



District 4 Spot



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DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

CRAIG ROBINSON

The Grand National Teams event. She wrote a letter to every club in the unit describing the event (last year the table count was 45 teams participated in Scranton, May 14-15 and four champions were determined and will represent our District at the Summer NABC in Atlanta. What was the reason for the increase in attendance? The answer is Unit 120, Northeastern Pennsylvania. 67 players participated from Unit 120. That is 20% of their membership. To put that in perspective, if the event were held in Unit 141



and 20% of their membership played, they alone would produce 137 tables (548 players). I have been playing in Unit 141 tournaments for 35 years and the biggest session table count I can remember is around 100.

So how did they do it? The players in this unit are spread out over a large area. They have a very proactive board that arranges special events throughout the year, run very nice sectionals, and have a very comprehensive web site which is updated almost daily.

by George Marcy. Beth Rosenthal is the unit President. Congratulations to Unit 120, you are winners!

From The Four Corners



CENTRAL NEW YORK 112

Lois Sanders

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The Rochester Regional returns!! After six long years Unit 112 is very pleased that Rochester has found a playing site and can once again host our District 4 Regional. As a highlight Audrey Grant will be joining us. She will be offering a seminar on her new teaching program. Warren Marsland is coordinating the effort and can be reached at 585-442-8753 if you want more details or see the ad on Page 11.

As we all know, regionals require many hours of dedicated work on the part of many people. I want to thank Jim Bridges for working very hard with me to get this Regional going again as well as all the Committee Chair people: Margie Spence, prizes and registration; Lynn Ackerman, Caddies; Janet Flanagan and Betty Anne Schmitz, Hospitality; Bill Foster, Partnerships; Warren Marsland, Nov-

ice and Intermediate Program; and Michael Perlson, Publicity. They all have formed their committees and we thank everyone who has helped or will be helping. We look forward to seeing you in Rochester.



NORTHEASTERN PA 120

JoAnn M. Mauger

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New Ranks: Junior Master: Marlene Chiavacci, Clarks Summit; Clara Kelly, Honesdale; David Wessell, Clarks Summit; Karen Wessell, Clarks Summit; Club Master: Eleanor Bucknavage, Plains; Dann Davies, Clarks Summit; Leona Falk, Clarks Green; Sectional Masters: Margaret Curfman, Wilkes Barre; Sara Rile, Pottsville; Thomas Rile, Pottsville; Susan Silverblatt, Kingston; Alice Heffernan, Dallas; Sidney Robzen, Kingston; NABC Master: Walter Mitchell, Bear Creek; Life Master: William Haynes, cresco; Bronze Life Master: Lois Burns, Clarks

Summit; and Silver Life Master: Sara Eisner, Scranton.

Mark your calendars for the following dates: Our Fall sectional September 30 - October 2 at the Independent Fire Hall in Kingston. (See ad on Page 27 or call Ray DePew for more information at 570-287-1786. Also, the Pocono Regional will be March 13-19, 2006 at the Scranton Clarion Hotel.

Because the turnout for the NEPA DBC games (2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month) didn't even pay for the hall, the game has been discontinued. The Center Duplicate Bridge Club of Scranton is changing the date and time of its weekly game from Thursday at 12:25 PM to Friday at 10:55 AM. Weekly games are held at the JCC at 601 Jefferson Ave. in Scranton.

Ed and Lorraine Sharp win the 2005 Patriotic Party Unit Championship. Section winners were Barbara Miller and Sara Eisner; Judith Brown and Susan Saganich; and the Sharps twice.

A Pottsville team will represent District 4 in strata C in Atlanta. Jean Olcese and Tom Olcese of Shamokin teamed with R. Joan Benedict of Pottsville and Anna Goetz of Schuylkill Haven.

The Unit Turkey Party has been renamed the Fran and Al

Architzel Game which will take place on Sunday, Sept. 18th.

On a sadder note, Zelda Weiss passed away. We will miss her.



BERKS MONTGOMERY 121

Janet Stevens

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Rising to the next level on way to Life Master: Junior: Lucia Di Paolo, Doris Cosgrove, Noel Szundy, Frederick Brown, Club: Marcia Cramp, Lee Ernst, Lee Miller, Alan Seltzer. Sectional: Donna Jurist, Mary Ann Moyer, Wallace White, Marnell McCarthy. Regional: Barbara Myers, Richard Yiengst. Life: Jana Estep, Timothy Zettlemoyer, Kathy Miller. Congratulations to these players and continued success.

The annual Pro/Am was held Sunday, April 3, 2005. It was really great to have 17½ tables in play. Many thanks to the Pros who came to play with the Ams. The overall winners were: 1st Tom Weik mentoring Sue Wessner, 2nd Janet Stevens partnered with Icy Cohen, 3rd Al Crump playing with Bill Troutman, 4th Douglas White with partner Patricia Sexton, 5th Hilde Gernsheimer and Fred Jakobs and 6th was captured by Jana Estep with partner Geo Arnold.

The Spring Sectional held

recently with Tom Weik and Lee Ernst emerging as most masterpoint winners – over 100 and under 100 MP respectively. Congratulations to these winners as well as all the other winners.

Next Sectional - Eastern Penn Sectional is the oldest sectional in the Northeast. The dates are September 21, 22 and 23. Hope to see you there.



LEHIGH VALLEY 133

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The unit will hold its Fall Sectional October 21 through October 23 at the Schnecks-ville Fire Company on Route 309. See the ad in the next *4Spot* issue or visit the unit website at www.lvbabridge.org. Bob Cole has done a fine job developing the site and it now includes the schedules for all unit games and sectionals and includes the results of all games held within the unit including club games. The next unit games is Tuesday evening July 12.

The 2004 winners for the Ace of Clubs awards were Sam Litzenberger; Rookie of the Year; Karen Yellin, Junior Master; John Weston, Club Master; Anne Cornfeld, Sectional Master; Mike Chiadis,

Regional Master; Warren Lazar, NABC Master; Helen Bollinger, Life Master; Jerry Morse, Bronze Master; Barbara Miller, Silver Master; Rhoda Prager, Gold Master; & Joe Asber, Diamond Master.

The 2004 winners for the Mini-McKenny Awards were: Sam Litzenberger, Rookie of the Year; Karen Yellin, Junior Master; John Weston, Club Master; Arnold Kritz, Sectional Master; Martin Landau, Regional Master; Brian Holderess, NABC Master; Helen Bollinger, Life Master; John Schwartz, Bronze Master; Dave Kresge, Silver Master; Rhoda Prager, Gold Master; & Ella Auch, Diamond Master.

Special congratulations to Joe Asber on becoming an Emerald Life Master (over 7500 points). Congratulations to Robert Fairall on becoming a Bronze Life Master and to Pauline Stoneback, the unit's newest Life Master on becoming a Bronze Life Master as well.



PCBA 141

John Marks

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The unit held its annual dinner meeting on April 17, 2005. The affair was well attended with 23 tables of members playing bridge after the meeting and dinner. Jane Segal

arranged the event and did her usual high-quality job. Vic Quiros and Ken Chatzinoff won the game and were recipients of the Sonny Jaspan Trophy; coming in second were Vince and Pat Civalé; third, Donna and Mitch Snyder.

At the annual meeting the awards for 2004 for the "Ace of Clubs" and the "Mini McKinney" were presented. The recipients of the "Ace of Clubs" awards were: Merle Rosenfeld (Rookie), Marlyn Gilbert (Junior Master), Peggy Bruchansky (Club Master), Ricki Rogers Gordon (Sectional Master), Gertrude Singer (Regional Master), Joseph Murray (NABC Master), Andrew Purbrick (Life Master), Jan Fertig (Bronze Life Master), Nathan Schatz (Silver Life Master), Arnold Selig (Gold Life Master), Rhoda Kauffman (Diamond Life Master) and Ken Cohen (Grand Life Master). It should be mentioned that Rhoda Kauffman led the entire ACBL in her Category with 300.91 master points.

The recipients of the "Mini McKinney" awards were as follows: Robert McHarness (Rookie), Kris Alladi (Junior Master), Peggy Bruchansky (Club Master), Ricki Rogers Gordon (Sectional Master), James Zinkand (Regional Master), Joseph Murray (NABC Master), David Cohan (Life Master), Dilip Udeshi (Bronze Life Master), Mitchell Snyder (Silver Life Master), Martin Rabinowitz (Gold Life Master), Eric Greco (Diamond Life Master) and Ken Cohen (Grand Life Master). The four top players at the April Sectional were Martin Rabinowitz, John Jermmott and Vince and Pat Civalé. The pair events for the Intermediate / Newcomer (IN) at the Sectional were well attended. The Unit would like to see more IN players attend our sectionals.

On Saturday in both the September and October Sectional Tournaments, there will be a three round Handicap Knockout Team game. 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 easy master points (silver). The North American Pairs District Final Event for Flights "B" and "C" players will take at the Cherry Hill Sectional on Saturday, September 10, 2005.

The Annual Solomon Team event run and chaired by Gloria Rabinowitz was won by Marty Rabinowitz, Luis Pietri, Howard Cohen and Rick Rogers for the "A" Flight and Ross Spiro, Frank Lipniski, Glenn Hoffing and Eric Fanjoy for the "B" Flight.

Paul and Marilyn Weintraub were able to raise approximately \$9000 in 2004 for the Multiple Sclerosis Charity Foundation in one day at the afternoon and evening sessions at the PCBA clubs. This year one week was devoted towards the MS Charity.

♥ ♠ ♦ ♣

CENTRAL PENN 168

Susan Grover

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Sandy Wilson heads the list of masterpoint achievers as she became a Silver Live Master. The new Bronze Life Masters are Robert Back, Tim Tressler and Sabra Smith, who made Life Master at the same time. Our other new Life Masters are Alyce Spector, Andre St. Omer Roy, Bonnie Heilig, James Benson and Eddie Conner. Kudos to all!

Mel Lubart and Phil Monyer led the Unit 168 masterpoint winners at the Chambersburg Sectional with 15.18 points each. John Sheaffer was second on the masterpoint list at the Lancaster Sectional with 14.25 points. At the State College Sectional Phyllis Davin won 11.60 points to place fourth. John Sheaffer teamed with wife Andie to finish fifth with 11.33.

Our "feel good" story is Akbar Samii, one of brand new

players. He led the Unit 168 contingent at the Reading Sectional by winning 9.21 points!

Scheduled tournaments are the 299er Sectional at The Bridge Boardroom August 27th, and the Hagerstown Sectional on September 23-25. The playing site for this tournament is Williamsport, MD. The schedule for these tournaments, as well as other information, can be found on the Unit web site: <http://web2.acbl.org/hosted/units/unit168/index.htm>.

♥ ♠ ♦ ♣

DELAWARE 190

Judy Nicolaysen

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Congratulations go out to the DSBA winners of the 2004 Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney awards: Ace of Clubs - Rookie: Richard Ronston; Junior Master: Bernice Lieberman; Club Master: Leonard Thomas; Sectional Master: Steve Chen; Regional Master: Doina and Alexandru Eremia; NABC Master: Mike Wilson; Life Master: Michael Fahsel; Bronze Life Master: Tom Ciconte; Silver Life Master: Francis Taylor; Gold Life Master: Lois Stuart; Diamond Life Master: Jess Stuart; Grand Life Master: David Treadwell. Mini-McKenney -

Rookie: Chien-Ping Kao; Junior Master: Mary Skinner; Club Master: Leonard Thomas; Sectional Master: Jim Chao; Regional Master: Doina and Alexandru Eremia; NABC Master: Mike Wilson; Life Master: Mary Lou Hale; Bronze Life Master: Tom Grabowski; Silver Life Master: Amal Dasgupta; Gold Life Master: Rick Rowland; Diamond Life Master: Peter and Marie Filandro; Grand Life Master: David Treadwell.

More plaudits go out to Delawareans who reached new Life Master strata! New Gold Life Master is Irving Chafitz; Silver Life Masters are Robert Keeney, F.J. McNichol, Lucia Morrison, and Ed Malloy; Bronze Life Masters are Jake Hubik, Nellie Jones, Walter Knoth and Dottie McNichol; Life Masters are Christopher Marlow, Aileen Watkins, and Bill Watkins.

DSBA is proud to announce that Bridge Studio of Delaware has been recognized by ACBL as a Three-Star Club. This club has Open Pair games on Monday afternoon, Thursday afternoon and Swiss Team Games on Thursday night at the Talleyville Fire Hall in Wilmington. For a complete schedule of games and further information go to www.bridge-studio.org.

It's never too early! Be sure to mark your calendars for the

SUMMER 2005

Diamond State Sectional, September 16-19, another DSBA Four-Day Sectional. See the ad on Page 30.

♥ ♠ ♦ ♣

SUSQUEHANNA 217

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It's not too early to mark your calendar for Unit 217's Fall Tournament in Williamsport, slated for the weekend of October 21-23. Once again we'll gather at the Dudley Turner Bridge House (1042 High Street) and enjoy the hospitality of Peg Herz, tournament chair, and all the other friendly folks who make the Williamsport club so special. Game times Friday are 1:00 and 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, noon and 6:00 p.m.; and 11:00 a.m. for the Sunday Swiss. For more information, call Peg at 570-329-1444; or, if you need a partner, contact Doris Plotts at 570-323-2542. Hope to see you there!

Sadly, one face we won't see this Fall is that of Rita Ginsburg of Montgomery, who passed away this Spring. All of us miss her good cheer, her stories, and her rugelach.

It just goes to show you even when Ed Bissell (State College) is running a tournament, he can still beat out the rest of the field. That's what

he and Mary Ann Churba (Williamsport) did in State College at our Spring Penn State Sectional, amassing 13.14 silvers over three days of play. Next in line were Betsy Eliot (State College) and Phyllis Davin (Landisville) with 11.60. Winners of each event were: Friday afternoon open pairs, N/S: 1A/B, Nancy Smith (State College) & Jean Prior (Bethel Park); 2A, Kevin Burns & Jim McKeown (State College); 2B, Betsy Eliot & Phyllis Davin; 1C, Elaine Fuller (Boalsburg) & Betty Grudin (State College). E/W: 1A/B, Don Hollinger & David Chen (State College); 2A, Dave Hoover & Barbara Mateer (State College); 2B, Connie Bamer & Stephany Romano (State College); 1C, Shirley & Nevin Krentz (State College). Friday evening open pairs, N/S: 1A, Kevin Burns & Jim McKeown; 2A/1B, Nancy Smith & Jean Prior; 2B, Betsy Eliot & Phyllis Davin; 1C, Peggy Gutshall (Altoona) & Linda Truesdell (Hollidaysburg). E/W: 1A, Bob Priest & Linda Ivanoff (Harrisburg); 2A, Jeanne & Robert Colton (Brantford, ON); 1B, Mike Anesko & Anna Musser (State College); 2B, Virginia Marshall (Lock Haven) & David Dinkel (Hamburg); 1C,

Catherine Wood & Judith Metalonis (Philipsburg). Great turnout meant that we had two full sections for the Saturday afternoon open pairs. Winners in Section G: N/S—1A, Ed Bissell & Mary Ann Churba; 2A, Sandy & Fred Gilbert (Montoursville); 1-2B, Diane & Vince Bardsley (Williamsport), and Gene Waltz (Bloomsburg) & Arlene Andrews (Coal Township); 1C, Stephany Romano & Jackie Humilovich (State College); E/W—1A/B, Virginia Marshall & Marty Hodrick (Montoursville); 2A, David Chen & Norm Deno (State College); 2B/1C, Alex Kolmogorov & Misha Guysinsky (State College). Winners in Section W: N/S—1A, Andrea & John Sheaffer (Lancaster); 2A, Cheryl Pehoushek (Lewisburg) & Doris Winner (Williamsport); 1B, David Dinkel & Dolores Ritter (State College); 2B, Betsy Eliot & Phyllis Davin; 1C, Beverly Clelan & Sandy Hartman (Lewistown); E/W—1A, James Gumbert (McLean, VA) & Scott Merritt (Arlington, VA); 2A/1B, John Stonebrucker (Indiana) & Travis Crump (Wyomissing); 2B, Nancy Smith & Jean Prior; 1C, Vera Peters & Tim Levan (Williamsport). Saturday evening open pairs, N/S: 1A/B,

(Continued on page 20)

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Patriot Knockouts (1st & 2nd rds)
(continues Friday)
1 pm, 7:30 pm

Open Stratified Swiss Teams
299er 2 way Pairs/BAM Teams (one session)
1 pm, 7:30 pm
7:30 pm

TUESDAY, JULY 5
Kickoff Knockouts (1st rd)
 (continues Wednesday)
Stratified Charity Pairs
 7:30 pm
 7:30 pm

Morning Side Game Series (continues thru Saturday)	9 am	Senior Stratified Pairs	10 am, 3 pm
Kickoff Knockouts	9 am, 1 pm, 7:30 pm	Patriot Knockouts (3rd & 4th rds)	1 pm, 7:30 pm
Senior Stratified Swiss Teams	10 am, 3 pm	Can-AM Knockouts (1st & 2nd rds) (continues Saturday)	1 pm, 7:30 pm
Senior Stratified Swiss Teams	1 pm, 7:30 pm	Open Stratified Pairs	1 pm, 7:30 pm

Open Stratified Pairs
Side Game Series
299er Stratified Pairs
(continues thru Saturday)
(single sessions, continues thru Saturday)

Activity	Time
Morning Knockouts (continues thru Saturday)	9 am
Senior Stratified Swiss Teams	11 am
Open Stratified Swiss Teams	11 am
299er Swiss Teams (one session)	11 am
Open Stratified Speedball Pairs (one session)	11 am
Senior Stratified Pairs	10 am, 3 pm
Firecracker Knockouts (3rd & 4th rds)	1 pm, 7:30 pm

By Car: Take NYS Thruway (I-90) to Exit 46. Take I-390 toward Airport/Greece. Take Exit 17 (NY 383 South — Scottsville Rd). Go south 1.4 miles to Logan's (on the left). For Park Plaza, continue 1.3 miles, turn left on NY 252 (Ballantyne Rd) for 0.7 miles (Park Plaza on the right).

Tournament Chairs: Jim Bridges, 585-381-9538 bridges_jim@hotmail.com
Lois Sanders, 585-425-2492 lois@rochester.rr.com

Senior Stratified Pairs
Patriot Knockouts (3rd & 4th rds)
Can-AM Knockouts (1st & 2nd rds)
(continues Saturday)
Open Stratified Pairs

SATURDAY, JULY 9
 Senior Stratflighted Pairs
 Can-AM Knockouts (3rd & 4th rds)
 Compact Knockouts
 Open Stratflighted Pairs
 10 am, 3 pm
 1 pm, 7:30 pm
 1 pm, 7:30 pm
 1 pm, 7:30 pm

Senior Stratified Swiss Teams	11 am
Open Stratified Swiss Teams	11 am
299a Swiss Teams (one session)	11 am
Open Stratified Speedball Pairs (one session)	11 am

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SUMMER 2005

13

DISTRICT 4 MASTER SOLVERS CLUB

HENRY BETHE, DIRECTOR

I have used this typeface for the Panel, this one for Solvers, and *italics for mine*. This was a good set of problems: only one attracted a majority vote, and none got fewer than four different actions. I thank both the panel and solvers for sending in answers and thoughts.

1. MPs N/S Vul

♠103 ♥Q9853 ♦—♣AK10742

West	North	East	South
		3♦	pass
4♦	4♠	5♦	?
Action	Score	Votes	
5♠	20	6	
P	17	1	
DBL	12	2	
5NT	10	1	
6♣	9	2	
6♦	8	1	
6♠	6	0	

PLEASE COMMENT ON SOUTH'S PASS OVER 3D.

Opinions range widely whether South should have bid over 3D. **Bissell**: Passing over 3D seems right on. I'd overcall if my AKTxxx suit could be shown at the 3 level; with this 2-suiter I'll await developments - but they bumped me out. **Goldberg with Popper and Weik**: Passing over 3D is reasonable. **Sprungs, Raskin and Robinson**: Pass over 3 diamonds is revolting, but all other actions are worse. If vulnerability were reversed, **Raskin** would consider action. **Robinson** adds that it is hard to

pass with a void and 6-5 distribution, but after 4C can partner ever read you for five hearts?

Shapiro: The void would have 'forced' me to bid 4C, seeing this as good playing strength rather than questionable high card structure. But I can live with the pass. **Teukolskys**: With shortness in the preemptor's suit you must strain to bid. We'd be tempted to bid 4C. If we don't bid, the most likely auction is two more passes.

Ehrlichman: I think it is wrong to pass with good playing strength and shortness in preemptor's suit. If I had bid 4C before, I'd feel more comfortable deciding what to do now. *Really?* **Boye**: I would bid 4C over 3D anticipating a raise to 4D after which 4H by me should complete the picture. **Greco**: Passing over 3D is ridiculous. You should overcall 3H over 3D. *Solvers all passed. So there you have it: Passing 3D is revolting, ridiculous, uncomfortable, reasonable or automatic. At this vulnerability if I bid over 3D, partner's subsequent pass should be forcing, and I am not sure that is a good idea with this hand. If the auction goes 3D-P-4D-P-P I will be much more comfortable bidding 4H, which will not overstate my strength.*

Turning to the question of what to do now, some are willing to commit to slam. **Raskin**: 6D. We might make something from the 4 to the 7 level and no

way to find out how high to be. If we belong in clubs at the 7 level we will never find it. Will settle on the 6 level unless partner bids 6H, then will gamble on 7H. **Popper with the Glassons:** 6C. Too much to bid just 5 spades with partner coming in vulnerable. A grand is possible; if partner now bids 6 hearts, I can bid 7 spades. I don't have enough to bid immediately, but with partner coming in at unfavorable <vulnerability>, I think I have to bid slam with this hand. **Bill Foster:** 6C. I'm showing a good, playable club suit. Partner surely has a very good hand to compete vulnerable to the 4 level. **Sprungs:** 5NT. While it seems inconsistent to pass 3D, then drive to slam, this hand may actually warrant it. 5NT has the advantage of getting all suits into play. If bidding a slam is wrong, we may have already been badly placed at the 5 level.



The majority of the panel bid cussion. In general when the op-5S. Ehrlichman speaks for ponents preempt, we bid, and the Greco, Robinson, and the Teu- vulnerability is red vs. white, I believe 5-level passes should be range of hands North could have forcing. When pass is forcing, for the 4S bid. 5S could go down pass-and-pull should be stronger, or you could have play for a more slam oriented, than an im- grand. We could belong in hearts mediate bid. Here partner might do something nice, like offer 5H way to investigate, so I'll take the with 6-4 in the majors. I intend to middle road. Doubling with a pull the double to 5S, which will trump void and at this vulnerabil- provide a stronger slam invitation ity is not for me. Shapiro: 5S. I than bidding directly. But commit- think we have a good chance to ting to slam seems excessive. make it and no guarantee against When pass is not forcing, double 5D. Even though double says should show values that will be transferable values, I don't think useful to partner, and pass is a partner can infer my first and sec- confession of abject poverty. If ond round controls in both mi- pass were not forcing I would bid nors, so I'll bid what I think I can 5S since I believe this hand is make, even with bad breaks. I better for offense than defense.

2. IMPS N/S Vul

♠J4 ♥AQ876 ♦K943 ♣98

West	North	East	South
		1NT*	Pass
2♠**	3♠	5♣	?

* 10-13

**LONG CLUBS, UNKNOWN STRENGTH

Action	Score	Votes
DBL	20	6
P	16	1
5♦	16	1
5♥	16	2
5♠	12	2
6♠	9	1

There is the question of what alternatives partner had over 2S. Would double show spades or strength? Would 3C be Michaels, 3-suit takeout, or asking me to bid 3NT with a stopper? Would red-suit bids by South now be cue bids or suits? The panel mostly does not get to these questions.

Raskin: 6S. Partner didn't double 2S but bid 3S, so I expect a long and good suit. This looks like a 30+ point deck situation and, again, we might make anything from the 5-7 level. **Teukolskys:** 5H. Partner should have a good spade suit and a good hand. With a medium suit and a good hand, he would double 2S (showing cards over the weak NT), then bid 3S. **Bissell:** 5H. Vul at IMPs I'd better assume we can survive with a positive [result] above 5C. 5H must show tolerance for other contracts. **Ehrlichman:** 5D. 3S should show real playing strength. He could double just to get spades into the picture. (Double would be spades, not general strength. With general strength he could pass then double 3C.) The opponents surely

have at least ten clubs between them, so my high cards seem to be working. The main downside to 5D is that partner may think it shows a possible landing spot. I hope that my failure to act over 1NT suggests otherwise. If I'm wrong, we're getting a very bad result. **Greco (and Robinson):** Double. Should show cards. Partner is allowed to pull with extreme shape. **Steve White:** Double. Show some values, without good spade support. Maybe partner will know what to do, and I can blame him if he doesn't. **Passer:** Double. No reason to assume 5S makes. If partner is void in clubs with 7 especially good spades, he'll take it out to 5S, now that I've shown some strength. **Boye:** 5S. Aggressive - to be sure. However, I can envision partner's hand to be AK10987x, xx, QJx,x. 5S should have a play and doubling will result in a loss of a minimum of 8imps. I think this is a hand where "taking the sure plus" can be big. Besides, in this blind auction (for both sides) E/W might be coerced into bidding 6C. **Ron Danilowicz:** 5S. This is a tough call. X is a close second choice. My honors should be well positioned over East. **Nick Straguzzi:** 5S. My guess is that both contracts are down one, but who knows? I could be off by two tricks either way for both sides. I might describe 5S as taking out insurance, but it's more of a grope. **Foster:** 5S. I don't think we can set 5C doubled the necessary 800. **Nuckols:** Pass. I don't think they'll make it, but I'm not confident enough to double. **Goldberg:** Pass? Once again, I would play pass as forcing here (vul vs not), and would do so, unless I felt I had hesitated, in which case I would X. *If your pass is forcing it*

does not matter how long you hesitate. The hesitation doesn't clarify whether you were choosing between pass and double, pass and bidding 5S or pass and making an immediate slam try. There is no message content to a slow forcing pass that is not contained in the pass itself. Slow doubles or slow bids would have message content.

Note that many solvers bid 5S, a call selected by only two members of the panel. I think the solvers missed the point that we are playing IMPs, not match-points. Our expectation against 5C must be about 500, which will not lose much if 5S makes and will gain a lot if it goes down. On the other hand both 5S and double lose a lot if 6S makes. So I think the choice is really between double and some sort of a slam try and I have scored the answers accordingly.

3. IMPs None Vul

♠943 ♥KQ10943 ♦A542 ♣-

West	North	East	South
1NT ¹	2♣ ²	2♥ ³	?

¹ 15-17

² ONE SUITER (ANY SUIT)

³ TRANSFER TO SPADES

Action	Score	Votes
3♥	20	6
DBL	16	4
4♥	16	1
P	10	2

What's the problem? Does double show hearts or show general strength and invite partner to continue to compete? If it shows hearts, what do you do with scattered values in a balanced hand.

One approach: **Sprungs**: 4H. Can partner have clubs for the

2C overcall? It looks that way from our hand, but why wouldn't partner just bid 3C with clubs? Does the slow road to 3C show a better hand? Either way, we are bidding 4H. We think we can make it. True, we may miss slam if partner has x, Axx, KQxxxx, xxx.....and another

Ehrlichman with Robinson:

Pass. We all know what partner's suit rates to be, so I don't really want to get involved in trying to declare the hand. Plus, I want partner to lead a club, not a heart, against a spade contract. *Making an assumption about the meaning of a call:*

Straguzzi: X. I think X means "bid your suit" rather than "hearts", but in the great MSC tradition of having actions show exactly the hand you happen to hold, I guess I'll double.

Teukolskys (with Greco and Raskin): X. Shows hearts. In the next life, partner will bid 3D. *I suspect in this life; see below.*

Shapiro: X. Descriptive, and nothing more, neither outside strength nor a rebid implied. I do expect to beat 2H. I do want a heart lead against NT. If this touts partner off of a winning club lead against spades, tough.

White: X. Shows hearts. Then reluctantly sell out to 2 spades if opener bids it and it comes back to me.

Nuckols: X. My current agreement is that this asks partner to bid his suit. Presuming he bids 3C (over either a pass or 2S), if the next hand passes, I'll bid 3H. I think I want to defend a spade contract, but I want to show my hearts, just in case partner can support. **Passer**: Double. "East took my bid," i.e. more than just lead directing, a real suit. If, as I suspect, partner's suit is clubs, bidding 3H is asking for trouble.

The simple approach. Bid what you have. **Boye:** 3H. Clearly, partner is a big favorite to hold clubs (a potential misuse of this convention since with long clubs, partner should simply bid 3C). I want to compete immediately - suit quality is good and partner may be able to raise. 2S "sounds" like I have support for whatever suit partner bids and could lead to a bidding war if partner believes you have support for "his suit". **Bissell and others similarly:** 3H. I've got my own suit and a decent hand. Partner is not obliged to bid but a raise would be welcomed.

The panel spends a lot of space grousing about partner's probable club suit. In theory you have a competent partner, so if partner has clubs, partner should have a reason for not bidding 3C directly. A possible reason is that partner has extra values and a broken club suit. That seems unlikely when you have nine points and both opponents are bidding. The other possibility is that partner has diamonds and East has a black two-suiter. In either case, I think you want to bid.

4. MPs Both Vul

♠A752 ♥ - ♦Q1043 ♣98542

West	North	East	South
1♣ ¹	P	1♦ ²	P
1♠	DBL	P	2♣
3♠	P	P	?
¹ 16+ (PRECISION)			
² 0-7			

[BWS AGREEMENT: DOUBLE OF 1♣ = MAJORS, 1NT = MINORS]

Action	Score	Votes
3NT	20	9
4♦	13	1
DBL	10	1
P	8	2

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I am going to save space by summarizing for the vast majority of the panel. Point one: partner has a good hand with a takeout double of spades. Delayed entry over a strong club should show a good hand. Point two: he almost certainly does not have a decent 5-card red suit because he didn't overcall on the first round. Point three: the opponents, therefore, almost surely have nine hearts. Point four: we should have made a more constructive noise on the previous round - 3C for example. Point five: we certainly should bid again, and 3NT, clearly "unusual," stands out. The success of this action: Sprungs: X. Partner should have a pretty decent hand for his vulnerable double with a strong club on his right. We were very likely to be making 3 of a minor, and our heart void and trump control suggests this could be ugly for the bad guys... will depend on the strength of partner's hearts. The weaker they are the more likely we are to make five of a minor and that they make 3S. On the other hand if partner's hearts are strong this might get a top.

Less attractive than 3NT: Bissell: 4D. Passing over a strong 1C and reentering usually is a strong action. Partner is something close to 1453 with a good hand. My opponents don't seem to want to bid anymore. But wouldn't partner have overcalled 1D with that distribution? If partner prefers clubs we will now be at the five-level, which might be right.

A couple of panelists and many solvers were overawed

DISTRICT 4SPOT

by the strong club: **Popper:** Pass; I'm not bidding again at this vulnerability when I may have only 8 trumps, and I have this poor suit. *Speaking for most of the solvers are* **Nuckols:** P. We might defeat 3S, we might have something our way. I'm getting out while the getting is good. I hope partner knows what to lead, because my club bid won't help him. **Passer:** Pass. Why consider converting a probable plus into a minus by bidding. Also consider this: West heard his partner's two negative bids and bid 3S anyway. Won't be shocked if it makes. Hence no double.

5. MPS N/S Vul

♠Q74 ♥KQ10842 ♦97 ♣102

West	North	East	South
	1♦	2♣	?

WARNING: PLAN REQUIRED

DO YOU:

A: PASS AND AFTER 3C-3D-P-?

B: DBL AND AFTER 3C-4S-P-?

C: BID 2H¹ AND AFTER 3C-3D-P-?

D: OTHER

¹PROMISES ANOTHER BID

Action	Score	Votes
P/3♥	20	4
3♥	20	1
P/P	17	2
2♥/3♥	16	3
2♥/P	16	1
DBL/P	6	2

This problem separated the respondents into several groups. First, those who will need new partners: **Raskin:** 2H and pass partner's 3D. This should be a playable spot and I want to get out now. By my definition, pass is a bid. I am certainly prepared to apologize. *Pass is a call, not a bid.*

There is a story of a player who told his mixed pair partner, "Do not raise without four trumps." She raised with AKQ. "I'll give you exactly 10 seconds to produce the fourth trump," he snarled. These panelist's partners will give them 10 seconds to produce the fourth trump: **Teukolskys and Sprungs:** Double, then pass 4S. Our plan was to bid hearts the next round, unless partner jumps in spades, in which case we take our lumps. Partner could have cuebid 4C with a flexible strong hand.

Trying for a disappointed partner, who will expect more: **Bissell (with Popper and Robinson):** 2H/3H. Surely I don't promise another bid if the auction is above 3H when it gets back to me unless partner has made a strong bid that would be forcing. *Well, if it continued 4C-P-P I would consider partner's pass forcing.*

Hard never to bid KQ10xxx: **Ehrlichman (with Goldberg):** Pass, then 3H. I don't like to get stuck later, but partner will play me for more if I bid 2H. Double with 3-6 in the majors is completely out of the question. **Weik:** P/3H. I would like to bid 2H right away as a negative free bid and then pass 3D. **Boye:** P then 3H. Even after this auction, partner can still try 3S. Partner has at most 2 hearts and 3H at this point conveys 5 "good" hearts. Partner can evaluate this bidding and judge accordingly. *If I had that auction, I'd have something more like QJ109xxx of hearts and out, or perhaps J10 eighth. A hand that provides*

(Continued on page 25)

Master Solvers Club Fall Hands

Unless specified in the problem all hands use Bridge World Standard (BWS). Submit answers to Henry Bethe at hbethe@aol.com (using the following format: your answer [capital letters for suits, X for double, P for pass], then comments), or 108 Sheldon Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. You are South. Responses are due by August 1, 2005.

Hand 1: MPs, both vul

AQ9854, 53, Q7, AK4

West	North	East	South
--	--	1♠	P
P	2♥	P	?

WOULD YOU ACT DIFFERENTLY IF NORTH WERE A PASSED HAND?

Hand 2: IMPs, none vul

w) AKQ65, KQ42, J7, AQ

x) AKQ65, J7, AQ, KQ42

y) J7, KQ42, AKQ65, AQ

z) AQ, J7, AKQ65, KQ42

WHICH OF THESE HANDS, IF ANY, WOULD YOU OPEN 2NT? [NOTE: IN BWS 2NT = 20 TO -22] IF NOT 2NT, WHAT?

Hand 3: IMPs, none vul

AQ874, A4, 863, AKQ

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1♠
P	1NT ¹	P	2NT
P	3♥	P	?

¹ SEMI-FORCING

Hand 4: MPs, both vul

643, AKJ75, 7, AJ95

West	North	East	South
3♦	3NT	P	?

Hand 5: IMPs, N/S vul

Q7, 7, QT74, AQJ843

West	North	East	South
--	1♥	2♦	?

PLEASE COMMENT ON INTENDED CONTINUATIONS.

(Continued from page 4 Corners, page 10)

Betsy Eliot & Phyllis Davin; 2A, Andrea & John Sheaffer; 2B, Nancy Smith & Jean Prior; 1C, John Bowser & Newton Taylor (Huntingdon). E/W: 1 A/B/C, Joris Pinkse & Neil Wallace (State College); 2A, Dave Hoover & Barbara Mateer; 2B, John Stonebrucker & Travis Crump. Sunday Swiss Teams: 1A, Ed Bissell, Mary Ann Churba, Andrea & John Sheaffer; 1B, Betsy Eliot, Phyllis Davin, Estelle Frankl, & Ellie Lindstrom (State College); 1C, Nancy Smith, Jean Prior, Bill McTurk, & Roger Christman (State College).

Congratulations to all the winners and to co-chairs Ed Bissell and Kevin Burns for hosting a successful tourney!

Save the Dates



2005 Lancaster Red Rose Regional

October 31 - November 6

Call for reservations:

Lancaster Host Resort
717-299-5500; 800-233-0121

Look for the Schedule and further information in the Fall 4Spot



FOR NOVICES ONLY

by

MARTI RONEMUS

mronemus@suscom.net

A TRIBUTE TO DEBI

"So, how about taking some painting lessons with me," asked my friend, Edith (Edith McMullin who developed Easybridge! and was the ACBL Novice/Intermediate Coordinator and Tournament Director for many years). I said somewhat regretfully, as painting has always been something I wished I could do, "Oh, I don't think so. It might be fun, but I have no talent, have never taken a lesson and I'm sure I don't have any real ability." "Well, that's never stopped you from playing bridge, has it?" she said. (Edith takes no prisoners!) "We go on Thursday. Be here at 9." Thus began an amazing adventure. After a year, I am more convinced than ever that I have no real talent, but I don't care. The process of painting is what's important, not the product. Interestingly enough, I've been whisked back to being a Novice, which is hugely beneficial to my own teaching. I've studied under two painters in

two different classes, and I'm going to tell you a little about each of them. You'll see how it applies.

The first is a teacher who is quite well-known and for good reason. He is a fabulous technician and produces truly lovely works. They dazzle the eyes. He begins a class by putting up a slide of a lovely scene and the people in the class reproduce it as best they can (did I mention this is watercolor?). He walks around the room, advising and critiquing. He places a heavy emphasis on the structural sketch done before the painting begins. At least half of the 2-1/2 hour class is devoted to the sketch. The drawing was the worst time for me. I honestly can't draw and don't have much interest in it. I just want to get started putting the gorgeous colors on the paper, and watching what happens when they start blending. (Sort of like lecturing to a new bridge player when all they really want to do is get their hands on the



cards.) But I draw with many sighs and a flurry of erasure droppings. One thing that bothered me a lot in that class was that the instructor thought nothing about taking our painting or drawing away from us and "fixing" it, to show us how to do something better. Now, my work is pretty terrible if I am honest, but it is MINE and it made me mad when he did that. My work was always vastly improved, but ... not mine any more. Does that make sense? It seemed very important to him that we recognize **his** excellence. I got the feeling that I'd never be really good enough to continue.

I wasn't really happy and not having as much fun as I thought I should. I actually had more fun on the occasional afternoon when Edith and I painted at her house. I was ready to quit, but I kept hearing mention of a Debi Watson who teaches at the York (PA) Art Association, so I signed Edith and me up. What a world of difference! Debi begins each class with a demonstration of a technique, illustrating a concept of how we can get an effect from our

papers, brushes and colors. Then we each work independently on a project of our own choice. Debi doesn't insist on sketches ("I don't teach drawing, I teach painting.") and since we are each working on separate subjects, there's a lot of excitement seeing what others are doing. Her own work is not only exquisite, but filled with joy and the unusual. She downplays her own excellence, telling us "Oh, you'll be able to do that in no time. Meanwhile, I really like how your colors blend in that corner of your work. Which blue did you use?" She had no need to impress us with her excellence; rather, she wants us to see how far we've come and what is possible. Debi roams the room, stopping to visit with each of us. She encourages and uses Experiential Learning concepts. "Debi, I'm not happy with this." "What don't you like?" "This corner here." "Why not?" "I dunno..." Well, is it too dark? Does it stand out too much? Fade away?" "Hmm...maybe that's it. It doesn't stand out enough." "What could you try to fix it?" And so on.

Rather than forcing a solution on us, or painting on OUR pictures (grrr!), she pulls the solution from us, one strug-

gling thought at a time. As painful as it is, she guides us to self-knowledge and improvement. And then she says, "Try it and see what happens." Right out of the Easybridge! manual...letting the student experience the thrill of solving the problem.

Debi also creates an environment in which the student can thrive. I have never heard her make a critical remark about a painting. She always finds something in it that is worthwhile and worthy of remark. (Not too easy sometimes. I gave her one of mine to frame for me, and after asking me which side was up, she struggled for a positive comment, "Doesn't it feel good to have painted something you want framed?" she finally asked with a big smile.)

We all wander around looking at each other's work and she makes sure there are only positive remarks. As a result, we welcome each other's visits to our stations. Encouragement and kindness abound. I LOVE Tuesday mornings...it's the best part of my week.

So, think about your bridge teachers. Are they like

SUMMER 2005

Debi? Guiding and encouraging, but letting you find your own way? Giving concepts rather than making players memorize techniques? Making sure only kind comments will be heard? Have you learned that bridge is a journey rather than a destination? The most important painting lesson I've learned from Debi is that you don't have to be a GOOD painter to enjoy painting. And thank heavens that's true in bridge also. If we had to be good to enjoy this game, there would only be 20 people playing...in the world!

So here is to the Debi Watsons of the world...they encourage us, nourish us, nurture us, make sure we're having enough fun to come back, and sooner or later, turn us into reasonably respectable painters ... and players. And they make sure we relish the trip.





A Spot 4 the Advancing Player

by Jay Apfelbaum

(japfel@verizon.net)

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!

This article will continue with the bidding theory that there can be no two ways to bid one hand. I will show how that theory works when raising partner's opening bid of 1♥ or 1♠. There are several bidding conventions in use today, but for this article I will use Forcing No Trump, Bergen raises, Jacoby raises, and Splinter raises. I assume you are familiar with each convention. My purpose is to show how they work together. There are more possible hands than there are possible responses. For this reason, some of the responses are similar to others.

What follows is a table showing the different meanings for the responder's first bid. It assumes an opening bid of 1♥. The strength ranges are for the overall value of the hand. The responses over a 1♠ opening bid are similar.

STRENGTH	TRUMPS	THE AUCTION CHOSEN
4-6	3	PASS WITH 4-5, RAISE TO 2 LEVEL WITH 6
4-6	4	RAISE TO 3 LEVEL
4-6	5	RAISE TO 3 LEVEL, BUT WITH A SINGLETON RAISE TO 4
7-9	3	RAISE TO 2 LEVEL
7-9	4	BID 3♣ (ARTIFICIAL)
7-9	5	RAISE TO 4 LEVEL
10-12	3	BID 1NT THEN JUMP TO 3 LEVEL ON NEXT BID
10-12	4	BID 3♦ (ARTIFICIAL)
10-12	5	RAISE TO 4 LEVEL, BUT WITH SINGLETON SHOW IT
13-15	3	BID A 2 OVER 1 WITH THE INTENTION OF SHOWING SUPPORT ON NEXT BID
13-15	4	BID 2NT, BUT WITH A SINGLETON SHOW IT
13-15	5	BID 2NT, BUT WITH A SINGLETON SHOW IT

(Continued from MSC, page 19)

tricks only if my suit is trump.

Going for the plus at match-points: Greco: Pass and pass: I might bid 3H the first time if that is weak. But absent that I would pass and when partner competes to 3D it has to be percentage to pass. 2H or X are both sick in my opinion. I would bid 2H if favorable but at unfavorable it is asking for trouble. **Glassons:** P and P. Great hand for negative free bids, but lacking those we'll pass and play 3D.

Two people know the system: Shapiro: 3H. It comes down to passing then luckily being able to bid 3H over 3D - a lot nicer auction to deal with than others that could have followed passing - or taking the view that I don't want to be shut out of hearts on this hand and bid them at once. My stab is that 3H is the closest to an accurate description my system allows. **White** 3H. BWS uses weak jump shifts after our minor suit opening is overcalled. It isn't perfect, but is more de-

scriptive than most sequences and describes our hand in one call.

Thank you Ed and Steve for pointing this out. I did not know that, and obviously neither did the panel. Ignorance of the law or the system is no excuse. I suspect that if they had known, everyone would have bid 3H, and I would not have posed the problem.

With the weak jump shift not available, I still think the doub- lers are misguided. West might have bid 4C, and now what is partner supposed to do with a 4-2-6-1 or even a 4-3-5-1 fifteen count. I strongly disbelieve in one suited negative doubles. Without the WJS I am with Greco and the Glassons: P and P and hope you are not wrong.



	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	SCORE
ED SHAPIRO	5S	DBL	DBL	3NT	3H	96
CONNIE GOLDBERG	P	P	3H	3NT	P/3H	93
ERIC GRECO	5S	DBL	DBL	3NT	P/P	93
TOM WEIK	5S	5S	3H	3NT	P/3H	92
GLASSONS	6C	DBL	3H	3NT	P/P	89
SAM EHRLICHMAN	5S	5D	P	3NT	P/3H	86
CRAIG ROBINSON	5S	DBL	P	3NT	2H/3H	86
TEUKOLSKYS	5S	5H	DBL	3NT	DBL/P	78
ED BISSELL	DBL	5H	3H	4D	2H/3H	77
RICHARD POPPER	6C	DBL	3H	P	2H/3H	73
DAN BOYE	DBL	5S	3H	P	P/3H	72
RAY RASKIN	6D	6S	DBL	3NT	2H/P	64
SPRUNGS	5NT	DBL	4H	DBL	DBL/P	62

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This & THAT

by
JoAnn Sprung
jospung@aol.com

♠ Consider the following story when you decide to recruit someone who doesn't play bridge. A woman convinced her boyfriend to take bridge lessons even though he wasn't interested in learning the game. He sat in the back of the class feigning interest until one day they needed him to actually play during the lesson. As fate would have it, he was the dealer on the first hand. He sat there not knowing what to do when the other students told him he had to open something. Flustered he finally came through and said, "I'll open for a dollar".

♥ One area of bridge that is often misunderstood is the claim. Players are often reluctant to claim because they fear a confrontation with the opponents. However, claims are a very beneficial part of the game. No one enjoys watching declarer play out the hand when they have the rest of the tricks. Claims also speed up the game allowing you to spend time on other, more interesting hands.

Here are some claiming guidelines: As declarer when claiming, always show your whole hand to the opponents. State the number of tricks you intend to take. Be sure to mention any outstanding trumps and whether you plan to draw them. As defender, take your time, look at declarer's hand, and don't be hurried into accepting the claim until you are satisfied that the opponents are entitled to those tricks. If you wish to dispute the claim, call the director.

Once a claim is made, all play must cease. It is against the rules to suggest the declarer play it out. In the event of a dispute, the director will decide the number of tricks for each side.

♣ Now, for a bridge tip. Here is a convention that we think all partnerships should adopt. Novices can play it just as well as World Champions. The convention's name is Keller.

Named after the legendary Helen Keller, this convention requires that both partners are mute while at the bridge table. This doesn't mean you can't bid, answer an opponent's question or call a card from the dummy. What it does mean is that you are not to say anything to your partner at the table! If you see a way they could have made another trick or wonder why they just went for 1100, bite your tongue!

BRIDGE TRUMPS FOOD AND FIRE

(From the 2005 ACBL
Nationwide Bridge Survey)

Bridge players marooned on a desert island would prefer a game to a warm fire or banana soufflé. When asked to choose fellow survivors, close to half of 25.1 million bridge players (42.3%) named "three other people for bridge" over distant also rans like Tom Hanks, Jacques Cousteau and Dr. Phil.



SUMMER 2005

Northeast PA Bridge Assoc.

Unit 120



September 30-October 2, 2005

Independent Fire Co.
166 S. Sprague Ave.
Kingston (Wilkes-Barre), PA

Friday, September 30

Stratified Pairs¹ 1:30pm
I/N 199/99/49er 1:30pm
Stratified Pairs² 7:00pm
I/N 199/99/49er 7:00pm

Saturday, October 1

KO Teams (handicapped)
9:00am/1:30pm/7:00pm
Stratified Pairs² 1:30pm
I/N 199/99/49er 1:30pm
Stratified Pairs² 7:00pm
299er Pairs 7:00pm

Sunday, October 2

11:00am & TBA
Stratified Swiss Teams²

¹(0-500) (500-1000) (1000+)
²(0-300) (300-750) (750+)

Tournament Chair:
Ray Depew 570-287-1786
rdepew@intergrafix.net
Partnerships: JoAnn Mauger
570-620-2638 - mauger@ptd.net

*Look for our tournaments
the first weekends in
March, June & October*

DIRECTIONS

FROM I-81: EXIT 170 (RT. 309) TO
EXIT 4. LEFT ON RUTTER AVE TO
PIERCE ST. RIGHT TO END. LEFT ON
WYOMING AVE (RT 11) TO MARKET
ST (KINGSTON CORNERS). RIGHT TO
SPRAGUE AVE ON THE LEFT.

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PCBA UNIT 141 SECTIONALS

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SEPTEMBER 9 -11, 2005

FRIDAY, SEPT 9

Strat Women's/Open Prs¹ 1:30
Strat Non-Master* 1:30 & 7:30
Stratified Open Prs¹ 7:30

SATURDAY, SEPT 10

Handicap KO Tms ... 10/2:30/7:30
Strat Non-Master* ... 10/2:30/7:30
Stratified Open Pairs² ... 10 & 7:30
NAP Flights B & C 11 & 4:00
Strata-Flighted Open Prs[#] ... 2:30

SUNDAY, SEPT 12

Strata-Flighted Swiss[#] .. 11 & TBA
Strat Non-Master Sws* .. 11 & TBA



OCTOBER 14-16, 2005

FRIDAY, OCT 14

Strat Women's/Open Prs¹ 1:30
Strat Non-Master* ... 1:30 & 7:30
Stratified Open Prs¹ 7:30

SATURDAY, OCT 15

Handicap KO Tms .10/2:30/7:30
Strat Non-Master* .10/2:30/7:30
Stratified Open Pairs² 10 & 7:30
Strata-Flighted Open Prs[#] .2:30

SUNDAY, OCT 16

Strata-Flighted Swiss[#] 11 & TBA
Strat Non-Master Sws* 11 & TBA

* (single sessions - A 50-200, B 20-50, C 0-20)

¹ (A 1500+) (B 500-2000) (C 0-500)

² (single sessions - A 2000+, B 500-2000, C 0-500)

[#] (A 3000+) (X 0-3000) separate

(B 1000-1500) (C 500-1000) (D 0-500)

TOURNAMENT CHAIR:

JOHN MARKS 215-891-0602
JGMMARKS@AOL.COM

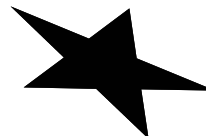
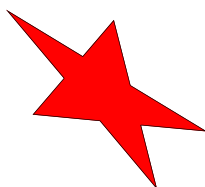
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NAP CHAIR: DON SWAN

610-867-7060 DONALDMSWANJR@AOL.COM

DISTRICT 4 STARS



GNT WINNERS

Open Flight

Joann Glasson, Bob Glasson, Howard Cohen, Meyer Kotkin

Flight A

Mary Poplawski, Harry Nickols, Robert Cofer, Stanley Perlo

Flight B

Robert Grover, Walter Bell, Barry Cohen, Nick Straguzzi

Flight C

Jean Olcese, T. Olcese, Joan Benedict, Anna Goetz

NAP - North American Pairs

District 4 Semi-Finals & Finals

Prequalification at club level required

Flights B & C (split sites)

September 10, 2005

Cherry Hill, NJ

(PCBA Fall Sectional)

Cicero, NY

(Syracuse Fall Sectional)

Flight A

October 22-23, 2005

Schnecksville, PA

(Lehigh Valley Fall Sectional)



Winners get to compete during the 2006 Spring NABC in Dallas with air, hotel and entries paid for the first place finishers. Second place gets airfare and entries while third gets entries paid.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT DON SWAN AT 610-867-7060



Diamond State Sectional Unit 190

September 16-19, 2005

Fri, Sat, Sun

DuPont Country Club
Rockland Rd
Wilmington, DE

Monday Only

Talleyville Firehall
Concord Pk (Rt 202)
Wilmington, DE

Note: 2 Locations (see website for directions)

Friday, September 16

1:00 & 7:00 pm ♠ single sessions

Stratified Open Pairs (1 pm)
Stratified Womens Pairs (1 pm)
Stratified 99er Pairs (1 pm)
Strata-Flighted A/X Pairs (7 pm)
Strata-Flighted B/C/D Pairs (7 pm)
Stratified 199er Pairs (7 pm)

Saturday, September 17

1:00 & 7:00 pm ♠ single sessions

Strata-Flighted A/X Pairs (1 pm)
Strata-Flighted B/C/D Pairs (1 pm)
Stratified 99er Pairs (1 pm)
Stratified Open Pairs (7 pm)
Stratified 199er Pairs (7 pm)

Sunday, September 18

11:00 am & TBA

Flight A/X 2 Session Swiss Teams
Strat B/C/D 2 Session Swiss

Monday, September 19

12:30 & 7:00 pm ♠ single sessions

Stratified Open Pairs (12:30 & 7)
Stratified 99er Pairs (12:30 pm)
Stratified 199er Pairs (7 pm)

TOURNAMENT CHAIR: DENIS LASOTA

PARTNERSHIP: JANE HOLLOWAY

302-235-5822

DLASOTA5@COMCAST.NET

WWW.UNIT190.ORG

(Continued from J & J, page 31)

makes no sense at all. The unit does not need to run the event, but can award the sanction to a deserving club. Any unit containing a bridge club should have no trouble finding a club manager who'd be happy to welcome a few extra tables and award sectionally rated red masterpoints instead of one of their regularly scheduled club games. Do we have any units without bridge clubs?

There are details to work out, how many unit finals can you play in? How many different partners can you play with? How many qualifiers are allowed from each unit? etc.

My suggestions: Play with as many partners in as many units as you like as long as they're all from/in District 4. Once you earn a qualification, you've committed to play the district final with the partner you qualified with, and may not earn another qualification from any other unit final. And each unit may qualify the greater of 2 pairs or 10% of the participants in the unit final.



DISTRICT 4SPOT

J EERS & UBILATIONS

BY JORDAN

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NAP – Part II

Please note: The letter that falls alphabetically between "I" and "K" does not appear in this article.

For additional NAP background, check your Fall 2004 4Spot...

So everyone is rightfully disappointed with the frightful and confusing conditions of contest for District 4's NAP finals, especially flights B & C. The one thing that seems to be popular is to have more playing sites so that players don't have to drive as far to compete in the event. The drawbacks of this are the difficulty in scheduling concurrent events and the impossibility of scientifically determining a winner. There are serious complications, to be sure. But if two sites are better than one – why don't we have three, four... or even more sites?

ACBL provides for units to each run NAP Unit Qualifiers (with full sectional rating with red MPs for a single session event). Why don't we run them qualifying a lucky few in each unit who earn right to

travel to a single site district final?

Then, if you do have to trek from parts North, South, or West to Scranton or Wilkes Barre, or some such place for the final, you'll know that you are in a select group of qualifiers. Not only that, but unlike at the split-site finals, you will have a chance to win the event at the location you attend. You

won't be trumped by the fact that you chose the wrong (smaller site) place to play the final.

Units should be able to promote the convenience of participation at the unit level, and perhaps even participation at the club-level qualifiers, improving the overall participation. And the route to winning the event (or at least showing up at the right site for the next level) would be clear.

The only argument I've heard against unit level qualifiers is that small units can't afford to rent a facility to hold an event. This argument

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Upcoming District 4 Tournaments

DATE	TOURNAMENT	LOCATION	CONTACT	SEE PAGE
JULY 5 - 10	UPSTATE NY REGIONAL	Logan's Party House Rochester NY	Lois Sanders 585-425-2492	11
August 6-7	Rochester Summer Unit 112	Geneseo Country School Geneseo NY	Lois Sanders 585-425-2492	
August 7	199er Unit 168	Bridge Boardroom York PA	Marti Ronemus 717-699-5222	
August 12-14	Oswego Unit 112	Masonic Temple Oswego NY	Diana Laurent 315-343-0905	
August 22-28	STaC Units 168, 217	Clubs	Glenn Beidel 717-264-9143	
September 9-11	Autumn Unit 141	Clarion Hotel Cherry Hill NJ	John Marks 215-891-0602	28
September 9-11	Syracuse Fall Unit 112	American Legion #787 Cicero NY	Robert Simard 315-656-3204	
September 10	NAP Flights B & C	Cicero NY Cherry Hill NJ	Don Swan 610-867-7060	29
September 16-19	Diamond State Unit 190	Dupont CC/Tallyville FH Wilmington DE	Denis Lasota 302-235-5822	30
September 20-26	STaC Unit 190	Clubs	Patricia Wilson 410-825-7579	
September 23-25	Eastern Penn Unit 121	The Bridge Room Reading PA	Janet Stevens 610-372-5429	
September 23-25	Hagerstown Unit 168	Wmspt American Legion Williamsport MD	Ronald Orr 301-591-1799	
September 24-25	299er Unit 112	Canandaigua Coop Ext. Canandaigua NY	Mary Poplawski 607-797-3729	
Sept 30 - Oct 2	Rochester Fall Unit 112	India Community Cntr Penfield NY	Warren Masland 585-442-8753	
Sept 30 - Oct 2	Wilkes-Barre Fall Unit 120	Independent Fire Hall Kingston PA	Ray Depew 570-287-1786	27