

Per the bylaws, a Nominating Committee was appointed to solicit members interested in serving on the Unit 183 Board of Directors.

The members of the Committee consisted of:

Cynthia Benton, Chair

Gary Neisler

Kay Jones

Every Unit member in good standing shall be entitled to vote, either in person on the date of the election or by absentee ballot. All valid ballots, whether cast in person or by absentee, must contain no more than three (3) votes. Ballots cast for more candidates will not count. A ballot with more than one vote for the same candidate will not count. Write-on candidates are permitted. Ballots voted by proxy will not count.

Five (5) voting methods shall be allowed: (a) absentee voting by mail, (b) absentee voting by delivery to a member of the Election Committee, (c) absentee voting using a ballot box, (d) early electronic voting (not available), and (e) voting in person at the Annual Meeting usually held during the Fall Sectional Tournament. The Unit may use any or all such methods for an election; failure to use all methods does not invalidate the election.

The procedure for each voting method is:

A. Absentee by Mail: Any voting member may choose this method. The member may print a ballot from the Unit website or collect a ballot at the Fort Worth Studio or any other playing site within the Unit where ballots may be available. (Ballots need not be provided at all playing sites.)

If the voter desires secrecy, he or she shall do the following: (a) seal the ballot inside an envelope and place the sealed envelope inside another sealed envelope addressed to an Election Committee member; and (b) sign the back flap of the outside envelope and write down the voter's ACBL number. A ballot without both the voter's signature and ACBL number will not be counted. The signed envelope must be postmarked at least seven (7) days before the start of in-person voting.

If a voter does not desire secrecy, he or she need not use two envelopes. The voter may return the ballot in a single envelope with his or her signature and ACBL number marked on the ballot. A ballot without both the voter's signature and ACBL number will not be counted. The envelope containing the ballot must be postmarked at least seven (7) days before the start of in-person voting.

B. A voter may hand an absentee ballot to an Election Committee member at least three (3) days before the start of in-person voting. A member desiring secrecy shall place a signed, sealed envelope containing the ballot inside another sealed envelope. The voter must sign the outer envelope and write on it his or her ACBL number. A member not desiring secrecy shall place the ballot in a single envelope and shall sign the ballot.

C. The voter may place a completed absentee ballot in a ballot box provided by the Unit. The Unit may place ballot boxes in any or all clubs within the Unit and at such other places as it believes members are likely to vote. A member desiring secrecy shall place a signed, sealed envelope containing the ballot inside another sealed envelope. The voter must sign the outer envelope and write on it his or her ACBL number. A member not desiring secrecy shall sign the ballot and write his or her ACBL number on it.

After reviewing their qualifications and interest, the Committee recommends the following four members to stand for election to a three-year term.

Cynthia Benton



I've been on the Board since...well, memory fails. But it's been a while. I started as Publicity Chair, moved on to Education, 3 years of being Pres. and then VP; often filled in as acting Sec.; helped on the committee to find a new location when our long-term lease ended. I think I need a few more years on the Board as there are still positions that I haven't tried yet! Also...I know where all the skeletons are buried.

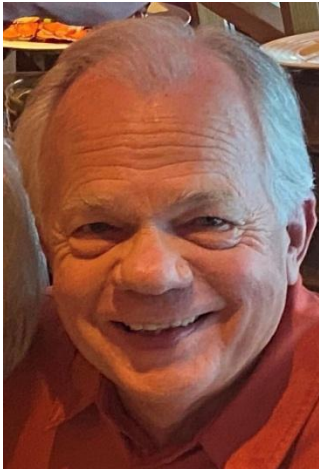
Diana Clive



Hi! My name is Diana Clive. My husband Pete and I relocated 8 years ago to the Fort Worth area from St. Louis, one of many stops during our careers. We have now retired here happily, having found a welcoming community and friends. I love to travel, do anything outdoors (I still camp year round in a tiny Coleman tent), and play Bridge with all of you. I learned Contract Bridge in 8th grade, but only since retirement have I had the time to actually learn and play the game competitively – a constant challenge! We now look forward to traveling to tournaments and bemoaning our mistakes at them.

My career background includes years of experience as a program manager and scientist in both academic and business biotechnology. I have also volunteered through the years in various roles in my neighborhood including elections, HOA, PTOs, and Girl Scouts. Most recently I have been serving on the board of the Arlington Duplicate Bridge Club. I have learned a great deal about the knowledge and hard work it takes to create good governance, and to help with promotion of the game. I promise to continue to help in any way I can. Thank you.

Ken Javor



My interest in duplicate bridge took off after retirement from the insurance industry where I spent almost four decades in three states and nine offices. Following a series of lessons, it became readily apparent how little I knew about bridge. Another series of lessons helped fill in a few gaps but there was much work to be done.

Twelve years with the Denton Bridge Studio has provided challenges as Studio Manager and Club and Local Sectional Director. Prior experience as a Conference Chairman at a Methodist Church helped prepare me for the challenges of working in a volunteer capacity.

Steve Shirey



I have served on the Board for many years. I now am Treasurer, but have also served as President, Vice-President, and Secretary.
I also direct four games at the Fort Worth studio and play professionally.