

## **NBCC / CHESS BIOGRAPHY OF DENNIS HIMES**

The club kicked off the final month of the year with a quick chess tournament dedicated to Dennis “Bad Bishop” Himes. Dennis was the next member in succession to have a tournament held by the club in his honor based on seniority. Dennis’ membership began in 2001 after the disbandment of the Hartford Chess Club, of which he was a member for many years. Since 2001, Dennis has been a very active competitor at the NBCC. He has played in well over one-hundred rated club tournaments, seventy-three in just the last six years. Even though some of us lightheartedly refer to Dennis as “Bad Bishop,” anyone of his opponents is well aware that he takes every chess game seriously. In fact, Dennis’ rating has steadily climbed in recent years. Currently, at 1911, his highest rating to date, he is only ninety points from expert level. Like Tony Diaz Sr., Dennis encouraged his son, George “Good Knight” Himes, to become a member, making Dennis and George one of the few father-son duos in the club. Twenty-two players participated in Dennis’ tributary event. After five rounds of spirited battles, FM Nelson Castaneda won the tournament, and member Angel Zayas-Garcia took first place in the Under 1600 section. Before I sign off on this highlight, I have to admit that even though all of the games in the “Bad Himes” Quick Chess Tournament were played with the bishops on the board, some of them were really bad, including mine in one of my games against “BB”!