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NVBA E-News - Join an Alzheimer's Association Fundraising Team

NVBA Board of Directors <announcements@nvba.org>

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Dear Ronald:

The [Longest Day](#) and the [Bridge Heroes 2024](#) needs your help! Carrie Myatt of the National Capital Area Chapter of Alzheimer's Association has reached out to us yet again. Here's her (edited) note:



Happy what feels like summer! These warmer days make me think of Spring and the upcoming Longest Day. We are just 11 weeks away. Since 2013, American Contract Bridge League members have raised more than \$10 million for the care, support, and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association®. Join us June 16-23 for in-person Club games (NVBA's is Thursday June 20, other local clubs may choose to participate on other days; online games will be on June 24 and 25 only) to earn masterpoints while you play and rise in the ranks.

Bridge Heroes' passionate dedication to the cause earns a TOP 10 spot in the rankings year after year. For that, I am truly grateful! ACBL will likely raise \$1 million this year across the country and help us raise \$500,000 for the National Capital Area. Amazing!

Please take a moment and **join the team**. If you would like to use the Code (ACBL), feel free to do so. [Click here](#) to join the [Bridge Heroes 2024](#) team.

Want to learn more about what Alzheimer's Association is doing, and the progress being made in conquering the disease? Check out tomorrow afternoon's one-hour (4-5PM) **Spring Rally**. We are excited to invite you to join us for a special event — **The Longest Day® Spring Rally! [RSVP now](#)** and join us on Tuesday, April 2 at 4-5PM via Zoom. At the Rally — you'll hear:

- Exciting research and advocacy updates plus details on programs that support and empower people living with Alzheimer's and their families.
- Inspirational participant stories and show why others are passionate about The Longest Day
- Tried and true fundraising ideas to supercharge your fundraising with new tips, tricks and tools.

[RSVP FOR THE RALLY >](#)

As for [Bridge Heroes 2024](#), we hope to be able to assist each local Bridge Club or Bridge Teacher participating in The Longest Day with their own event; and to run other fund-raising efforts beyond just playing Bridge for (extra) Masterpoints, as we have done in past years. Of course, we will need the help of dozens of volunteers. Perhaps you've assisted in past years; perhaps you're new to this and want to help. Either way, join the team!

Thursday Night NVBA Unit Game

Congratulations to Brooks Chupp/Daniel Morgan and Sumner Steinfeldt/Hal Hindman for being the section top winners at [last week's unit game](#). This Thursday's Unit Game is an ACBL Membership Game. **Free wine courtesy of Mark Tonnesen and Appliance Connection!** The NVBA Unit Game starts at 7PM and is at [Beth El \(3830 Seminary Rd, about a mile east of I-395\)](#). Please arrive at least ten minutes before game time. If you need a partner or teammates for any Thursday game at Beth El, please email Jason Carter at the [NVBA Partnership Desk by 4PM Tuesday afternoon](#) for your best chance to obtain a partner. You can also use the [RSVP Bridge](#) Reservation System to assist you in finding a partner. Plan ahead for future unit games by viewing the [2024 Unit Game Schedule](#).

Just for 0-20, 0-49, 0-199, and 0-499 Players

Check out the [0-49 game at SwanGames.com, 7:30 pm Monday evenings](#). More information below.

Supervised Play continues to be available at Beth El on Thursday evenings! New in-person players have tried this out and have had fun! This is especially for players moving from online-only play or informal play or returning to in-person play after a long break. It's in-person play with a round timer, bidding boxes, BridgeMates, and alerts/announcements. There will also be teaching on bidding, play, and defense. "Graduates" of supervised play should find they can play comfortably in face-to-face games competing for masterpoints in clubs and tournaments. Use the RSVP Registration System, or contact Jim Gerding, Jason Carter, or E-mail Kevin O'Brien (OBrien.Bridge+Individual@gmail.com) for more information. All we need to get started is four players, are you one of them? Do you have a friend or relative, neighbor or co-worker who might be interested? This will only cost you ... Beth El's \$2 Security Fee (pay by credit card at Beth El) and your Thursday evening, about 6:30 - 9:30PM. Need a ride? We may even be able to help with that, but no guarantee.

[ACBL Community Games](#) run on BBO Monday through Friday, advertised at 0-20, 0-50, and 0-99 levels. Entry Fee is always \$5, and you can find all the information at <https://www.acbl.org/portfolio/community-games/>. The Tuesday Evening games at 0-20 and 0-50 levels are consistently drawing 12-19 tables (0-20) and 13-26 (0-50) tables this year. Thursday evening, we would prefer you come to Beth El and play in person. The 99er games are apparently running Mon, Wed, and Fri only, and have smaller fields.

Playing Bridge Online for ACBL Masterpoints(R)

- For Black ACBL Masterpoints, and occasionally other pigments (Silver, Red, Gold), playing at [SE Carolina Club of Clubs](#) benefits NVBA, as we are a member club. See their Web page at <https://sites.google.com/view/se-club-of-clubs/home> for game schedule, lessons, and more. Each game advertises a 0-750 section, a 0-2500 section, and an Open section.
- For clear/"invisible" Masterpoints, your best bet is Matchpoint Pairs at Swan Games; they give you \$35 credit when you first create your account, and charge \$3.50 for an 18-board game awarding ACBL Masterpoints -- so you get ten \$FREE games. Unlike BBO, they allow you to see and hear your opponents at the virtual table -- but you can also decline to do so. Sign up at <https://info.swangames.com/signup>. For tutorial videos on their features, see their YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@SwanGames-BridgeReimagined>. For their current schedule, see <https://info.swangames.com/schedule>. Note there's only a Monday Evening 0-49 game! For more info, see <https://info.swangames.com/faq>. For help, try <https://info.swangames.com/help>. If you're stuck and all else fails, try Contact at <https://info.swangames.com/support> for support. They are just getting started, so please be patient.

Sad News

Leslie Shafer, a beloved Maryland and ACBL bridge teacher, passed away on March 10. See this [BridgeWinners Post](#) and click [here](#) to see the details on her [4/6/24 Memorial Service](#).

NVBA, ACBL, and District Six News

- The Wednesday evening game at the [Reston DBC](#) will reopen at 7PM on April 10. The game is held at the [Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation](#) located at [1441 Wiehle Ave.](#) behind the Thomas A Beckett Catholic Church. If you need a partner, reach out to Marshall Kushner at jakofhearts@msn.com. We look forward to seeing you soon.
- Fairfax County Park Authority is offering Bridge I, Bridge II, Bridge III, and Brush Up Bridge classes. Search for bridge in the [Parktakes Registration](#) or see p. 149 of the [Parktakes Catalog](#). **Classes start today 4/1/24!**
- There are 15 in-person club games listed with times in green on the updated [Clubs](#) page of the NVBA website that are scheduled to be held. Anyone who is interested in playing an in-person game should contact the listed director in advance to confirm the game is on and to make a reservation.
- Here is the current schedule for [NVBA Online Games](#) on BBO.

Upcoming Sectional, Regional, and National Tournaments

- [Gatlinburg Regional](#) - Monday 4/15 to Sunday 4/21
- [Rehoboth Regional](#) - Monday 4/29 to Saturday 5/4
- [NVBA Spring Sectional](#) - Thursday 5/2 to Sunday 5/5
- [WBL Sectional](#) - Thursday 5/16 to Sunday 5/19
- [Reston Regional](#) - Monday 7/1 to Saturday 7/6
- The NVBA website includes all [2024 tournaments of interest](#).

Happy April Fool's Day! Trying to (legally) deceive opponents is an exciting part of bridge! [Mike Lawrence's book on Falsecards](#) is an interesting read on this subject. See also this fun [April Fool's Bridge Hand](#) and many other interesting hands out at [Richard Pavlicek Bridge Columns](#), hope you enjoy!

Your NVBA Board

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