

# bRidge Bits

The Newsletter of the Rhode Island Bridge Association

JANUARY 2021

## **The ACBL Cancels all Sectional, Regional and NABC Tournaments through April 2021.**

This means there will be no RIBA Sectionals in January or March 2021. Click on <http://www.ribridge.org/> for updates on this topic.

### **District 25 News**

Bob Bertoni published the new Alert requirements that are also featured in the January 2021 Bridge Bulletin. If you haven't read them already, please do so, as they were effective January 1. They apply to all ACBL sanctioned games, both online and in-person. If you would like an electronic copy to print (I find it very handy when playing online bridge.) contact me at [mottle@swcp.com](mailto:mottle@swcp.com) for an Adobe (pdf) or Word (doc) copy.

### **RIBA Needs Your Help**

Serve on our Unit Board! Unit 145 is seeking volunteers to serve on the Board of Directors. Any member of Unit 145 who is an ACBL member in good standing is invited to join our board. We welcome different backgrounds and points of view. So have some fun and improve the game of bridge by joining our Board.

Our board meetings are held four times a year on Saturdays at 10:15 AM and presently conducted on Zoom. If you are interested in joining or you have questions about serving on the board, contact a current board member or contact Marshall: 401-749-2009 or [marshallwilliams@mac.com](mailto:marshallwilliams@mac.com)

Thank you,  
*Your Rhode Island Bridge Association Board*

## **Message from the President**



My very best wishes go out to you as we head into the eleventh month of this pandemic. I'm happy to "see" many of you online at the Virtual Club games on BBO — and I hope you'll join us in the special Pro-Am game on Feb. 27 — see p. 3 for details.

We also got to see lots of people in October at our Annual Meeting on Zoom, which was great.

We've canceled the March 27-28 Sectional in Johnston, and the Board will monitor the situation for future Sectionals. We will only hold them when everyone's health and safety is guaranteed. I'm confident that before the end of the year we will be back to playing face-to-face bridge - but also, it's becoming clear that online bridge will remain an important component of duplicate bridge competitions, especially at the sectional, regional and national levels.

Our Unit has been actively encouraging Rhode Island folks to try online bridge, and many thanks to our Board members and others who have called, coached members over the phone, and sent holiday greetings to the membership.

Please continue to take care, be safe, get in touch with all your partners, and enjoy a little bridge!

Marshall Williams  
RIBA President

401-749-2009 or [marshallwilliams@mac.com](mailto:marshallwilliams@mac.com)



## In Memoriam

By Marshall Williams

We were very saddened to learn of the death of Will Everett of Providence, a sharp and avid bridge player and a true "Texas gentleman." Our thoughts are with his husband and life companion of 23 years, Dennis Martin, who partnered with him at the bridge table as well. Will Everett, 1944 – 2021.

## Keep in Touch Outreach

By Cindy Mottle

Holiday postcards were sent to 469 members. Many thanks to Barry Gilbert, Chris Soares, and Julie Goulet for their efforts in assembling, addressing and personally signing these cards.

We hope you enjoyed our RIBA efforts to cheer our members in this 2020 holiday season.

## Board Honors Sue Miguel

The RIBA Board wants to thank Sue for all she has done for the Unit during COVID-19: Keeping the Virtual Games going, continuing Clint Wright's 9:30 games, running frequent special games, sending a weekly newsletter to her bridge players, and publishing and distributing a 2021-Member Directory for her registered players.



Thank you!

Note: See the next page for upcoming events.

## Membership Report August – December 2020

Submitted by Paula Najarian

### New and Transferred Members

Brooke Cote	Charlestown
Mary Glenn	Barrington
Richard Glenn	Barrington
James Wilson	East Greenwich
Steven Creech	Providence
Noelle Doumar	Westerly
Jean Wagley	Newport
Christie Daukas	Westerly
David Levin	Little Compton
Emily McDermott	Wakefield
David Regenstein	Barrington
Robert Klein	Saunderstown
Joan Spielman	Wakefield
Paula Fish	West Greenwich
Rebecca Mathew	Providence
Ryan Silverman	Providence

### Deceased Members

Nicholas Blazensky	Westerly
Suzanne Erwin	Portsmouth
Peggy Taylor	Newport
Clinton Wright	Slatersville
Teresa Corso	Bristol
Wil Everett	Providence
Total Members as of 1/1/21:	446

### Life Master Milestones through 12/31/20

#### *Emerald*

John Maselli Providence

#### *Diamond*

Bart Buffington North Kingstown

#### *Sapphire*

Gregory Klinker Tiverton

#### *Ruby*

Steven Myerson Portsmouth  
Barbara Bauchspies Portsmouth

#### *Silver*

Alice Forry Portsmouth  
Beverly Nill Venice, FL

#### *Advanced NABC*

Joe Russo Slatersville

## Bridge in Rhode Island

Currently the only way to score ACBL points is to play online.

The Board encourages each member to keep their ACBL membership current by paying their annual dues when requested.

### Virtual Clubs

Sue Miguel is responsible for the Viking Bridge Club. To view days and times availability and for *special events*, click on <http://www.vikingbridgeclub.com/>.

Sue says: "Haven't joined us online yet? Did you know that most RI bridge players are members of the Viking Virtual Club and they're keeping a seat warm for you? If you haven't tried bridge online, now is a great time to venture forth -online bridge is definitely here to stay and we host games for every level. We also have a posse of folks at the ready to help you negotiate the registration process though it is super easy. Call, email, text, BBO chat for more information. 401-447-0036, [vikingbridgeclub@cox.net](mailto:vikingbridgeclub@cox.net), DittyQueen.

### In-Person Clubs

RIBA will send a flyer to all members when in-person games can resume.



## Remembering Clint Wright

...with thanks to Marshall Williams

Clint built up the Bridge Club of Northern Rhode Island into a successful playing and teaching club. He brought a lot of bridge players into the game over the past ten years. He became a guiding figure for many "young" players.

Last April Clint began to set up "Clint's Games" in the BBO Virtual Club online game program, and lots of his regular players get to "see" each other at these games - which now continue as Clint Wright Pairs at Viking as part of the Viking Bridge Club.

## Life Master Milestones (continued)

### NABC

Peter Glanz	Greenville
Arthur Norman	Providence
Barbara Oswald	Portsmouth
Laura Yentsch	Jamestown
Deborah Norman	Providence
Beverly Cohen	Pawtucket
Stanley Cohen	Pawtucket
Nadine Harris	Newport

### Regional

John Frizzel	Portsmouth
David Malkin	Providence
Daniel Sheinin	East Greenwich
Neil Toback	Portsmouth
Dolores Wilson	East Greenwich
Joan Davis	Newport
Michael Gardiner	Harrisville

### Sectional

Frances Caban	Narragansett
Thomas McCay	Saunderstown
Jane Parker	Little Compton
Peter Stevens	Wakefield
Ruthann Toback	Portsmouth
Ayse Gokaslan	Barrington
Karen Lidman	Tiverton

### Club Master

John Keger	Saunderstown
Karen Lidman	Tiverton
Lisa Churchville	Narragansett
Pollie Taylor	Little Compton
Sally Shwartz	Providence
Joyce Zimmerman	Newport
Brooke Cote	Charlestown
Christie Daukas	Westerly
Katherine Eleoff	N Providence
Martha Hutchinson	Tiverton
Marjory Brenner	Cumberland

### Junior Master

Donna Kublin	Bristol
Stephen Linder	E Providence
Jarvis Lambert	Providence
Ann Hamm	Saunderstown
Cady Lyons	Little Compton
Carol Hansen	Pawtucket
Joan O'Brien	Providence
Carlota Taylor	Little Compton
Jim Findley	North Kingstown

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Your submissions to and ideas for bRIdgeBits are welcome. Send to Cindy Mottle at [mottle@swcp.com](mailto:mottle@swcp.com). Back issues at <http://www.ribridge.org/> (click on "News").



## ***Paula Najarian Retires from the Rhode Island Bridge Association Board of Directors***

*With Utmost Appreciation Lois DeBlois*

When you look up the definition of a volunteer you will find many different variations of the word. But, in our world we would define it as someone who gives time and expertise to the Unit without any expectation of personal benefit. Paula Najarian embodies those characteristics and so much more.

After over 10 years of service to the bridge community in Rhode Island, Paula has decided to retire. During those ten years she served in various roles such as Membership Chair who is responsible for keeping tabs on incoming and outgoing members. In that role she, along with Joe Brouillard updated, organized and prepared the membership directory giving all players a way to keep in touch. She was our Vice President and President, a four-year commitment. She was an integral part of the Tournament Committee including pairing up with Lois on Saturday and Sunday to prepare the food for our Sectional Hospitality. In 2014 she prepared the Restaurant Guide as a committee chair for the Providence NABC. In the two years as RIBA President, she served as the Rhode Island representative on the New England Bridge Association Executive Board. In that role she paired up with Linda Ahrens for the arduous task of updating the District Bylaws. These are the notable roles that come to mind easily when thinking about her service to bridge in Rhode Island and New England, but there are innumerable ways she served just by being a part of it.

Paula is an extraordinary Director who keeps up with rule changes and notifications from the ACBL in order to provide a better playing experience for all.

Most of all, Paula is a wonderful partner to all that have had the pleasure of playing with her. As her “most of the time” partner I can say bridge is always FUN when you play with her.

### **RIBA Officers**

President: Marshall Williams  
Vice-President: Megan DiOrio  
Secretary: Maureen Fahey  
Treasurer: Joseph Brouillard

### **Board of Directors 2021**

Linda Aherns	Julie Goulet
Joseph Brouillard	Meg Gousie
Barton Buffington	Cindy Mottle
Charlene Christy	Don Rankin
Lois DeBlois	Chris Soares
Megan DiOrio	Marshall Williams
Maureen Fahey	Stanley Williams