

♠ ♥ The Bridge Buff ♦ ♣

July / August 2003

A Publication of Unit 116, Buffalo, New York

Brian Meyer, Editor

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From Your President

Kathy Pollock

The Unit Knockouts started on May 8th and were run by John Bielinski and me. This year we had 21 teams compared to 16 in 2002 and the increase was due to the Non-Life Master teams coming out in force. Thanks to all who helped, thanks to all who played, and thanks to the clubs who did a great job of accommodating the subsequent rounds, the Whist Club and the Amherst Duplicate Club. See inside this issue for final results and congratulations to all the winners.

A wonderful job was done on the 299er Sectional. A special thanks to Marge Schomers and the Lockport crew for their hospitality and our gratitude to all of the Board members who planned and helped with this event, Sharon Benz, Diane Jeffrey, Joyce Kindt, Eric Phifer, and Dave Larcom. Many of the 299er's were able to earn some silver points.

The June Unit Game, also in Lockport, exceeded all expectations. There were 27 ½ tables in play, an incredible turnout. The event ran very smoothly thanks to the co-chairs, Joyce Kindt and Mike Ryan with lots of help from Marge Schomers.

Calling all players! Calling all players! The July Unit Pro-Am Game (Saturday, July 19, 6:30 PM, Rescue Fire Hall in North Tonawanda) needs Pros (300+ masterpoints) and Amateurs (less than 300 masterpoints). You should expect a phone call soon if you haven't yet called in to sign up for your Pro or your Am.

August is the month for the Summer Celebration. We have a new location this year, Banchetti by Rizzo on North French Road in Amherst. The event starts with brunch at 11 a.m., pairs games, both open and 299er, followed by dinner at 5:00 p.m. and a single session Swiss, again, open and 299er.

Coming Events:

July Pro-Am Game: Rescue Fire Hall in North Tonawanda is the setting for the Pro-Am game and it's happening on **Saturday, July 19th at 6:30 p.m.** It's also the scrumptious **Taste of Buffalo** game with prizes for the best Appetizer, Entrée and Dessert. Call **Donna Steffan at 636-9653** if you have more than 300 masterpoints and **Joyce Kindt at 693-1331** if you have fewer than 300 masterpoints.

August 24th is the time for our **Unit Summer Celebration**. We have a new location this year, **Banchetti** by Rizzo on **North French Road** in Amherst. The event starts with **brunch** at 11 a.m., **pairs games**, both open and 299er, followed by **dinner** at 5:00 p.m. and a single session **Swiss**, again an open and a 299er. See the fliers for details and be sure to come and enjoy!

The **September Sectional** takes place in a new location too, albeit a familiar venue, the **Ellicott Creek Fire Hall** on Ellicott Creek Rd. on **September 12-14**. See the back of this issue for details.

Upcoming Tournaments!

Syracuse Regional	July 8-13
Long Beach Nationals	July 17-27
District 5 Olympiad	Aug 16-17
Pittsburgh Regional	8/26 - 9/01
Buffalo Sectional	Sep 12-14
Buffalo Regional	10/28-11/02

The North American Open Pairs

Don't forget that July and August represent the last times to qualify for the District-wide NAOP qualifier. You **MUST** qualify at your local club to participate at the district level! This is a great event! Please qualify today!

The 299er Sectional in the next edition**UNIT 116 KO's****Flight A:**

- 1) Christine Urbanek, Buddy Seidenberg, Jim Mathis, John Kilmer
- 2) Sharon Benz, Margaret Klamp, Judith Marshall, Joan Rose

Flight B:

- 1) Eugene Harvey, Warren O'Connell Jr., James Reineck, Donna Steffan
- 2) Kathy Pollock, John Belinski, Mary Jo Crone, Robert Feasley

Flight C:

- 1) Laurette Oak, Dorothy May, Ken Meier, John Hummel, Chuck Cookson
- 2) Edward Borosky, Paula Weiser, Suzanne Davis, Elsie Rogers
- 3) Charles Heimerl, Frank Schlehr, Robert Alan Davis, Gillis Watson

Saratoga, NY Regional**Friday Open Pairs**

- 2C Marianne Rindfleisch - Teresa Fraas

Cleveland Regional**Tues/Wed KO Bracket 1**

- 3rd/4th Dan Gerstman, S. Landen, R. Monroe, P. Rajadhyaksha, B. Newman, M. Giordano

Tues/Wed KO Bracket 2

- 3rd/4th Jerry Geiger, Alex Kowal, D. Fan M. Abramson,

Wed Eve 299er Pairs

- 2A/1B Aage Pettersen, Brian Universal

Evening Side Series

- 2A Alexander Kowal, Jerry Geiger

Afternoon Side Series

- 6A Elbert Hargesheimer, Christy Kellogg

Thurs-Fri K O Bracket 4

- 3rd/4th Aage Pettersen, Allen Beroza, Elaine and Brian Universal

Fri Eve Non-Life-Masters

- 4A/3B Elaine and Brian Universal

Friday Swiss

- 8A/2B Gilda Hutchinson, Eugene Harvey, James Gullo, Joanne Kelley

Saturday Open Pairs

- 7A Harry Cheung, S. G. Kelly

Sat-Sun Morning Swiss

- 6A/3B Gilda Hutchinson, Eugene Harvey, James Gullo, Joanne Kelley

Sat-Sun K O Bracket I

- 3rd/4th John Toy, M. Rabinowitz, L. Long, R. Early

Sat-Sun K O Bracket II

- 3rd/4th Michael Ryan, Judy Graf, Robert Feasley, Donna Steffan

Sunday Flight B/C/D Pairs

- 4B/1C/1D Diane Jeffrey, W. D. Albrecht
6B Christy Kellogg, M. Spooner

Orlando, FL Regional**Thurs-Fri KO Bracket 1**

- 1 Joel, Jill, and Pow Wooldridge, A. Barfus, G. Tornay Jr.

Saturday KO

- 2 Jill, Joel, and Pow Wooldridge, M. White, J. Morris

Stratified Open Swiss

- 7 Joel Wooldridge, M. Cappelletti, M. White, J. Morris

The Pro-Am July Unit Game!

Folks – Taste-of-Buffalo Pro-am is just a few weeks away. Come out and enjoy some great food and great bridge. Donna Steffan (636-9653) and Joyce Kindt (693-6545) are your chairpersons. Please help make this event a great success and bring a dish to pass!

Subscribe to the unit email list and you too could receive extra information, including a longer 'Buff', complete with color pics!
jbod@adelphia.net

UP THE LADDER THEY GO!

Junior Masters

Kirk Larson
William Rich
Minish Shah

Club Masters

Carol McMahon
John Ricotta
Fred Payne

Sectional Masters

Allen Beroza
James Grant
Craig Schmidt
Jeanne Grimmer

Regional Masters

Brian Universal
Clifford Vogelsang

NABC Masters

Fran Kurtz
Michael Weber

New Life Masters

Gilda Hutchinson
Constance Swick

Bronze Life Masters

S Luke Danielson
Joanne Kelley
Florence Notto

When I made Life-Master...

By: Connie Swick

I needed 7 black points and my knockout team, consisting of Liz and Ed Harman and Beverly Norton all went to the Gatlinburg, TN regional (see results section from the May/June Buff). We raked in nearly 18 points, and I made life master during the first event! We all had a great time, and they even took my picture!

The District Five Olympiad

By: Michael Ryan

The third District 5 Olympiad will be held on August 16-17 at the Holiday Inn on Rockside Road in Independence, Ohio.

The Olympiad is a sectionally-rated, stratified pairs bridge competition among all units in District-5. Players must have fewer than 750 masterpoints in order to participate.

Players from the various Units compete in three sessions of bridge. Silver points are awarded. The Unit having players that accumulate the most points over the three sessions will also be awarded a trophy. Gold

Life Master Dick Early provides an analysis of the hands following each session. You must indicate in advance your intention to enter. Please check out the June edition of the 5th Column (front page) for further information, and we hope to see you there!

And, how exactly does one check the June edition of the Fifth Column? Go here:

<http://www.voyager.net/~shortsuit>

There, you will find the top link leading you to electronic copies of all 5th columns.

POP QUIZ, HOT SHOT (continued)

By: Brian Meyer

To see where this hand, and the discussion that follows, comes from, check out the latest copy of the 5th column. So, what did you do? The auction to this point has been:

LHO Pard RHO You
----- ----- 1NT 2C*
Dbl** Pass 2D 2H
3D Pass Pass ????

* == A single-suited hand.

**== What would this double be with your favorite partner?

For the curious, your hand is:

xx AK109xx x KQ10x

What do you do now? I think the most important thing to know, if you are contemplating a bid, is the table condition (form of scoring, and especially the vulnerability). In this case, it's MP, game-all. In a highly non-scientific survey (3 of you have responded), 2 out of 3 bid 3H! I don't follow that logic.

Our hero(ine) also drummed up a 3H call, and LHO applied the axe. The four digit number that resulted is something that should have thoroughly been expected.

When LHO showed up with 4540 shape, our hero(ine) screamed for the cops. Why? Because the double of 2C was not alerted, and it was stayman. What was the director's ruling? Be sure to check out the August 5th column for more on this!

Their command is my wish!

By: Brian Meyer

"No good deed goes unpunished," wrote an advocate of mine last month in response to the outcry from the May/June Buff. "Good thing you look good in brown," wrote another. The point is this: I, and ME ALONE wrote the 'blurb' on the front page of the most recent Buff. It was not written by anyone on the unit board, least of all the president. At the demand of the unit board, I am writing this. I am sorry if you mistook that paragraph to be representative of a board member, or the board as a whole. The opinions expressed in the Buff are mine unless otherwise noted.

THE AMHERST BRIDGE CLUB

LESSON SCHEDULE:

for BEGINNERS**"AN INTRODUCTION TO BRIDGE"**

taught by Donna Steffan

TUESDAY EVENINGS FROM 7pm-8:30pm

SIX WEEKS STARTING JULY 15th (\$40.00)

for NON-LIFE MASTERS**"TAKEOUT DOUBLES"**

taught by Dorothy Boyd

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS FROM 3pm-5pm

FOUR WEEKS STARTING JULY 16th (\$40.00)

for ADVANCED PLAYERS**"TIMING AT NO TRUMP"**

taught by Alan Greer

SATURDAY AFTERNOONS FROM 3:15pm-5pm

SIX WEEKS STARTING JULY 19th (\$50.00)

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED - PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED WITH BILL. CONTACT HIM: AT THE CLUB; BY PHONE AT 836-7016; OR, EMAIL BILLFINK1234@HOTMAIL.COM

In the next issue: Who is looking to be your representative on the unit board of directors? Also, the bidding bug bites Jerry Geiger in Gatlinburg, are his teammates there to cover him? Next buff deadline is August 25th. Note new email the_bridge_buff@yahoo.com

AMHERST BRIDGE CLUB GAME SCHEDULE:**FUN FRIDAYS!**

EVERY FRIDAY EVENING AT 7:30

AFTER THE GAME:

~ HAND RECORDS PROVIDED (STARTS 7/11)

~ COMPLIMENTARY SNACKS (STARTS 7/18)

~ \$1.00 OFF DRINKS (STARTS 7/18)

**NOSH PAIRS!**

EVERY WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY AT 11AM.

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS

WITH COMPLIMENTARY

BAGELS & CREAM CHEESE

AMHERST BRIDGE CLUB SELECT SPECIAL EVENTS:

NAP QUALIFIERS

Red Points at the Club Level, also the first step toward a subsidized trip to the ACBL Nationals in Reno, NV. Per game fees indicated.

Thursday, July 3 (@ Zion Community - 15 Koenig Circle, Tonawanda)

Complimentary Bagels & Cream Cheese

10:25am - Lecture by Dorothy Boyd

11:00am - Stratified Pairs - still only \$5.00!

Friday, July 11

7:30pm - Stratified Pairs with Hand Records - only \$6.00

Thursday, July 17

Complimentary Bagels & Cream Cheese

11:00am - Stratified Pairs - still only \$5.00!

Thursday, July 24

Complimentary Bagels & Cream Cheese

11:00am - Stratified Pairs - still only \$5.00!

Friday, July 25

Complimentary Snacks & Discount Drinks

after the Game 7:30pm - Stratified Pairs with Hand Records - only \$6.00

ACBL-WIDE GAMES WITH HAND RECORDS**At the Amherst Bridge Club**

Thursday, July 10 (1st Ever in This Area - no additional charge)

Complimentary Bagels & Cream Cheese
11:00am -Stratified INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Friday, July 18 Red Points at the Club Level - only \$6.00

Complimentary Snacks & Discount Drinks
after the Game
7:30pm-Stratified INTERNATIONAL FUND GAME

All games are held at the Sheridan Game Zone with plenty of free well-lit parking.

FOR MORE INFO CALL BILL AT 836-7016 OR
EMAIL BILLFINK1234@HOTMAIL.COM

Update on the progress of the Community Bridge Center

(By: Judi Fischer and Inge Gallant)

The plans for a non-profit Community Bridge Center are moving forward, inspired by the Niagara Bridge Center in St. Catherines. We are still gathering information necessary to formulate specific plans and guidelines for roles and job descriptions of the Board of Directors, Game Directors, Committees and Volunteers. Legal, tax, and financial issues will be researched, and a preliminary budget will be drawn up. ACBL requirements and Zero Tolerance Policies will be reviewed and put into place. The physical space, its location and amenities will be researched.

Upon completion, these plans will be presented to prospective investors for approval and/or modifications. Then properties will be scouted, analyzed for our needs and investor approval sought.

Everyone's input is welcomed and needed. If you have not yet seen the questionnaire (published in the May/June Bridge Buff, and sent electronically) or the Clarifications (distributed at Unit Games and sent electronically), we would like to forward them to you. If you have not yet given us a response, we would still very much

appreciate your thoughts and ideas.

Please contact:

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ETHICS and ETIQUETTE

By: Mike Ryan

Most organizations have standards of conduct and behavior to which their members are obligated. Duplicate bridge is no exception. *The Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge* deal with the question of proper conduct and behavior at duplicate bridge. Law 74 deals with the matter of Ethics and Etiquette. Although breeches of ethics may be thought of as unfair and improper practices that could include deliberate cheating, ethical proprieties have been established in order to provide equity and continued enjoyment for all players.

Ethics

Much of the enjoyment and popularity of duplicate bridge is attributable to the high standards of etiquette that are observed by most bridge players. A primary objective of the ACBL, and an important consideration in playing duplicate bridge, is the principle that every effort should be made to provide equity at the bridge table. Thus, every player should seriously attempt to ensure that the opponents have not been harmed through inappropriate, incomplete, or misleading information. According to *The Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge*, communication between partners during the auction and play should only occur by means of proper calls and procedures. Thus, bids should be made without undue haste or hesitation. Forcing hesitations are not permitted as part of your convention system. As you all know, not bidding in tempo happens to be one of my frequent problems. Certainly, you are entitled time to think. However, a "longer-than-usual" pause preceding an action in the bidding or

play can inappropriately convey information to partner. If the pause is followed by a positive action, usually no harm results to the opponents. The ethics of the game require that partner not take cognizance of any information that might be conveyed by the break in tempo. There are many other instances where inadvertent or inappropriate communication of information can arise. Placing your hand on a bid, retracting the bid, etc. is a common example. Play of the cards should be made without emphasis, gesture, or mannerism, and to the extent feasible, at a uniform rate. If you are prone to these bad habits you should make a conscientious effort to improve your conduct of bidding and play.

An outstanding example of ethical conduct involved our own Dan Gerstman in the North American Open Swiss Teams event at the recent Philadelphia NABC. Dan's team had qualified for the final but Dan and his partner noted a scoring error in their favor. They reported the error which resulted in their team failing to qualify by a margin of 1 Victory Point!

Etiquette

A player should maintain a courteous attitude toward partner and the opponents. Any remarks or actions that might cause annoyance or embarrassment to another player, or that might interfere with another player's enjoyment of the game, are to be avoided. As a matter of courtesy, a player should refrain from:

- paying insufficient attention;
- making gratuitous comments during the play as to the auction or the contract;
- detaching a card from the hand before it is that player's turn;
- mixing the cards together before the result has been agreed to;
- indicating any approval or disapproval of a call or play;
- indicating the expectation or intention of winning or losing a trick before play to that trick has been completed;

commenting or acting during the auction or play to call attention to a significant occurrence, or to the number of tricks still required for success.

A PHOTO FINISH!

A photographer and a reporter from The Post-Star newspaper in Glens Falls took pictures of Terry Fraas and Marianne Rindfleisch during the June 12th session at the Saratoga Springs Regional. Their opponent certainly appears to be Elaine Universal, does it not? Drive 3 hours to play the hometown crowd?? (thanks Marianne for the photo and the story!)



Some people just don't know when to quit, despite the major snowfall, Warren O'Connell and his group continued playing bridge: (thanks Warren for the great pic)



Margaret McCarthy
Buffalo Sectional

September 12-14, 2003

At the Ellicott Creek Fire Co.

25 Ellicott Creek Rd. S, West Amherst, NY

Friday's Events:

Stratified Open Pairs
Stratified 299er Pairs
1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.

All events are single sessions

Saturday's Events:

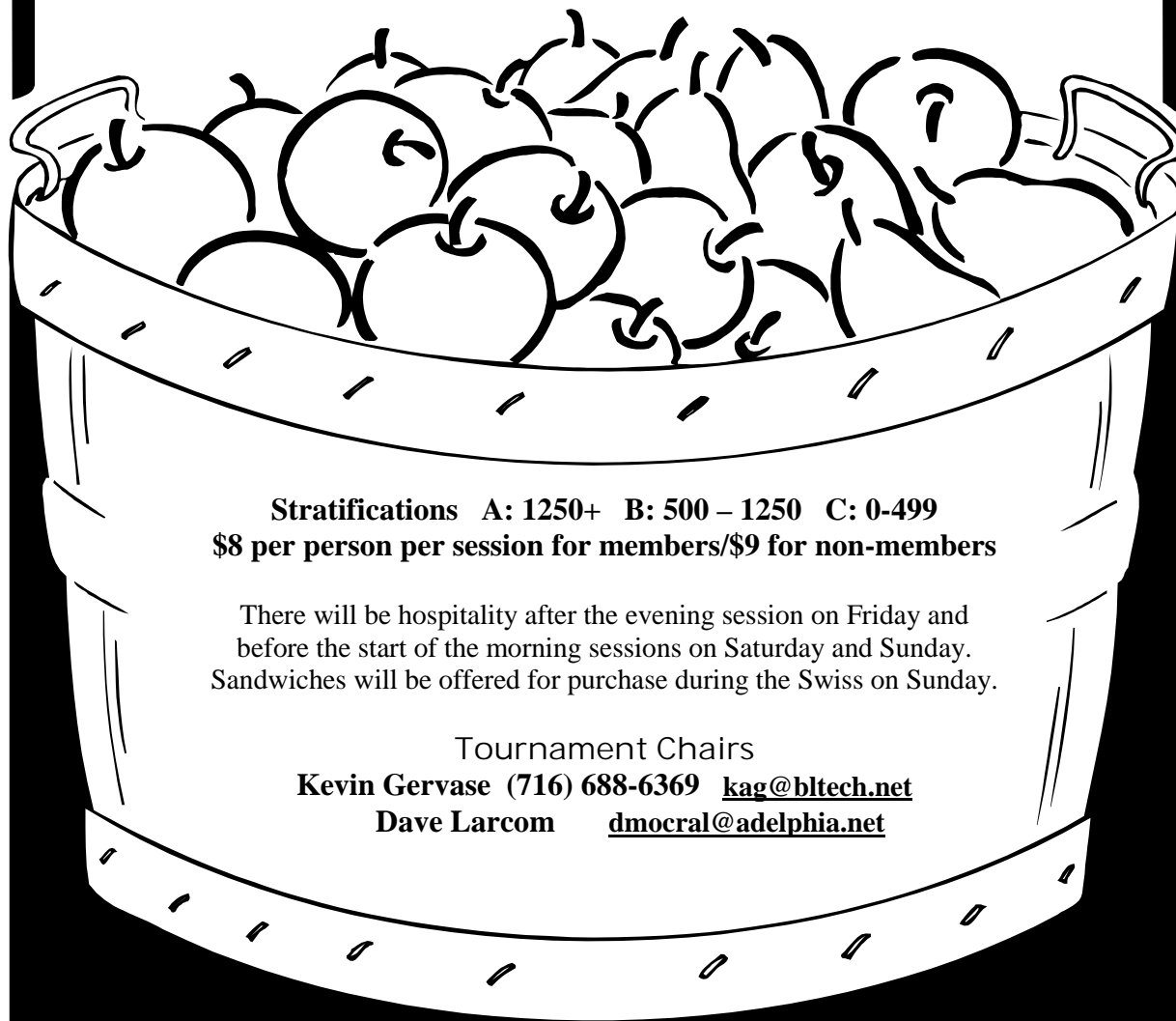
Stratified Open Pairs
Stratified 299er Pairs
10:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

All events are single sessions

Sunday's Events:

Stratified 299er Swiss Teams 11:00 a.m. (single session)

Strataflighted Swiss Teams 11:00 a.m. (playthrough)



Stratifications A: 1250+ B: 500 - 1250 C: 0-499
\$8 per person per session for members/\$9 for non-members

There will be hospitality after the evening session on Friday and before the start of the morning sessions on Saturday and Sunday. Sandwiches will be offered for purchase during the Swiss on Sunday.

Tournament Chairs

Kevin Gervase (716) 688-6369 kag@bltech.net

Dave Larcom dmocral@adelphia.net