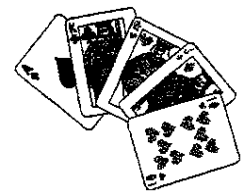


♠♥The Bridge Buff♦♣



September/October 1999

A Publication of Unit 116, Buffalo, New York

Kathy Pollock, Editor

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President's Corner

By Jay Levy

Just a few random thoughts as I wonder whether anybody else liked to play Board-a-Match games...

- ❖ Congratulations to our two participants in the World Junior Championships - Joel Wooldridge (whose team placed 2nd overall) and Brian Meyer.
- ❖ The consensus was that the Unit Summer Social was a huge success. Thanks to Betty Bronstein and all those who helped her.
- ❖ Donna Steffan is first and Joe Branconi is third currently in their respective categories of the District 5 Masterpoint Race (includes all points earned at District 5 Regionals and Sectionals).
- ❖ On Sunday, November 7, the Unit will be having a Member-Guest Unit Game at the Bridge Centre at 6:30 PM. This is a great opportunity to introduce a friend of yours to duplicate bridge. Call me with any questions at 849-2048 or Jlevy@pclient.ml.com.

1999 Anne McGilvrey Award

Tom Wolstoncroft (posthumously) and Roni Gitchel of Pittsburgh were jointly awarded the District's 1999 Anne McGilvrey Award. This award serves to honor players who exemplify the highest standards of sportsmanship and ethical behavior at the bridge table. The Pittsburgh *PostMortem*, Unit 142's newsletter, states, "Tom ... was a highly respected and well liked director from the Buffalo area. A welcome addition to our tournaments, Tom was charming and had the ability to make all the players feel comfortable..."

Past Unit award winners have been Alice Lind (1998), and Jim Mathis and Bob Freedman (jointly).

Unit Summer Social Results

Stratified Open Pairs

- 1A Jay Levy and Walter Majewski
- 2A/1B/1C Donna Steffan and Shirley Lyth
- 3A/2B Kathy Pollock and Bill Rushmore
- 4A/3B Dorothy Boyd and Phyllis Post
- 5A Sue Bergman and Art Morth
- 6A/4B/2C Irene Seefeldt and Marge Schomers
- 5B Claire Gareleck and Dot Brenner
- 6B/3C Anne and Mary O'Connor
- 4C Shoshana Perlmutter and Eva Schmidt
- 5C Lorraine Ciavatta and Jeanne Gladysz

Stratified 299er Pairs

- 1A Anne Bartels and Bob Noe
- 2A Beverly Norton and Connie Swick
- 3A Ed and Liz Harman
- 4A Rita Pawelczyk and Faith Perry
- 5A Fran Kurtz and Bruce Bronstein
- 1B Ron and Edna Fill
- 2B Art English and Clyde Murphy

Stratified Open Swiss Teams

- 1A Bill Rushmore, Kathy Pollock, Art Morth and Sue Bergman
- 2A/1B Donna Steffan, Shirley Lyth, Jeanne Gladysz and Lorraine Ciavatta
- 3A Walter Majewski, Pat Rasmus, Jay Levy and Cathy Bentzel
- 4A Vince Pesce, Bob Anderson, Cliff Kaylor and Jim Scott
- 5A Bob Olin, Alice Lind, Bette Ostolski and Trudy Manaher
- 2B Florence Notto, Jean Considine, Joyce Kindt and Dot Grosicki
- 3/4B Adam Dzimian, Norma Gelose, Lee Gordon and Willard Sancrainte
- 3/4B Mary Pat Cerrone, Marge Schomers, Irene Seefeldt and Teresa Fraas

Stratified 299er Swiss Teams

- 1 Doanne and Suzanne Jackson, Thelma Daughtry and Juanita Tillman
- 2 Faith Perry, Rita Pawelczyk, Paula Weiser and Anna Wallens

Results of July Unit Swiss

- 1A Walter Majewski, Joan Rose, Jim Mathis and Gerry Fried
- 2A Mike Ryan, Jerry Geiger, Jim Reineck and Warren O'Connell
- 3A/1B Betty Murphy, Janice Butler, Barbara Multerer and Mary Ellen Mulhern
- 4/5A Phyllis Post, Dorothy Boyd, Brian Mampe, Brian Meyer and Mark Pascale
- 4/5A Vidi Vaidhyanathan, Bob Feasley, Rosemary Richert and Ann Edwards
- 2B Emily Gilbert, Bill Schneidau, Chester Fell and Alice Szmanda

WELCOME

to the following new members of Unit 116:

Alberta Brown	Virginia Campbell
Rose Crosson	John Lanier
Corinne Militello	Mary Stegmeier
Patricia Yagle	

NEW LIFE MASTER

Anne Watkins earned the last gold points she needed to go over the top at the last two Regionals she attended, playing with a pickup partner in Illini, IL in May and with Dot Brenner at the Buffalo Regional in July. Congratulations Anne!

ACBL-Wide Charity Game

Jim Mathis and Claire Chodorow came in 1st in District 5 with a 68.15% game during the ACBL Charity Game held in March. The ACBL and its Canadian counterpart raised \$15,598 during the 1,943 table event.

ACBL Millennium Instant Matchpoint Game

Doreen Scott and Vidi Vaidhyanathan were the East-West leaders District-wide during the Saturday Millennium Games held during June with a score of 1515.

In Remembrance of

The members of Unit 116 wish to express their condolences to the friends and family of Maggie Cran who passed away recently.



Unit 116

Award Race

Masterpoints earned as of
9/1/99 at Unit Games or Sectionals

1000+ Points

1	John Kilmer	39.93
2	Chris Urbanek	35.91
3	Jay Levy	35.27

300-999 Points

1	Suraj Jain	31.28
2	Bill Rushmore	29.14
3	Bill Bascom	23.23

20-299 Points

1	Donna Steffan	21.81
2	Jeanne Gladysz	13.17
3	Lorraine Ciavatta	11.71

0-19 Points

1	Brian Mampe	3.37
2	Joan Crane	1.70
3	Anne Licata	1.28

World Junior Pairs & Bridge Camp

The 3rd Annual Junior Pairs & Camp was held in Nymburk in the Czech Republic during July. It is open to players 25 years old and younger and there is no limit on the number of pairs from any country.

Transnational pairs are allowed and in such a pair Buffalo's Joel Wooldridge was a contender. Playing with Josh Heller of Canada, Joel and Josh came in first overall in the Youth (under 20 years old) category and 7th overall in the Junior category. Congratulations Joel!

World Junior Bridge Team Championship

Sixteen teams from all zones of the World Bridge Federation duked it out in Fort Lauderdale during August to determine the World Junior Bridge victors. All players had to be 25 years old or less and Buffalo was extremely fortunate to have two local players on the two USA teams.

Joel Wooldridge and teammates on U.S. II, Tom Carmichael, Chris Carmichael, Eric Greco, David Wiegand and Chris Willenken, wrapped up second place losing to the Italian team. Brian Meyer, a member of U.S. I with teammates Kevin Bathurst Alan Epley, John Hurd, Michael Kitces and Lisa Kow also represented the United States in the World Championships.

Unit Board Elections

The slate of candidates for election in December for a three year term on the board are:

Saleh Fetouh	Terri Fraas
Judy Graf	Joyce Kindt
Jay Levy	Faith Perry
Mary Ellen State	

Additional nominations may be made by the membership and submitted to the nominating committee sixty days prior to the annual meeting. Such nominations must be in writing and signed by at least twenty-five members in good standing.

Candidates will be requested to submit a personal statement to *The Bridge Buff* for inclusion in the November/December issue.

San Antonio Summer Nationals

Charity Knockouts - Bracket 2

3/4 Brian Meyer, Jade Barrett, Anne Hoffman, Michael Kitces and John Hurd

Knockouts II - Bracket 2

1 Joel Wooldridge, Lou Reich, Marc Umeno, and Jeff Roman

Unit 174 Flight A/X Pairs

1A Alan Greer and Peter Mallela

Joan Long Memorial Pairs

4A Debbie Drury and Michael Edwards

Jackpot Pairs

1A Alan Greer and Peter Mallela

Monday Open Pairs

A John Toy and Kirk Kuhlman

Monday AM Continuous/Side Pairs

4A Debbie Drury and Shirley Seals

NABC IMP Pairs

5 Joel Wooldridge and Tom Carmichael

NABC+ Mixed B-A-M Teams

30 John Toy, Jan George, Barb Clinton, and Vince Oddy

Fast Pairs

3A Alan Greer and Peter Mallela

William Marcus A/X Swiss Teams

13A Joel Wooldridge, Tom Carmichael, James Murphy and Ed Lewis

Midnight Zip Knockouts Bracket 2

1 Joel Wooldridge, Donald Brown, Eileen Perrin, Jade Barrett, Anne Hoffman and Meredita Beck

Seven Cities Sectional

Saturday Stratified Open Pairs

6A/2B Joe Branconi and Brian Meyer

Greer and Mallela are Tops in Jackpot Pairs at San Antonio

Winning the Jackpot Pairs was a pocket winning experience for Alan Greer of Buffalo and Peter Mallela of Dekalb, IL. For the extra \$23 each that they put up for the entry fee in Flight A, they collected \$873 each.

The payoff for second place was excellent -- Robert Levin of Windemere, FL and Michael Seamon of Miami Beach each received \$654.50.

This article was originally published in the Daily Bulletin from the San Antonio Nationals. It is also found on the Web through the ACBL home page at www.acbl.org.

Syracuse Summer Regional

Wednesday Open Pairs

4A Judy Marshall and Gini Garrell

4C Brian Mampe and Doug Couchman

Wednesday Stratified Senior Pairs

1A Doreen Scott and Debbie Drury

Open Swiss Teams

4A Jay Levy, Jim Mathis, Buddy Seidenberg and John Kilmer

2B Bob Feasley, Jim Scott, Donna Steffan and Judy Graf

Friday Afternoon Continuous Pairs

5A/2B/1C Donna Steffan and Shirley Lyth

Friday Stratified Pairs

1A Meg Klamp and Joan Rose

3A John Kilmer and Jim Mathis

5A Chris Urbanek and Buddy Seidenberg

6A Don Heisler and Sharon Benz

1B Suraj Jain and Saleh Fetouh

Friday Senior Pairs

5B Jim Scott and Bob Feasley

Saturday Afternoon Continuous Pairs

1A/1B Judy Graf and Diane Martini

3A/2B/1C Donna Steffan and Shirley Lyth

Flight A/X Pairs

2A John Kilmer and Bert Hargesheimer

8A/2X Suraj Jain and Saleh Fetouh

5X Don Heisler and Sharon Benz

Saturday Evening Continuous Pairs

5A/2B Judy Graf and Diane Martini

Flight B/C Pairs

6B Paul Orosz and Mike Ryan

Flight A/X Swiss Teams

4X Saleh Fetouh, Sharon Benz, Don Heisler and Suraj Jain

Continuous Pairs II

6/7 Judy Graf

Local Club News

The Bridge Centre

Bert Hargseheimer has announced several important games at the Bridge Centre. Please note that Monday nights are now intermediate games.

North American Thursdays in September 49er Pairs at 7:30 PM

Open to ACBL members with masterpoints below 50. The highest percentage District-wide is eligible for first place prize of \$400 script per pair. Second place earns \$200 script per pair. Edith Knaszak and Janice O'Mara placed 2nd in 1998 as did Faith Perry and Ed Borosky in 1996. It could be you!

Instant Wednesday, September 15 Matchpoint Game at 7:30 PM

This is the 13th year for this event. The top pair in each direction earns 1 Gold Point each and the overall ACBL-wide winners will win a free trip to a National during 2000. Hand records and analysis by expert Richard Pavlicek will be available.

That Old Time Friday Evenings Feeling at 7:30 PM

On nights with at least 6 tables, there will be hand records and refreshments to follow the game (beer, wine) to try to recapture those Friday nights of yore where everyone sat around after the game and discussed the evening's hands. (Where is Jacques when you need him?)

Bridge Chats Friday Mornings with Jeanette at 10:30 AM

Local expert Jeanette Michienzi will be available at 10:30 AM until the start of the 11:30 AM game to discuss the evolution of bridge. Bridge, as we know it, became popular in the 1920's. Jeanette discusses how the game changed from there to where the game is now and in what direction the game is going.

The Bridge Centre can be reached at 685-4124 with any questions.

Buffalo Whist Club

The Whist Club has announced several Special Games for September and October. The games are held on Monday Evenings at 7:30 at the Zion Church, 15 Koenig Circle, in the Town of Tonawanda.

September 13 Apples and Awards

October 11 Charity Game
(to benefit a local charity)

October 18 Haunts and Taunts

If you have any questions please call Sharon Benz at 838-3654.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I have heard many complaints about the recent Unit 116 Summer Social. I thought it was a fine event. The volunteers for all events should be praised for their hard work.

Faith Perry

Dear Editor,

Those of you who were present at the Unit Summer Social on Sunday, August 22, will surely agree that it was a well run affair with wonderful attention to detail. It certainly was a good value for all of us. Those of you who complained should consider being chairperson next year.

Claire Gareleck

Dear Editor,

Many thanks to those who supported, helped, and attended the Unit Summer Social. You should take pleasure in the parts you played for the success of the day.

Betty Bronstein

Dear Editor,

Recently we were dealt these hands:

North	South
♠ A x	♠ K x x x x
♥ J x x x x	♥ void
♦ Q J 10 x x	♦ A K x x x x x
♣ A	♣ x

The bidding went:

North	East	South	West
1♥	Pass	2♦	3♣
4♦	Pass	6♦*	Pass
Pass	Pass		

* Long hesitation, think, think, think

Is there a bridge maven out there who can tell me how to get to the optimum contract of 7♦?

Louise Mink

The Alert Procedure - Part I

By Brian Meyer

"Alert!"

How many times have you heard that and realized, "Oops! What is my partner doing to me?"

In fact, you are not entitled to that information. As far as you are concerned, you may not hear the alert, even though you can, in actuality, hear it.

Example 1: The auction proceeds:

You	LHO	Partner	RHO
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦*			

* Alerted by partner as reverse Drury which describes your hand as containing four or more spades and 9-11 or 10-12 points in support of spades.

The auction continues:

Pass	4♠	Pass
------	----	------

?

Your hand is:

♠x ♥Kxx ♦AJ10xxx ♣Qxx

What options do you have? None! You must pass! You must bid as though you did not hear your partner's alert. Wouldn't you have been happy to table this hand, given the bidding, if there were no alert? Of course you would!

Example 2: You sit down with a new partner and she opens 1NT. You bid 2♦ and partner says, "Transfer". Oops! You hold:

♠xx ♥xx ♦AJxxxx ♣xxx

When partner bids 2♥, how many of you would now bid 3♦? The point is, YOU are not entitled to that information. Suppose partner holds:

♠Qx ♥AQJxx ♦Qxx ♣KQx

Two hearts is as likely to make as two diamonds. You are not allowed to correct to a contract because you heard your partner alert your bid. Alerts are for the opponents' benefit, not yours!

The two examples above have both occurred at the Bridge Centre during this calendar year. In the first example, a good player bid 5♦. This is totally incorrect and not allowable. In the second example, a relative novice bid 3♦ hoping to buy the contract there. Again incorrect and not allowed.

It is easy to understand that sometimes we do not understand the laws and get it wrong. That's OK, but from now on consider yourself armed with new knowledge so that you won't take unauthorized information from your partner's alert!

Unit Halfway Mark (as of 7/21/99)

Ace of Clubs

Rookie

Gillis Watson 4.5 mp

Junior Master

Cliff Volgelsang 15.4

Club Master

Richard Montesanti 25.3

Sectional Master

Misha Tomic 27.0

Regional Master

Val Chodorow 15.9

NABC Master

Maria Winkler 28.5

Life Master

Dot Rupp 18.5

Bronze Life Master

George Bills 35.0

Silver Life Master

Bert Hargesheimer 58.4

Gold Life Master

Meg Klamp 93.6

Diamond Life Master

Jim Mathis 39.7

Mini-McKenney

Rookie

Gillis Watson 6.7 mp

Junior Master

Brad Mampe 26.7

Club Master

Richard Montesanti 38.1

Sectional Master

Misha Tomic 60.5

Regional Master

Gisela Browne 26.4

NABC Master

Shirley Lyth 45.3

Life Master

Mike Ryan 92.7

Bronze Life Master

Brian Meyer 140.7

Silver Life Master

Bert Hargesheimer 137.3

Gold Life Master

Joel Wooldridge 380.5

Diamond Life Master

Jim Mathis 109.2

The History of Swiss Teams

Did you ever wonder why they call team games "Swiss" teams? Marc Low, the inventor, while playing and reminiscing recently at the San Antonio Nationals, got the idea from chess. In the chess Swiss movement, winners play winners and losers play losers because there isn't enough time for everyone to play everybody. He couldn't see why the same concept wouldn't work in bridge. Instead of playing a full session of two or three board matches as in board-a-match contests, play longer matches and score them on IMPs. In the next round winners would play winners and losers would play losers. Subsequent pairings would put together teams with comparable records. This way the cream would slowly move to the top. ACBL let Marc try it once at a Cincinnati Sectional about thirty years ago. The new game was an instant success. They liked the longer matches and the win-loss concept. The first time Swiss Teams was tried on the regional level, 98 teams signed up - more than double the number that were usually played in a board-a-match event. Swiss Teams were on their way.

Taken in part from the July 28, 1999 San Antonio National Daily Bulletin.



October

Charity Unit Game

Saturday, October 23
7:30 PM
at the Bridge Centre

to benefit the
Autism Society of America



November

Member-Guest Unit Game

Sunday, November 7
6:30 PM
at the Bridge Centre

The intent of this Unit Game is to expose bridge players who are not ACBL members duplicate bridge. Call your friends who play social bridge and bring them to the game. Keep your eye out for fliers with more information!

Margaret McCarthy Sectional

September 24 - 26
The Bridge Centre

Friday: Stratified Open Pairs
 Stratified 299er Pairs
 1:00 PM 7:00 PM

Saturday: Stratified Open Pairs
 Stratified 299er Pairs
 11:00 AM 3:30 PM

Sunday: Stratified Open Swiss
 Stratified 299er Swiss
 11:00 playthrough

Tournament Co-Chairs:

Curt Hallis 675-5680
 Brian Meyer 835-5480

Tournament Calendar

September

Wed., 15 Instant Matchpoint Game
 Fri.-Sun., 24-26 Buffalo Sectional

October

Fri.-Sun., 1-3 Pittsburgh Sectional
 Fri.-Sun., 1-3 Presque Isle Sectional
 Fri.-Sun., 8-10 Binghamton Sectional
 Fri.-Sun., 15-17 Rochester Sectional
 Sat., 23 Unit Game, 7:30 PM
 Tues.-Sun., 26-31 Niagara Falls, ON Regional

November

Sun., 7 Unit Game, 6:30 PM
 Sat.-Sun., 13-14 District 5 NAOP Finals
 Thurs.-Sun., 18-28 Boston Fall National
 Mon., 22 ACBL-wide Charity Game