



Bridge Buff



Volume 1 No. 1 January/February 2006

A Publication of Unit 116, Buffalo, New York

Dick and Bernie Czarnecki, Editors
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President's Report

"Thank you....."

The best news of 2005-**The Bridge Buff is back!!!**" A huge thank you to **Bernie and Dick Czarnecki** for graciously agreeing to accept the editorship of the Bridge Buff. Czarnecki's have been members of Unit 116 for many years, are familiar with novice, intermediate and advanced players, have volunteered service to the unit on many occasions and offered to do the Buff-twice!!

Some of our successes in 2005 were the well-attended April sectional at the Sonoma Grill chaired by **John Toy** and assisted by tournament coordinator **Bill Finkelstein**. Thank you to **Paul Libby**, sites chair for finding the perfect central location. The most popular unit games were the ProAm chaired by **Allen Beroza, Judy Graf** and **Sharon Benz**, the summer party chaired by **John Toy** and **Allen Beroza** and our Annual Meeting game chaired by **Judy Graf** and **Allen Beroza**. Luckily, Allen, Judy and John will still be on the Board in 2006!!

We say good-bye and thank you to Board Members, **Paul Libby, Eric Phifer** and myself who completed their terms this year. Although not retiring, I would like to thank the other officers for their hard work and support this year – **Paul Libby**, vice-president, **Carl Stone** – treasurer and **Elaine Universal**-secretary.

Thank you to ALL the members that volunteered service to Unit 116 in 2005. Please know that we appreciate your help immensely-taking down tables, serving food, putting bidding boxes away, working on committees, assisting with elections and attending unit functions. Special thanks to our Membership Chair, **Eric Shreiber**, who resigned at the end of the year. As you might recall, Eric gave great detailed reports and offered numerous suggestions for changes based on ACBL statistics.

The Board is currently planning Sectionals and events for 2006. We always need help finding sites

that are centrally located, reasonably priced and large enough for a tournament. If you have ideas, please let a Board member know and they will check out the site. We welcome ALL input from members. When meeting notices are sent to clubs, just call the Unit Secretary 10 days in advance to get put on the Agenda.

Congratulations to the new members on the Board- **Cleveland Fleming, Dick Czarnecki, Brian Meyer, Mike Kiesel** and **Alex Miller** and best wishes for a successful year. Please try to attend Unit events in 2006. They are great places to meet people who play at other clubs and also help you improve your game by playing against people of all abilities!!

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!.....

Sharon Benz,
Retiring President

2006 Unit 116 Board of Directors

Beroza, Allen	689-8769	aberoza@hotmail.com
Czarnecki, Dick	731-1707	dickczarnecki@aol.com
Danielson, J. Luke	632-5309	sluke@adelphia.net
Finkelstein, Bill	836-7016	billfink1234@hotmail.com
Fleming, Cleveland	882-1744	
Graf, Judy	741-3815	boach@juno.com
Kiesel, Mike	692-3474	mkiesel@buffalo.com
Meyer, Brian	681-5781	TYRRHENIA@yahoo.com
Miller, Alex	439-0244	oldsister@verizon.net
Stone, Carl	692-6929	chstone@adelphia.net
Toy, John	885-5364	johntoy@msn.com
Universal, Elaine	947-5122	eunivers@bluefrog.com

It is with regret that the Bridge Buff must report the resignation of **Carl Stone** as Director of Unit 116 as of December 31st. 2005. Carl filled the positions of Treasurer and Supplies Chairman. He will continue in these positions until suitable replacements can be recruited. His talents will be missed.



December 12th Annual Holiday
Game Meeting and Game Results

Open Game:

Section 1:

A & B	N/S	Michael Ryan & Robert Feasley	62.73%
C	N/S	Rita Sierocinski & Fran Kurtz	52.09%
A	E/W	Saleh Fetouh & Randolph Seidenberg, Jr.	59.49%
B	E/W	Warren O'Connell, Jr. & John Ziemer	52.78%
C	E/W	Mary O'Connor & Anne O'Connor	40.28%

Section 2:

A & B	N/S	Dorothy Brenner & Nita Ferrell	54.86%
C	N/S	Janet Frisch & Elizabeth Lawrence	51.16%
A	E/W	John Toy & Dan Gerstman	72.92%
B	E/W	Paul & Barbara Libby	54.17%
C	E/W	Lavern & Joan Lewis	48.84%

499er Section:

A	N/S	Judy & Robert Padgug	63.39%
B & C	N/S	Ruth Kozower & Judy Kaprove	56.85%
A, B & C	E/W	James & Paula Jones	70.54%

At the Holiday Party for Unit 116 twenty-seven tables enjoyed bridge followed by an excellent turkey dinner. **John Toy** and **Danny Gerstman** were overall winners with a 73% game.

During the business meeting a change to the by-laws prepared by **Bill Finkelstein** received the necessary 2/3 votes of the members present to become a new by-law. The new by-law now reads:

“Vacancies- Any vacancy on the Board of Directors may be filled by the Board of Directors by an affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the Board plus one. The person so chosen shall hold office until the next election of Directors, at which time the vacancy shall be filled by vote of the Unit membership. If a vacancy occurs after the nominating committee has prepared the slate of candidates, the vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the original unexpired term by the candidate who receives the largest number of votes

among those candidates that are not elected for a full term.”

A change to the by-laws proposed by **Don Heisler** did not receive the necessary 2/3 votes to pass.

A motion made by **John Toy** to have a second general unit meeting during the annual picnic or summer event was also passed.

Treasurer's comments by **Carl Stone**:

The Board has taken steps to reduce costs. The major one is to use the Wheatfield Senior Center whenever possible. We have paid between \$150 - \$300 a day for other facilities. This site has averaged \$37.50 per day. Another step was to change our cartage and storage, reducing costs from \$200 per event to \$120 per event. Not having an installation dinner and not paying the Secretary or Treasurer for their efforts achieved other savings. I am QUITE pleased to note that we did spend some money ... on new playing cards.

It was brought to the membership's attention that **Carl Stone's** report was on cash basis and **Bill Finkelstein's** report was on an accrual basis.

The following Unit 116 members recently passed away:

- Earl Althoff**
- Julie Fisher**
- Marianne Rindfleisch**
- George Bills**

The following members have achieved credential promotions:

- Life Masters**
- Fran Kurtz**
- Judy Padgug**
- John Ricotta**
- Roseann Stokolosa**
- Mike Weber**

- Bronze Life Masters**
- Allen Beroza**
- Brian Universal**
- Elaine Universal**
- Delores Warmuz**

- Silver Life Masters**
- Bernice Baker**
- George Bills**
- Pat Burns**
- Vince Pesce**
- Kathy Pollock**
- Anne Watkins**

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Gold Life Masters

**Jerry Geiger
Judy Marshall
Pow Wooldridge**

Diamond Life Masters

Meg Klamp



The following people who ran successfully for the Unit Board have offered these comments:

Cleveland Fleming – I am enthralled, happy, surprised and grateful. I am hoping to do something good for the game in Buffalo. Any comments please call 882-1744.

Dick Czarnecki – Thanks for all who voted for me. I appreciate your confidence in me. Contact me at dickczarnecki@aol.com with any suggestions or comments.

Mike Kisiel – I am happy to serve the Unit as a Board member. Thank you. Mkisiel@Buffalo.com

Brian Meyer – Thank you for the privilege of allowing me to work so hard on your behalf. Feel free to contact me at TYRRHENIA@YAHOO.COM with any questions or concerns.

Alex Miller – I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the voters who elected me to the Board. I will try to do my best to work for the interests of the members of our unit and also to work for the betterment of the Board. Any questions or suggestions: oldsister@verizon.net

Editors' Commentary

A Newsletter is like a houseplant, the more you talk to it and provide it with nourishment, the bigger and better it will grow. The same thing applies to the Bridge Buff.

We need our readers to be reporters for us. Have you played a unique hand; send us the hand pattern and its results. Have you traveled to a tournament? Send us a story about your trip and successes. People say they like to see human-interest stories and not just statistics. Well, put your stories in the Buff. The e-mail address is bmczarnecki@aol.com.

Send us the information as soon as you can. We love humorous stories as well. So, don't hold back. Our deadlines for the Bridge Buff is:

Feb/March - Feb, 15th

April/May - April 15th

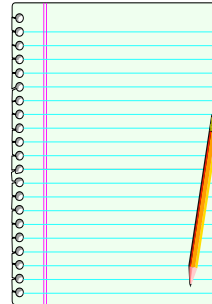
June/July - June 15th

Aug./Sept. - Aug. 15th

Oct./Nov. - Oct. 15th

The Bridge Buff is a community effort. Help us grow a great plant (newsletter).

The Editors



Bridge Lessons:

Bridge Lessons @ Bridge Center of Buffalo

Improve Your Defense and Play – Beyond Beginners Instruction – Learn to Think

Like A Master – Jay Costello, Instructor

Classes begin – Thursday – 1/6/06 – 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Hand records and analyses provided

Six weeks - \$54.00

Sign up at the club or call Jay @ 636-9653

Convention Class #2 – Another chance to get your bidding out of the Stone Age – More Conventions with Donna -Donna Steffan, Instructor

Begins Monday 1/9/06 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Class size limited: Previous students have priority

Four weeks - \$36.00 (your check is your reservation)

Call Donna to reserve your place @ 636-9653

Alex's Bridge Workshop

Where: 130 Locust Street, Lockport, NY 14094

No fees. Subject – Lessons and discussions are determined by the needs of the students. The program is very informal. Currently there are 8 students. – Mike Kisiel, Instructor

We could handle 4 more students but it is imperative that we have full tables so that each student may have hands-on experience.

Anyone who has any questions, may contact either Mike or Alex at

Mike Kisiel 692-3474, mkisiel@buffalo.com

Alex Miller 439-0244, oldsister@verizon.net

Are you a trivia expert?

Here's the first Frontier Unit 116 trivia quiz! On your honor now, don't try to look up answers. To be eligible to win you've got to submit your answers to Allen Beroza by February 1st (via email, US mail, flying owl, or any other method that gets'em there). All decisions of our judges are final. Highest score wins. In the event of a tie the winner will be selected at random from the top-scoring eligible entries. The prize is two plays to a Unit 116 sectional event. Good luck and have fun. The name of the winner and of anyone who gets a perfect score will be published in the next Bridge Buff.

- 1) A "bid" is defined by the Laws of Bridge as a declaration to win a specified number of:
 - a) Odd tricks
 - b) Even tricks
 - c) Overtricks
 - d) Tricks
- 2) All players are assigned a number by the ACBL when they attain the rank of Life Master. Who was Life Master #1 in the ACBL?
- 3) Name the Hollywood celebrity who was buried with cigars, a lighter and \$20 so he could buy bridge entries when he got to heaven.
- 4) Suppose that as of January 1, 2005, you were a member of the ACBL with 200 master points. About what percentage of the total ACBL membership had fewer points than you?
 - a) 22%
 - b) 32%
 - c) 42%
 - d) 52%
- 5) How many possible hands can a player hold in bridge?
 - a) 635,013
 - b) 635,013,559
 - c) 635,013,559,600
- 6) A "perfect bridge hand" is defined as a hand that will produce 13 tricks in notrump

irrespective of the opening lead or the composition of the other three hands. How many possible perfect hands are there altogether?

- a) 4
- b) 12
- c) 124
- d) 3,756

Non-bridge related trivia tiebreaker: Why are capital letters called "upper case" and small letters "lower case"?

Upcoming Events

**Nat Gerstman Sectional January 20-22, 2006
At the Bridge Center of Buffalo**

3362 Sheridan Drive at corner of Sweet Home Road

Handicapped Accessible

Friday's Events

Stratified Open Pairs and 299er Pairs 1:00 and 6:00
All events are single sessions
Hospitality after the evening session

Saturday's Events

Stratified Open Pairs and 299er Pairs 10:00 and 3:00
All events are single sessions

Sunday's Events

Bracketed Swiss Teams at 11:00 a.m., playthrough
299er Swiss also at 11:00 am, single session, if attendance warrants
Coffee, bagels and donuts served a half hour before game starts
Food will be available for purchase
Hospitality a half hour before the afternoon session

Stratifications

A: 0-Unlimited B: 0-1500 C: 0-500
Cost = \$7 per person per session for ACBL member, \$8 nonmember

Tournament Co-chairs:

Kathy Pollock (716) 834-2855
katrinks88@yahoo.com
Judy Graf (716) 741-3815

Partnerships:

Mike Kisiel (716) 692-3474 mkisiel@buffalo.com Alex Miller (716) 439-0244 oldsister@verizon.net

Friday/Saturday Swiss Teams
2nd of 2 Sessions

9:00A

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Buffalo Regional 2006

Holiday Inn

Grand Island NY ♣ March 8th to 12th

WEDNESDAY - March 8th

Morning Bracketed KO's 9:00A
1st of 4 Sessions

499er Stratified Pairs (Single Session) 10:00A

Morning Side Series Pairs 10:00A

Wednesday/Thursday Bracketed KO's

1:30P 7:30P

1st and 2nd of 4 Sessions

Stratified Open Pairs (Two Sessions)

Wednesday/Thursday Series Pairs

1:30P 7:30P

THURSDAY - March 9th

Morning Bracketed KO's 9:00A
2nd of 4 Sessions

499er Stratified Pairs (Single Session) 10:00A

Morning Side Series Pairs 10:00A

Wednesday/Thursday Bracketed KO's

1:30P 7:30P

3rd and 4th of 4 Sessions

Stratified Swiss Teams (Two Sessions)

1:30P 7:30P

Stratified Open Pairs (Two Sessions)

1:30P 7:30P

Wednesday/Thursday Series Pairs

1:30P 7:30P

FRIDAY - March 10th

Morning Bracketed KO's 9:00A
3rd of 4 Sessions

Friday/Saturday Swiss Teams 9:00A

1st of 2 Sessions

499er Stratified Pairs (Single Session) 10:00A

Morning Side Series Pairs 10:00A

Friday/Saturday Bracketed KO's

1:30P 7:30P

1st and 2nd of 4 Sessions

Stratified Open Pairs (Two Sessions)

1:30P 7:30P

Friday/Saturday Series Pairs

1:30P 7:30P

SATURDAY - March 11th

Morning Bracketed KO's 9:00A
4th of 4 Sessions

499er Stratified Pairs (Single Session) 10:00A

Morning Side Series Pairs 10:00A

Compact KO's

1:30P 7:30P

Friday/Saturday Bracketed KO's

1:30P 7:30P

3rd and 4th of 4 Sessions

Stratiflighted Open Pairs (Two Sessions)

1:30P 7:30P

Friday/Saturday Series Pairs

1:30P 7:30P

SUNDAY - March 12th

Stratiflighted Swiss Teams 11:00A

PLAYTHROUGH 7-7 Board Matches

Stratified Events

Stratum "A"	2000+
Stratum "B"	750-2000
Stratum "C"	0-750

Stratiflighted Events

Stratum "A1"	3000+
Stratum "A2"	0-3000
Stratum "B"	750-2000
Stratum "C"	500-750
Stratum "D"	0-500

INFORMATION: - 499er - Faith Perry
716 681-5251 E-mail: cutzier@webtv.net

Partnerships - Mike (The Matchmaker) Ryan
716 626 9332 or 716 645 6029
E-Mail: meryan@buffalo.edu

Tournament - Pat Rasmus
716 649 4634 E-Mail: prasmus@adelphia.net

John Toy
716 885 5364 E-Mail: johntoy@msn.com

Hotel -Holiday Inn, 100 Whitehaven Road Grand
Island NY 14072
716 773-1111 1-800 HOLIDAY

Ask for BRIDGE rate - \$79.00 Single or Double
(available until February 15th)



FREE PARKING!

Dave Larcom ... 649-9354
Email – Dmocral@Adelphia.net

Wednesdays – 9:30 a.m. – Stratified Pairs

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ACBL Unit 116 Daily Club Game Schedule***Amherst Bridge Club***

4230A Ridge Lea Road in Amherst Com. Park
Bill Finkelstein ... 836-7016 ... During Games
603-6943

Email: BillFink1234@hotmail.com

Tuesdays – 11:00 a.m. – Stratified Pairs
Thursday – 11:00 a.m. – Stratified Pairs
Saturdays – 11:30 – Individual Stratified
(preregistration required)
Sunday – 12:00 noon. – Stratified pairs (light
lunch included)

B & P Duplicate

Zion UCC – 15 Koenig Circle, Tonawanda
Bill & Peg Reiker ... 692-2900

Mondays – 10:30 a.m. – Stratified Pairs
Wednesdays – 10:30 a.m. – Stratified Pairs
Fridays – 10:30 a.m. – Stratified Pairs

Bridge Center of Buffalo

3362 Sheridan Dr @ Sweet Home Road,
Amherst
834-4222

Email – Kandemmett@aol.com
Website: BridgeCenterOfBuffalo.com

Tuesdays - 9:45 a.m. – Mentor Program
Wednesdays – 10:30 a.m. – Stratified Pairs
Wednesdays – 7:15 p.m. – Stratified Pairs
Thursdays – 6:45 p.m. – Mentor Program
Thursdays – 7:15 p.m. – Stratified Pairs
Fridays – 12:00 noon – Handicapped Pairs
(lunch @ 11:30 a.m.)
Fridays – 7:15 p.m. – Stratified Pairs
Saturdays – 11:30 a.m. – Stratified Pairs

Bridge Club of East Aurora

East Aurora Senior Center – Corner King &
Oakwood

Delaware Duplicate

3150 Elmwood Avenue, Kenmore
Bill Rich ... 634-6884
Email NFPress@Verizon.net

Wednesdays – 7:00 p.m.- Stratified Pairs
(Invitational)

Lockport Duplicate

Dale Association – 33 Ontario St. – Lockport
Marge Schomers ... 434-8635
Email – Schomers@Localnet.com

Tuesdays – 7:15 p.m. – Stratified Pairs
Saturdays – 1:00 p.m. – Stratified Pairs

Orchard Park Duplicate

Dave Larcom ... 649-9354
Email – Dmocral@Adelphia.net

Thursdays – 7:15 p.m. – Stratified Pairs
(Invitational)

Whist Club

Zion UCC – 15 Koenig Circle, Tonawanda
Mike Ryan ... 626-9332
Email – MERyan@Buffalo.edu

Mondays – 7:30 p.m. – Stratified Pairs-

Reporter's Column

Carl Stone reports "Martin & Barbara Pieterse won 10 red points at the Myrtle Beach Regional."



Sharon Benz reports: "New 5th Column Editor!!"

Jay Costello has agreed to write the Unit 116 column for the District 5 newsletter- "5th Column."

Jay has been a member of Unit 116 for about a year but has been playing bridge since he was 6 years old!! He has much experience in bridge journalism.. He was a contributor to his unit

newsletter in Vermont and the International Bridge Press Association.

We are very fortunate to have such talent in our unit!! Jay welcomes your bridge news- icostelloo2@hotmail.com.

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If you are looking for someone to help you win those few elusive silver or gold points, the Buff is willing to list your name, phone number and e-mail address along with your needs. (Silver/gold). You, however, will be responsible for contacting the person to get those elusive points. It would also be appreciated if you let the Bridge Buff editor know when you have become a Life Master so your name can be removed. Thank you.

Interview Corner

We hope to interview various people in the bridge community at all levels to find out what got them interested in playing Duplicate Bridge.

Today, we interviewed DALE ANDERSON. He started playing bridge in High School and hopes to be a Sectional Master by the end of this year. His high point in playing bridge was playing with Jean Pardee at the Hamburg Sectional and placing first winning three master points.

Other interests that Dale has:

- *he co-authored with Bob Riley "The Beerdrinkers of Buffalo Bars"*
- *He is a golfer.*
- *He records the statistics for the Bridge community in the Buffalo News where he has worked since 1968.*
- *He was a rock music critic for the News for 20 years.*



Anyone who wishes to receive an electronic delivery of the Bridge Buff needs to contact me at bmczarnecki@aol.com.



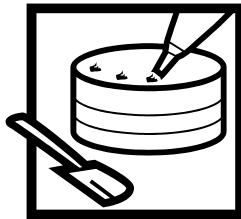
Many of the members who were at the Summer 2005 Unit game raved about the Strawberry Rhubarb Cake. We are fortunate to have **Alex Miller** submit the following recipe. If you are interested in any other recipes by our members, you need to

let the Buff Editor know.

Strawberry Rhubarb Cake

Filling:

3 cubs sliced fresh or frozen rhubarb
1 qt. fresh strawberries mashed
2 tbsp. lemon juice
1 cup sugar
1/3 cup cornstarch



In a large pan combine rhubarb, strawberries, lemon juice. Cover and cook over medium heat about 5 minutes. Combine sugar and cornstarch. Stir into pan. Bring to boil stirring until thickened. Remove from heat. Set aside.

In a large bowl combine:

3 cups flour
1 cup sugar
1 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. Salt

Cut in 1 cup butter until dough resembles coarse crumbs.

Beat together:

1-1/2 cups buttermilk
2 eggs
1 tsp. vanilla

Stir into flour mixture. Spread half the batter in greased 9 x 13 pan. Carefully spread filling on top. Drop remaining batter by tbsp. Over filling.

Topping:

Melt $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter in saucepan. Remove from heat. Stir in $\frac{3}{4}$ cup flour and $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar until coarse crumbs. Sprinkle on top.

Bake 350 degree 40 to 45 minutes on middle rack of oven.

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Comic Corner

Words of wisdom –Dick Czarnecki

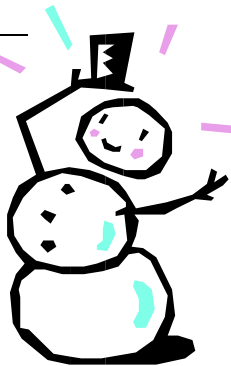
What are the four stages of life?

1. You believe in Santa Clause
 2. You don't believe in Santa Clause
 3. You are Santa Clause
 4. You look like Santa Clause
-



Five Rules to be Happy!

-
1. Free your heart from Hatred –**FORGIVE!**
 2. Free your mind from worries –**MOST DON'T HAPPEN**
 3. Live simply and appreciate what you have.
 4. Give more
 5. Expect less
-



The Bridge Buff Editors would like to wish each and everyone

a

**Happy and Healthy
New Year**

