

Unit 476 Newsletter

February 2021

Unit News

As you know, we did not have an election for new board members this past December. That is because we had only three candidates willing to run for the three open slots. The new board members met virtually last month and elected the following officers: Lorraine Rodich, President; Mark Hickman, Vice-President; Candy Baunsgard, Secretary; Chip Cleveland, Treasurer. Additional board members are Tammy Florio and Greg Schweizer. Connie Baker is our Membership Chair and Tammy is our Trumpet reporter.

Our High Desert Regional is still on for May 2021, although our neighboring ACBL district has canceled the tournaments scheduled for Victoria, Penticton, and Lynnwood. We will hear by April if our tournament will also be cancelled. Our district has already made plans to have another High Desert Regional in May 2022, also at the Riverhouse.

Club News

There are several special games on-line this month. On February 13 and 14, Valentine's Day weekend, and the week of February 22 to 28, ACBL Education Foundation week, upgraded masterpoints will be awarded at our virtual clubs. Red and black points will be awarded for the Valentine's weekend games, and awards will be 63.6% sectional-rated black during the Educational Foundation Week.

Membership News

As of February 1, ACBL reports that our unit has 183 members, 130 of whom are non-life masters. So there are plenty of other local players out there who eligible to play with those of you who want to play in on-line Pro-

Am games or who are just looking for someone new to play with in other on-line games.

Congratulations to Ron Foerster. Although he just recently attained his Bronze Life Master, he has now attained his Silver Life Master. Playing on-line is both fun and rewarding. I'm sorry more of our members are not doing so. We miss you.

But a cautionary tale: many of you know Huub Bertens. On January 31, it was announced by the United States Bridge Federation that, following an Adjudicatory Committee proceedings, Huub was found guilty of cheating during a USBF Invitational on-line tournament. He was found to have "illegally possessed and used information about other players' hands." As a result, he is barred from membership in the USBF until at least January 1, 2028; he is on probation for a three-year period commencing on the date he is readmitted as a member of the USBF; and, he is barred for life from serving on the Board of Directors of the USBF. So don't even think about cheating while playing on-line. It is not worth it.

Until we can get together again face-to-face, I hope to see you on-line.

Lorraine Rodich, Unit Board President