

Bridge in the Park

Burlington Bridge Club

**600 Blair Park Rd.,
Williston, VT**

[Website: Burlington Bridge Club](http://www.burlingtonbridgeclub.com)



Halloween Tournament Fun

The annual Halloween Sectional was a lot of fun. Players were put in a spooky mood from the moment they arrived at the door, and weirdness governed the day.



Our amiable director, “King” Gary Peterson, and tourney chair Donna Hale reigned over a smooth operation that led to a cascade of silver for many players.



As usual, Open Pairs and 499er Pairs events took place on the first two days. Winners in those sessions were the pairs of Dicky Tracy-Mark Oettinger; Laurie

Turner-Penny Snow; and Stuart Showalter-Day Surles.

The tournament ended with Swiss Teams on Sunday. The team of Peter Allen, Michael Rogers, Nancy Hale, and Bob Dickson came in first, winning more than four silver points each.



(L to R: Allen, Rogers, Hale and Dickson)

Second place, earning more than three silver points each, went to the team of Mary Tierney, Phil Sharpsteen, Paul Reardon, and Jennie Wadhams.



(Tierney, Sharpsteen, Reardon and Wadhams)

We're looking forward to our next tournament, a Non-Life Masters Sectional, to be held **January 25**. Mark

your calendar and plan to attend if you can. (A copy of the flyer is included at the end of this newsletter.) ■

The Club is a Corporation Now

There's a new "person" in town: Burlington Bridge Club, Inc. We say *person* because the club recently became a not-for-profit corporation, and corporations have many of the same legal rights as natural persons, including the right to sue and be sued, own property, and enter into contracts.

This "corporate personhood" means that individuals are no longer responsible for the club's financial obligations, and it endows the club with perpetual existence.

Our new articles of incorporation and bylaws are posted on the BBC website. The new board of directors consists of Mark Oettinger, president; Steve Ackerman, vice president; Don Sharp, treasurer; Stuart Showalter, secretary; and Donna Hale, membership chair. We have applied for tax-exempt status from the IRS, and we hope to obtain similar recognition from the State of Vermont.

Corporate status will not affect the daily operations of the club, and we expect to continue business as usual. ■

Upcoming Special Games

We will be holding several special games through the end of the year. Our ever popular **Eight is Enough** team game will be Sunday, November 17, and it will double as a Unit Championship Game. Other unit championships will be held on Sundays and a few Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays in both November and December. Those games offer master points at 58% of sectional ratings, so you'll have a chance to win some *silver points* without having to travel to a tournament. ■

Cudos

We are pleased to report that Peter Bouyea (who joined ACBL in 1995, took Audrey Grant courses at the BBC, and now plays mostly online since he winters in Florida) recently achieved *Sapphire Life Master*

status. Congratulations, Peter, on your excellent bridge career! ■

Some Time-Tested Hints

Things we've all heard before but sometimes fail to remember:

- Don't play too quickly or slowly
- Make your plan at trick one
- Know who's the captain
- Know your partnership agreements
- Don't bid the same hand twice
- Check scores carefully before clicking "Accept" on the BridgeMates.

Zero-Tolerance Corner

[This is the second article in a series on good manners at the bridge table by guest columnist Etta Kitt.]

The Laws of Duplicate Bridge are complicated, but a few of them are quite clear. For example, you must *count your cards face down* before arranging your hand. (Law 7) And you must *make your opening lead face down* to allow your partner and the declarer to ask questions or request a review of the bidding. (Law 41)

Although not explicitly required by the Laws, certain practices are suggested by basic etiquette. For example, you must *keep general chit-chat to a minimum* until you have finished the round, and then only if time allows it before the next round. All conversation should be conducted using "*library voices*," and *cell phones should be turned off* or at least set to vibrate.

Above all, *do not hold a postmortem on the hands you have just played*. It can be very frustrating for others nearby to hear details of boards they have yet to see, and it leads to "unauthorized information" that must be dealt with by the director. (See Law 16).

Please remember also that you must decide on your bid before reaching for the bidding box. Touching a bidding card and then changing your mind (sometimes called a "balk") sends unauthorized information.

Stay tuned to future issues for more hints on good manners.





Unit 175 Presents the Annual
Silver Snow Sectional

January 25, 2025

For Non-Life Master Pairs
(Players with 0-500 masterpoints only)

Sanction #2501353

Burlington Bridge Club
600 Blair Park Rd., Ste. 150, Williston, VT
802-872-5227

~ Two Sessions: 10 AM and 2:15 PM ~

\$12 per session (\$16 for non-members of ACBL)

Stratifications: 100/250/500

Silver Points awarded

Tournament Director: Paul Reardon

Partnerships: Donna Hale, email: haledonnab@gmail.com

(Partnerships in advance only; there are no standbys.)

Lunch available for \$12; orders taken at registration

Beat the winter blues in a silver blizzard!

