

**District Director, Joann Glasson
September 2016**

Charity and Goodwill Appointments - 2017

It is my honor to appoint new lifetime members from District 4 to the Charity and Goodwill Committees of the ACBL. These appointees are chosen because of the extraordinary contributions that have made to bridge and the bridge community.

My appointments to the Charity Committee for 2017 are:

Naomi Griffin – Newtown, PA



Sisters, Naomi Griffin and Sheila Engelbach, were best friends and bridge partners. They were always together, not just at family events, but shopping, vacationing, laughing and playing bridge. Sadly, Sheila left us last year.

In memory of her stylish sister and bridge partner, Naomi organized the "Couture for the Cure", a fashion show at Neiman Marcus to be held this month, which has already raised more than \$60,000 in donations for lymphoma research to the Abramson Cancer Center at the University of Pennsylvania to honor her sister.

Mary Miller – Canandaigua, NY



Mary Miller organized and ran a two-session bridge game at a local church to benefit "The Longest Day", the ACBL Alzheimer's Charity.

Mary got the church to provide the space for free, took no fee for directing the games and organized a "pot luck" dinner for all of the players.

In lieu of entry fees, she asked people to give a donation to the charity. Mary raised \$1,900 for Alzheimer's

research in just one day.

Mary is a "worker bee" as she also runs both the Syracuse and Rochester Regional Tournaments in addition to sectionals in her area.

My appointments to the Goodwill Committee for 2017 are:

Joan Brandeis – Elkins Park, PA



Joan Brandeis has been giving back to bridge players and the bridge community for as long as I have known her.

When Larry Hoffman was stricken with a neurological disease, Joan would come to the bridge club and hold Larry's cards so he could still play.

Joan worked tirelessly at the PCBA sectional tournaments providing hospitality for all the players. She organized and served the same wonderful meals to hundreds of volunteers at our NABC's.

The number of zucchini breads that Joan baked for bridge players is legendary.

Bruce Gwaltney and Judy Gwaltney – Wilmington, DE



Bruce and Judy Gwaltney are the co-chairs of the Delaware "First State" Regional Tournament.

They are rarely seen holding cards at their tournament because they give 100% of their time making sure that the player experience is maximized.

They work tirelessly before, during and after the regional – always with a smile and a level of caring that is amazing.



Meyer Kotkin – Cherry Hill, NJ



Meyer Kotkin is a “mensch”. He would laugh at me for using that term, but there is no equivalent in the English language.

As tournament chair, Meyer brought new energy to Unit 141 sectionals. Meyer now chairs the Valley Forge Regional.

Meyer used his amazing mathematical skills to create the Dupli-Swiss movement used in our District to provide duplicated hands and hand records in Swiss team games.

At the Washington NABC, Dr. Meyer Kotkin used his statistical skills as a key witness in the ACBL case that found Fantoni-Nunes and Fisher-Schwartz guilty of collusive cheating.

All of Meyer’s work for bridge is pro-bono because he just loves the game.

I look forward to seeing you at the Lancaster Red Rose Regional at Spooky Nook, a beautiful brand new playing facility from October 31 to November 6th. Debi and John Klinger have a new early schedule (10:30am & 3pm) with **GOLD POINTS** galore in both Gold Rush and Mid-Flight events every day.

It’s a tournament not to be missed!!