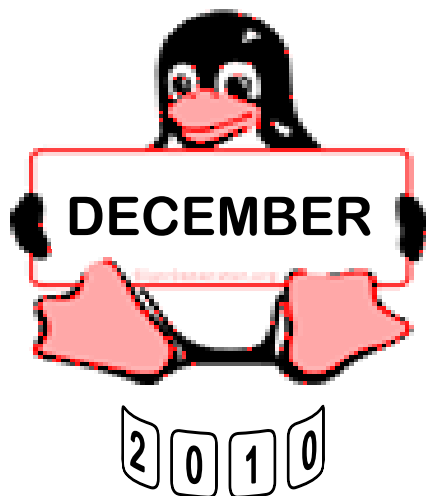


# District 4 Spot





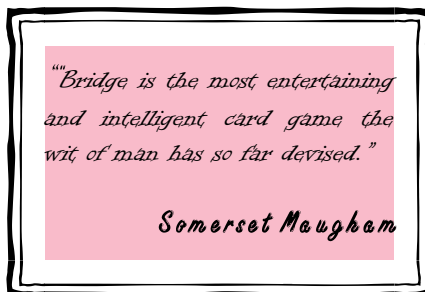
## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### RICK ROWLAND

What a performance by our District 4 players in the World Bridge Series!! Congratulations to Eric Greco (gold medal in Open Teams), Bobby Levin (gold medal in Open Pairs), Connie Goldberg (gold medal in Mixed Teams) and JoAnn Sprung (gold medal in Mixed Teams). In addition to the efforts at the table, many thanks go to the volunteers who made the concurrent regional a success.



Over the past two years, District 4 has been adversely affected by a drop in attendance at its regional tournaments. Historically, these tournaments provided the funding for other district expenses, most notably the funding of the *4Spot*, expenses for players attending Grand National Teams and North American Pairs and other board expenses. During the next year, I want to facilitate a dialogue among the various regional chairs to allow for the exchange of concepts that can be considered for implementation across District 4. Toward that end, I'm requesting recommendations or constructive criticism from our members. You can send your comments via e-mail to [District4Regionals@comcast.net](mailto:District4Regionals@comcast.net) or mail your comments to 1021 Oriente Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19807. Please provide your name and address in the event that follow-up is needed.



## DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### CRAIG ROBINSON

On-line bridge is a relatively recent innovation. It has grown exponentially through the middle of the first decade of this century and only now is beginning to level off. Is on-line bridge good for bridge? Does it hurt club play? Should masterpoints won on-line be merged with masterpoints won at clubs and tournaments?



Many believe that any bridge is good for bridge. Similar to any publicity is good publicity. Will the ability to play on-line take players from the clubs? Clearly, with our aging population, playing on-line takes less energy than going to a club and it is clearly more convenient. But as one of our aging members told me, "if it weren't for bridge, I would have no reason to get up in the morning". Is this a two way street? On-line bridge is popular for partners who don't live near each other to practice for tournament play. But there is little evidence that people start playing on the internet and then graduate to duplicate games.

So does on-line play hurt club play? The number of tables at club games has not decreased during the last decade. There are about 2.2 million tables playing at clubs during the year. Annual growth at clubs is usually between 0 and 1% annually.

The real issue with on-line games has to do with the masterpoints won. Because one can play in many games in a single day it is possible to accumulate large amount of points. Should these points be allowed to count towards rank advancement? The current policy of the ACBL allows 1/3 of on-line points to count towards rank advancement (I.e. one is allowed to earn 100 of 300 points needed to be a Life Master to be won on-line). However, all points won on-line count towards stratification/bracket assignment at tournaments. Many feel this is unfair and it is difficult to argue this issue. The ACBL has established on-line masterpoint races which seems like a fair way to handle this. Some on both sides of the issue would like on-line points only to count in these on-line races. But some want the on-line points to have value since you are paying to play and the on-line

*(Continued on page 31)*

# From The Four Corners



**CENTRAL NEW YORK 112**

**Walt Gable**

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## **Who Is Responsible to Promote Zero Tolerance?**

What I am going to say in this column is likely to generate some controversy. Nevertheless, it needs to be said from my perspective.

I was playing some duplicate bridge at nearby tournaments long before the “zero tolerance” policy was implemented by the ACBL. I can remember particularly—certainly not fondly—one Saturday evening open pairs event in which one large man repeatedly was blowing smoke from his cigarette onto me while I was supposed to be “enjoying” my opportunity to play duplicate with a person whom I seldom got the opportunity to have as a partner. That unpleasant memory was what helped me to welcome the ACBL’s implementation of its restrictions on smoking and later its zero tolerance policy.

I am not so sure that every ACBL member player is actually committed to a zero tolerance policy. I have sadly encountered some recent happenings at club games that have prompted me to have these doubts. When I expressed my concerns to a first-time partner after a “blow-up” between two other partners, with the game director apparently having done nothing for this happening, I said I simply could not play there again at that club game on that day. My doubts about commitment to zero tolerance became even greater when some regular players in that club game commented that if anything were done to one of the “blow-up” players that it would cause a serious loss of players at that club game and other club games in which that person played. My response to one such comment was that it would only take one clear punishment for a violation of zero tolerance and everyone would get the message—a zero tolerance policy means zero tol-

erance for misbehavior on the part of every player.

Unless every game player is going to support—and even demand—full adherence to a zero tolerance policy, we are going to continue to have many people driven away from certain duplicate games—at the club and tournament level. It is not just the game director's responsibility or commitment that is needed to ensure zero tolerance. It is every player's responsibility.



#### **NORTHEASTERN PA 120**

**Walter Mitchell**

570-709-0850

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The beautiful fall colors in Northeastern PA have brought out some sparkling results in our local clubs. Beth "Bridgelady" Rosenthal reports, three > 70% games: Lois DeGenaro & Sue Kluger, 74%; Helen McCool / Walter Brenholts, 72%; And Sally Harris / Pat Rosenthal, 70%.

At her team appreciation game October 27<sup>th</sup>, Beth noted that everyone who played got "gold dust".

A Holiday Party hosted by the Bridgelady and Wilkes Barre clubs is scheduled for Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> @Kazimi's in

Kingston. Everyone is invited.

How about a 73+% game topping a 65% game at a non-life master's event? Jack Burns reports that Martha O'Connor & Peggy O'Keefe posted the big number, with Mike Dudek and Barbara Green close behind.

Gladys Santee notes a 75% game tallied by Joan Benedict and Ann Goetz and a 72.5% game from Santee and Santara Khanna.

Major Milestones: Robbie Silverblatt and Susan Solomon are now Life Masters! New Junior Master: Tom Ferguson; New Sectional Masters: Carolyn Kaufer, Mary Morrissey & Richard Walsh; New Regional Masters: Vi Kelly, Doris Mauer, Stella Schub and Craig Smith; NABC Master: Jill Fragin.

Unit 120 players grabbing gold &/ or red points at the Lancaster Regional included: Mary Brezinski, Lois DeGennaro, Ray Depew, Norm Dressler, Tom Henson, Ged Manzi, Jim and Tom Olcese, Leslie Sloan, Craig & Karin Smith.

Make plans now to attend our Regional Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> – March 6<sup>th</sup> at the fashionable full service Woodlands Resort in Wilkes Barre. When not capturing gold / red points, you might try your luck at the nearby Mohegan Sun Casino.



**BERKS MONTGOMERY 121****Sue Wessner****610-972-5327***bearsbysue@aol.com*

We held our Fall Sectional September 17 through September 19 at the Greth Homes Building, 253 Snyder Road, Reading, Pa. 19605. What a wonderful attendance we had! Louise Remley, our Tournament Coordinator, along with her team of dedicated board members, did a marvelous job. Deepak Khanna was the masterpoint winner.

Please mark your calendars for our Winter Sectional with morning and afternoon games on Saturday, Feb. 19th, Bracketed Swiss on Sunday Feb 20<sup>th</sup>, finishing with morning and afternoon games on President's Day, Monday, Feb 21<sup>st</sup>. For more info contact Louise @ [louiseremley@msn.com](mailto:louiseremley@msn.com) or 610-207-3294. Our annual Myrtle Quier Unit Game Holiday party will be played in the Bridge Room on December 12, 2010. This game will be open to the first 26 pairs who sign up. For details call Marlene Winkleman at 610-678-2669, or check the Unit website.

For anyone still interested in going on the Bridge Cruise to the Bahamas April 2-11, 2011, please contact Brian Gibson at 610-678-8740. Rates have been substantially reduced. Call for details.

We extend our congratulations

to Dick Yiengst for achieving Bronze Life Master, Eva Spitale who is now an NABC Master, Betty Hamilton became Sectional Master and Patricia Coates, who is now a Junior Master. Great Job!!

Happy Hollidays To All.

**LEHIGH VALLEY 133****Dave Kresge****215-536-8839***kresgede@aol.com*

The Unit will hold its annual in memoriam charity pairs game at the Senior Citizen Center on Sunday December 19 at 2:00 PM. Those members wishing a special memorial for members who have passed away can contact Julie Brooks. The charity will be the Lehigh County Senior Citizen Center.

There will also be a charity pairs event in January. Contact John Schwartz for the time and location of that charity game. Also our annual souper Sunday charity game will be held on Sunday 6 February. The charity will be the 2nd Harvest of Allentown.

The top point winner at the unit's October Sectional was Valerie Barber followed by Richard Claussen and Donald Swan.

Our next unit Sectional will be

April 1 - 3 at the West End Youth Center in Allentown.

Special congratulations to the unit's newest Life Master, Frank Kuebler. Also special congratulations to Barbara Miller for becoming a Gold Life Master, to Charlene Thomas for becoming a Silver Life Master and to Barbara Cartal for becoming a Bronze Life Master.

The unit was saddened by the passing of Albert Derr, Lee Gaurmer, Brigitte Gerbert, and Jim Mathews.



#### **PCBA 141**

**John Marks**

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*JGMMarks@aol.com*

Web Sites are now being set up for the 2012 Philadelphia Summer North American Championships (NABC) and the Valley Forge Regional Tournament (VFRT). A special thanks to Joann Glasson for work, time and effort she is putting forth in establishing the web sites. You can visit the NABC web site at [www.district4.info/philadelphia.html](http://www.district4.info/philadelphia.html) and VFRT web site at [www.district4.info/valleyforge.html](http://www.district4.info/valleyforge.html). The web sites will be also linked to the current District web site, Unit 141 web site and the ACBL Tournament Calendar on the ACBL web site.

The dust is now settled from

the 2010 World Series Bridge Series Championship / Philadelphia Regional Tournament. JoAnn and Danny Sprung were instrumental in bringing this event to Philadelphia. Craig Robinson, Joann Glasson, and I worked together with high ranking members of the World Bridge Federation (WBF) and the ACBL setting up the event. The regional Tournament ran parallel with the WBF events. Many thanks to those workers in our District who contributed their time and efforts to bring this event to a successful conclusion. Joan Brandeis (Hospitality), Al Percarsky (Caddy Master), Ray DePew and Judy Argento (Regional Registration), Dan Boye (Partnerships) and Tom Purl (General) were extremely busy and outstanding during the sixteen days. In the WBF events, JoAnn Sprung (Philadelphia) and Connie Goldberg (Merion Station, PA) were members of the winning Mixed Teams event; Eric Greco (Philadelphia) was a member of the winning World Teams; and, Bobby Levin (Lake Ariel, PA), a member of the winning World Open Pairs.

The top District 4 players at the Regional were: Ray Raskin (King of Prussia, PA) with 96.69 MPs; Corey Krantz (Drexel Hill,



PA) with 78.46; Daisy Geocker (Yardley, PA) with 76.01; and Bill Parks (Macungie, PA) with 57.72. For more information concerning your results from Philadelphia Regional, you can consult the either District 4 or Unit 141 web sites.

With the Bridge World Series behind us, the District's next major project is the Philadelphia Summer NABC in July of 2012.

The September (Fall) Sectional Tournament was held in the Crescent Shrine Building in Westampton, New Jersey which is close to Mount Holly. The site was 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 January (28 -30). Please try to attend this Sectional at this wonderful site. The site is only a few minutes away from Cherry Hill.

Ray Raskin (King of Prussia, PA) and Ken Chatznoff (Cinnaminson, NJ) with 10.06 MPs each and Bill Parks (Macungie, PA) with 8.48 MPs were the top players at the September Sectional.

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; 2013 Valley

Forge Regional at Valley Forge Convention Center; 2012 Philadelphia NABC July 12 to 22.



#### **CENTRAL PENN 168**

**Kelly Zeller**

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*kmzeller1@comcast.net*

Hello again Unit 168 Members! Mark your calendars to attend these Unit #168 Functions: Annual Unit 168 Meeting with GNT Swiss - Dec 5<sup>th</sup> at Harrisburg Bridge Club with dinner Provided. Please note, this is not a Sectional, only the GNT Swiss. On Sunday Jan 28-30, Harrisburg Sectional; Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, 299er @ Bridge Boardroom; April 1-3 is Chambersburg @ The Recreation Center; April 8-10 is Lancaster @ The Continental Inn; June 24-26, York Sectional @ Springetts Fire Hall.

And the results are in for the 2010 Unit 168 Sectional Player of the Year Awards: Open = Kurt Kilhefner, John Sheaffer, Phil Monyer; 0-1500 = Steve Valencic, Joe Anne Williams, Robert Williams; 0-500 = Steve Valencic, Robert Knuff, Roseann Romito. Congratulations to all!!! Awards will be distributed at the Annual Meeting in Harrisburg on Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.

2011 is just around the corner.

Make a resolution to support your local tournaments and show appreciation to those who volunteer their time and energy to Bridge.



#### **DELAWARE 190**

**Marie Filandro**

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*filandro@aol.com*

Unit 190 has two upcoming events of interest. Hope you will find time to join us. The Dave Treadwell Sectional is scheduled for December 27 - December 31, and the annual DSBA Blue Hen Sectional is set for February 25 - 27. Both of these tournaments will be held at The Bridge Studio of Delaware, Foulkstone Plaza in Wilmington.

During the DSBA annual meeting September 13, members elected a new Board of Directors. Officers are: Jeff Ruben, President; Bill Everitt, Vice-President; Bruce Gwaltney, Secretary; and Jess Stuart, Treasurer. Other members are Marie Filandro, Julie Hockersmith, Tammy Holm, Alan Horowitz, Harold Jordan, Mike Mocella, Barbara Rhoades, Rick Rowland, and Carl and Trina Williams.

Then, on September 30, Dini Romito celebrated the 15th anniversary of Shuffles Bridge Club

in Ocean View, Delaware. Carl and Trina represented Unit 190 for this special occasion and presented Dini with roses, a silver picture frame and a proclamation naming her "Ms Southern Delaware Bridge." Dini has worked tirelessly to establish bridge clubs, and teach people to play bridge. She also recognizes the accomplishments of her players, and acts as a true "ambassador of goodwill." In humorous fashion, the proclamation thanked Dini and outlined all she has done to promote downstate bridge. It estimated the number of hands of cards she has shuffled and dealt, how many desserts she has baked, how far she has walked and how long she has talked during the last 15 years. She does indeed have the respect, admiration and thanks of players throughout the State.

DSBA members have qualified to represent District 4 at the next North American Pairs. In Flight A, Richard Popper and his partner, Daisy Goecker, won and Rick Rowland placed 2nd playing with Craig Robinson. In Flight B, Elizabeth and Kristofor Varhus placed 2nd, Anne and Monty Taylor were 3rd. Congratulations and good luck to all!

Finally, as always, recognition is due to those members who

have advanced in rank. Our new Life Masters are Alan Hodesblatt, Joan Lehrfeld, Anne Morris, Jane Myers, Gail Petren, and Elizabeth Varhus. Guy Novello is a new Bronze LM. Leon Tomaszewski and Trina Williams are new Silver LMs, and Jeff Koltenuk is a new Gold LM.



### SUSQUEHANNA 217

**Jacqueline Humilovich**

**814-237-5534**

*psu4814@comcast.net*

Congratulations to our unit members who have achieved new rankings since our last publication. They are as follows: Cheryl Pehoushek, Silver Life Master;;Dolores Ritter, Life Master; Timothy LeVan, NABC Master; Noreen Khoury, Regional Master; Jill Anderson, Club Master.

The Susquehanna Sectional Tournament was held Sept.10-12 and attracted a large number of players from the region. Many thanks to chairperson, Peg Herz, and to the hospitality committee of Judy Stein, Fred and Sandy Gilbert, Ann Day, and Marie Koch for the usual outstanding preparations. Arlene Andrews, Gene Waltz, Jim

McKeown, and Kevin Burns took top honors as the highest master point winners. Pairs who won their respective flights over the three days were: Sandy & Fred Gilbert; Irene Harpster & Santosh Khanna; Kevin Burns & Jim McKeown; Susan Greenleaf & Nancy Pfeiffer; Timothy LeVan & Russell Palkendo; Bonnie Elgar & William Elgar; Elaine Fuller & Irene Harpster; Gene Waltz & Arlene Andrews. Swiss Teams top finishers in each flight were: Gene Waltz, Arlene Andrews, Susan Greenleaf, Judy Stein / David Hoover, Susan Nichols, Irene Harpster, Elaine Fuller / Karin Smith, Craig Smith, Richard Michelstein, Kim Michelstein.

A meeting of the **Board of Directors** was held on Sunday. The decision was made to incorporate starting times of 11:00AM and 4:00PM for all unit tournament games. The Spring Out of Winter Sectional will be held March 25-27, 2011. The Susquehanna Sectional will take place September 16-18, 2011. A time for the State College Tournament has yet to be determined.

Happy Holidays!



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## REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

The Woodlands 1073 Highway 315 Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18702 – 800-762-2222

February 28 through March 6 2011

### Monday, February 28, 2011

- 7:30 Anthracite Kick Off Bracketed KO Teams (1st round of four)  
Mon Tue Side Game (1<sup>st</sup> session of four)

### Tuesday, March 1, 2011

- 10:00 Anthracite Kick Off Bracketed KO Teams (2nd round of four)  
Mon /Tue Side Game (2nd session of four)  
Tue Compact KO (1<sup>st</sup> session of two)  
2:30 Anthracite Kick Off Bracketed KO Teams (3rd round of four)  
Mon /Tue Side Game (3rd session of four)  
Swiss Team (single session)  
Tue Compact KO (2<sup>nd</sup> session of two)  
7:30 Anthracite Kick Off Bracketed KO Teams (4th round of four)  
Tues/Wed Evening Compact KO (1<sup>st</sup> session of two)  
Side Game Mon/Tue Side Game 4th session of four)

### Wednesday, March 2, 2011

- 10:00 Wed/Thurs Side Game (1st session of six)  
Wed/Thurs Bracketed KO Teams (1st Session of four)  
Stratified Open Pairs (2000+) (0-2000) (1<sup>st</sup> of two)  
Gold Rush Pairs (300-750) (0-300) (1<sup>st</sup> of 2) Gold Points\*  
2:30 Wed/Thurs Bracketed KO Teams (2<sup>nd</sup> round of four)  
Wed /Thurs Side Game (2nd session of six)  
Stratified Open Pairs (2<sup>nd</sup> of two)  
Gold Rush Pairs (2<sup>nd</sup> of 2) GOLD POINTS\*  
7:30 Tue /Wed Evening Compact KO (2<sup>nd</sup> session of two)  
Side Game Wed/Thu (3rd session of six)

### Thursday, March 3, 2011

- 10:00 Wed /Thurs Side Game (4<sup>th</sup> session of six)  
Wed/Thurs Bracketed KO Teams (3<sup>rd</sup> round of four)  
Norman Kay Stratified Open Pairs (1<sup>st</sup> session)  
2:30 Norman Kay Stratified Open Pairs (2nd session)  
Wed/ Thurs Side Game (5th session of six)  
Wed/Thurs Bracketed KO Teams (4th Session of four)  
7:30 Wed /Thurs Side Game (6<sup>th</sup> session of six)  
Thurs/ Fri Evening Compact KO (1<sup>st</sup> session of two)

### Friday, March 4, 2011

- 10:00 Fri/ Sat Side Game (1<sup>st</sup> session of six)  
David Treadwell Stratified Open Pairs(2000+) (0-2000) (1<sup>st</sup> of two)  
Gold Rush Pairs (300-750)(0-300) (1<sup>st</sup> session of two)  
GOLD POINTS\*  
Friday Saturday Bracketed KO Teams (1<sup>st</sup> round of four)  
2:30 David Treadwell Stratified Open Pairs (2nd session)  
Fri/Sat Bracketed KO Teams (2nd round of four)  
Fri/ Sat Side Game (2<sup>nd</sup> session of six)  
Gold Rush Pairs GOLD POINTS\*  
7:30 Thurs/Fri Evening Compact KO (2<sup>nd</sup> session of two)  
Fri /Sat Side Game (3rd session of six)

### Saturday, March 5, 2011

- 10:00 Fri /Sat Side Game (4<sup>th</sup> session of six)  
Saturday Compact (1<sup>st</sup> session of two)  
Fri/ Sat Bracketed KO Teams (3<sup>rd</sup> round of four)  
2:30 Saturday Compact (2<sup>nd</sup> Session of two)  
Fri/Sat Bracketed KO Teams (4th round of four)  
Fri /Sat Side Game (5th session of six)  
Intermediate/Newcomer pairs  
Single Session Swiss  
7:30 Side Game (Fri/Sat series; 6th session of six)

### Sunday, March 6, 2011

- 10:00 & TBA A/X Swiss Teams  
B/C/D Swiss Teams  
A/X stratification 5000+ and 0-5000  
B 1000-2000 C 500(LM)-1000 D 0-500 (NLM)  
Stratifications:  
A 2000+ B 500(LM)-2000 C 0-500 (NLM)  
Intermediate/Newcomer:  
A 200-300 B 50(100)-200 C 0-50(100)

I/N Stratifications are subject to change by director in charge to accommodate field. All knockout team events are bracketed and will be handicapped

Tournament Chairman Raymond Depow  
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Partnerships Gladys Santos  
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Gold Rush Events Award Gold For Section Tops and for Overall's in The Upper Stratum

## DISTRICT 4 MASTER SOLVERS CLUB

**HENRY BETHE, DIRECTOR**

*Well, I got over my peevishness. But I decided four problems are enough since it lets me keep more quotes. I still have to edit out about 35% of what I get. With four problems I will grade out of 25 instead of 20.*

*I hope most of you got to the World Championships and that you had a good time. I know some of our members did. Eric Greco, and two of our former members, John Diamond and Brian Platnick, had a successful time, with all three adding the Rosenblum open team championship to the Spingold they won in July. Add to that the win in the Open Pairs by Bobby Levin and the Mixed Teams win of Connie Goldberg and Jo Sprung, and District 4 did itself proud at the tables. Now if only I could persuade Levin to join the panel!*

*I wish all of you, particularly solvers and members of the panel, a very good holiday season.*

1. IMPs, N-S Vul Dealer West

**S- A10 H- A102 D- 8743 C- A763**

West	North	East	South
P	1S	2D	??

Do you (A) pass, and after P-X-P-??;

(B) X and after P-2H P-??

(C) bid 3C and after P-3H-P ??

(D) other

Awards: A 15 (4); B 14 (4); C 11 (3); D 4 (1)

*I will take this problem in two parts: what to do now, and what to do on the next round.*

*For the initial passers, Shapiro and Straguzzi make a careful case: **Shapiro** (with Straguzzi similarly): A. Fifty years ago when negative doubles were still pretty new it was common to pose problems that ensued from their use. ... I am taking a risk that we'll play 2D when we have a makeable game, but there's no guarantee on that if partner passes because of his own diamond length. Today, that's about the only reason for not reopening.*

*Speaking for the doubters are: **Greco**: B. I don't think you can possibly pass with such a good hand because if partner reopens with double I still don't have any idea what to do and cuebidding after that hardly shows 3 aces. **Rock**. B. Asks partner to further describe his hand. I considered bidding 3D initially but this would probably be taken as a spade raise. The problem with B is that partner will think I have 4 hearts.*

*If neither Pass nor Double are right, how about 3C?* **Nuckols:** C. I cannot bring myself to pass. Double also seems wrong. Partner always seems to scrape up a 2H bid with his three-card suit when I do this. I thought of bidding 3D, but that will put pressure on partner as well. **Popper:** C. I think I have to bid 3C; nothing else shows the strength of the hand.

*A Plague on all of those choices!* **Shuster:** D-3D. Every call is a lie and fraught with danger. Perhaps textbooks would advise 3C, but I do not relish hearing the auction proceed 3C-(4D)-5C-(P) and then taking the force with dummy's high trumps. I try my best to live by the rule that if you do not wish for a suit to become trump, then you should not bid it. 3D does not preclude partner from bidding hearts or NT and aims directly at our most likely game. Plus, by answering 3D, I get to dodge those pesky follow ups... for example, might this hand pass a 3S bid from partner?

*Shuster's points are well taken, but 3D directly is even more of a lie (at least in my circles) as it shows a limit raise or better of spades. I broke the tie between Pass and Double because I think the passers have a little the better of the argument, and all the doubler's are well aware that they are lying about their heart length.*

*So if you start with Pass, what next?* **Teukolskys (with Weishampel):** A-P. Taking a chance that we will get +300 and don't have game our way. Getting to game with the other choices has too much downside compared with the payoff for getting to game. **Shapiro:** A-3D. The best arguments for hands like this were for pass then cue-bid, showing a good hand unsuited for a negative double or other call. I haven't seen any convincing arguments to the contrary, and have had good luck with this approach. As I'm forcing to the 3-level, partner will infer this strength and may be able to do what's right. **Straguzzi:** A-3D. After partner's balancing double, it's a toss-up between pass (I expect to beat 2D more often than not, possibly multiple tricks) and 3D (showing exactly what I have: a weak notrump with no diamond stopper, no primary spade support, no four hearts, nor five clubs.) I'll guess 3D because on a really good day we'll be cold for six clubs. **Foster:** A-3C. Partner and I clearly have the balance of power, but defending opponent's 2D is not attractive. If partner bids 3H over my 3C bid I will raise to 4H, since she will have bid knowing that I most likely do NOT have as many as four hearts since I failed to make a negative double. .

*This last is clearly wrong: unless you play Lebensohl here, this could be close to a zero count and long clubs. Even if you do play Lebensohl, it shows a hand too weak to bid 3C directly.*

Scores after A: 3D 10 (3); P 7 (1); 3C 0 (0)

*So what about after an initial double? Greco makes an interesting and fairly convincing choice:* **Greco:** B-3S. I think bidding 3S now is a very good compromise as I just don't feel like this hand is quite enough to game force when partner only bids 2H and I ABSOLUTELY cannot cuebid as this would be construed as a very good hand with hearts. Partner should actually suspect a hand similar to this for my bidding as I never make a negative double with three card support, hence the word negative. **Raskin:** B-3C. It seems like the least of all evils at this point to lie about the length of a minor suit rather than the length of a major suit. It still gives partner a chance to bid 3NT or rebid a chunky 5 card spade suit. *I think this is wrong. If you play one-suited negative doubles (which I do not) then double followed by 3C should probably show a six card suit without the strength to bid 3C directly. If you don't then this should be a heart game try (I think) – sort of a fit showing non-jump.*

*Greco explained why the following answer is wrong even though two panelists and many solvers chose it.* **Goldberg:** B-3D. No perfect bid available, we may still get to 3N from the right side, or play a 4/3 heart fit or 5/2 spade fit.

Scores after Double: 3S 10 (1); 3D 7 (2); 3C 4 (1)

*And after bidding 3C? Like Greco's answer, this is sensible, although as partner I would treat this as game forcing and would expect longer clubs.* **Filandro:** C-3S. I believe this shows invitational values, exactly two spades, fewer than four hearts, and (probably) no diamond stopper. Precisely my holding! **Sprungs :** C-3S. 3S follow up is easy, since we denied a raise by failing to cuebid last time. **Popper:** C-3S. Over 3H, I bid 3S, since we cannot play a Moysian with a likely tap on partner's hand. 4S is likely to be a reasonable game, and if partner is 5-5, he can rebid 4H, over which I may bid 5C, to give partner a chance to bid slam with short diamonds.

Scoring after 3C: 3S 10 (3)

*On balance, I think A-3D has slightly the better of the argument vs the other two sensible actions: B-3S and C-3S.*

2. IMPs, BothVul, Dealer West

**S- K4 H- A D- AJ1085 C- KQ763**

West	North	East	South
3H	P	P	??

4NT 25 (5); 3NT 19 (3); X 19 (3); 4D 11 (1); 4H 6 (0); P 4 (0)



*A plurality of the panel chose this, and it is easily summed up by:*  
**Lubart:** 4NT. Should show minors and partner should have some values. *No one had much to add to this, but a few comments for your perusal:* **Teukolskys:** 4NT. Shows a strong hand, though we could still easily miss a slam. If the opening bid had been 3S and our major suit holdings were reversed, we could have used 4S and 4NT to distinguish very strong and more moderate two-suiters, but 4H here should show spades and a minor. **Apfelbaum:** 4NT. We should have a play for a minor suit game. Other choice is 3NT, but that requires either real help in the heart suit or two minor suit cards (one is Club Ace). If partner has two minor suit cards, we probably make a minor suit game. With one minor suit card, we at least have a chance if partner has Ace of Spades. **Marlow:** 4NT. I am struggling to see the problem here. 4NT should show the minors, and that's what I have. We could go for a number when RHO passed with a good hand lacking heart support, or we could make a grand when partner has something like Ax xxxx KQx Axxx. Doublers deserve to watch partner jump to 4S. Minor suit bidders deserve to watch partner pass with a strong holding in the other minor. Passers are sissies.

*For the reason why this answer is wrong, see the Teuk's comment (above).*  
**Wachsmann:** 4H. Here a direct cue bid is most appropriate as it shows a powerhouse and should steer partner away from spades. A balancing double, while also showing a very good hand, would tend to imply at least 3 or 4 card spade support.

*What about just bidding one of your suits?* **Weishampel:** 4D. If I double, I won't be happy if partner bids 4S. **Popper:** 4D. Over 4S from partner I can bid 5C. 4D may get us to the wrong part score, but is mostly likely to get us to the right strain if we have a game or slam, and to get us to slam if we belong in one.

*So what about falling back on "Hamman's Rule"? If 3N is a possible bid ...*  
**Shuster (with Shapiro similar):** 3NT. It is between this and forcing to 5m. 3NT needs less from partner to succeed, but if partner holds Jxxxx of clubs, I've done the wrong thing. Since I'm not entirely confident partner would interpret 4NT as the minors (might it not be needed as natural if you held... AKx, AQx, AKQxx, Kx?) I will contract for 9 tricks - the standard defense to pre-empts. **Raskin:** 3NT. This hand could play in any of several contracts but since 3NT is one of them and there is no single call that gives any kind of a reasonable description of the hand actually being held, I bid it now and get it over with. **Nuckols:** 3NT. I hope we can take nine tricks before they can take five (or more). If partner is a good

partner, he'll put down Axxx in clubs and either the spade ace or the diamond king. In direct seat, I would still be thinking.

*Some aren't afraid of spades, and choose to double:* **Filandro:** X. I am concerned, but not trembling, about partner bidding spades. If he bids 4S, he will often have five or more. Even with merely AQJx of spades and a high minor suit honor, my spades are golden for the "super Moysian" 4 - 2 trump fit. Curiously, if E-W remained silent, there is no possible sequence that would get us to 4S in a 4 - 2 spade fit! **Goldberg:** X. Not great, but better than 4D or 4N. If partner bids 3S or 4S, I'll pass. But he may pass or bid no trump or 4 of a minor which I will raise, or cue bid. **Boye:** X. Since I doubt partner will interpret 3NT as unusual, I hope for partner's 6 card spade suit to come into play.

*Of course 17 high card points and two good suits might not be enough to enter at the four level.* **Foster:** P. Although we may be missing a minor suit game, it seems to me that the dangers of acting outweigh the possible benefits.. If the game were matchpoints I would be more inclined to venture a 4D call.

*On the specific hand from which this problem came North held S-AQxxxx, three hearts and two-two in the minors. East had enough to double five of a minor, but not 4S. Not, as usual, that the actual hand proves anything.*

### 3. MPs, Both Vul, Dealer South

**S- 76 H- AK107432 D- A874 C-**

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1H
P	1N	P	??

4H 25 (9); 3H 21 (6); 2D 13 (0); 2H 10 (0); 3D 2 (0)

*I think this is an interesting problem. It seems clear that partner has a maximum since we have at most about 21 HCP and five spades between us, so this comment is spot on although I disagree with the conclusion.* **Simard:** 3D. Why is no one bidding? 3D shows a powerful hand, which we don't have unless partner has a red suit fit. I think it is dollars to donuts that partner is going to bid again, and the more information about my hand I give the more likely partner is to make the right decision.

*Which is why I disagree with the panel. Greco and Raskin, who had sent in answers, sent in new answers to problems 4 & 5. The Grecos agreed on the bid, though not on why:* **Greco1:** 3H. Seems just about right on this hand. 2H is way too little on such a strong playing hand and 4H is just too much and only right when partner was passing 3H with the

perfect minimum. There is no need to stretch in mp's. **Greco2:** 3H. This is very close between 2H and 3H but when in doubt I tend to always choose aggressive bid as this puts the most pressure on the opponents and increases my chance for a top (as well as a bottom!)

*A few other views on this debate:* **Straguzzi:** 4H. This is a no-brainer. (1) I might make it, (2) if I can't then the opponents might be able to make something big (they have at least an eight-card spade fit, after all), (3) I am not the slightest bit interested in hearing anything more about partner's hand, and (4) even if I wanted to go slow, there's no sequence in all Creation that can adequately describe this hand. **Sprung:** 4H. Any diamond bid is too dangerous. 2D might get passed, and 3D will seriously mislead partner. Partner won't know which hands to bid 4H over 3H, as club values will be wasted, Pointed suit values will be good. **Shuster:** 4H. Now that partner is known to have some values, I might as well take a shot at game. If the hand belongs in 7D, the form of scoring will protect me a fair bit. Besides, I can't think of an intelligent way to bring diamonds into the picture. 3NT would show similar hearts in a more balanced hand. **Shapiro:** 4H. I hope that, like most partners, North will accept this as just taking a shot at game. If our agreement is that this auction shows a hand like an Acol 2 bid--playing strength with more high card structure than a 4H opening, perhaps with inadequate defensive values (my preferred usage) – then I shouldn't have opened 1H to begin with, since I don't have an intelligent rebid over a 1S or 1N response. What is standard today? You tell me, but I think it's the just a shot approach.

**Teukolskys:** 3H. In IMPs, 4H would be clear - partner will never know whether he has what you need to make game or not. In matchpoints, the hands where partner will pass 3H and you miss game will be fewer than the number where you bid 4H and go down, or at least it seems so to us (Someone needs to run a simulation!). **Popper:** 3H. 2H, 3H, or 4H could be right on this hand; at matchpoints, I don't want to be too aggressive, but I also don't want to miss a cold game if partner has a little bit of a heart fit. 3H seems best.

*There was a fourth view:* **Foster :** 2H Some will rebid 3H with this hand, but since I play that jump rebids by opener are forcing, I think this hand has too many losers to play either 3NT or 4H without further input by partner. Perhaps her 1NT was the start of a 3-card limit raise, and she will now invite with 3H, and I will accept.

*And a fifth:* **DYE2:** 2D. I always bid 4H with this hand at the table and go minus. Time for a change of approach. If partner passes 2D he will have diamonds and the opponents - who own spades - will balance.

On a good day I will hear the "impossible" 2S bid and look for a diamond slam!

*I think 4H shows a much better hand: A hand just short of a strong two-bid. This ain't that hand. As far as 3H is concerned, I do not see how partner can make a reasoned decision, choosing between KQxx of clubs and KQxx of diamonds. My own choice, since I am convinced partner will bid again, would be 2D. Telling partner about four new cards seems more useful than telling about two.*

4. IMPs, N-S Vul, Dealer West

**S- J8743 H- Q D- K10653 C- A5**

West	North	East	South
P	1H	P	1S
P	2D	P	??

3C 25 (7); 5D 22 (2); 4D 18 (2); 3D 14 (3);  
2N 10 (0)

**Raskin2:** 4D. The hand is just a little too good for 3D.

**Raskin1:** 5D. Highly invitational. **Boye:** 5D. Nothing wasted in spades and bid what I think we can make.

**Greco2:** 3C. Very tough problem. 3D is a drastic underbid so being vul at imps we immediately rule that out. 4D, my close second choice makes sense, except I just don't see anyway for partner to figure out if I have the club ace as 4H or 4S by partner (over 4D) would be construed as natural most likely. I will start with 3C and bid diamonds over partner's bid whatever it is.

**B. Cohen:** 2N I think I'm too good for 3D and 4D gives up on 3N. I'll show my values and try to get to the NT game.

**Harris:** 3C. My hand is a relative monster. Partner might not go on after a 3D bid. Plan to rebid 4D if possible. The worst possible hand I can envision for partner could be x(x), AJxxx, QJxx, Kx(x) -- which I personally would not open. We have a good chance with partner only has 1S card.

**Robinson:** 3C. Now if he bids 3D or 3H, I bid 4D, if he bids 3S, I have a problem but at IMPS again I would bid 4D, if he bids 3NT, I might choose 5D. **Popper:** 3C. While this hand is perhaps not strong enough for fourth suit forcing at matchpoints, it is at IMPS. the Q of hearts is not a bad card to hold in partner's primary suit, and except for the Jack of spades, all my cards are working. I will raise diamonds to the lowest possible level over any rebid by partner.

**Marlow:** 4D. I have a big fit in diamonds, so this hand is too good for a simple raise to 3D, but do not want to force to game with 3C. No trump seems too great a distortion for me to try 2NT.

**Nuckols** 3D. I would love to make a more aggressive bid, but if he has something like xx KJxxx AQxx Kx, we're high enough now.

**Shapiro:** 3D. You had to make it vul at imps, too, where missing a game is costly. But I'm afraid of 4D getting partner too excited – sorry, it has to be forcing in any intelligent system – and I want no part of 4<sup>th</sup> suit forcing here, since I don't have a good rebid and partner's bidding 3N on momentum doesn't give me much confidence, either.

**Simard:** 4D. 7 losers with a maybe helpful heart not quite strong enough to force.

**Glassons:** 3D = Invitational. We don't want to pass 3 NT when it's right by bidding 4 diamonds.

**Douglas:** 3C. Fourth suit forcing (I hope). If partner supports spades with 3S (partner is probably 3-5-4-1), I'll bid 4S. If hearts are rebid (partner is at least x-6-4-y) -- 4H. If 3N is bid (most likely 2-5-4-2) -- 4D. If partner bids 4C (most likely 0-5-4-4) -- 4D. And over 3D -- 5D. Best laugh of the day: I have it all figured out.

**Straguzzi:** 3D. This is the sort of auction where partner is often stuck for a bid, so he might not have four diamonds. (E.g., 3=6=3=1 with 15 points and hearts too skinny for a jump-rebid, among several other hand-types.) I agree I'm a hair strong for a simple raise, but every other call seems completely nutso to me. (2NT? 4D? Pass? 3C forcing to game? 2H, a world-class false preference? Yikes!)

**Wachsman:** 3C. With a 7-loser hand I want to announce to partner that we are in a game-forcing sequence. 3C permits partner to show 3-card spade support or another important feature of his hand. If we are not going to play in spades, then my subsequent diamond bid should set the strain while we explore the proper level (game, small slam, grand slam).

*The majority of the panel wanted to force to game, e.g. 5D or 3C or issue a strong invitation with 4D. I therefore demoted the lesser bids: 3D and 2N. I can see a clear advantage to 3C over 5D: 4H may be the limit if partner is 6-4 in the red suits.*

*Congratulations to Jay Apfelbaum and Craig Robinson for their "perfect" scores and to Douglas Dye for his Solvers best 96. I would have scored a handsome 78.*



Panelist	1	2	4	5	Score
Jay Apfelbaum	A-3D	4NT	4H	3C	100
Craig Robinson	A-3D	4NT	4H	3C	100
Dan & Jo Sprung	C-3S	4NT	4H	3C	96
Eric Greco	B-3S	4NT	3H	3C	95
Connie Goldberg	B-3D	X	4H	3C	90
Ros & Saul Teukolsky	A-P	4NT	4H	4D	90
Dan Boye	B-3D	X	4H	5D	87
Ed Shapiro	A-3D	3NT	4H	3D	83
Ray Raskin	B-3C	3NT	3H	5D	80
Richard Popper	C-3S	4D	3H	3C	78
Pete Filandro	C-3S	X	3H	3D	75
Michael Shuster	D-3D	3NT	4H	4D	66
Ken Cohen			4H	3C	
Bob & Joann Glasson			3H	3D	
<u>Leading Solvers</u>					
Douglas Dye	B-3D	4NT	4H	3C	96
Chris Marlow	A-3D	4H	3H	4D	87
Nick Straguzzi	A-3D	4D	4H	3C	86
Bill Rock	B-3D	4NT	4H	3D	85
David Wachsman	A-3D	4H	3H	3D	85
Dr. Mel Lubart	B-3D	4NT	3H	3D	81
Bill Coren	D-3D	4NT	4H	3C	79
John Weishampel	A-P	4D	3H	4D	72
Additional answers were received from Bill Foster on all problems and from Barry Cohen, Tom Douglas, Lynn Harris, Jane Havighurst, Donald Hill, Harry Nuckols , and R. Simard on problems 4 and 5					



Articles & Ads for  
the next issue -  
March 2011 -  
are due  
February 1.

**MASTER SOLVERS  
MARCH 2011 PROBLEMS**

Please send answers no later than January 15, 2011 to hbethe@aol.com. Methods are 2/1 with "Walsh". Please note I have reduced the number of problems to four to leave more room for your comments (and mine).

1. IMPs, E-W Vul Dealer East

**S- 10854 H- J732 D- none C- KQ1063**

West	North	East	South
------	-------	------	-------

	P	P	
--	---	---	--

2D*	2NT	3D	??
-----	-----	----	----

\* Weak

2. IMPs, Both Vul, Dealer North

**S- KQ H- 9854 D- AJ C- KQJ63**

West	North	East	South
------	-------	------	-------

--	1NT	P	2C
----	-----	---	----

P	2H	P	??
---	----	---	----

Please discuss any special agreements you have in such auctions.

3. IMPs, Both Vul, Dealer South

**S- K76 H- AKJ10742 D- none C- AQ4**

West	North	East	South
------	-------	------	-------

--	--	--	1H
----	----	----	----

P	1NT	P	??
---	-----	---	----

Please discuss in the context of your answer to Problem 4 in December set where you held

S – xx H - AK10xxxx D – Axxx C – none on the same auction

4. IMPs, N-S Vul, Dealer North

**S- AK10853 H- none D- 743 C- A854**

West	North	East	South
------	-------	------	-------

	1H	P	1S
--	----	---	----

2D	4H	P	??
----	----	---	----



**2011 DISTRICT 4  
GOOD WILL  
COMMITTEE  
APPOINTMENTS**

**ALLISON BRANDT**  
Philadelphia

**MIKE GEISLER**  
Philadelphia

**SUE PIERCE**  
Danville PA

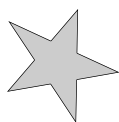
**MARIE FILANDRO**  
Wilmington DE



**2011 DISTRICT 4  
ACBL CHARITY  
COMMITTEE  
APPOINTEES**

**BARBARA STABILE**  
Bethlehem PA

**JOHN SCHWARTZ**  
Macungie PA



# DISTRICT 4 STARS

## WORLD BRIDGE SERIES

Eric Greco - World Open KO Teams Rosenblum Cup  
Robert Levin - Generali World Open Pairs  
JoAnn Sprung - World Mixed Swiss Teams  
Connie Goldberg - World Mixed Swiss Teams

## RED ROSE REGIONAL Lancaster PA November 1-7

- 1 92.84 Rick Rowland, Wilmington DE
- 92.84 Ken Cohen, Philadelphia PA
- 3 76.75 Thomas Weik, Reading PA
- 4 72.28 Neal Satten, Wynnewood PA
- 5 66.82 Bill Parks, Macungie PA
- 6 63.85 JoAnn Sprung, Philadelphia PA
- 63.85 Danny Sprung, Philadelphia PA
- 8 62.30 Marty Seligman, Philadelphia PA
- 9 52.44 Raymond Raskin, Kg of Prussia PA
- 10 51.29 Edward Leach, Southampton PA



### Notes from Lancaster



- ♠ 1787 Tables
- ♥ 1352 Players Attended
- ♦ 1236 Players Won Masterpoints
- ♣ 10607 Masterpoints Awarded



**REGIONAL AT WBF**  
**Philadelphia    October 1-16**

- |    |                                      |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 1  | 96.69 Raymond Raskin, KoP PA         |
| 2  | 78.46 Corey Krantz, Drexel Hill PA   |
| 3  | 76.01 Daisy Goecker, Yardley PA      |
| 4  | 57.72 Bill Parks, Macungie PA        |
| 5  | 49.29 Real Fradette, North Wales PA  |
| 6  | 49.29 Elaine Clair, Gwynedd Villy PA |
| 7  | 48.46 Nathan Schatz, Dresher PA      |
| 8  | 41.76 Arnold Selig, Cheltenham PA    |
| 9  | 40.79 Craig Robinson, Lansdale PA    |
| 10 | 36.43 Barry Davis, Yardley PA        |

**2010-2011 DISTRICT 4 NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS WINNERS**

*Flight A*

Richard Popper, Wilmington DE - Daisy Goecker, Yardley PA  
Craig Robinson, Lansdale PA - Rick Rowland, Wilmington DE  
Ken Chatzinoff, Cinnaminson NJ - Ray Raskin, KoP PA

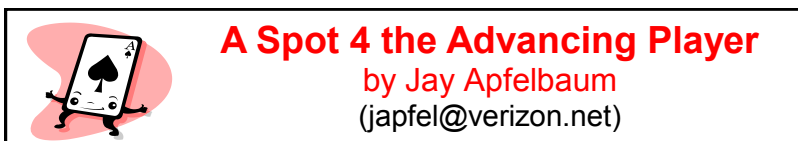
*Flight B*

Brad Barry, Phoenixville PA - David Amsterdam, Wayne PA  
Elizabeth Varhus, Wilmington DE - Kristofor Varhus, Wilmington DE  
Robert Taylor, Newark DE - Anne Taylor, Newark DE

*Flight C*

Bee Einstein, Vineland NJ - Selma Sofsky, Brigantine NJ  
Dennis Gross, Camp Hill PA - Steve Valencic, Mechanicsburg PA  
David Silberman, Doylestown PA - Ralph Collins, Warminster PA

*Congratulations!* 



*This is a continuing series of articles written for the advancing player. I welcome any questions or suggestions about future articles. Please send them to the publisher. Who knows? You may be mentioned in a future article! Since beginning this series, I have been asked about several conventions. Keep asking! Your questions give me direction about what the next article should be about.*

This article will discuss how to use the bidding to get the defense off on the right track. We discussed this principle earlier this year when we went over the McCabe convention. In that convention, partner opens a weak two-bid and the next player doubles. A new suit is a raise of the weak two-bid suit along with a request that partner lead the suit bid.

There are many opportunities for partners to help get the defense off to a good start. One possibility happens when our partner overcalls a suit and the next hand makes a negative double. We can raise our partner or redouble. Both bids show support, but one can specifically promise the Ace or King in the overcalled suit.

This principle of using a double or redouble alongside a raise, where one promises a top honor and the other does not, can be used in a whole myriad of auctions. All it takes is a competitive auction where it is unclear who has the balance of power. This principle applies whenever the choice is between a raise and a double (or redouble) where the double (or redouble) would not make sense for it to be penalties.

This sort of understanding has a tremendous potential to save tricks in defending part score contracts. If an overcaller knows that he can lead to partner's honor, the opening lead becomes a much simpler proposition. Equally, if the overcaller knows that partner does not have an honor it may make it much easier to find the winning lead in another suit.

Besides doubles and redoubles, there are other bids that offer the same potential. Few people use the McCabe convention for anything other than weak two-bids. However, there are sound reasons to use an extension of that convention for three-level preempts. Remember that the partner of the doubler is

more likely than not to be the declarer. It is a tremendous help to the pre-emptive bidder to know what to lead.

In cases where the opening pre-emptive bid is in third or fourth chair, it is most unlikely partner will be in a position to double for penalties. Therefore, a double could be a raise without an honor and a raise would promise an honor. A new suit by a passed hand would suggest the lead of that suit.

Here is another way to give partner an idea of what to lead. A number of partnerships use transfer responses after partner opens the bidding and the next hand makes a take-out double. For example, if there is an opening bid of 1S and the next hand doubles, a bid of 2D would promise hearts and a bid of 2H would promise a spade raise. So would a bid of 2S. Most of these pairs play that the 2H bid is a constructive raise while a direct raise to 2S is more of a nuisance raise. An alternative agreement is that the direct raise denies a top honor and the transfer bid promises a top honor. There are many other opportunities for a passed hand to help partner find a good lead. Instead of raising partner's overcall or opening bid, the passed hand can bid his own suit on the way to raising partner.

Matchpoints is a difficult game where every trick is valuable. There might be a world of difference between a minus 140 and a minus 110 (or a plus score). This sort of bidding makes a little sense at IMP's, but nothing even remotely approaching the importance or utility at matchpoints. Give it a try and let me know what you think!

MEMBERS BY UNIT	
As of 10/31/2010	
112	1152
120	345
121	227
133	320
141	2625
168	997
190	752
217	<u>146</u>
Total	6564

### LEADING DISTRICT 4 MASTERPOINT HOLDERS (as of 11/6/10)

1. Robert Levin	32,764	26. Marie Filandro	8,159
2. Ken Cohen	19,583	27. Bobbie Gomer	8,118
3. Arnold Fisher	17,726	28. Joseph Asber	8,082
4. Eric Greco	13,784	29. Rick Rowland	8,009
5. Charlie Gray	13,026	30. Jane Segal	7,800
6. Selena Swanson	12,170	31. Bob Glasson	7,564
7. Dan Boye	11,541	32. Rich Rothwarf	7,319
8. John Swanson	11,393	33. Connie Goldberg	7,285
9. Joann Glasson	10,719	34. David Hoffner	7,154
10. Henry Bethe	10,689	35. Carl Berenbaum	6,825
11. Jill Levin	10,167	36. Ella Auch	6,689
12. Ed Bissell	9,940	37. Lois Sanders	6,641
13. Ray Raskin	9,455	38. Melvin Lubart	6,604
14. JoAnn Sprung	9,253	39. Meyer Kotkin	6,582
15. Jay Apfelbaum	9,241	40. Richard Morgen	6,555
16. Craig Robinson	9,154	41. Ed Shapiro	6,484
17. Tom Weik	8,769	42. Gail Bell	6,440
18. Joseph Livezey	8,711	43. Jack Mendelsohn	6,341
19. Jess Stuart	8,709	44. Claire Kern	6,340
20. Daisy Goecker	8,657	45. Arnold Selig	6,199
21. Rhoda Kauffman	8,458	46. Barry Gorski	6,185
22. Donna Morgen	8,441	47. Jay Korobow	6,050
23. Peter Filandro	8,272	48. Lea DuPont	5,971
24. Ken Chatzinoff	8,239	49. Arthur Korth	5,958
25. Richard Popper	8,206	50. Martin Miller	5,873

### District MP Race Leaders as of November 6, 2010

	<u>Mini McKenney</u>	<u>Ace of Club</u>
0-5	Barbara Spohn	Ray Patridge
5-50	Edward Kung	Bill Schlaepfer
20-50	Christina Van Leeuwen	
50-100	Gary Hillenbrand	Charles Meister
100-200	Gina Bresler	Judy Harrington
200-300	Steve Valencic	
300-500	Jacob Rubinstien	
500-1000	Estelle Bogart	Paula Varrassi
1000-2500	Corey Krantz	Aster Wu
2500-5000	Jim McKeown	Randall Berseth
5000-7500	Rick Rowland	Arnold Selig
7500-10,000	Tom Weik	Rhoda Kauffman
over 10,000	Ken Cohen	John & Selena Swanson

## PCBA UNIT 141 SECTIONALS

### Crescent Shriners Temple

700 Highland Drive  
Westhampton, NJ  
609-702-9440

### Knights of Columbus

235 Limekiln Pike  
Glenside, PA  
215-576-9312

See website for directions: [www.philadelphiabridge.info](http://www.philadelphiabridge.info)



**JANUARY**  
**28-30, 2011**



**FEBRUARY 11-13**

### FRIDAY, JAN 28

Open Prs<sup>1</sup> .....1:30 & 7:30  
Non-Master Pairs\* .....1:30 & 7:30

### FRIDAY, FEB 11

Open Prs<sup>1</sup> ..... 1:30 & 7:30  
Non-Master Pairs\* ..... 1:30 & 7:30

### SATURDAY, JAN 29

Handicap KO Tms....10/2:30/7:30  
Non-Master Pairs\* ....10/2:30/7:30  
Open Prs<sup>1</sup> .....10:00 & 7:30  
Single Session Side Game ..... 2:30  
Flighted Open Pairs<sup>2</sup> ..... 2:30  
Flight B/C/D Open Pairs<sup>2</sup> ..... 2:30  
Open Pairs<sup>3</sup> ..... 7:30

### SATURDAY, FEB 12

Handicap KO Tms ... 10/2:30/7:30  
Non-Master Pairs\* ... 10/2:30/7:30  
Open Prs<sup>1</sup> .....10:00 & 7:30  
Single Session Side Game.....2:30  
Flighted Open Pairs<sup>2</sup> ..... 2:30  
Flight B/C/D Open Pairs<sup>2</sup> .....2:30  
Open Pairs<sup>3</sup> .....7:30

### SUNDAY, JAN 30

Flighted Swiss Teams .....10:00  
A/X- 5000+; 0-5000; B-0-3000 bktd  
2 session playthrough with short break  
Strat Non-Master Sws\* ..10 & 1:30

### SUNDAY, FEB 13

Flighted Swiss Teams .....10:00  
A/X- 5000+; 0-5000; B-0-3000 bktd  
2 session playthrough with short break  
Strat Non-Master Sws\* ..10 & 1:30

all events are single sessions unless otherwise noted

\*(A 100-300, B 20-100, C 0-20)

<sup>1</sup>(A 2000+, B 750-2000, C 0-750)

<sup>2</sup>(A 4000+ , X 0-4000) separate

(B 1250-2000, C 750-1250, D 0-750)

<sup>3</sup>Regionally rated Silver Point Event

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## FOR NOVICES ONLY

by

**MARTI RONEMUS**

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You readers are the greatest. I can always count on what's in my email to provide ideas for articles. Here's a great one.

**"Dear Marti,**

***I paid to play here, and I don't think I'm getting my fair share of good hands. How come the other guys are getting all my aces and kings? I'm bored to death. Is there a refund desk?***

***Signed, Unfairly Treated"***

Dear Unfairly,

Honestly. Such complaining. What do you do when things **really** go wrong!!

Let's think about this a little. You take your hand out of the board and open it up to find your usual 6 points and flat distribution. Boring! So you take a little nap while the bidding goes on. Right? What else is there to do?

**Wake up!** That's what. There is information to be had here. You are probably going to defend and you will need a lead, or need to give some info to pard. Get ready! You have a job to do. Start visualizing the distribution based on the bids. Figure out how many points your partner has. Practice your counting (which as we both know, you need to do!!) Use your head. No matter how bad your hand is, you should be planning how to use it to best advantage.



There's an old saying: *Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a Rain Dance*. Holding only a couple points makes good timing paramount here. Look intelligent now: if you have zip, it is likely that pard has an opening hand and since you are likely to be on defense, you will have just one opportunity to deal a killing blow. If the opponents get to game and pard has 12 points, he is smart enough to figure out you don't have any points. So get ready to signal your distribution! Or, if you are on lead, find the suit that will give him maximum info. You will never be in again, so this is your one chance!

And if you end up as dummy, **PAY ATTENTION**. Becoming dummy

doesn't mean it's time to bring your convention card up to date, file your nails or take a nap. Keep a sharp eye on the proceedings, keep partner from revoking, and better yet, learn something about your opponents. If you are on the tournament circuit, you will surely see them again!

Then make sure the score is entered correctly. After all, when Pard is declaring, he's got a lot to do over there and you can certainly help with the housekeeping chores.

Also, start keeping a more detailed convention card. Put down the contract and results, sure, but also note who your opponents were (i.e. man with toupee, sweet lady, red dress) with any characteristic that will trigger your memory. It will help you remember what occurred on that particular deal. Note the opening lead too. If you use a very fine -tip pen, you won't believe all you can fit in there!! Playing bridge is how you improve your memory, and your convention card is a great aid. If you aren't getting any points, you can be your team's record-keeper.

So, unfairly, what I'm basically saying here is soldier up!! Get with the program and show what you're made of. Anyone can play a hand with lots of points (well, almost anyone). You can be a hero with a horrid hand. If you can do that, you'll have more fun than making a game with 30 points. And people will be talking about what an amazing player you are instead of commenting on your grouchiness!!


So what's happening with the rest of you? Let's have those emails, and remember: Bridge is NOT a game; it's a microcosm of life!!



*(Continued from DD rpt., page 4)*

companies are paying the ACBL for every table of play. It is a problem. My personal inclination would be to enhance the on-line masterpoint races and not count the points for either rank advancement or stratification. Just think, we could have cyber-point races! How do you feel about this issue?

## Upcoming District 4 Events

DATE	TOURNAMENT	LOCATION	CONTACT	SEE PAGE
<b>Dec 6-12</b>	<b>District STaC</b>	<b>Clubs</b>	<b>John Marks 215-891-0602</b>	
Dec 27-31	Dave Treadwell Sectional Unit 190	Bridge Studio Wilmington DE	Harold Jordan 302-584-0213	
<b>2011</b>				
Jan 7-9	Syracuse Winter Unit 112	Cicero Fire Hall Cicero NY	Robert Simard 315-656-3204	
* Jan 28-30 *	PCBA New Year Unit 141	Crescent Shriners Westhampton NJ	Jay Apfelbaum 215-336-6421	29
Jan 28-30	Harrisburg Unit 168	Holiday Inn New Cumberland PA	Bob Priest 717-579-5665	
Feb 6	York 299er Unit 168	Bridge Boardroom York PA	Marti Ronemus 717-699-5222	
Feb 11-13	PCBA Winter Unit 141	Knights of Columbus Glenside PA	Jay Apfeblaum 215-336-6421	29
Feb 19-21	BMBU Winter Unit 121	Greth Homes Building Reading PA	Louise Remley 610-478-9354	
Feb 25-27	Blue Hen Unit 190	Bridge Studio Wilmington DE	Trina Williams 302-697-7164	
<b>FEB 28 MAR 6</b>	<b>DIAMOND CITY REGIONAL</b>	<b>THE WOODLANDS WILKES-BARRE PA</b>	<b>Ray Depew 570-239-3056</b>	<b>12-13</b>
Mar 25-27	PCBA Spring Unit 141	Fireman's Memorial Hall Conshohocken PA	Jay Apfelbaum 215-336-6421	Mar 4Spot
Mar 25-27	Hawaii in PA Unit 217	Williamsport Bridge Club Williamsport PA	Sue Pierce 570-275-2142	
Mar 26-27	Rochester Spring Unit 112	TBA	Warren Marsland 585-442-8753	