

NBCC / CHESS BIOGRAPHY OF DAVID HERSCOVICI

Our second member honoree tournament of 2022 was for USCF NM David Herscovici. David was about five years old when he first saw people playing chess when he was on vacation with his family. David bugged his dad to teach him how to play, but his father figured that he would not understand, so David's father refused. David kept badgering his dad, however, and he finally decided to try so that David would stop nagging his father when he did not get it. Of course, David did get it and even started playing in scholastic tournaments a few years later in and around Newtown, where he lived at the time. At age 11, David moved, and none of the kids in his new town played, so he stopped playing for the next ten years, other than games with his dad. When he started playing tournaments again, David had matured and improved significantly. But, of course, his rating was still outdated. David tied for first place in the U1400 section of the World Open Chess Championship, and he was a bit of a chess shark until his rating caught up to his ability (probably around 1800 at the time). David played regularly during graduate school in Massachusetts and then in the Bay Area between 1992 and 2001. During that time, he married and moved back to Connecticut where he started working at Quinnipiac. Because of the demands of raising a family, David cut back pretty substantially (though not completely) on chess when his kids were born (2002 and 2005). But when they got older, David was able to get back to chess. During one of his infrequent tournaments, David met USCF NM Derek Meredith, and he told David about the NBCC. David played in the New Britain Summer Open in 2009 and tied for first place, winning his first game against FM Nelson Castaneda and drawing USCF NM Dennis Prawira. They have both gotten plenty of revenge since then. In 2014, David was ready to get back to spending time at chess, so he became a regular at the club. The warmth and camaraderie of everyone at the club kept him coming back, and he eventually agreed to serve as treasurer, of which he has done an excellent job in this capacity. David is also a USCF certified tournament director. He has also given a few lectures at the club. His contributions to the club are most appreciated. David is a compassionate person who cares deeply about the welfare of our members, and we are so fortunate and blessed to have him as part of our thriving and glorious community. FM Richard Bauer was the winner of David's event.