



Newsletter

April–June 2021

NVBA Annual Meeting and Awards

The Northern Virginia Bridge Association is planning to hold its annual meeting online via Zoom on Thursday, May 13, 2021. The NVBA Board has been surveying members to ensure that enough will attend online so that a quorum will be present to conduct the business of the meeting (75 members needed). Members will be sent a Zoom link to join the meeting via the email address on file with ACBL. The meeting will begin at 5:00 PM. The slate of Candidates for the new Board will be presented. Georgette Weiss is nominated for President, to replace Marty Bley, and Jay Simon is running for Vice-President. Current board member Georgia Booker has offered to serve as Secretary, and Ann Atcheson has once again agreed to be Treasurer. Board members George Parkins and Howard Stevens are stepping down.

At this time, there are three candidates to fill the three empty positions on the Board, so the vote will be by acclamation unless additional candidates present themselves. Brief biographies of the three candidates can be found on the next page, in alphabetical order. If you would like to run for the Board, please notify current President Marty Bley.

The Treasurer will report on the state of the Unit's finances, and the President will announce the Unit winners of the ACBL Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs awards (see page 8 for the top three finishers in each category in 2020). We also usually present the trophies for NVBA Man and Woman of the Year, the Rush Buckley Award (to the non-Life Master who won the most points in NVBA-sponsored events), and the NVBA Rookie of the Year. We do not have the data to compute the winners of these awards for 2020. If there is no other business, the meeting will adjourn, and players are welcome to play in the Unit Game that will follow the meeting.

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Candidates for the NVBA Board

Jason Carter

Jason is an Associate Director in the Department of Justice's Office of International Affairs (OIA), in DOJ's Criminal Division, managing transnational cooperation in criminal matters involving Europe and Eurasia. From 2007 to 2010, Jason served as the Department of Justice Attaché to the United Kingdom, where he was based at the U.S. Embassy in London. Jason also has participated in the negotiation of bilateral treaties and multilateral conventions related to mutual legal assistance and extradition, and has headed numerous bilateral meetings with foreign counterparts. Jason has been a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney in the District of Columbia. He received his bachelor's degree from Columbia University and his juris doctorate from New York University School of Law.



Of relevance to the Northern Virginia Bridge Association, Jason has served as a member of the District of Columbia's Board on Professional Responsibility, appointed by the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and ultimately serving as Vice Chair of the Board. He also has served as a member of the Board's rules committee and as a hearing committee member and chairperson in the DC attorney disciplinary system. He is a member of a committee serving the Council of the Alfred Street Baptist Church. He is a professional umpire with the Northern Virginia Baseball Umpires' Association and is training to become a bridge director.

When Jason was a teenager, he learned to play bid whist, a game akin to bridge, with his family. He went on to learn to play bridge in his late 20s, and played it sporadically for about one year, earning fewer than five masterpoints. Like many of us, while working, he then didn't play for about 20 years. Several years ago, he discovered the Northern Virginia Bridge Association, where he was warmly welcomed by former Board member Francesca Mazarella. Through bridge, he rekindled a family relationship with a cousin (Georgia), augmented a friendship (Mike), and made new, good friends (Jamie, Deborah, John, Ben, and others). He achieved the rank of ACBL Life Master at the end of 2020, partnering with Jamie Dahlberg. He looks forward to helping his fellow bridge players enjoy the game as a member of the Board.

Jamie Dahlberg

Jamie Dahlberg has almost 40 years of experience as a corporate tax attorney, including eight years with the IRS serving in a variety of capacities. He also spent seven years with a large Washington law firm and has been a professor at the Georgetown University Law Center, the University of San Diego School of Law and the George Mason University Graduate School of Business Administration. Jamie recently retired as a Deloitte Principal after leading the Corporate Tax Group for over 15 years, and currently acts as a consultant to Deloitte. Jamie attended Cornell University (BA 1978), Boston College Law School (JD 1981), and Georgetown University Law Center (LLM (Tax) 1984).



Jamie is an avid Nats and Caps fan (when they play) and is the

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father of three mostly-grown children. His wife Deirdre for some reason supports his bridge habit, which has resulted in three consecutive Mini-McKenney titles and consecutive District GNT championships. (The picture is of a younger Jamie.)

Jay Simon

Jay has almost 40 years of experience in the telecommunications industry, retiring from Verizon in 2018. He has been active in the bridge community for several years, including managing the partnership desk for sectionals and regionals, managing the I/N desk at regionals, supporting registration at nationals and as an active Director at clubs, including Camp Springs, Beth El, Army Navy and JCC. Jay has also been active in directing in our new virtual world as part of the NVBA Collective.

Jay has been a frequent participant at the Unit 218 game on Thursday nights, and more recently has broadened his participation to include a variety of club games.

Jay is a die-hard Cubs fan and continues to support the many Chicago teams where he was born as well as the Fighting Illini team. He is also a fair-weather fan of the many Washington and Virginia teams.



NVBA Use of Your E-Mail and Home Address Information (Please Keep Current)

The NVBA emails weekly updates and announcements to our members for whom we have email addresses. As a member of the Northern Virginia Bridge Association (NVBA), you are entitled to receive our communications. If you are receiving the weekly announcements and other notices from NVBA via e-mail, you are already on our e-mail list.

If you do not receive these messages or merely wish to confirm this information, we would appreciate you updating your e-mail information with the ACBL. To do so:

1. Log onto the [ACBL website](#).
2. Click on '♠ My ACBL Login' (at the top of the ACBL Home page)
3. Log into the system with your ACBL Number and password – press 'Log In'. If this is your first time on the ACBL site, click on 'Register for MyACBL' and follow the instructions on that page to register.
4. To change your email or mailing address, click on the BLUE 'Update My Information' box, then click on 'Update My Contact Information', enter/change your mailing and/or email address and click 'Submit'.
5. Then, click Privacy Settings on the left side of the page and after 'Confidentiality' change the entry to 'Share' and click 'Update'.

We obtain your e-mail address, mailing address and telephone changes directly from the ACBL. As a matter of policy, we will not release any of your information to anyone, and we will only use it to provide you with the weekly newsletter and important information about Unit activities and events. Please note that we do publish your home address information in the Membership Directory that we publish jointly with the Washington Bridge League. If you do not wish to have this information included in the directory, please inform us, via e-mail to our Membership Secretary at ny2va@yahoo.com.

Parting Thoughts

by Marty Bley



I am writing this on March 31, 2021. It appears that there is LIGHT at the end of the tunnel. My hope is that by November/December 2021, we have a list of tournaments, regionals and sectionals, we can attend as Face-to-Face (FTF) players beginning January 2022, AND also that club games will be back in that timeframe as well. I suspect there will be some type of hybrid model in most places. Please stay tuned for the requirements for attending FTF games. These requirements may be posted in this quarterly publication or they may come in your email inbox in the weekly email that is sent out about NVBA happenings. Either way, YOU should be and stay informed about the situation.

If you are NOT playing online on BBO or some other website, you might truly consider getting with the rest of us. Not because you will be doing it forever, but because if you have NOT played any bridge in the last year, you will be a tad rusty. So, if you BRUSH up online, you might not embarrass yourself so badly when you DO return to the table with the rest of us, who HAVE been playing almost every day for the last year. On the [NVBA website](#) there are multiple resources available to you to learn how to do that, in written format (by me) and links to videos, tutorials, etc. done by others. You can also find a comprehensive collection of instructional videos at the [ACBL website](#).

In the past 3 months you have been sent emails and a special invite to indicate whether you would be willing to attend the Annual Meeting for this year, May 13, via ZOOM. Some of you have responded, many of you have not. We need a quorum to hold the meeting, 75 “Yes, I will be there!” would be most excellent. Last May we didn’t have an Annual Meeting or elections at all. Those of us who were on the Board continued until 2021 or 2022. When you receive this invite again, IF you have not already indicated you would/could/will attend, won’t you please do so? The whole meeting shouldn’t last more than 30 minutes. Likely a start time will be 5 pm on May 13....we will announce the Mini-McKenney and Ace of Club Winners for 2019 and 2020 and install the new officers....so 30 minutes, TOPS!!!

Included in this issue you will find bios of the new prospective Board members. Jason Carter, Jamie Dahlberg and Jay Simon have all agreed to join the Board. Howard Stevens, George Parkins and I wish them well, as they are our replacements.

IF you receive emails from the ACBL you are probably aware that there will be NO Nationals here in 2022 as previously scheduled. Instead they will be held in Providence, Rhode Island, where they were supposed to be held this coming summer. Possibly there will be a Fall National in November of 2021 in Austin, TX. At this time there is no firm “yes” to that issue, so you should stay tuned to that situation as well.

A trip down memory lane seems in order. Listed below are some previous newsletters from different eras of past NVBA Presidents. Reading them might give you some respite from the trials of always staying at home, like we have for the past year. It also might remind you of some of your past exploits at the bridge table, or some of your friends’ or mentors’ exploits. There are hands submitted with analysis. There are stories told of bridge tournaments in the past, some in exotic places. There are lists of winners from various tournaments and pictures of some of them too!

- [February/March 2001](#): President Margot Hennings
- [April/May 2001](#)

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- [June/July 2001](#): New President Bruce Culmer
- [October - December 2005](#): Leo Cardillo President. You will definitely recognize some names and faces.
- [July - September 2006](#): Pictures of more people you will recognize and names as well.
- [April - June 2007](#)

All together there are 84 Newsletter links on the [NVBA web page](#). The first one is from December 2000/January 2001. When you get THIS one, there will be 85. How many have you read? In the beginning we got paper copies....some of you may still have some of them. About three years ago, we stopped printing and mailing out copies, and started just posting them on the NVBA website, where they can be downloaded and printed.

If you haven't read them recently, you might start back there on the first one, and read it and some others, in addition to the ones I suggested. Shameless bragging going on with some of the suggested ones!

Recently on various bridge Facebook pages there has been much discussion about returning to play in tournaments. To run tournaments requires volunteers. If you haven't volunteered ever in any tournament, you should volunteer in some fashion for the next one held in our area that you plan to attend. To do that contact the Tournament Chair and offer your services. If you volunteered once, volunteer again and work more than one day. Additionally, you need to understand that tournaments MAY very well NOT be what they were previously. The biggest roadblock we are finding, as we try and book them for the 2022 year, is that hotel chains have taken EVERY possible event they can get their hands on, most of them being for the weekends. Therefore you might find that a tournament you used to attend that ran from Monday to Sunday is now only available from Monday to Thursday or Tuesday to Friday. We expect it will take a year for things to get back to normal in terms of scheduling, and even then the tournaments may NOT be what they were previously.

If you don't go to tournaments any longer, then you could consider volunteering at your local club or unit game. Ask the director if you can be of service in any way. He/She may or may not have a job for you, but asking costs you nothing and helping will make both of you happy.

I hope this finds you well. If you haven't received your vaccine, I hope you will get it soon. Ross and I got our second dose on March 16, and so by the time you read this we should be good to go!

Hope to see you online between now and when I see you Face-to-Face for the first time. Stay Safe!

Hugs,
Marty Bley

NVBA Role in Fundraising for Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO)

In late Fall 2020, Francesca Mazarella, Carolyn Baird, Katy Culp, David Goldfrank, Donna Hickling, Georgette Weiss along with a team of volunteers coordinated the compilation of 68 recipes from numerous bridge players into a cookbook. The cookbook was sold at \$20.00/copy and the proceeds donated to a local community charity, ECHO. NVBA covered the printing costs so that all the proceeds could go directly to the charity.

Francesca has started another cookbook, and welcomes the submission of your favorite recipes. Contact Francesca if you want to participate: franemaz@gmail.com. A template will be provided to type in your favorite recipe and photo. She believes this continued partnership with ECHO helps this Northern Virginia community see its way through these difficult times, and gives us an opportunity to come together as a bridge community and do something good. (Francesca is being recognized for her efforts by being named to the national ACBL Goodwill Committee.)

The ECHO volunteers are our peers in age and spirit. The Executive Director, Anita King, was happy to receive \$3,090 raised from the sale of cookbooks, as well as bridge books donated by Elizabeth Huffman and a matching donation from Prudential. Other checks came in later for a total of \$3150. ECHO volunteers also bought cookbooks and the project was put on their website as an example of creative ways to fund raise.

You can go directly to the [ECHO website](#) to review what and how to donate to them. At Christmas time, Carolyn Baird and Francesca went Christmas shopping online and took advantage of the sales at Macy's to buy the cutest little girl outfits as well as winter puffer coats for girls and for boys up to sizes 18-20. The giving feeling spread and Joanne Mazarella and Lucy McCoy bought new clothes and laundry detergents to donate.

Here are some ways you can make a difference:

You can drop off the items you collect at ECHO (7205 Old Keene Mill Rd., Springfield, VA) OR see the Upcoming Food Drive list on their website to plan to give needed items at designated locations. You can even donate a supermarket gift card. You can also give direct financial assistance to help with rent and utility payments and fresh food coupons by visiting the Donate Money tab on ECHO's homepage, and you can shop for ECHO on Amazon (see below). Here is what's currently needed and answers to some frequently asked questions:

- **Select clothing items, used or new.** Children's **summer** Clothes (no winter at this time) and Men's and Women's **small** and **medium summer** clothing for teen boys and girls.
- **Can I order items online and have them delivered to ECHO?** You can help ECHO by ordering on Amazon.com from the [ECHO Amazon Wishlist](#). The list will include items of food and clothing and household supplies that will be posted as needed. To make your donation even more effective, after placing an item in your cart go to [Amazon Smile](#) and complete your purchase there. If you designate ECHO as your selected charitable organization a portion of the cost of your purchase will be donated to ECHO by Amazon. Remember to use Amazon Smile regularly whenever you shop and ECHO, as your designated charity, will receive a donation from Amazon every time you make a purchase. Thanks for shopping for us!
- **How do I drop off my donation?** The above items may be dropped off at the ECHO donation door, Door #6, 7205 Old Keene Mill Rd. Springfield, VA, 22150. They are currently open Monday-Friday from 9:30 am- 12:30 pm and Tuesday and Thursday evening from 7 pm-9 pm. Note: They are closed on Wednesday evenings until further notice.
- **Will I need to park and come into ECHO?** No: Donation Door volunteers will come out to your car.

Parade of Winners

In the continuing absence of our usual local tournaments, we list here those NVBA players who finished in the top 20 of their strat in online events.

NABC Robot Individual Practice Tournament #1 (February 20-21)

Congratulations to Phillip Tseng, who finished 2nd in the NABC Robot Individual Practice Tournament with a 73.2% game, and won a free entry to the online Spring NABC Robot Individual event that took place on BBO March 6-8, 2021.

Bridge Base Online, MO - Spring NAOBC , March 11 - 21, 2021

NABC North American Pairs (NAP) Flight B

3 Rick Bingham – Ryan Connors

NABC 0-1500 Knockout Teams

5/8 James Dahlberg – Colin Schloss – Alan Munro – Nick Migliacci

NABC Open IMP Pairs

19 Robbie Hopkins Jr – Brad Theurer

NABC 0-1500 IMP Pairs

13 Anthony Hawks – Jack Hawks

Bermuda Bridge Club Online

Regional, January 23 - 27, 2021

Sat. AM Open Pairs (44 Tables)

2 Eleanor Schwartz – Francesca Mazarella (Section C)

Sat. Aft Open Pairs (56 Tables)

1 Amy Brisson – Hal Hindman (Section C)

Mon. AM Open Pairs (23 Tables)

1 Amy Brisson – Hal Hindman

Mon. Aft. Open Pairs (24 Tables)

1 Amy Brisson – Hal Hindman

Tues. AM Open Pairs (26 Tables)

2 Amy Brisson – Jane Siebecker

Wed. AM Open Pairs (24 Tables)

1 Georgette Weiss – Francesca Mazarella



Hail and Farewell

We welcome the following new members into our Unit:

Teri Bennett
Cil Danielski
Ralph Driscoll
Suzanne A Feigert
Elizabeth P Goltra
Alastair W Green
Terry L Hagle
Martha B Martin
Maria W Mercer
Shirley Ostrom
Erica P Weber
Martin Wiesner

Ulrike Wiesner
John M Williams

We welcome the following transfers into our Unit:

William E Bailey
Nabil Copty
Finn T Damkilde
Marina P Damkilde
Joe Marshall Jr

We give our regards to the following people who have transferred out of our Unit:

Leslee H Belluchie
Anne Hastings
Karla S Kennedy
Eva T Klivington
Doris C Masorti
Michael C Olmsted
Kathy Wiedemer
Dr Phyllis M Woodring

We are sorry to note the pass- ing of three of our members:

Paul Cushman
Stella Perry
Bill Teer

NVBA Mini-McKenney Winners 2020

The Mini-McKenney competition is based on how many total masterpoints (excluding colorless online points) players won during the calendar year. The rankings are divided according to the number of masterpoints players had at the beginning of the year.

0 to 5 mps

Sylvia Hall	67.51
Joan Kadonoff	45.69
Arnold Meyers	44.85

100 to 200 mps

Dee Ann Gretz	225.90
Jason Carter	163.32
Deborah Forbes	148.30

1000 to 1500 mps

Shiang Chen	223.56
Amy Brisson	178.75
Katy Culp	169.06

5000 to 7500 mps

Lucy McCoy	455.51
Jim Wakefield	292.43
Margot Hennings	198.54

5 to 20 mps

Li Chen	71.21
George Saile	68.54
Sharon Saile	68.54

200 to 300 mps

Nancy Smagala	172.47
Jill Norvell	135.24
Mark Orms	123.51

1500 to 2500 mps

Hal Jones, Jr.	900.56
Joyce Currie	371.59
Ron Sutter	230.38

7500 to 10,000 mps

Bruce Houston	169.61
Jay Kelkar	167.14
Al Duncker	77.79

20 to 50 mps

Glenn Preston	86.92
Norma Morganbesser	69.81
Cindy Nusbaum	62.69

300 to 500 mps

James Dahlberg	329.32
Colin Schloss	298.64
John Graf	138.69

2500 to 3500 mps

Terry Lavender	222.44
Ron Spieker	184.19
Dennis Schwanz	136.71
Susan Miskura	136.71

Over 10,000 mps

Robert W Hopkins Jr	416.27
Kenneth B Davis	361.19
Alan Schwartz	332.89

50 to 100 mps

John Huffman	159.47
Linda Goldberg	128.92
Tina Doyle	120.44

500 to 1000 mps

David Goldfrank	271.36
John Bakovic	163.18
David Street	156.85

3500 to 5000 mps

Hal Hindman	282.43
Annie Schwartz	260.95
Jay Cherlow	260.83



NVBA Ace of Clubs Winners 2020

The Ace of Clubs competition is based on how many black masterpoints players won during the calendar year at club games.

0 to 5 mps

Sylvia Hall	61.61
Arnold Meyers	44.00
Joan Kadonoff	42.33

100 to 200 mps

Dee Ann Gretz	212.76
Deborah Forbes	126.58
Jo Ann Allen	121.13

1000 to 1500 mps

Shiang Chen	217.30
Katy Culp	155.85
James Augustine	132.07

5000 to 7500 mps

Lucy McCoy	411.25
Jim Wakefield	141.61
Margot Hennings	120.73

5 to 20 mps

George Saile	59.51
Sharon Saile	59.51
Janet Crist	53.68

200 to 300 mps

Jill Norvell	115.72
Nancy Smagala	111.57
Mark Orms	100.80

1500 to 2500 mps

Hal Jones Jr.	673.00
Joyce Currie	261.44
Ron Sutter	216.13

7500 to 10,000 mps

Bruce Houston	169.32
Al Duncker	75.43
Jay Kelkar	59.84

20 to 50 mps

Glenn Preston	77.01
Norma Morganbesser	67.31
Joyce Wainwright	56.99

300 to 500 mps

Colin Schloss	278.28
James Dahlberg	215.80
John Graf	118.41

2500 to 3500 mps

Terry Lavender	198.01
Ron Spieker	155.10
Dennis Schwanz	116.30
Susan Miskura	116.30

Over 10,000 mps

Kenneth B Davis	245.25
Alan Schwartz	231.42
Robert W Hopkins Jr	220.70

50 to 100 mps

John Huffman	132.90
Linda Goldberg	123.96
Tina Doyle	108.33

500 to 1000 mps

David Goldfrank	235.34
David Street	144.39
Eileen Street	139.86

3500 to 5000 mps

Annie Schwartz	220.55
Marcia Stein	177.59
Betty Bursey	148.90

Climbing the Ladder

New Junior Masters

Nancy Bleeker
Margot Burbach
Bill B Cai
Alice M Craig
Eileen Curtis
Martina Foley
Ann Morton Habliston
Peter F McCloskey
Ava M Neff
Mary E Poole
Aline O Quester
George H Quester
Shahin Shakib
Samuel A Stern

New Club Masters

Judith S Agnew
Rebecca V Bostick
Bill B Cai
Martina Foley
Barbara P Frisbie
Jennifer B Maggio
Karen S Magley
Eileen Marean
Arnold Meyers
Jane Mitchell
Natasha L Mullin
Chris Siple
Samuel A Stern
Deborah A Wood

New Sectional Masters

Janet Crist
Kendrea E Delauter

Sylvia S Hall
Joan Kadonoff
Alisa Lofgren
Arnold Meyers
Michael J Murphy
Thomas L Osborne
Marie T Petersen
Phyllis Peterson
William D Reilly
Tracy P Welch

New Regional Masters

David C Butow
Li Chen
Richard L Grauel
Ruth E Hansen
Mary Liz Higgins
Paul M Higgins
Fanjun Kong
Norma E Morganbesser
Cindy J Nusbaum
Lawrence I Plotkin
Dr. Gordon K Soper
Albert R Sperling
Joyce Wainwright

New NABC Masters

Brian Detter
Tina Doyle
Robert Drosdzal
Susan Drosdzal
John Huffman
Liz Jones
Farida Mazhar

New Advanced NABC Master
Jim Deckant

New Life Masters

Arvind G Bhand
Jason E Carter
Joia M Hertz
John N Hudson
Eleanor Linde

New Bronze Life Masters

Kenneth Cohn
George S Fleeson
Lawrence Fox
Jayne Lynch
Paul B Mohler
James M Mosley
Harry Potter
Colin Schloss
Michael K Siebenhaar

New Silver Life Masters

Joy R Brown
James L Dahlberg
William I Lowry

New Ruby Life Master

Katy S Culp

New Diamond Life Masters

Annie H Schwartz
Marcia D Stein

New Emerald Life Master

Stan S Schenker



NVBA Players on the Barry Crane Top 500 List – 2020

11 – Hal Jones, Jr (901 MPs)
169 – Lucy McCoy (456 MPs)
227 – Robbie Hopkins (416 MPs)
316 – Joyce Currie (372 MPs)
356 – Ken Davis (361 MPs)
461 – Alan Schwartz (333 MPs)
470 – Jamie Dahlberg (329 MPs)

Northern Virginia Bridge Association

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2020—2021 Board of Directors

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The NVBA Newsletter is published four times a year by the Northern Virginia Bridge Association. If you need membership information or have a change of address to report, contact Eric Poskanzer at NY2VA@yahoo.com; for information/suggestions about newsletter content, contact Lucy McCoy at 703-848-2331 or newsletter@nvba.org.