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from the Phoenix NABC

District 9 and Unit 128 long time board member, **Jay Whipple** selected for the *Blackwood Award* at the Nationals in Phoenix, AZ, which will be bestowed at the Summer NABC in Chicago.

Each year, a recipient is selected by the ACBL Hall of Fame Committee to receive this distinction. The ACBL Hall of Fame Blackwood Award is given to individuals who have contributed greatly to the game of bridge without necessarily being world class players. This year's honors went to District 9's own Jay Whipple!

In 2020, Jay was honored as the Nadine Wood Volunteer of the Year. He received the accolade for conceiving and building the virtual club program, which allowed local area clubs to survive online during the pandemic. This effort was a massive project that was built in mere weeks thanks to his round-the-clock efforts and management skills.

In 2018, Mr. Whipple served as ACBL president. In addition, he served two terms on the ACBL Board and one term as a trustee of the Educational Foundation. He created the *Common Game*, a free service to clubs, *Fast Results*, which provides online bulletins to regionals, and in 2022 chaired a committee reviewing the ACBL IT department.

Jay continues to donate his time, knowledge and skills for the advancement and enjoyment of the game of bridge for everyone.

Congratulations Jay!