.

Final Notes

Congratulations to Maureen Bitler who has been elected to the EMBA Board. And on a sad note we said a final farewell to long time member, Walter Adamonis, who recently passed away. Please remember, 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.



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