

Nancy Sparrow New ACBL Life Master



Nancy was excited to learn that she had finally reached this goal which she had been working on for almost eight years. Growing up Nancy learned the basics of bridge from her grandparents. As a young adult she played occasionally with her husband Alan, some duplicate, but mostly social bridge. She tried taking a few lessons here and there but work and family left little time and energy to pursue the game at that stage of her life. When Nancy and her husband moved to Utah, he continued to play duplicate bridge but she pursued other interests. Then, eight years ago a friend of hers, Yvonne Travis, helped her brush up on her long neglected bridge skills. Wanting to learn even more Nancy decided to take a lesson of EasyBridge with Judy Stanfield and Rod Organt at The Bridge Club in Salt Lake City. Judy and Rod were such good teachers! They made the game fascinating and fun. She was hooked! With the help and

encouragement of these teachers and some very patient partners she decided to play on a regular basis and joined the ACBL. The requirements to reach the rank of Life Master had just changed significantly and it seemed impossible that I would ever reach this goal. However, her husband Alan, who had already achieved his own rank of Life Master believed that she could do it and mentored her by being one of her most patient teachers and partners. They had such fun traveling to sectional, regional and national tournaments where Nancy won her silver, red and gold masterpoints. She learned so much over time from all of her many partners and also from her opponents. There were so many wonderful, more experienced players who generously shared their knowledge and love of this game of bridge with her. One of my most memorable and thrilling moments on this journey was when she achieved her first masterpoint rank of Junior Master after accumulating 5 masterpoints. Nancy still remembers the high fives that went around that day! Each new success encouraged her to keep moving forward. There have been those low moments as well, when her mistakes at the bridge table were so memorably bad that they were also part of her journey and Nancy said to herself " I won't do THAT again!" And she tried not to and learned something each time she played. Nancy finally won all the points necessary to achieve my rank of Life Master. It is a sweet moment! When a friend asked her if she will continue to play now that she's achieved her goal her response is "Of course, I love this game!" Nancy sends a big THANK YOU to all the wonderful people who play this game and have been a part of her bridge journey. She will see you at the bridge table!☺