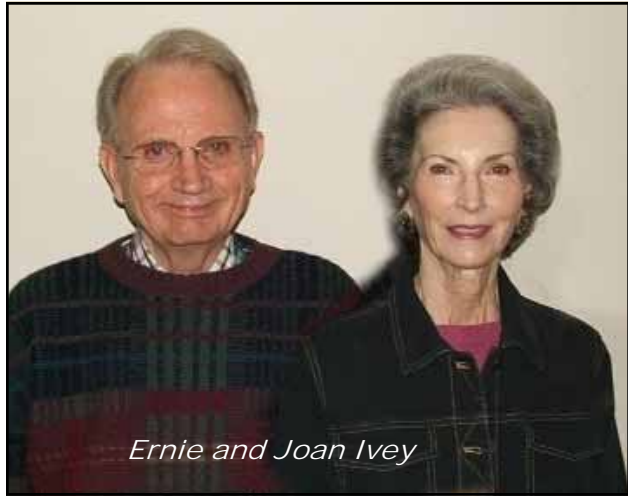


## District 17 People, the Iveys; Faces Behind The Cards



Ernie and Joan Ivey

By Dee Horwitz  
Scottsdale, Arizona

Most of us are accustomed to the bickering and arguing that some married couples often exhibit at the bridge table. We just shrug it off with a wry grin or disgusted look. But Ernie and Joan Ivey of Surprise epitomize the ideal bridge partnership: they play well, win often, and are friendly and courteous to each other and the opponents. Joan says she decided when they first started playing together that the game, "Just wasn't worth it if we were going to argue. We love each other too much for that." Ernie met "this attractive lady" who would become his wife at a sectional in Pueblo, Colo. in 1976. He soon asked her for a game and became even more impressed, "The very first game we played Joan executed a squeeze on two different hands." *Keys to Partnership* Ernie was the more experienced player so Joan was willing to let him be the teacher. "He excels in patience," she says. His sense of humor and laid-back personality and her thoughtful and considerate demeanor are the groundwork for their successful part-

nership. They play a 2/1 system that Ernie and another partner developed long before 2/1 was a recognized system. *Added Gadgets*

Over the years they have added a few gadgets. They especially like Flannery, Leaping Michaels, Jacoby 2NT, two-way reverse Drury and BROMAD (Bergen raises over majors and doubles). Ernie explains, "BROMAD applies only by an unpassed hand with three-card support at the two level."

When asked what advice they have for couples who live together and play together, Joan offers the first rule, "Don't embarrass your partner or the opponents."

Ernie has several other suggestions: "If partner says something or makes a mistake, don't react immediately. Keep your mouth shut, bite your tongue, grit your teeth!

And if you do say something, say it once - don't repeat it." He also thinks it is a good idea to avoid eye contact because it can be misinterpreted by your partner and the opponents. "Think before you say I'm sorry," he says, "because your longtime partner will know when you are making an insincere apology. Try to replace the worried frown with a grateful smile."

And his final reminder for all those couples who have vowed to love and to cherish each other: "Remember, you and your partner aren't here for just the duration of the game, but for the long haul."

Ernie enjoys reading bridge books and recommends those by Mike Lawrence, Eddie Kantar and H.W. Kelsey, but considers *Creative Card Play* by James Kauder, a rubber bridge player, one of the best for improving your game.

*First Big Win*

The Iveys remember their first big win. It was the one in San Jose, Calif., in 1978

when they beat the late Barry Crane in a Mixed Pairs event. Pleased and proud, they returned to their local club a few days later to the warm congratulations of their friends. "But," says Ernie, "we had to laugh because we had a 45% game that day."

With many sectional and regional victories, the one that stands out is the Palm Springs Knockout in the '90s when they beat Eddie Wold's team. It obviously gave Ernie a good opportunity to view the ability and gamesmanship of Wold. "If I had my choice of experts to play with, it would be Eddie," he says.

*Degree in Math*

Before retiring, Ernie was a systems requirement analyst, having worked in Colorado Springs, Washington, D.C., Palo Alto and at the Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. He has a degree in mathematics and confesses he probably would not have

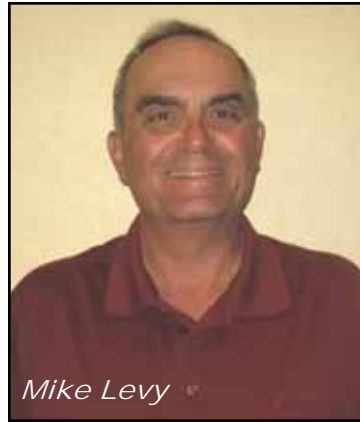
graduated if he had discovered duplicate in college. Joan was a crisis line counselor for several years. "It was," she says, "one of my most rewarding lifetime experiences."

Both are in their second marriage and have a blended family of four children and five grandchildren, all boys. They both agree "family comes first," but they try to attend tournaments that are within driving distance. They both love to read. Joan likes books about people and Ernie lists historical fiction and adventure novels as his preference. Wilbur Smith and Ken Follet are his favorite authors.

This welcome addition to District 17 and-Unit 354 moved here seven years ago from California. Both are Emerald Life Masters. He has taught bridge and served as president of bay area California's District 21.

[Editor's note: Ernie (with Terry Hause) won NABC Silodor Open Pairs in 1976!]

## Mike Levy – Grand Life Master



Mike Levy

Our newest D17 Grand Life Master is Michael Levy from Tucson. He achieved that goal in "grand" style by winning four KO events with his D21 teammates at Chandler's Roadrunner Regional in April. Mike has numerous regional and sectional wins to his credit and his lone National success was the four-session Swiss Teams at the 1977 Pasadena Nationals. As a "can you believe this." a previous D17 member, Bill Harker was on the team beaten in the final and current D17 member Bud Marsh was on the second place team.

Mike has had two stints in D17, first when he was stationed in Colorado Springs with the Air Force (1974-79), and currently when he retired to Tucson in 1997. He was also one of the initial founders of the current Colorado Springs Bridge Club.

Mike started playing bridge in college and his duplicate career started shortly after that and continued during his working career while in the Air Force (21 years) and at Hughes Aircraft Company (12 years). During his assignments around the country and overseas, his bridge always gave him an easy introduction to the non-military communities in those areas. Mike retired in 1977 and lives in Saddlebrooke, a community located in Northwest Tucson, with his wife Sheila, who he met while in England, and Yum-Yum, their 10 year old Shih-Tzu.

Congratulations Mike!

12th Annual

# DURANGO

## 4 Corners Sectional

**June 4-6, 2010**

**The Durango - La Plata Senior Center**  
2424 Main Avenue, Durango CO 81301  
(970) 382-6445

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

**Friday, June 4**

299er (single session) ..... 1:30 p.m.  
Stratified Pairs (single sessions)..... 1:30 & 7:00 p.m.  
Knockouts (Round 1)..... 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, June 5**

299er (single session) ..... 3:00 p.m.  
Stratified Pairs (single & two sessions) ..... 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.  
Knockouts (Rounds 2 & 3) ..... 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.

**Sunday, June 6**

Stratified Swiss Teams ..... 10:00 a.m. until around 5:00 p.m.

*Non-Smoking with Hospitality Breaks*

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**Entry Fees:**  
Pairs: \$8 on Friday & Saturday  
Sunday Swiss Teams: \$99 per team (Includes Lunch)

*Complimentary Coffee, Tea, Snacks & Finger Foods at all sessions*  
*Door Prizes to over 20 Players*

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**Director:** Bill Michaels  
**Tournament Chair:** Barry Hillmer (970) 247-1668 or (970) 749-7590 (cell)  
**Partnerships:** Jim Beatty (970) 385-0184 or [jdbeatty@bresnan.net](mailto:jdbeatty@bresnan.net)  
Sanction # S1006077

## Denver Unit 361 Summer Sectional

### Bridge Tournament

**July 8-11, 2010**

Jefferson County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall  
15200 West 6th Avenue Golden, CO

**Thursday, July 8, 2010**  
7:00pm Board-A-Match Teams

**Friday, July 9, 2010**  
9:00am Friday Knockouts - (Round 1)  
1:00pm Friday Knockouts - (Round 2)  
Stratified Pairs (single session)  
Stratified 0-299er Pairs (single session)

7:00pm Friday Knockouts - Finals  
Stratified Pairs (single session)  
Stratified 0-299er Pairs (single session)

**Saturday, July 10, 2010**  
10:30am Stratified Open Pairs (1st of two sessions)  
Stratified Pairs (single session)  
Stratified 0-299er Pairs (single session)  
3:00pm Stratified Open Pairs (2nd of two sessions)  
Stratified Pairs (single session)  
Stratified 0-299er Pairs (single session)

**Sunday, July 11, 2010**  
10:00am Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams  
& TBA (A & Ax play together;  
B/C/D play together)  
299er Teams (if enough teams)

**Pairs: Members, \$9; Unpaid and non-members, \$10**  
**Sunday Teams: \$96 per team, includes lunch**

**Director in Charge: William Michael**  
**Tournament Chairman: Rob Vetter 303.530.6575**  
**Partnerships: Chuck Anderson 303.733.2040**

**Stratifications**  
Pairs: A=2000+; B= 750-2000; C=0-750  
Teams: A=5000+; Ax=0-3000; B=1250-2000; C=750-1250; D=0-750

**PAIR AND TEAM GAMES ARE STRATIFIED BY AVERAGE MASTERPOINTS.**  
[www.denverbridge.com](http://www.denverbridge.com) Sanction 1007011