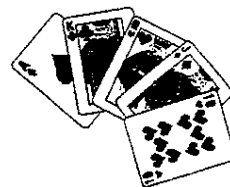


♠♥The Bridge Buff♦♣



March/April 2000

A Publication of Unit 116, Buffalo, New York

Kathy Pollock, Editor

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President's Message

The new Board of Directors met in February and again in March. I am excited about the enthusiasm expressed by the Board.

We are committed to increasing the attendance at Unit Games and Sectionals. In this connection, we have moved the dates of our Sectional to April 7-9 to avoid conflicts with spring vacations. In addition, we are encouraging participation from our Canadian neighbors by doing an extensive mailing and allowing them to use their Canadian dollars at par. We are also trying to attract a greater participation from the Rochester players. However, the core of our games continues to be our own Unit members and I encourage everyone to come out and play.

Until next time,
Jay Levy

Upcoming Unit Events for 2000

Sunday, March 26	Unit Swiss Team Game Recognition of Ace of Clubs/Mini-McKenney Winners
Fri.-Sat., April 7-9	Tom Wolstoncroft Memorial Sectional
Tuesday, May 2 and Thursday, May 4	Unit Knockouts begin
Saturday, June 10	Unit Game in Lockport
Saturday, July 8	Unit Game
Sunday, August 27	Unit Summer Social
Fri-Sat, Sept. 22-24	Margaret McCarthy Memorial Sectional
Tuesday, October 10	Unit Game

Unit Swiss Teams

Sunday, March 26
1:30 PM

The Bridge Centre
Stratifications:

0-299 0-1000 1000+

Call Dorothy Boyd
837-4807
for partners or
teammates



Grand National Teams Flight A

- 1 Joel Wooldridge, Ken Kranyak, John Kranyak, Howard Lebow and Frank Cymerman
The team was awarded \$1500 and will be representing District 5 at the 2000 Summer Nationals in Anaheim, CA

Flight B

- 2 Sue Bergman, Art Morth, Jim Reineck and Jerry Geiger

Flight C

- 3/4 Ed and Liz Harman, Connie Swick and Beverly Norton

Consolation Teams

- 1A Bert Hargesheimer, Roger Tiktin, Frank Aquila, Pat Chisolm and Laurie Kranyak

Buffalo Nat Gerstman Sectional

Friday Afternoon Open Pairs

- 1A Bev Cohen and Jim Mathis
 2A Walter Majewski and Sharon Benz
 3A Jay Levy and Saleh Fetouh
 4A Chris Urbanek and Joan Rose
 5/6A/1/2B Kathy Pollock and Geri Krawitz
 5/6A/1/2B John Marvin and Cliff Kaylor
 3B Jim Reineck and Brian Meyer
 4B/1C Shirley Lyth and Joyce Kindt
 3C Donna Steffan and Jeanne Gladysz

Friday Afternoon 299er Pairs

- 1A Pinky Regan and Joan Crane
 2A/1B Will Sancrainte and Lee Gordon
 3A Rita Pawelczyk and Eva Schmidt
 4A Bill and Peter Schneidau
 5A/2B/1C Gene Harvey and Irene Otto
 3B Judy St. Arnold and Linda Mirchandani
 4/5C Janet Frisch and Nancy Torrell
 4/5C Dorothea Sterne and Phyllis Wilkinson

Friday Evening Open Pairs

- 1A Bev Cohen and Jim Mathis
 2A Sue Bergman and Art Morth
 3A Jay Levy and Saleh Fetouh
 4A Chris Urbanek and John Sinclair
 5A Dorothy Boyd and Kevin Gervase
 1/2B Cathy Bentzel and Christy Kellogg
 1/2B Paul Orosz and Mike Ryan
 3B Kathy Pollock and Geri Krawitz
 5B/2C Bill and Peter Schneidau
 6B/3C Donna Steffan and Jeanne Gladysz
 4C Gene Giorgini and Val Derenda
 5C Janet Morgan and Marilyn Brunner

Saturday Afternoon Open Pairs

- 1A Suraj Jain and Saleh Fetouh
 2A/1B Dorothy Boyd and Christy Kellogg
 3A Pow Wooldridge and Judi Marshall
 4A Jay Levy and Bill Rushmore
 5A Chris Urbanek and Joan Rose
 6A Alice Lind and Bob Olin
 2B/1C Shirley Lyth and Joyce Kindt
 3B Brian Meyer and Joe Branconi
 4B Walter Bluestone and Charles Tripi
 5B Pol Akman and Harry Meyers
 2C Shirley Betsch and Marge Schomers

Saturday Afternoon 299er Pairs

- 2A Pinky Regan and Georgia Kells
 3A/1B Terry Fraas and Paul Piciulo

4A/2B Nancy Torrell and Janet Frisch

5A/3B Janet Morgan and Ruth Jones

Saturday Evening Open Pairs

- 1A Vidi Vaidhyanathan and Wilson McClaren
 2A Chris Urbanek and John Toy
 3A/1B Mike Ryan and Paul Orosz
 4A Buddy Seidenberg and Jim Mathis
 5A/2B Joe Branconi and Brian Meyer
 6A Elaine Kurasiewicz and Barry Passer
 3B Dorothy Boyd and Christy Kellogg
 4/5B Donna Steffan and Jeanne Gladysz
 4/5B Florence Notto and Jean Considine
 6B Nora Branconi and Cathy Bentzel
 1C Bill and Peter Schneidau
 3C Nancy Torrell and Janet Frisch

Sunday Flight A Swiss

- 1 Gerry Fried, Bert Hargesheimer, Mark Pascale and John Kilmer
 2 Joel Wooldridge, Joe Branconi, Brian Meyer and Tom Donnelly
 3 Chris Urbanek, Bev Cohen, Buddy Seidenberg and Jim Mathis

Sunday B/C/D Swiss

- 1B Gerri Krawitz, Dot Brenner, Betty Bronstein and Claire Garelick
 2B Mike Ryan, Paul Orosz, Donna Steffan and Judy Graf
 3B John Bielinski, Kathy Pollock, Don Cameron and Marge Schomers
 4B Dorothy Boyd, Christy Kellogg, Maty Jo Crone and Bob Feasley
 5/6B Adam Dzimian, Norma Gelose, Bernie and Dick Czarnecki
 1C Phyllis Wilkinson, Pinky Regan, Georgia Kells and Mary Davey-Carr
 2C Bonnie Bryar, Bill Elgar, Shirley Lyth and Joyce Kindt
 1D Janet Frisch, Nancy Torrell, Janet Morgan and Ruth Jones

Section Top: MaryAnn Ludwiczak

Presque Isle Sectional

Friday Afternoon Stratified Open Pairs

1A/1B/1C Ed and Liz Harman

Friday Evening Stratified Open Pairs

1A/1B/1C Ed and Liz Harman

3A/2B/2C Don and Miriam Regnet

Stratified Swiss Teams

1A Bert Hargesheimer, Misha Tomic, P. Young, V. Moody and S. Fairchild

St. Catharines Sectional

Friday Afternoon Open Pairs

- 4A Jay Levy and Saleh Fetouh
- 6/7A/1B/1C Eleanor Whalen and Nan Denn

Women's Pairs

- 3A Donna Steffan and Judy Graf

Flight A Pairs

- 3 John Kilmer and Gerry Fried
- 6 Brian Meyer and Paul Thurston

Saturday Afternoon Side Game

- 3/4A3/4B2/3C Eleanor Whalen and Nan Denn
- 5A/5B Nita Ferrell and Frank Schlehr

Section Tops by those not already mentioned in the overalls: Suraj Jain, Walter Majewski, Bill Reiker, Peg Reiker

Pittsburgh Regional

Saturday Stratified Pairs

- 3 Brian Meyer and Joe Branconi

Saturday Evening Continuous Pairs

- 2A Phyllis Post and Pat Rasmus
- 6A Christy Kellogg and Walter Majewski
- 5B Brian Mampe and Gerry Geiger

Saturday Evening 199er Pairs

- 5A/3B Doanne Jackson and Parmalier Murphy

AM Knockouts - Bracket 2

- 3/4 Paul Orosz, Mike Ryan, Betty Bronstein and Nora Branconi

Bracketed Knockouts - Bracket 1

- 3/4 Jerry Geiger, Phyllis Post, Brian Mampe and Terry Jacobs

Saturday Charity Knockouts

- Brian Meyer, Nancy and Lan Adair, Chad Krause and Phillip Becker

Section Tops by those not already mentioned in the overalls: Juanita Birdsong and Juanita Tillmon

Hilton Head, SC Regional

Monday Evening Charity Pairs

- 4/5C Ed and Liz Harman

Tuesday Open Pairs

- 4C Ed and Liz Harman

Wednesday Afternoon Palmetto Continuous Pairs

- 6B Dot and Ed Rupp

Wednesday Evening Continuous Pairs

- 2A/1B Sue Bergman and Art Morth
- 3A/2B Don Heisler and Cliff Kaylor

Wednesday Eve Bracketed Pairs - High Bracket

- 2A/1B Ed and Liz Harman

Internal Board-a-Match Teams - Eve Bracket

- 1 Ed and Liz Harman, B. Dun and Laura Jones

Thursday Afternoon Continuous Pairs

- 5/6B Sue Bergman and Art Morth

Friday Evening Continuous Pairs

- 3/4A2/3B Sue Bergman and Art Morth

CLUB NOTES

The Bridge Centre

The Bridge Centre (685-4124) announced their special games for March and April:

- Winners Game** Sun., 3/12, 7:00 p.m.
- ACBL-wide Charity Game** Wed., 3/15, 7:30 p.m.
- Club Championship** Mon., 3/20, 11:30a.m.
- Unit Swiss Teams** Sun., 3/26, 1:30 p.m.
- Winners Game** Sun., 4/2, 7:00 p.m.
- Unit 116 Sectional** Fri.-Sun., 4/7-4/9

Also, back due to popular demand, Tuesday nights in March are \$4 for members and \$5 for non-members. Hand records will be available.

Buffalo Whist Club

The Buffalo Whist Club has announced their upcoming special games: (Sharon Benz 838-3654)

- Club Championship** Mon., 3/27, 7:30 p.m.

Lockport Duplicate

Marge Schomers (434-8635) quipped during the Unit Board Meeting in January that attendance at her Saturday game had been down a little lately due to the 3 F's. (Flu, Florida, and Football) We're certain the club has recovered from one of the F's and hope the other two are now over too!

WELCOME

to the following new members of Unit 116:

- Frank Ernst** **Elmer Jolley**
- Helen Nieman** **Nancy Pursley**
- Judy St. Arnold** **Claire Schlum**

**Joel Wooldridge is #139
on Barry Crane Top 500**

Our sincere congratulations go out to Joel Wooldridge on achieving Top 500 status again in 1999. Joel has made the list every year since 1996. We expect to see his name on the list for many more years to come!



**1999
Ace of Clubs
Winners**



Rookie of the Year

- 1. Pat Rogers 11.61 mp
- 2. Gillis Watson 7.76
- 3. Guy Puccio 6.31

Junior Master of the Year

- 1. Cliff Vogelsang 23.70
- 2. Brian Mampe 16.81
- 3. Henry Chudy 12.53

Club Master of the Year

- 1. Marilyn Brunner 41.13
- 2. Paula Weiser 31.02
- 3. Hugh Hanley 25.23

Sectional Master of the Year

- 1. Misha Tomic 49.36
- 2. Eva Schmidt 48.73
- 3. Donna Steffan 44.07

Regional Master of the Year

- 1. Gisela Browne 37.46
- 2. Ruth Hnath 34.76
- 3. Val Chodorow 34.36

NABC Master of the Year

- 1. Maria Winkler 47.87
- 2. Jeanne Gladysz 44.64
- 3. Shirley Lyth 38.36

Life Master of the Year

- 1. Cliff Kaylor 48.24
- 2. Marge Schomers 37.57
- 3. Claire Gareleck 37.12

Bronze Life Master of the Year

- 1. George Bills 92.16
- 2. Judy Graf 74.77
- 3. Bill Bascom 65.64

Silver Life Master of the Year

- 1. Trudy Manaher 99.25
- 2. Doreen Scott 93.64
- 3. Bert Hargesheimer 90.75

Gold Life Master

- 1. Meg Klamp 161.75
- 2. Gerry Fried 72.94
- 3. Bev Cohen 66.87

Diamond Life Master

- 1. Jim Mathis 102.94
- 2. Dan Gerstman 5.03



**1999
Mini-McKenney
Winners**



Rookie of the Year

- 1. Pat Rogers 14.10 mp
- 2. Gillis Watson 10.04
- 3. Guy Puccio 9.50

Junior Master of the Year

- 1. Brian Mampe 34.15
- 2. Cliff Vogelsang 25.41
- 3. Henry Chudy 21.49

Club Master of the Year

- 1. Marilyn Brunner 52.27
- 2. Paula Weiser 38.85
- 3. Hugh Hanley 30.68

Sectional Master of the Year

- 1. Donna Steffan 124.47
- 2. Misha Tomic 121.45
- 3. Eva Schmidt 61.48

Regional Master of the Year

- 1. Jacquie Solomon 55.81
- 2. Gisela Browne 55.22
- 3. Don Regnet 49.57

NABC Master of the Year

- 1. Shirley Lyth 87.67
- 2. Jeanne Gladysz 85.52
- 3. Lorraine Ciavatta 53.67

Life Master of the Year

- 1. Mike Ryan 156.54
- 2. Paul Orosz 133.59
- 3. Jim Reineck 89.46

Bronze Life Master of the Year

- 1. Brian Meyer 272.15
- 2. Jerry Geiger 166.21
- 3. Joe Branconi 143.65

Silver Life Master of the Year

- 1. Debbie Drury 260.38
- 2. Bert Hargesheimer 219.88
- 3. Doreen Scott 175.05

Gold Life Master

- 1. Joel Wooldridge 617.96
- 2. Meg Klamp 319.29
- 3. John Kilmer 220.05

Diamond Life Master

- 1. Jim Mathis 246.75
- 2. John Toy 96.66
- 3. Dan Gerstman 79.67

The STOP Card

By Brian Meyer

There is much confusion regarding the STOP card and its implications. I hope to clear that up in this article. While the use of the STOP card is not mandatory, players should protect their own and their opponents' rights by using it. The card is used to announce, prior to making your bid, that your bid will be skipping one or more levels. The card should be used all of the time -or- none of the time. However, not using the card may not protect your rights in an appeals situation.

The proper use of the card is as follows:

- Place the stop card on the table so that your left hand opponent can see it. (The skip-bidder is responsible for LHO's attention.)
- Place your skip-bid on the table and replace the STOP card. If you forget to replace the STOP card there is no penalty.
- LHO must wait for about 10 seconds before bidding. (LHO should at least appear to be thinking about their next bid during this time.)

What if your opponent chooses not to use (or forgets to use) the STOP card. Must you still wait 10 seconds? Absolutely! The failure to use a STOP card does not mean it's okay to bid without pausing. It is each player's responsibility to maintain the appropriate tempo with or without a skip-bid warning.

Is it proper to pause even if the auction is "known" to be over (as in 1NT-Pass-3NT)? Yes! Pause each time there is a skip-bid and you will have issues whether or not you conveyed unauthorized information.

Don't be surprised if more people call the director now that you have been warned about pausing after a skip-bid. What is right, is right. Even first time partnerships can work out what a break in tempo is, whether it's bidding too fast or too slow.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact me by phone or e-mail and I will be happy to answer them.

Doodads

By Bill Elgar

My Favorite Partner and I play lots of "doodads" in response to a 1NT opener. In fact, all of our responses are artificial. In addition to a "stolen bid double" over interference and Stayman, we use four-suit transfers at the two level and "mini-maxi" at the three level.

Mini-maxi responses are designed to show a responder's hand that contain two suits of at least five cards. Over a 1NT opener:

- 3♣ shows 5-5 distribution in the minors and a weak hand, generally less than 7 HCPs.
- 3♦ shows 5-5 distribution in the minors and a stronger hand, one that would have opened in the first or second chair.
- 3♥ promises 5-5 distribution in the majors and a weak hand.*
- 3♠ promises 5-5 in the majors and a strong hand.

These bids do not come up often, but when they do, mini-maxi describes an odd hand perfectly with one bid. Let's see how this works:

Dealer South, North-South vulnerable

North	South
♠ Q J 10 9 8 7	♠ A K 2
♥ 8 7 4 3 2	♥ J 5
♦ 10 9	♦ A K 7 5 4
♣ void	♣ J 8 4

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3♥ ^{Alert}	Pass
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
<small>^{Alert} 5-5 in the majors, weak hand</small>			

In this case, the 3♥ bid made the 1NT opener the captain, since South knows what to expect from the North hand. Think of the defensive possibilities if the opponents were foolish enough to enter the auction. North's most likely hand pattern is 5-5-2-1. Hmm... South should think about doubling anything that the opponents bid at the next level for penalty. And, if the opponents don't bid, you have the satisfaction of having reached a partial that has a chance of making.

* *Ed.*- Many players reserve this bid for 5-5 in the majors, invitational. A Jacoby transfer to hearts, then a bid of two spades would show the weak two-suited major hand.

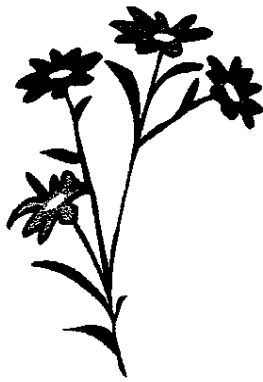
Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

My first experience as a member of the Board was a very rewarding one. Everyone was so positive and really seemed to enjoy themselves, myself included. We had ten tables in the 299er's on Friday afternoon and eight on Saturday afternoon, a great improvement.

Thank you to all who helped and remember the Unit Swiss team game on Sunday, March 26.

Faith Perry



**Tom Wolstoncroft Memorial
Buffalo Sectional**

April 7 - 9

The Bridge Centre

2371 George Urban Blvd.
Depew, NY

Friday, April 7

Stratified Open Pairs
Stratified 299er Pairs

- single sessions -

1:00 PM 7:00 PM

Saturday, April 8

Stratified Open Pairs
Stratified 299er Pairs

- single sessions -

11:00 AM 3:30 PM

Sunday, April 9

Strati-flighted Swiss Teams
- playthrough -

11:00 AM start

Sandwiches and drinks available for purchase

Chairperson:

Bill Rushmore 834-0045 (days)
839-1235 (eves)

Partnerships:

Paul Orosz 733-8106 (days)
691-6207 (eves)

Entry Fees:

\$7.00 US

(or \$7 Canadian for Canadian players)

Hospitality:

Daily!

A Nonsmoking Tournament

Tournament Trail

March 26	Unit Swiss Team Game
March 24-26	Rochester Spring Sectional
March 31-April 2	Titusville, PA Sectional
April 7-9	Buffalo Sectional
April 17-23	Toronto Easter Regional
April 29-30	Finger Lakes Sectional
May 11	International Fund Game #2
May 23-29	Independence, OH Regional