District Aspot



1912 - 2010



DAVID TREADWELL

DISTRICT 4 WEBSITE

http://web2.acbl.org/hosted/districts/d4web/index.htm



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BOB COLE

With the new year and the changing of the seasons, we take a moment to remember our friends who are no longer at the table across from us and welcome with new hope those potential friends yet to be met. With the passing of Dave Treadwell, possibly the best known District 4 member, I am reminded of those bridge players, mostly known only locally, who have died recently. In the spirit of remembrance, the Lehigh Valley Bridge Association, Unit 133, has started an annual charity event to remember those who have died in the previous year. I hope other units take the time to remember in their own way as well as continue to support the ACBL's local charitable efforts.

The flip side of the coin is new players. Please continue to remain tolerant and welcome these players to our clubs. I recently had a home bridge player show up unexpectedly at my Wednesday night club game wanting to learn Duplicate. Initially, he just wanted to watch rather than play. But on the third time he came to watch, as fate would have it, another player's partner failed to show. Thus, we drafted the newcomer much to his delight. He has even returned. How many of us still remember the excitement of that first game?

Right now we recognize that many of you are struggling to hold games or cancel them in a timely fashion. The weather being more unpredictable than usual this year. Soon it will be Spring and the tournament season will be in full swing. It is our volunteers who make these games run smoothly and increase the enjoyment of all. It is impossible to list all the wonderful people who volunteer to help bridge succeed throughout District 4. I will be mentioning these people from time to time. Right now, I would like to extend a very appreciative thank you to Beth Rosenthal who has stepped down as the District 4 Charity Chair. Ms. April Uhlenburg will be assuming these responsibilities once we get the details worked out.

Of special note are the volunteers who make this *4Spot* possible, from Editor Elaine Landow to the district and unit reps who contribute.

We're always looking for new players and volunteers! Play Bridge and Have Fun!



DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

CRAIG ROBINSON

DAVE TREADWELL 1912-2010

Four months and seven years ago, Dave Treadwell won a Bracketed Knockout. I was very proud to be part of the team that won that event. Dave was only the second player ever to win a Regional event at the age of 90. In retrospect it wasn't that significant because Dave was going to go on to win nine more regional events.

About a year later, I played two sessions with Dave at a sectional in Wilmington. After dinner we came back to the game site and Dave talked. He told me about the early days of bridge when there were no conventions and psyches were frequent. He explained that he had invented Stayman before Stayman. He played three clubs over partner's no trump to ask for a four card major. He modestly added that the Stayman convention was much better. Then he told me stories about psyche after psyche that various great players had used against him and some that he had used successfully and not so successfully against them.

Dave gave a lot back to bridge. He served in many capacities; President of the Delaware Unit, President of District 4, Chairman of the ACBL Board of Governors, Chairman of National Appeals 1977-1991, Honorary Member of the Year 1985, and in 1998 he was enshrined in the Hall of Fame as a Blackwood Award Winner for outstanding contribution to bridge outside of bridge expertise. As for bridge expertise, he was a Grand Life Master with nearly 26,000 masterpoints and several National titles. Everyone respected and loved Dave. That in itself is unique in this World. He will be missed.



From The Four Corners



CENTRAL NEW YORK 112

www.acblunit112.org
Walt Gable

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Despite the usual winter weather, there is excitement within Unit 112 for the year 2010. There was good attendance for the Cicero sectional the second weekend in January at which the unit recognized the 16 players within Unit 112 who earned Life Master status in 2009. Thanks to the hard work of many people, several other sectional tournaments and one regional tournament are scheduled for the balance of the year. The unit board of directors is particularly excited by its upcoming Rainbow Charity Sectional in May with the proceeds to go to the Food Bank of Central New York. At that same tournament all others receiving unit recognition for various levels of achievement or awards will be recognized.

All members of the Unit 112 playing area are urged to visit occasionally the revamped Unit 112 website as the unit is no longer printing quarterly newsletters.



NORTHEASTERN PA 120

www.nepba.com

Walter Mitchell

570-709-0850 wsmitchell@finsvcs.com

No sooner did we sail through the "summer that wasn't", we are

now deep into the winter that really IS. But there's always a bridge game (weather permitting) everyday but Saturday somewhere in Unit 120.

We are blessed with so many

We are blessed with so many great players, most of whom give of their time and expertise to the advancing members. And now we can claim to be the home for world class players **Bobby** and **Jill Levin**, who moved recently to Lake Ariel in the Poconos. Welcome to the best hospitality in District 4!

Unit 120 is hoping to sponsor a bus to the Philadelphia Regional Tournament which will be held during the World Bridge Series Championship in October. Along with the normally scheduled games, special Golden Opportunity Pairs games are set for Wednesdays and Saturdays. Our trip is scheduled to give our players an opportunity to play in two of these games. The Golden Opportunity Pairs is limited

to players with less than 750 points and gives the players a good chance to get gold points in a pair game. Tentative dates; October 5th Price should range from - 9th. \$325 to \$480 depending on room and bus reservations. Nothing is definite at this time, but we should have details finalized in mid-March. Fay Pacchioli is taking tentative reservations for the trip. If you have any interest at all, please contact her via email SKingP31@aol.com or by phone 610 -442-0742.

In <u>Club news</u>, Beth Rosenthal, "The Bridgelady", has her own face book page: check it out at Facebook.com/pages.bridgelady. Will twittering be far behind? Jack Burns announces that because of snowbirds fleeing south for the month of February, those games for non-life masters were cancelled. They will resume March 10th at 12:30 pm at the Dunmore YMCA. Steve Mansour and I have added another game to the Steamtown Bridge Club schedule. We will host two games per month, the second and third Fridays, at the Country Club of Scranton. These are all non-life master games which start at 11:00 am and include lunch and a discussion of 2 to 3 hands after the session.

FREE FOOD!!! Please come and enjoy a multi-course meal on the Saturdays of our sectionals, FREE to all players who play in both sessions! Dates for sectionals are March 5-7, June 4-6 and because of the World Bridge Championships in

Phildelphia, September 24-26.

Rich Michelstein tallied a **73.62%** game while playing at the Pioneer Bridge Club (<200) in January.

Congratulations to the Unit 120 players who excelled in the 2009 Ace of Clubs competition: 0-5 MPs: Craig Smith; 5-20 MPs: Carol Nogi; 20-50 MPs: Kathryn Shumaker; 50-100 MPs: Kim Michelstein; 100-200 MPs: Phyllis Brandes; 200-300: Bill Orth; 300-500: Horty Shurtleff); 500-1000: Tom Myers; 1000-2500: Jeanne Fainberg; 2500-5000; Annette Johns.

Known for her home-baked cookies which she brought to every game, **Nancy Kay Holmes** passed away late last year. An outstanding ambassador of the game, Nancy Kay would often come to games without a partner, always willing to play with anyone who showed up. In the words of Jack Burns, her director, "She always brought joy and a quiet dignity".

For the latest news and club results from Unit 120, visit our website. Webmaster par excellence George Marcy will gladly post any info you submit (all in good taste, of course)!

Remember, count your tricks BEFORE you begin to play the hand. More bids are lost on the first trick than on any other.



BERKS MONTGOMERY 121

www.unit121bridge.com

Sue Wessner

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bearsbysue@aol.com

In November we held our Annual meeting followed by a catered din- and holiday party at the Brookside elected: Sue Wessner, President: Alan Gerbert and John Schwartz coordi-Seltzer, Vice President; Anne Alder- nated the affair. man, Secretary; Barry Gorski. Members of the Board of Directors are as tended. Officers elected for 2010 follows: Bill Detterer, Joanne Hollinger. Al Crump. Brad Plunkett. Ernestine Medeck, Maxine Hornber- Havighurst, Secretary, and Dave ger, Phil Presby and Lee Ernst.

Myrtle Quier Memorial Game. Sue Kaminski for her many years of ser-Wessner and Jack Berry were winners vice. The annual unit trophy winof the event.

Annual Pro-Am Tournament on April Mukherjee; the Seeley Trophy (50 11, 2010 at 1:00pm.

Dorothy McCormick for achieving Hutchinson and Silver Life Master; Icy Cohen now a (Unlimited) to Dave Kresge. Trophy Regional Master; Carl Yerger is a new points are for all unit games and Club Master!

WE ARE MOVING!! Effective all. March 1, 2010 our new address will have agreed to take over the unit be Greth Homes Building, 253 Snyder membership position which in-Road, Rear Lower Level, Door F, cludes maintaining unit member-**Reading, Pa. 19605.** We are off of ship Route #222, coming North make a the annual unit membership direc-Left at Sterner's Candy (Dries Road) tory. Many thanks to Bill and Dot and we're approximately 2 blocks Forrester for their outstanding serback on the right. Coming South vice in this capacity for many make a Right at Sterner's Candy years. On 13 December the unit (Dries Road).

happenings!!

LEHIGH VALLEY 133

www.lvbabridge.org

Dave Kresge

215-536-8839

kresqede@aol.com

The unit held its annual meeting The following people were Country Club on 15 November. Else **Approximately** one third of the membership atwere John Schwartz, President, Frank Kuebler, Vice President, Jane Kresge, Treasurer. The members In December we held our Annual thanked outgoing Secretary Dolly ners were for the Bonnie West Tro-Please plan on taking part in the phy (less than 50 mps) to Bagisa to 100 pts) to James Kenny; The Special congratulations go to: Foering Trophy (non LM) to Ron the Enberg unit sectionals, congratulations to Arup and Bagisa Mukherjee records and publishing held a memorial charity game in Visit our website for all the latest memory of past members. The game raised over \$500 for the Lehigh County Senior Citizen Center with the possibility of an additional (new), Mike Geiseler (n), Bobbie gift to follow. Julie Brooks organized Gomer (incumbent), Ala Hamilton the event and it was a great success.

races for 2009 were for the Mini- (i), Marie Trethaway (i). The election Mckenney, Joe Miller (0/5), Kay Hays of Unit Officers for the year of 2010 (5/20), Arup Mukherjee (20/50), Naim will take place on February 11, 2010. (50/100),Amal Chaterjee (100/200), Frank Kuebler (200/300), the Unit's Board of Directors for Peter Stoyanov (300/500), Arnold nearly 40 years and had served as (1000/2500), Bill Parks (2500/5000), Business Manager for over 15 years Ella Auch (5000/7500), and Joe Asber decided to retire from active duty. (7500+). For the Ace of Clubs the win- Over the years Joan was very active ners were Joe Miller (0/5), Kay Hays in the Tournament Committee and (5/20), Charles Campbell (20/50), assisted Jane Segal in organizing and Naim Rizk (50/100), Al Fracas running the PCBA Annual Dinner. (100/200), Frank Kuebler (200/300), Joan was also active in the District Peter Stovanov (300/500). Jacqui affairs serving as Co-Chairperson for Newman (500/1000), Barbara Miller the 1996 NABC and 2003 NABC. Joan (1000/2500),Rhoda (2500/5000), Ella Auch (5000/7500), directing shows that were shown at and Joe Asber (7500+). Congratula- the 1972 Lancaster Nationals, 1976 tions to all.

tional on on 14 May through 16 May tainly be missed but we do hope the at the West End Youth Center in best for her. Thank you, Joan, for Allentown. Please see the ad on your time efforts and services that page 12.



PCBA 141

www.philadelphiabridge.info **John Marks** 215-891-0602

JGMMarks@aol.com

The following members of the Philadelphia Contract Bridge Association, Unit 141, were elected to serve on the Unit's Board of Directors for a period of three years: Estelle Bogart

Day (i), David Legrow (n), John Marks Winner of the unit masterpoint (i), Rich Rothwarf (i), Mitch Synder

Joan Weinrott who has served on (500/1000), Barbara Miller the Unit President for two years and Prager assisted Judy Kay in producing and Philadelphia Regional and 1998 The unit will hold its spring sec- Cherry Hill Regional. Joan will ceryou put into these organizations.

> Every year the PCBA pays tribute to the member player who excels at the six sectional tournaments during the calendar year. 2009's Player of the Year (Jordan Trophy Winner) is Neal Satten of Wynnewood, PA. This is the second time Neal has won this award. Neal finished with 77.28 points, Meyer Kotkin of Cherry Hill (76.61) and Jav Apfelbaum of Philadelphia (71.43) followed. Congratulations to all for a fine performance

Best of Luck to Joan.

at the 2009 PCBA Sectionals. Along with the Jordan Trophy, the PCBA also recognizes the player who began the year as Non Life Master and accumulated more master points than his/her contemporaries during the year. Whether or not the player becomes a life master during the year is irrelevant. This year's winner of the Gough Trophy is Ethan Kotkin of Cherry Hill (34.73 points) for the second time. Carol Elfant, Philadelphia and Joanne Smith, Westmont, NJ, both with 16.08 tied for second.. Congratulations to these Non Life Masters for their achievements and hopefully they will continue to attend our sections as they continue to advance further. Although there are no physical trophies, both players will be able to attend all the sessions of all five Sectional Tournaments during the 2010 season free of charge.

The January (New Year's) Sectional was held in the Crescent Shrine Building in Westampton, New Jersey which is close to Mount Holly. The site is an excellent facility to hold a bridge tournament and the hospitality was great. The next sectional tournament to be held at Crescent Shrine will be in September (10 to 12). Please try to attend this wonderful site. Meyer Kotkin (20.72), Tom Weik (16.17), Ken Cohen (14.94) and Neal Satten (14.94) were the top winners at the sectional. Al and Estelle Ronderos, Plymouth Meeting, PA, (8.77) and Jane Ball, Doylestown, PA, (8.22) were the top players with less than 2000 master points; Mike Salton, Palmyra, NJ, (7.45), Sheila Seidner, Yardley, PA (5.91), Steve Gewirtzman, Ambler, PA (5.85) and Cliffton Wilson, Skillman, NJ (5.85).

The Winter Sectional Tournament was held on February 19 - 21, 2010 at the Knights of Columbus, Glenside, PA. The Spring Sectional will be held April 9 - 11 at the Fireman's Memorial Hall, 36 West Elm Street, Conshohocken, PA 19428. Both of these sites are excellent facilities. There will be hospitality before the morning sessions on Saturday and Sunday. Pizza will be served between sessions on Sunday. The Unit 141 Shore Spring tournament will be held on May 14 - 26 at the Oakcrest High School in Mays Landing, NJ. A Unit STAC is schedule for April 12 to April 19. The PCBA annual dinner meeting will be held on Sunday, April 19, 2010. Jane Segal, the Chairperson, will have a new format this year.

Remember that three round Handicap Knockout Team games are scheduled to be held on Saturdays at the PCBA Sectional Tournaments. The first round will start at 10:00 AM. For players who enjoy knockout events, this will be a great opportunity for you to acquire silver points. Also on Saturday, there will be two session Pair event, afternoon qualifying and evening barometer scoring. The Sunday Swiss Teams will start at 10 AM.

Don't forget this year's <u>Valley</u> Forge Regional Tournament, July 12 to 18, 2010, at the Valley Forge Convention Center in King of Prussia, PA and the <u>Philadelphia 15 Day Regional Tournament during the Bridge World Series, October 1 to 15, 2010</u>, at the Marriott in Center City. Also, the following are important future dates to remember: 2011 Valley Forge Regional at Valley Forge Convention Center, August 22 to 28; 2012 Valley Forge Regional at Valley Forge Convention Center, March 5 to 11; 2012 Philadelphia NABC July 12 to 22.

Hope to see at all of these above events.



CENTRAL PENN 168

http://web2.acbl.org/hoster/units/ unit168/index.htm

Kelly Zeller

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kmzeller1@comcast.net

Hello again Unit 168 Members! With the warmer days just around the corner, please mark your Calendars with these Unit 168 events; April 23-25 Lancaster Sectional at the Continental Inn, May 2nd is the 2-Session Swiss (2 locations - Harrisburg and also Fountain Head Country Club), May 8th is the NLM Sectional in Harrisburg, and please don't forget the York Sectional June 25-27th at Springetts Fire Hall. Yes, we are going back to the Fire Hall. Please note that there are earlier play times. Friday, June 25th the play times are Noon and 6:00 PM, Saturday June 26th we start at 10:00 AM and the next session is 2:30 PM, so remember to set that alarm clock and then on Sunday, the Swiss starts at 11:00 AM. Saturday's games are dedicated to Marian Heffner. In all the years that I have been involved in running Bridge tournaments, I have always had Marian by my side. In her memory I am asking all the Ladies to wear something a little dressy on Saturday.

Hope to see you there!



DELAWARE 190

www.unit190.org

Marie Filandro 302-234-0623

filandro@aol.com

I know everyone joins members of Unit 190 in mourning the death of our senior statesman and Grand Life Master Dave Treadwell. Dave passed away on January 15. Pete and I had attended so many of his birthday parties. I guess our expectation was we'd be at his 100th, too. After all, we got to see him playing regularly at the Bridge Studio. In late December, the week between Christmas and New Year's, he was able to play at his namesake tournament, the Dave Treadwell Sectional - winning 13.39 points! To say that he will be missed just doesn't seem to do justice to the loss.

On a much happier note, Unit 190 is busily preparing for the 2010 Delaware Regional, scheduled for April 26th through May 2nd. The event is at a new location - the Holiday Inn Select. The hotel, which features free parking, is located at I-95 and Naamans Road, making it easily accessible to out-ot-town

players. Players at all levels will have lots of events to compete in and will be provided with hospitality each evening of the tournament. See Page 13 for a complete schedule of the events.

Everyone is also invited to participate in a mid-week sectional to be held at the Bridge Studio, April 5 - April 8. And, the annual DSBA Swiss Teams is scheduled for Sunday, April 18, also at the Bridge Studio. Plan to join us!

Congratulations are given to Unit 190 members who did well in ACBL-wide masterpoint races for 2009. Rick Rowland, Randy Berseth and Jess Stuart made the Barry Crane Top 500 list. Randy, along with Mary Boyd, Colin MacKay, Bridgett Pitt and Aster Wu placed in the top ten of their respective Ace of Clubs categories. And Mary Boyd also placed in her mini-McKenney category

As always, our members continue to rise through the ranks. New Life Masters are Barry and Valinda Degler, Rischa Fishman, Kimmie Fulweiler and Steve Herrmann; Bronze Life Masters are Jane Drevo, Patricia Loeffelholz, Anne Priebe and Debbie Purbrick; Silver Life Masters are Alan Horowitz, Sarah Jastak, Robert Porter, Barbara Scales and Aster Wu; and Tom Kramer is a new Gold Life Master. Kudos to all!





SUSQUEHANNA 217

http://unit217.nepab.com/ Jacqueline Humilovich 814-237-5534

psu4814@comcast.net

Since the winter months offer few opportunities for tournament play in our area, I would like to report on events held late last year. These results were not available before the deadline for the December 4Spot, so this is a perfect time to catch up. The following acknowledgements are for those players who did exceptionally well at events held in the fall of 2009.

October/November: Lancaster Regional Tournament: The teams Harpster/Noreen of Irene Khoury, and Susan Nichols/ Shirley Miller placed first in 299er pairs events. Judy Stein/Leonard Gellman/Ala Hamilton-Day/John Schwartz were the first place team in Dinner Bell Compacts. Arlene Andrews/Gene Waltz were first in Flight A in an evening side game with an impressive 67.08%. Sandy Gilbert/Fred Gilbert/Robert Marsh/Barbara Marsh won their bracket in the Sat/Sun Knock Out Event.

December: The State College Bridge Club participated in the District 4 STAC games. The following players scored extremely well and earned extra silver points: Mon.Evening-Jim McKeown/Jess Goodman, 3rd in A

(Continued on page 29)

MASTER SOLVERS JUNE 2010 PROBLEMS

I have difficulty typing so please format your answers as in the following example: 1. Bethe: 1H. A perfect hand for a psychic. Maybe partner will bid spades. That is: your last name; your answer; explanation. Use single capital letters for suits in bids. Spell out "opponents", "partner", and suit names in text. And SIGN you answers either at the beginning or the end. Send answers no later than March 31, 2010 to hbethe@aol.com.

Methods are 2/1 with "Walsh"

1. IMPs, No one Vul Dealer North

S- J952 H- D- 965 C- KJ10753

West North East South -- 1C P ??

2. MPs, E-W Vul, Dealer East S- K10865 H- 6 D- 5 C- Q98752

West North East South

-- -- P P P 2NT P 3H P 3S P ??

3. IMPs, N-S Vul, Dealer South

S- KQ96 H- 3 D- K9743 C- 952

West North East South

-- -- P
1NT¹ X² 2H³ ??

112-14; ²PENALTY ORIENTED; ³NATURAL

4. MPs, Both Vul, Dealer West

S- KQ H- AK94 D- J8 C- A9532 West North East South

P P 1D ??

5. IMPS, N-S vul, Dealer East

S - Q95 H - Q542 D - AJ10 C - Q74

West North East South

P P 1C X 1S ??

IFHIGH VALLEY-UNIT 133



MAY 14 - 16, 2010

West End Youth Center 848 N. 20th Street Allentown, PA

Friday, May 14

1:00 pm & 6:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs 0-500 (NLM) Pairs*

Saturday, May 15

10:30 am & 3:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs 0-500 (NLM) Pairs*

Sunday, May 16

10:30 am & TBA

2 session playthrough

Stratified Open Swiss Tms 0-500 (NLM) Swiss Teams*

There will be a short break with lunches available to buy

Strats: A-2000+, B-750-2000, C-0-750 * will be merged into Open if < 5 tables

Free Coffee/Snacks

Entry Fees - \$8 sess/person

THIS SITE IS HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

Tournament Chair: Rene Rodriquez 610-395-6504

Partnerships:

John Schwartz 610-391-0261 Jane Havighurst 610-398-1777

DIRECTIONS

FROM RT. 22: EXIT CEDAR CREST SOUTH. 1 MI TO LEFT ON TILGHMAN. I MI TO LEFT ON 20 ST FROM 1-78/309: EXIT EAST ON RT. 22. PRO-CEED AS ABOVE

FROM PA TURNPIKE (I-476): EXIT 33. EAST ON RT 22. PROCEED AS ABOVE



DELAWARE REGIONAL



April 26 – May 2, 2010 Holiday Inn Select Wilmington

Holiday Inn Select Wilmington 630 Naamans Road, Claymont DE 19703 (302) 792-2700

Located at I-95 and Naamans Road – 15 minutes from Phila. Airport
FREE PARKING

Room Rate \$112 Single/Double – Reservation Deadline 3/26/10

OPEN SCHEDULE

7:30 pm:	Monday, April 26 Bracketed KO Tms I Stratified Charity Pairs	9 am:	Friday, April 30 Strat AM Side Game Series Compact Bktd KO Tms II
9 am: 1& 7 pm:	Tuesday, April 27 Strat AM Side Game Series Bracketed KO Tms II Stratified Pairs Strat Side Game Series I	1& 7 pm: 7 pm: 11 pm:	Bracketed KO Tms IV Stratified Pairs Strat Side Game Series II Stratified BAMTeams Late-Night KO Teams
7 pm:	Stratified Swiss Teams		Saturday, May 1
9 am: 1& 7 pm:	Wednesday, April 28 Strat AM Side Game Series Compact Bktd KO Tms I Bracketed KO Tms III Stratified Pairs	9 am: 1& 7 pm:	Strat AM Side Game Series Open Pairs (Qualifying with Barometer Final) Stratified B/C/D Pairs Strat Side Game Series II
7 pm:	Strat Side Game Series I Stratified Swiss Teams	10 am:	Sunday, May 2 Bktd Rd Robin Swiss Tms
9 am: 1& 7 pm:	Thurssday, April 29 Strat AM Side Game Series Stratified Swiss Teams Stratified Pairs Strat Side Game Series II	1 &	ALM SCHEDULE Stratified NLM Pairs 7:30 pm Monday 7 pm Tues - Saturday Stratified NLM Teams 0 am & 2 pm Sunday
REGIONA	AL TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE	0-5 P	airs play free on Tuesday

Open Strats: 2000+/750-2000/0-750 Strat B/C/D: 1250-2000/750-1250/0-750 Mid-Chart conventions in separate Open and Top bracket KO events

Co-Chair: Susan Corbett - 302-731-8853

Co-Chair: Tom Grabowski - 302-239-3969

Partnership: Julie Hockersmith-410-398-8511

NLM Events: Colin Mackay - 302-234-1436

DISTRICT 4 MASTER SOLVERS CLUB

HENRY BETHE, DIRECTOR

A full panel and some interesting problems. I thank Nick for filling in so well while I was incapacitated.

A) Do you agree with 4D? If not, what?

	Score	Panel	Solvers
Yes	20	10	9
No-3N	12	1	2
No-P	12	2	1
No-5C	12		2
No-4N	9	1	
No-4C	5		2

Let the debate begin. Against is **Shuster**: No. The 4D call asks partner to pick a major, so it is a major abuse of methods. If my opponents use an artificial 2D opening, I would pass 3Dx, as that greatly increases the likelihood of a 6-card preempt. Otherwise, I'd try 3NT. If we don't have a real stopper, the diamonds are very likely to block anyway. Or maybe LHO will try a sneak attack in another suit.

For is **Greco**: Yes: Very difficult problem. Pass is a close second choice but the possibility of making a slam vs collecting 300 makes me do it. The guess will come later! This is why they preempt.

Nuckols: No. 3NT. I can expect partner to bid either 4H or 4S over my 4D, and I don't know what I like after that, so what's the point? I know I don't have a diamond stopper, but partner's singleton jack and East's singleton king ought to muck up their ability to run the diamond suit. I hope West didn't open with AQ10xxx. L. Harris adds: If partner has a one suited hand, it should be bid at the 3 level or 4 level if strong or has clubs. A double should not be one-suited. If so, I do not want to try for a 4 level major suit contract. Unless left hand opponent has a solid type suit, I do not expect to lose the first 7 tricks. I think your string of low diamonds makes it more likely that West's are running. The fact that people open weaker suits does not stop them from opening strong suits.

Straguzzi: Yes. If only because every alternative is equally nauseating. In real life, I might chance 3NT once in a while, or even a penalty pass, depending on who else is at the table. 4D is really quite useless in helping us find the right game as problem 1B demonstrates. Its main advantage is that if partner is very short in diamonds, and thus we're in a "30-point deck" situation, it gives us a fighting chance of finding the right slam.

Boye: No. 4NT, which should show slam ambitions with no clear direction. We have had this argument before, and I won it last time. 4N here is Blackwood! At least two-thirds of the panel and a larger proportion of the solvers thought it was.

K Cohen with Filandro, Glassons, Popper, Raskin and Sprungs: Yes. Too strong to do anything else despite the poor length in the majors. The all purpose awkward Q bid is the only logical choice. Ruben with Landenberger. Yes. While bidding 4D was likely to get us to the dilemma we are in now, I cannot see an alternative. Passing would get us 500 at best, with game almost certain and slam prospects excellent, assuming we find the right strain. Bidding 4C grossly understates our values, and jumping to 5NT (pick a slam) seems premature.

Marlow with **Rock** similarly. No. I would have bid 5C the first time. The cue bid is intended to explore several possible contracts, but I am not really interested in playing a 4-3 spade fit. Partner is short in diamonds, so I would expect us to get tapped and lose control of the hand almost immediately. I think we realistically only have a chance to make game in clubs.

Foster. Abstain. I play Fishbein in all my regular partnerships. I find that effective against modern preempts.

Penalty doubles of two and three-level preempts were popular when I first started to play bridge, using either the cheapest bid (Fishbein) or the cheaper minor for takeout Even though suit strengths have gotten even weaker in the meantime, very, very few play penalty doubles any more. Its not a question of profit when it does come up. It's a question of frequency: being short in preemptors suit is much more common than being long and strong, and can cost loss of the natural meaning of the artificial takeout, and removal of partner's flexibility to pass the double. These costs are too much to pay for the profits when you do have a penalty double.

Dye: Yes: I'm with Bethe. In my e-mail to panelists and solvers I gave this sample answer: "Yes: Pass, 3NT and 5C seem to have worse flaws. Pass would probably result in 300 or 500, inadequate against our vulnerable game or slam. These diamonds suggest a running six or seven card preempt. 5C is too committal when partner can easily have only three clubs."



The start date for the Burt Garrell
Regional (Liverpool NY) has been changed.
The Tournament will be
August 2 through August 8

15 District 4Spot

B)	What no	w?	
	Score	Panel	Solvers
5C	20	7	7
4S	17	4	4
6C	11	1	2
5N	10		1
Ρ	7	1	1
5н	3		1

Because I don't think anyone really comes to grips with this problem, I will not quote many, and will reserve space for my own analysis.

Greco: 5C. The question is what is the difference between just bidding 5C over the X, and bidding it now. I am not even sure of the answer but it feels like this way shows a decent hand without very long clubs which is conveniently what I have! Straguzzi: 5C. Slam invitational and showing a flexible hand, else I'd have bid this directly. Even a 4-3 fit may play decently since I'll be ruffing diamonds in the short hand. Don't ask how a 4-2 fit will play. An alternative is to bid 4S to show the black suits, but that risks a 3-3 fit, not to mention that I'd have to make the last mistake if partner corrects to 5C. Passing is out (4H might be our only non-making game), and bidding anything higher is foolhardy. If you want your partner to take aggressive action in direct seat when short in the preemptor's suit, as I do, then hanging him is not the best way to say "thank you."

Goldberg; 5C. When I bid 4D, it was not to pass 4H. I have a very good hand, assuming partner is short in diamonds. Partner can still have 5 clubs. He can also have 3 on a bad day, but on some of those hands he will bid his 5 card major rather than double.

Shuster: 4S. This asks partner to choose a black suit. Everything else is awful. 5C would be a cuebid in support of hearts and passing into a very likely 4-2 fit is not the path to victory. **Sprungs** 4S. Showing our two (?) suiter. The 4-3 fit could be ok, even with partner taking the tap. If he doesn't have 4 Spades, 5 Clubs should be OK. **L. Harris**: 4S. In line with expectation of at least a two-suiter when partner doubles and then bids a suit, I will play for a 2-suited hand. Partner did not bid 4D initially (very strong take-out). I certainly prefer S to H. I have a feeling that too many people might use the double and a suit bid as a very good hand. I do not like this approach.

Filandro: Pass. Partner showed no sign of life. Any bid now could be misunderstood as a cuebid rather than a search for a contract. Also, we could be propelled overboard.

Ruben. 5NT. Pick a slam. Partner can hardly have less than Kxxx, Axxx, x, KQxx for his double. I am afraid that bidding 5D would either

show a control there, confirm hearts, or both. Partner should bid 6C with four of them; if he insists on hearts after I only showed tolerance, he should have 5 or more. He can bid 6D with a diamond control to try for a grand.

Neuburger: 6C. Partner made a great bid (presumably) and no good deed should go unpunished. Even if doubler is 4-5-1-3 6C may have a good play and 4H is not necessarily any safer.

Teuk: No answer: Any bid would be a slam try.

This turned out to be a much more complex problem than I intended. The first issue, which was asked indirectly in 'A', is what does the cue bid expect from the doubler? If the cue-bidder could have, say, AQXX, KXXX, XXX, JX, and I think one should cue bid with that hand in response to the double not guess which major to bid, then doubler is constrained to bid a major and not 5C with, say, a 3-3-2-5 shape. So doubler's 4H bid simply shows either equal hearts and spades or a preference for hearts. Thus passing 4H is simply WRONG! With a one-suiter too strong for 3H but wrong for 4H, doubler has to take stronger action than a simple 4H. On the other hand, the cue bid does not, cannot, promise both majors. There are several other possibilities: a flexible hand with two places to play is one. Another might be a onesuiter with slam ambitions, that is too strong to bid game in the suit but not strong enough to drive to slam. I believe that bidding over 4H shows one of these hands. Bidding 4S over 4H should show the flexible hand, spades and clubs, you choose. 5C should show the five-and-a-half club bid. After all, this says you did not have the "pick-a-major" or the "choose a black suit" hand. Now which of those the given hand fits is also not clear. If cue-bidder has a heart slam try the options are 4N, 5D and 5H. There are certainly other agreements possible, and the problems after 3D-X-P are not the same as if the opening bid were 3C or 3 of a major. Bridge is a complicated game!

2. MPs, E-W Vul, Dealer East

aler East	5		
S- AJ H-	AQ96	D- KQJ	85 C- 75
West	North	East	South
		P	1D
P	1H	P	3н
P	3S	P	3.5
Score	Panel	Solvers	3
20	7	8	
19	3	5	
17	2	1	
9	2	2	
4		1	

4D 4H 3N 4S 4N The answer to this one comes down to a conflict of assumed methods. One group assumes what I will call "Traditional Cue-Bidding:" first round controls before second. Since a spade void seems very unlikely, they believe that partner has neither minor suit ace, perhaps a hand like KQx, KJxxx, xx, KQx with lots of values but no first round controls. If that is what you believe, then signing off in 4H stands out. The other group assumes "Italian Cue-Bidding," in which bypassing a suit denies first or second round control (usually). So 3S shows, presumably, the SK, a slam try, and says nothing about minor suit controls. In that style this is a slammish hand, and 4D paints the right picture: diamond control but no club control. At least eight and possibly ten of the fifteen members of the panel clearly assumed Italian cue bidding. Since I also prefer it, in fact, find the traditional American style hard to use, the D4 Bidding Challenge will adopt it. Because we had no prior agreement I have been generous grading 4H as an answer.

I will not quote 4D and 4H bidders. Their views are well summarized above. Some other views:

Goldberg and Nuckols: 3NT. If my partner bids 4C, I will bid Blackwood. I am the one with the outside source or tricks (in diamonds). So I need to be the captain here. It is the natural way for the auction to progress. For those who say 3N should be an offer to play, I suggest 2N is the correct rebid with 4-4 in the red suits and a balanced hand. (Not me. HB) Then correct to hearts. So a raise to 3H should always be semi-balanced or unbalanced. I like this alternative, although I see no reason for 3N instead of 4D, Connie's explanation not withstanding. Popper bid 3N intending it as an alternative contract and assuming no minor suit ace opposite.

Robinson with **K. Cohen** and **White:** 4S. This should show a good hand missing both minor suits aces. Unlike me to actually describe my hand. Actually, I think this should show both minor suit controls, since otherwise you could not afford to go past 4H.

Landenberger. 4NT [RKC]. Partner could have passed or bid 4H so he must be showing considerable extra values including a real spade suit [surely{?} headed by the K]. If he has all 3 keycards [hearts] there should be a play for 7-something. If he shows 2, it's a matter of which 2, which is problematic, but at least you gave yourselves a chance. Don pinpoints the reason NOT to use Blackwood: you do not know what to do if partner shows two key cards.

On another point: a number of people suggested that this hand is worth 4H rather than three on the previous round. I disagree. Partner did not promise more than, say, xxx, Kxxx, xx, QJxx. Opposite that 4H has no play and even 3H is in some danger. In my opinion this is a model maximum raise to 3H, no more and certainly not less..

```
3. MPs, E-W Vul, Dealer North
   S- none H- 0109843 D- A0974 C- 52
                          South
           North East
   West
            Ρ
                     Ρ
                           33
      Score Panel Solvers
2H
        20
               4
                      3
               4
4 H
        18
        16
               3
                      1
3H
1 H
        13
              1
                      3
        12
               1
                      2
P
1D
        11
               1
```

Who'd a thunk that a hand could attract six different opening calls. Actually, I did, since all of the above crossed my mind when I held the hand. I suppose I have to give the 2H bidders top score, although I hate it: it was the first one I rejected. Maybe they can convince me. You think?

The Delaware contingent: **Filandro** with **Popper**: 2H. For many years, Marie & I have called this the "Treadwell hand" because Dave provided our first experience where we saw an opening weak two followed by a free bid in a new suit to show 6-5. 2H would always be my opening bid. Different vulnerability or IMPS would only affect how high I would bid diamonds at my second turn. Upstate NY agrees: **Boye**: 2H - at MPs cannot afford to open 4H since a -300 when opps cannot make a game can be a complete 0. Opening 2H - which in 3rd seat can be a bit heavy lets me bid my second suit in when opponents rest in 3S. Neuburger: 2H. Bring back Straguzzi. It is by no means clear that I would make the same bid twice under the same conditions. D'Errico: 2H. The good spots in long suits combine with the honors in those suits almost push me to open 1H. Havighurst: 2H, but at other vulnerabilities or at imps I would most likely pass. 2H seems wrong to me. The hand is too good in offensive strength and too flexible. I have great respect for Dave Treadwell, but not for wildly two-suited weak-twos where the high card strength is not in the opened suit. This hand reminds me of one from 50 years ago where at one table Harlow Lewis (a fine Philadelphia player) opened a weak 2H and played it there making five; at the other table Bob Mosher opened 2H ACOL (strong but not game forcing), reached 6H and made it on a misdefense and squeeze! Well, maybe pass would be better. Nuckols with Raskin: Pass. Well, there goes my chance for a perfect score, but I don't know how many hearts to bid, and I don't particularly want a heart lead. Maybe I'll get lucky and be able to show my two-suiter later in the auction.

I don't like losing the chance to strike the first blow, so I reject pass. So what about the bid of real men (and women)? **Goldberg** with **K. Cohen**; 4H. Yes. At unfavorable vulnerability I would open 2H and then maybe bid dia-

monds. But otherwise 4H seems right. Maximum pressure. If I bid less, I will feel I should bid again over 4S. This could work out well. LHO may have too many hearts and have to pass, and his partner may not have a hand to protect with. Lots of bad things could happen to them, and I have a good playing hand so I bid 4H now and let them sort it out. **Dye**: 4H: This is the bid most likely to put it to the opponents. I would make this bid at any vulnerability or form of scoring. **Shuster**: 4H. I am aware that I am probably transferring LHO to 4S and burying diamonds. However, the opponents don't always go right at the table. I wouldn't be surprised at a disaster in 4S doubled after the preempt. It is a little rich at unfavorable to open 4H, but the hand has so much potential, anything less wouldn't do it justice. **Robinson.** 4H. This should get us off to an exciting start.

Yes. Maybe. I suppose. But is there a middle ground? Perhaps. Greco: 3H. It is close between 1H, 3H, and pass!. The worry with 3H is that I may miss a big diamond fit if I don't feel like saving myself over 4S. Pass and then coming alive may actually be the best way to describe this hand to partner by showing a big two suiter without the strength to open. I bid 3H simply because I like putting pressure on the opponents and show my playing strength to partner in the process. I would probably open it regardless of vul or form of scoring. Sprungs 3H. Our answer certainly would change based on vulnerability. There are very few if any hands that are worth the same level preemption through all four vulnerabilities, let alone scoring.

Teuk: 3H. You might even get to bid diamonds later. Same answer for IMPs. At unfavorable, we'd open 2H. **Rock**: 3H. I have no defense and partner is a passed hand. Opponents probably have spades, and I want to make it difficult for them to reach game without going for too big a number. If the points are evenly divided. I may steal it with this bid and might even make it. I would probably bid 2H in either Imps or a different vulnerability.

In offensive strength this is certainly an opening bid, and it does have 1½ quick tricks, so maybe this is right. **Apfelbaum:** 1H At this vulnerability am willing to show my second suit at virtually any level. Answer might be different if Vul against not, but is a much closer question. Probably depend on table feel, but 1H still looks right.

Foster. 1H. In third seat in all situations I would open this hand 1H. **Ruben.** 1H. Anything could be right, but if I intend to get both suits in I had better start now. Preempting could keep us from finding a diamond fit when we have one. With unfavorable vulnerability at MPs or IMPs I would pass and await developments.

Straguzzi: 1H. I suppose I could guess how high to preempt in hearts, but a guess is all it would be. I'll try to get both of my suits into the auc-

20 District 4Spot

tion, even if I have to overbid a little...well, okay, a lot. 4H has a certain appeal in the "thou shalt not trifle with me" department, but it's more poker than bridge. There is something to be said for a lead-directing 1D

Giving up on playing the hand and hoping to get the right lead: **Glassons:** 1D. At matchpoints we want to get our lead director in against their spade contract. At IMPs, we would bid 3H, hoping for a profitable save.

At the table I opened 3H and played it there, down a bunch when partner showed up with a 5-0-5-3 ten count. Favorable breaks would have let me make 5D or 6 on a likely spade lead. One result does not prove anything, but in retrospect I think 1H is probably right.

4.	IMPs,	Neither	Vu⊥,	Dealer Eas	t
	S- AQ5	H- K64	D- 8	C- AQ7532	
	West	North	East	South	
			P	1C	
	P	1H	P	3.5	
	Scor	re Panel	Solve	rs	

3C	20	5	5
2C	17	2	3
2H	16	3	4
1S	12	3	4
ЗН	8	1	1

When I learned bridge I was taught that a jump rebid in a minor showed a strong hand with a good suit. This is not a strong hand. In fact it is only barely into the non-minimum category, about a queen better. That is not a good suit; it is a decent suit, but it lacks the texture of a good suit. That makes, to my mind, two strikes against the most popular answer: But perhaps they will persuade you.

K Cohen: 3C. Bidding the value and shape of my hand. 2C is an underbid. When you open 11 point hands with 6 card suits, you must jump with a good 15. 2H misdescribes the shape and value. But I don't, generally, open 11 point hands. Filandro: 3C. Straightforward. Staying with the field, most of whom don't have Walsh considerations. A Walsh 1H (when it is not strong enough for an initial 1D game force) might include shapes like 4-4, 4-5, 4-6, or 4-7 in the reds. With the latter two, a 3H jump would encourage partner more than 3C - and might lead to a making Moysian 4 heart contract. But - a 3H jump would likely exclude a successful notrump game or club game (or club slam). **Raskin, Robinson** and **Rock**: 3C. Would like to have a better suit, but the bid does describe the hand and gives part-

ner a chance to further describe his hand. **Sprungs** and **Nuckols:** 3C. Only 3H is a viable alternative. We try to jump raise on 3 only with no other possible bid. One could play that you reverse with these sorts of hands, but we don't. 1S is clever, but may not leave you any better placed, even if you get by this round.

Notice that all of them are a little uncomfortable. One of my early teachers said it was always better to have a queen in reserve. Maybe, then, this is better.

Greco: 2H. Many answers again. I like raising because this bid compared to bidding 2C will give partner the most chance of inviting to game and I think bidding 3C with minimum points and a bad suit is a drastic overbid. Boye: 2H. Don't like 3H since I am short a trump and for 3C the club suit is inadequate. In addition the likely lead of a spade in a "forced 4H" contract if I raise to 3H, is coming through the AQx and may subject partner to shortening herself. Landenberger. 2H, a vexatious situation. The hand is too strong, but you have only 3 hearts. You want to let partner know that you have heart support, particularly with the ruffing value. D'Errico, 2H. A nice potential Moysian fit. I might consider another bid if I'm playing with a partner who abhors 4-3 fits. White: 2H. Nothing else is remotely tempting

But in the context of Walsh is it better to have something in reserve raising on three or rebidding your suit? Summarizing for a group: **Dye**: 2C. My hand has improved with partner's one heart response, but not enough to justify 3C (lousy spots) or 3H. 2H is clearly wrong on values. As 2C does not limit my hand to a minimum opener, partner will strain to bid again with any decent 9 count or a sixth heart and we should get to game if we belong there. (By the way: do we play weak jump shifts here? If not, I will only raise partner's 2H rebid to 3H.) We play strong jump shifts at the two-level. **Popper.** 3H. Partner more often than not has more than 4 hearts when responding, and if I bid 3C, the only reasonable alternative, we may lose the heart suit and miss a cold vulnerable game. At Imps I am willing to push a bit on this hand. Actually, playing Walsh the frequency of a four card response is higher because partner will bid a four card heart suit and not a 4+ card diamond suit with less than game-forcing values.

Maybe if no heart or club bid seems right there is something else to do?

Teuk with Goldberg: 1S. We'll hope that partner doesn't pass. 2H and 2C are underbids, and the club suit is too weak for 3C. Hearts are too weak for an immediate 3D splinter. So we think that 1S is the least of all evils. Ruben. 1S. Classic problem that appears frequently in these contests because there is no good answer. Partner could pass 2H with hands cold for game, but bidding 3H could get us in trouble if partner is weak with a bad heart suit or get us to 4H when 3NT is right. No way I am bidding 3C on that suit. Bidding 1S does run the risk of partner raising, but it has the advantage of keeping us low when

partner is weak **Neuburger:** 1S. I see little reason to make a WAG (*mild-assed-guess*. HB) when a perfectly reasonable temporizing bid is available.

If it was not clear from my comments, I think 'twee clearts' is the right bid, conveying both the indecision whether to raise or rebid clubs and the strength dilemma. The advantage of 2H is that partner will usually be more encouraged by the raise. The advantage of 2C is that the hand is well described: an opening bid with a six card suit, from minimum to medium strength. As the Sprungs noted, I think the 1S rebid is too clever, and often won't solve your problems.

Leading the Panel were the Sprungs with 93, and Greco with 92. Best scores among solvers were Doug Dye and Bill Rock, each with 92.

SUMMER HANDS ARE ON PAGE 12

Panelist	1A 1B	2	3	4	Score	
Jay Apfelbaum	Yes 5C	4H	1 H	2C	89	
Dan Boye	No-4N 4S	4D	2H	2H	82	
Ken Cohen	Yes 5C	4\$	4H	3C	87	
Pete Filandro	Yes P	4D	2H	3C	87	
Glassons	Yes 5C	4D	1D	2C	88	
Connie Goldberg	Yes 5C	3NT	4H	18	87	
Eric Greco	Yes 5C	4D	3H	2H	92	
Fred Neuburger	Yes 6C	4D	2H	18	83	
Richard Popper	Yes 5C	3N	2H	3H	85	
Ray Raskin	Yes 4S	4H	Р	3C	88	
Craig Robinson	No-P 5C	4\$	4H	3C	79	
Michael Shuster	No-3N 4S	4H	4H	2H	82	
Dan & Jo Sprung	Yes 4S	4D	3H	3C	93	
Teukolskys*	No-3N Abs	4D	3H	1\$	75	

^{*} Assigned "average" for abstention

Solvers

Douglas Dye, Bill Rock 92; Bob Hickes 90, Lynn Harris, Jane Havighurst, Mel Lubart 86; Nick Straguzzi, Steve White 85, Bill Coren, John Weishampel 84, Chris Marlow 83; Harry Nuckols 81; also, John D'Errico, Bill Foster, E. Kohler, Dan Landenberger

2009 FALL NABC SAN DIEGO, CA

1. Eric Greco	208.23	8. Ken Cohen	95.89
2. Jill Levin	165.77	9. Thomas Weik	82.98
3. Connie Goldberg	133.32	10 JoAnn Sprung	82.38
4. Arnold Fisher	111.23	11 Susan Boye	70.72
Robert Levin	108.58	12 Daniel Boye	70.72
Elliot Shalita	103.13	13 J Gassenheimer	66.73
7. Bill Parks	98.66	14 Joann Glasson	65.28



DISTRICT 4 GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS

Unit 120 NE PA SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

MAY 21 - 23, 2010 **Clarion Hotel**

300 Meadow Ave. (I-81, Exit 184) Scranton, PA 18505 570-344-9811

GNT Saturday, May 22

1st session 1:00 PM - OPEN Level 1:30 PM - Strats A. B. C 2nd session 7:00 PM - All

Sunday, May 23

3rd session 9:00 AM - OPEN Level 10:00 AM - Strats A, B, C 4th session (if necessary) TBA

TOURNAMENT & GNT CHAIR Ray Depew 570-239-3056 rdepew@intergrafix.net

Friday, May 21

Stratified Pairs	.1:30
(0-500; 500-1000; 1000+)	
I/N 199er, 99er, 49er	.1:30
Strat Open Pairs	.7:00
(0-300; 300-750; 750+)	
I/N 199er, 99er, 49er	.7:00
Saturday, May 22)
Saturday, May 22	•
Strat Open Pairs	
Strat Open Pairs	.1:30
Strat Open Pairs(0-300; 300-750; 750+) I/N 199er, 99er, 49er	.1:30
Strat Open Pairs(0-300; 300-750; 750+)	.1:30
Strat Open Pairs	.1:30 .1:30 .7:00

Sunday, May 23 11:00 AM & TBA

Stratified Swiss Teams (0-300: 300-750: 750+)

PARTNERSHIP: JOANN MAUGER - 570-620-2638 - MAUGER@PTD.NET

2010 DISTRICT 4 REGIONALS

- ♠ April 26-May2 Wilmington DE
- ♥ July 12-18 Valley Forge PA
 - August 2-8 Liverpool NY split with Harrisburg PA
- November 1-7 Lancaster PA

PCBA UNIT 141 SECTIONALS

Washington Fire Co. Memorial Hall

36 W. Elm Street Conshohocken PA

Oakcrest High School

1824 Dr. Dennis Foreman Dr. Mays Landing, NJ



APRIL 9 - 11, 2010

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

Compact KO Teams., 1:30 & 7:30 Open Prs^{2*}......1:30/7:30 Non-Master Pairs^{1*}...... 1:30/7:30

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

Handicap KO Tms ... 10/2:30/7:30 Flighted Open Pairs³......10:00 Non-Master Pairs^{1*}......10/2:30 Qual & Final Open Prs 2:30/7:30 Flight B/C/D Pairs*.....2:30 Side Pairs*.....2:30 Open Pairs²......7:30

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

Flighted Swiss³ 10:00 playthrough with only a 10 minute break

> * single session ¹A 100-300, B 20-100, C 0-20)

²A 2000+, B 750-2000, C 0-750) ³ (A 4000+ , X 0-4000) separate (B 1250-2000, C 750-1250, D 0-750)

SEE WEBSITE FOR DIRECTIONS www.Philadelphiabridge.info

MAY 14 - 16, 2010

FRIDAY, MAY 14

Stratified Open Prs1.....7:30 Non-Master*.....7:30

SATURDAY, MAY 15

Handicap KO Tms ... 10/2:30/7:30 Non-Master*..... 10/2:30/7:30 Open Prs¹......10/2:30/7:30

SUNDAY, MAY 16

Bracketed Swiss Teams10:00 play-through with 30-45 minute break

> SINGLE SESSIONS * A 100-300; B 20-100; C 0-20 ¹A 2000+; B 750-2000; C 0-750

DIRECTIONS

FROM EXIT 12 OF ATLANTIC CITY EXPRESSWAY - RIGHT ON CR 575 S (WRANGLEBORO RD.) - RIGHT ON US 40 W - RT ON DR. DEN-NIS FOREMAN DRIVE TO SCHOOL

PARTNERSHIP:

JERRY CRAIGE 609-965-2275 ANTIQUA1@COMCAST.NET Tom Purl 610-518-6790

ATTYPURL@HOTMAIL.COM

TOURNAMENT CHAIR: JAY APFELBAUM 215-336-6421 JAPFEL@VERIZON.NET



A Spot 4 the Advancing Player

by Jay Apfelbaum

(japfel@verizon.net)

This month we will discuss fit showing jump shifts. The idea is to show a five card or longer suit and four card support for partner's suit in one bid. The overall strength of the hand is enough to justify forcing to that level in partner's suit. The history of bridge tells us there were two reasons to jump shift (bid a new suit one level higher than legally necessary). Charles Goren taught us this should show 19+ high card points. The obvious purpose was to signal the partnership has a probable slam. This gives everyone the chance to get the information needed for the partnership to bid the right one. More recently, the jump shift showed a really poor hand. The obvious purpose here was to provide a long trump suit and make it harder for the opposition to get to their right contract. There are problems with both the strong and weak approaches. The strong jump shift rarely comes up. That is a waste of some perfectly useful bids. Also, there are other bids available in most modern bidding systems that allow us to show strong hands. That means a duplication of auctions. A logical bidding system should have as few auctions as possible with duplicate meanings, and use as many bids as possible at every stage. The weak jump shift may preempt partner. The hand may be a misfit, meaning the bid will turn a possible plus score into a minus. Even if partner has a fit, the opposition may wind up playing the hand. The weak jump shift will mark the distribution of each suit and the location of the high cards. This is a poor recipe for success on defense.

Consider the fit showing jump shift. A hand with a five card side suit plus four card support happens more often that either the strong or weak jump shift. The hand is difficult to describe because of the extra playing strength in having a fourth trump in support. It has some preemptive value in that the opposition must bid at a higher level than would otherwise be required. If the opposition competes, partner will be in a great position to know whether to keep bidding or defend. The perfect minimum hand to jump shift and force partner to the three level is a five card suit to the Ace, four card support to the King and three-one distribution in the other two suits. As the level increases, the required strength or distribution increases. By the way, an important thing to remember is that the jump shift must be in relation to the auction. If we open 1. and the next player overcalls 1♠, partner must bid 3♥ to jump shift. A 2♥ bid is a simple, natural bid that does not promise club support at all.

bids 3♦. Our hand just got a great rid of our club losers. deal better. The diamond honors fit two club tricks.

3♦. We have a minimum hand, but monds in dummy. with the extra trump and singleton if partner holds the King and Queen after the hand is played out. of Diamonds plus the Queen of Clubs, we may be able to make the contract by leading our singleton

I play the fit jump shift in compe- diamond towards the dummy. If our tition and by a passed hand. Let us left hand opponent holds the Ace of consider some auctions and hands Diamonds and plays low, we lose no where the fit jump shift can help us. diamond tricks. If our left hand op-Suppose we open 1♥ with ♠Kxx, ♥ ponent holds the Ace of Diamonds KQxxx, ♦QJx, ♣Kx and the next and wins this trick, we might be able player overcalls 14. Partner now to win three diamond tricks and get

Finally the bid can help pinpoint partner's hand beautifully and give needed information for a slam. Supus a source of tricks. The spade and pose we hold ♠AKxxxx,♥KQx, ♦AJx, club Kings may be poorly placed, ♣x and after two passes open 1♠. but we have to wonder how our Our partner jumps to 3♣. We find right hand opponent will get on out that our partner holds the Ace lead. Give our partner something of Hearts and the Ace of Clubs. At like ♠x, ♥Axxx, ♠Kxxxx, ♣xxx, and this point knowing that partner has we have a very reasonable chance five clubs and four spades means to make game. All we really need is we can confidently bid a grand slam for the spade overcaller to hold the in spades! Trumps are likely to di-Ace of Diamonds. It will not be pos-vide 2-1. This gives us two trump sible for the right hand opponent to left in dummy after we draw trump. get on lead and lead a club to get Our partner has only four cards between Hearts and Diamonds. This We do not always need a fit in means that after cashing three the second suit to justify a game Heart winners and the Ace of Diabid. Suppose we open 1♥ with ♠xx, monds, there will be no more red ♥AQxxxx,♦x, ♣AJxx. The next hand cards in dummy. All we have to do is overcalls 14 and partner jumps to draw trump and ruff our two dia-

The fit showing jump shift can be diamond we have an easy game bid. even more valuable on those occa-Give our partner virtually any hand sions when partner does not use with a singleton club and game will the bid. The failure to jump shift be very easy. Even if our partner means that partner will not hold holds two spades and two clubs, this magic distribution. This may game will be at risk only if our part- keep the advancing player from ner holds neither the King of Clubs being too optimistic, resulting in nor the Ace of Diamonds. Even then more plus scores and more smiles





When I say "Count," I don't mean Dracula!!

Many years ago, my partner and I (who were then rank beginners) found ourselves, entirely by accident, in the semi-finals of unbracketed Swiss (no brackets back then) against a fabulous team who actually deserved to be there. While they were just as kind as can be, by the end of the first half we were behind enough points to equal the national debt. We didn't know what hit us. They suggested that perhaps we might like to just skip the second half. We knew we had no chance of a rebound, so we gratefully agreed. The woman we were playing against made a comment as we were staggering off to find first aid at the bar: "Once you learn to count, you will be formidable at this game."

I've given a lot of thought about that comment over the years. Of course, she was spot-on. You can't be a serious winner at bridge until you can count. Here's what needs to be counted (and remembered throughout the hand!): Trump; How many cards in each suit each person has, based on the bidding; How many points each player has, based on the bidding; How many cards have been played in each suit at each trick; How many points each person has left after each trick; How many cards in each suit each person has left after each trick. And that's just the beginning.

Fortunately, as a less-experienced player, you don't need to count all that stuff to do well. BUT you do need to determine what <u>one</u> thing you <u>need to count for that particular hand</u> (besides trump). Here's what I mean. You have found yourself in a nifty little 3NT contract, and West has led the \$\div 2\$.

Dummy	You
♠ K 9 5	♠ A Q 6
♥ 7 3	♥ A 8 7
♦ K 8 7 5 3	♦ A J 10 4 2
♣ Q 8 4	♣ J2

<u>Step 1</u> in your planning: Count winners and you find you have six off the top. <u>Step 2</u>, Read the Lead. Should be bottom of a 4-card suit, right? It can't possibly be a 5-card suit. <u>Step 3</u>, figure out where your other tricks will come from. No question but that you will get the rest of them from your diamonds, right?

Nothing tricky there. **Step 4** (and this is a step many players ignore), figure out what can go wrong. On this hand, losing the lead will be a disaster. The opponents are sitting there with their hearts and their clubs, ready to pounce. **Step 5** decide how to play your hand.

Now is when you have to start counting. The one thing that can go wrong is if either defender is void in diamonds or you guess the ◆Q wrong. The "count" comes from the opening lead. You know West has no 5-card suit, or he would have led from it. That means West cannot be void in diamonds. If he were, he'd have a 5-carder, and his lead would have reflected that. If either defender is void in diamonds, it will be East. So now you know... Your plan is to lead the ♦A from your hand. If East shows out, you can now capture all the diamond tricks. If East doesn't show out, you can drop the ♦Q and still reap the harvest. You won't have to take a finesse. This is a simple hand to count, but you must take a little time to think. Once you realize that all that can hurt you is losing the lead, you can count the diamonds. You can do that, can't you? Sure you can!!

Now, off this subject for a minute. Many times in the ACBL Bulletin we read letters from people saying how wonderful it is to have an opportunity to play against the top people in the game, whether we are trounced or not. Usually these are letters that are talking about the devaluation of Masterpoints. This doesn't reflect what I hear from you, and from other novices all over the country. Most novices prefer to play among their peers at their own level until they become a little more competent. I've heard dozens talk about how expensive it is to go to a National or Regional, only to be beaten badly by people way out of their league. There is much to be said on each side of this question, and I am most eager to hear from you concerning what you think about this issue. Actually I like to hear from you no matter how strange your email is (if you've read my columns, you've seen hints of what my daily email is like!), so let me hear from you.

(Continued from page 11)

65.48% (60.5 tables); Tues. Morning of Life Master! -Jim McKeown/Donald Strickler, 2nd in A 63.43% (16.5 tables); Wed. Eve- Spring Out of Winter Tournament ning-Carol Reitz/Tudor Trifan, 1st in will be held at the Williamsport A 64.58% (18 tables); David Hoo- Bridge Club from March 26-28. We ver/Barbara Mateer, 1st in B 61.61%; look forward to a great tournament Irene Harpster/Dolores Ritter, 1st in and the opportunity to reconnect C 54.76%; Thurs. Afternoon-Betsy with familiar faces from around our Eliot/David Hoover, 2/3 in A 61.81% area. Be sure to mark these dates (13 tables).

A special congratulations to

Elaine Fuller who achieved the rank

Spring is near and our annual on your calendar.



DISTRICT 4 STARS

DISTRICT 4 PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

DAVE TREADWELL AWARD (Open)

Ken Cohen

JEANNE FISHER AWARD (<2000)

Ethan Kotkin

JANE SEGAL AWARD (<500 nlm)

Ronald Hutchinson





2009 DISTRICT 4 WINNERS

0-5 5-50	Mini McKenney Larry Abi Mary Boy	/d
20-50	Stephen	J
50-100	Steve Valencic	
100-200	Amal Chatterjee	Jacob Rubinstien
200-300	Phyllis Ta	axin
300-500	Nancy St	eele
500-1000	Bridgett F	Pitt
1000-2500	Barbara Rhoades	Suzanne Cohen
2500-5000	Bill Parks	Randall Berseth
5000-7500	Thomas Weik	Arnold Selig
7500-10,000	Jill Levin	Rhoda Kaufman
over 10,000	Robert Levin	Ken Cohen

NEW LIFE MASTERS 2009



Shelia Altaker Kathleen Bear Barbara Beard Barbara Berg Lydia Boyer Elaine Brigman Margaret Brown Bill Brundick Mary Cannizzaro Neil Carstensen Amal Chatterjee Arlene Clarkson Frank Cole III Margaret Curfman **Dann Davies Barry Degler** Valinda Degler Patrick Drake Jane Drevo Carol Elfant William Everitt IV **Judy Everts** Jack Fishman Rischa Fishman Jean Fox Elaine Fuller Kimmie Fulweiler Debra Glamack **Maxine Goodman Doris Grabel** David Hellenga Donald Hennigan Saundra Hennigan

Steve Herrmann Marcia Hume Jaca, Humilovich Ronald Hutchinson Przemek Iwonski Joan Jasper James Johnson Leonard Kent Gregory Kiddy Thomas Kilcovne Shirley Krentz Jeanne Kuebler Harry Laspino Leigh Lieberman Sandra Litvin Sam Litzenberger Patricia Loeffelholz John Lute **Betty Lyons** John Macdowell **Edward Magee** Bobbie McDougal **Evelyn Melchiorre** Jovce Meltzer Jill Miller Madison Morgan Jr Nicholas Nazarenko Marsha Nettles **Eugene Northrop** Frank Opshinsky Carl Perchonock Joan Phelen Elaine Ratner Delvita Reid Patricia Richards Andrew Rieger Evelyn Rosen Donna Saffren

Lucille Schlack Lionel Schlank William Shriver Jeremy Siegel John Spitzer Nancy Steele Peter Stoyanov **Dodie Stroup** Debra Suller Phyllis Taxin Neema Thakrar Renee Truskin David Tyson Kristofor Varhus **Howard Wachtel** Claude Weems Lee Weiss David Wessell Karen Wessell Joe Anne Williams Robert Williams Carole Witty Tee Zerfoss



Upcoming District 4 Events

DATE	TOURNAMENT	LOCATION	CONTACT	SEE PAGE
March 3-7	D6 STaC Unit 190	Clubs	Barbara Israel 410-381-9445	
March 5-7	Unit 120	Indpendent Fire Hall Kingston PA	Ray Depew 570-239-3056	
March 6-7	Unit 112	Lakeville Fire Dept. Lakeville NY	Warren Marsland 585-442-8753	
March 26-28	Unit 217	Williamsport Bridge Club Williamsport PA	Sue Pierce 570-275-2142	
April 5-8	Unit 190	Bridge Studio of Delaware Wilmington DE	Alexis Ciconte 302-571-9092	
April 9–11	Unit 141	Fireman's Memorial Hall Conshohocken PA	Jay Apfelbaum 215-336-6421	25
April 12–18	STaC Unit 141	Clubs	John Marks 215-891-0605	
April 23-25	Unit 112	VFW Hall Ithaca NY	Eleanor O'Connor 607-387-5538	
April 23-25	Unit 168	Continental Inn Lancaster PA	Eleanor Alboum 717-392-7709	
APR 26 MAY 2	WILMINGTON REGIONAL	HOLIDAY INN CLAYMONT DE	Tom Grabowski 302-239-3969	13
May 8	Unit 168 NLM	Harrisburg Bridge Club Harrisburg PA	Bob Priest 717-579-5665	
May 14-16	Unit 141	Oakcrest High School Mays Landing NJ	Jay Apfelbaum 215-336-6421	25
May 14-16	Unit 168	Chambersburg Rec Center Chambersburg PA	Tom Silverwood 717-261-0336	
May 14-16	Unit 133	West End Youth Center Allentown PA	Rene Rodriguez 610-395-6504	12
May 15-16	Unit 112	Seneca Cty Office Bldg Waterloo NY	Laura Krauss 607-227-0830	
May 21-23	Unit 120	Clarion Hotel Scranton PA	Ray Depew 570-239-3056	24
MAY 22-23	GNT	CLARION HOTEL SCRANTON PA	Ray Depew 570-239-3056	24