



Bridge Buff



Volume 3 No. 1 January/February 2008

A Publication of Unit 116, Buffalo, New York ;

Dick and Bernie Czarnecki, Editors - Phone: 731-1707
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President's Message

On behalf of the seven new board members, we thank you for your support in the recent election. A lot has happened since my last tenure as President. Two new bridge clubs have opened and have been successful. However, all news is not good. Our treasury has had some significant losses due to unprofitable tournaments. Most importantly, there is a great deal of confrontation between various unit members. My goal as President and the goal of the other board members is to attempt to bring harmony to our Unit. We need to remember that we play bridge because we enjoy the game, like the competition and strive to improve our game and accumulate master points. With this in mind, we encourage you to participate in unit games and sectionals. Those of you who accumulate the most points (in your category) will be recognized at our annual meeting in December. My e-mail address is listed in this issue. Please contact me if you have any concerns or questions. Good health and good luck to all.

Jay Levy

Election Results (by number of votes)

**John Toy, Pat Rasmus, Bill Rieker,
Jay Levy, Dick Czarnecki, Luke Danielson
Jim Jacobi**

UNIT OFFICERS

Jay Levy *President*
Cleveland Fleming *Vice President*
S. Luke Danielson *Treasurer*

Bernie Czarnecki *Secretary*
Allen Beroza *5th Column*
689-8769 &
aberoza@hotmail.com

*The following amendment was passed
by members of Unit 116:*

*"No Unit club owner, manager or principal shall be
elected or succeed to the office of President or
Vice-President."*

Your Unit 116 Board Members

Bailey, Judie	636-6148	i.anneb@verizon.net
Czarnecki, Dick	731-1707	sanbornjoker@aol.com
Danielson, Luke	632-5309	SLuke32@verizon.net
Fleming, Cleveland	993-1744	BfloCleve@Yahoo.com
Jacobi, Jim	688-5578	victorianchild@yahoo.com
Levy, Jay	689-2110	JLevyB@aol.com
Rasmus, Pat	649-4634	prasmus@verizon.net
Rieker, Bill	692-2900	
Toy, John	885-5364	JohnToy@msn.com

Unit Sectionals

Date	Place
April 11-13, 2008	Rescue Fire Co. 5
July	'TBA
Aug. 15-17, 2008	Daemon College
Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 2008	Lamm Post

Unit Games

Date	Place
Feb. 29, 2008	Wine & Cheese –BCB @ 7:30
Mar. 30, 2008	Pro/Am Amherst @ 12:00
May 17, 2008	Dale Assn-Lockport@ 1:00 pm
June 2, 2008	Zion Church-Whist Club @ 7:30 pm

Come to the Aid of Your Unit

Ten years ago, when the Editors were on the Board, the treasury had two (2) CD's with approximately \$15,000 to support the activities of Unit 116. The present fund balance is \$7,500.

The Unit does have expenses: rental fees per day for Unit Sectional, bidding boxes, tables and rental and handling fees for storage and transportation of these resources to playing sites, caddie fees, director's fees, printing of tickets and flyers for events, printing and distribution of the Buff, expenses of the General meeting and the picnic which is subsidized by the Unit as well as printing and distribution of election ballots.

Recent significant losses at Unit events have contributed to treasury reduction.

Director **Pat Rasmus** suggests the formation of a **Friends of Unit 116 Committee** to assist the Board in the activities necessary for its vitality and growth. The Board presently has only nine (9) Board members and due to job responsibilities, health and vacation demands, this number can drop significantly.

Site & Tour. Chair	Pat Rasmus
Conduct and Ethics	Cleveland Fleming
Membership & Publicity	Dick Czarnecki
Election	TBA
Electronic Contact	S. Luke Danielson
New Directory	Betty Bronstein

If you are interested in helping on any of these committees, please contact the Committee Chairperson. The Chairperson of Unit Events does not have to be on the Board. A Telephone Committee to encourage attendance of members at Unit events would be helpful. The Chairperson of an event needs volunteers to assist in several roles for events to be successful.

The Unit has 22 tables available for sale. These tables will first be offered to clubs and then to unit members. If interested, contact **Pat Rasmus**.

If interested in any other unit activity, please contact **Pat Rasmus** @ prasumus@verizon.net or call 649-4634 if you want to help your Unit 116 to be successful. Thank you.

The next Unit Board meeting will take place on March 3rd at the Zion Church @ 5:00 pm.

Dick Czarnecki.

Editor



Interview Corner

The editor interviewed **Robert Lederhouse** recently.

- Bob learned to play bridge in high school. His mentor was Miss Less.
- He has played Duplicate Bridge for the last 2-1/2 years.
- His favorite partners are Bill Wasson and Kathy Fenn.
- His highlight in playing bridge came when he played with Ed Harman in a Pro-Am in a 7NT contract, which he made.
- When asked what he would like to see accomplished in the bridge community, Bob responded, "Recruit younger people to play bridge".

On a personal note, Bob

- Is single
- Previously employed by Rutgers University and Michigan State
- His hobby is taking care of sheep on his farm in Pendleton.

Bob Olin was once a partner and a mentor to the Editor when she was a novice. In her partnership with Bob, he exhibited charm, subtle recommendations on how to play the game and a quiet demeanor.

- When driving a truck, he stopped at the Bridge Center across Elmwood Street from

Channel 4, met Allan Grier, and found the wonderful world of Duplicate Bridge.

- He took lessons from June O'Connor Moore.
- He has been a bridge player since 1977.
- He has been a Director for 18 years and a Unit Board member for 2-1/2 terms.
- Currently he is a mentor at the Bridge Center of Buffalo. A mentor is assigned to each table and helps players in bidding and the opening lead.
- His interesting story in playing Duplicate is trying to keep the bidding under control when playing with Louise Mink.
- He derives great pleasure in seeing players he mentored achieve the same enjoyment that he gets from playing Duplicate Bridge.
- When asked what goal he would like Unit 116 to achieve, Bob replied, "Have more teaching and mentoring programs to encourage more players to the game of bridge"

On a personal note:

- Bob is married, has four sons.
- He drove trucks and did ancillary services. He later drove a school bus.
- His hobby is playing duplicate bridge. When he was younger, he enjoyed hunting and fishing.
- His favorite sport is football.

Jim Rawcliffe resides in Fredonia, New York but is a United Kingdom citizen. Jim

- Started playing bridge, auction or Rubber Bridge in his teens. His opponents were his two brothers and grandfather.
- Has played off and on for the last thirty years but began playing Duplicate Bridge in 1991.
- Has played in national events in Chicago, Indianapolis and San Francisco.
- He played in the recent Buffalo Regional.
- His favorite partner is a Chicago resident, **Al Howard**.

- He became a Life Master in 2007 when he attended a Regional in Cleveland with **Jim Gullo**.
- He plays at the 100-year old Fredonia Bridge Club called *The Cheese Club*. There are ten members who pay Rubber Bridge and there is always cheese served at their functions.
- At cheese club on Thursday I was dealt S. A 2, H. AQJ53, D. AKQJ104. Playing Rubber Bridge with a new partner I opened six diamonds making seven as after running diamonds and hearts I played the Ace of spades crashing the king and queen. My spade 2 took the last trick.
- When asked what his goal is for Unit 116, he replied, "Make sure it never loses 'The Buff' again. He depends on the information it provides."

On a personal note, Jim

- Has four children and four grandchildren – 2 grandsons who live in England and 2 granddaughters who live in Orlando, Florida
- Besides the ACBL, Jim belongs to Toastmasters International, MCC – Cricket Club World Authority.
- He is Class Secretary for the Harvard Business School and is a volunteer for IESC and has completed assignments in Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe.
- Jim likes to play tennis and table tennis (otherwise known as ping pong) and is an avid spectator of cricket matches.
- Jim supports the following cultural activities – Fredonia Opera House, Glyndebourne Opera – Sussex – England, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Cleveland Art Gallery, Shaw Festival and Shakespeare Festival

RESULTS FROM BAROMETER UNIT GAME

1/26/08

14 TABLES

MP	A	B	C	NAMES
3.40	1			John Toy. Sharon Benz
2.55	2			Pat Rasmus, Jerry Geiger
1.91	3			Donna Stefan, Jay Costello
2.60	4	1		John Bielinski, Diane Jeffrey
1.95	5	2		Dian Petrov, Judith Padgug
1.46		3		Robert Olin, Alice Lind
1.40		4	1	Paul Zittle, Linda Zittle
1.05		6	2	Florence Notto, Mercedes Reinbolt
.79			3	David Larcom, Jane Larcom

District 5 Winter Stac

12/03-09/2007

Codes for Clubs – **ABC**-Amherst Bridge Club, **B&P** – B&P Duplicate, **BCB**- Bridge Center of Buffalo, **LP**-Lockport Bridge Club, **WC**-Whist Club

Monday Daytime Open Pairs – 126 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
3.55	6			Beverly Cohen - Jerry Geiger; ABC
2.84		6		Nita Ferrell - Luke Danielson; B&P
5.03			2	Marietta Kalman - Tova Reinhorn; BCB
3.77			3	Grace Lee - Betty Metz; BCB

Monday Evening Open Pairs – 25 tables

MP's	A	B	Names
5.83	1		Joan Rose - Christine Urbanek; WC
1.12		6	Dian Petrov - Glenn Young; WC

Wednesday Daytime Opens – 2.5 tables

MP's	A	B	Names
2.49	6		Jim Mathis - Randolph Seidenberg Jr; BCB
1.75		6	Alice Lind - Robert Feasley; BCB

Wednesday Day Small Clubs – 8/5 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
1.55	2	2		Alice Lind - Robert Feasley; BCB
.62	5/6			Beverly Cohen - Judith Marshall; B & P
.70	5/6	5	4	Jack Miller - Ed Drozen; B&P

Tuesday Evening Open Pairs – 32 Tables

MP's	B	C	Names
1.96	4		Mercedes Reinbolt - Margaret Schomers; LD
1.23		3	Constance Swick - Kathryn Fenn; LD
.57		6	Shirley Murdoch - Gerry Julias; LD

Wednesday Evening Open – 34 tables

MP's	C	Names
1.05	6	Carol Bedell - Marilyn Steffan; BCB

Tuesday Daytime Open – 84.5 tables

MP's	A	B	Names
1327	1	1	Luke Danielson - Vincent Pesce; ABC
9.95	2	2	Michael Kisiel Jr - Paul Ganley; ABC
2.74		3	Walter Olszewski - Dorothy May; ABC
2.05		4	Arthur Schumacher - Barbara Multerer; ABC
1.16		6	Ross Markello - Bruce Burr; ABC

Tuesday Daytime 299ers – 5.5 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
1.61	1			Maggie McNamara - Joe Miranda; BCB
1.21	2	1	1	Dorothy Soong - Marilyn Sultz; BCB
.91	3	2	2	Rose Bochiechio - Evelyn Vitello; BCB
.68	4	3		Betty Metz - Grace Lee; BCB

Thursday Daytime Open – 94 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
3.25	6			Allen Beroza - Jerry Geiger; ABC
6.04	7	3	1	Fenton Harrison - Jack Miller; ABC
3.40			5	Carlton Stone - Nancy Kessler; ABC
1.54			5	Ross Markello - Bruce Burr; ABC

Thursday Evening Open – 35.5 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
5.06	4	1	1	Betty Metz - Carol Bedell; BCB
1.46		6		Michael Ryan - Howard Foster; BCB
1.14			4	Parimal Pal - Gary Schmitt; BCB
.64			6	Edith Knaszak - Janice O'Mara; BCB

Friday Evening Small Club – 3 tables

MP's	A	Names
1.41	1	Christy Kellogg - Linda Burroughsford; BCB
1.06	2	Diane Jeffrey - John Bielinski; BCB

Saturday Daytime Open Prs – 54.5 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
8.12	2			Robert Linn - Michael Kisiel Jr; ABC
2.65		4/5		Douglas Dean - Claire Gareleck; BCB
2.65		4/5		Catherine Majewski - Chongmin

				Zhang; BCB
2.92	1			Debra Anne Glamack - Jeffrey Bender; ABC
1.64	3			Maureen Clark - Al Wirch; ABC

Friday Daytime Open Pairs - 72.5 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
2.98	6			Christine Urbanek - Joan Rose; BCB
4.82	7	3	1	Fred Yellen - Chongmin Zhang; BCB
2.71		5		Robert Feasley - Anne Watkins; BCB
2.03		6		Luke Danielson - Paul Libby; B&P
1.77		3		Maggie McNamara - Walter Olszewski; B&P
1.34		4		Jean Sullivan - Betty Rubins; B&P

Sunday Daytime Open Pairs - 5.5 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
2.67	1			Dale Anderson - Bill Finkelstein; ABC
2.00	2	1		Marie Suprinick - Cleveland Fleming; ABC
1.50	3	2	1	Gloria Brown - Jim Brown; ABC
1.13	4			Michael Kisiel Jr - Val Derenda; ABC
1.06		3	2	Jean Sullivan - Anna Edwards; ABC

Congratulations!!!!

New Life Masters!
Elizabeth Lawrence
Dorothy May
Walter Olszewski

Gold Life Master
Christy Kellogg
Silver Life Master
Judith Pappug
Charles Schorr

Bronze Life Master
Elizabeth Lawrence

Congratulations to **Kathy Pollock** on being appointed a lifetime member of the *American Contract Bridge League's National Goodwill Committee*. As a member of the ACBL Goodwill Committee, she works to create goodwill for ACBL. She receives, conveys and acts on suggestions for the betterment of ACBL, particularly in the areas of

active ethics, conduct, tournament conditions, bridge for juniors and bridge for the handicapped. Other past members of the National Goodwill Committee include **Michael Ryan, Dick Rasmus, Bob Olin, Bernie Czarnecki, Sharon Benz, Alice Lind, Peg Rieker** and **John Toy**.

Sad Tidings

Dorothy Brenner

Ceil Dugas

Janet Robinson

Sarah Russiso

Betty Dietrich (former member)

Laural Guess (former member)



Bridge Club News

MENTORING ON
Tues. & Thurs. @ BCB

Every week, Newcomer Games, 0-20 masterpoints, are held on Tuesday morning and Thursday evening, and are "mentored" games running in parallel with stratified pair games. Both games are preceded by a free Mini-Lesson a half hour before game time on Thursday evening or before lunch on Tuesday morning. During "mentored" games, players are allowed to ask more experienced players what to do with hands that are giving them difficulty in the bidding or on the play. Partners are guaranteed, so come on in with or without a partner and enjoy the game!

The Second Annual Golden Horseshoe International Team Championship will be held at the Bridge Center of Buffalo at 1:00 pm on March 30 and will be a test of teams from the cities of Buffalo, St. Catharines, Hamilton and Mississauga. All players from Unit 116 are welcome to compete to represent BCB to keep the trophy in Buffalo. Divisions are "total team points": 0-300, 0-1000, 0-3000, 0-7500 and Open. Playoffs will be necessary if there is more than one team in each division. Call BCB for more information

Bridge Lessons

BCB will be starting Beginner Lessons and Bridge Refresher Lessons at a greatly reduced price in mid April to run for 8 weeks. One class will be held during the day (**Jim Gullo** on Friday

mornings) and one class held at night (**Kathy Pollock** on Monday nights)

Joan Rose will be teaching a class on **Low Level Penalty Doubles** on three Mondays: March 31, April 7 and April 14 @ BCB from 3:00 – 4:30 pm. Course cost - \$36.00. The course will teach you when to make the, what they mean, when to pull them and how to defend them. Lots of practice hands.

Chris Urbanek will be teaching a class on **2/1** on the following dates: April 1, 8, 15, 22, May 6, 13 (no class April 29). Course is limited to 16 students and the cost is \$80.

On the week before the Super Bowl, this picture appeared in the news. **Jim Gullo**, a member of our Unit had an article printed in the Buffalo News on January 30, 2008.

Carl Stone must be a Gourmet Cook. He sends us this great recipe.



Robert Kirkham/Buffalo News

Jim Gullo puts the final touches on one of his lunch dishes at the Bridge Center of Buffalo, where he serves more than 20 players every Friday.



Chicken 'n Stuffing 'n Cheese

2-4 chicken cutlets (halved to make thin, yielding 4 - 8 pieces)
 x slices Coopers or Swiss cheese, one for each cutlet slice
 1 can Cream of Chicken soup
 1/4-cup chicken broth

1-cup Stovetop chicken stuffing mix
 2 Tbsp butter

Spray PAM into an appropriate size casserole dish. Place the sliced chicken cutlets in the dish and put one slice of cheese on each.

Mix the chicken soup with the chicken broth and pour over the chicken in the dish.

Mix the butter with the stuffing mix and spoon over the chicken.

Cover and bake at 350° for 45 minutes; uncover and bake for 10 minutes more.

From **Kathy Pollock**, we received this recipe:



Broccoli Salad

3 crowns broccoli, coarsely chopped
 1/2 cup red onion, chopped
 1-cup raisins

Dressing: 1-cup mayonnaise, 2 tablespoons vinegar, 1/4 cup sugar. Mix



From Stan Kozlowski:

On a very bad winter day,
 98% of drivers winding up in a ditch will say "Ah s---t"
 2% of Western New York drivers will say, "Here, hold my beer!"

From a local Bridge player:

**Count your garden by the flowers,
 Never by the leaves that fall.**

**Count your days by sunny hours,
 Not remembering clouds at all.**

**Count your nights by stars, not shadows;
 Count your life with smiles, not tears.**

And when your life has reached its autumn,

Count your age, by friends, not years

If you have an interesting story or informative bridge article, contact the Editors either by 731-1707 or email bernieczar@aol.com

Reporter's Column

A message from Two Snowbirds

Well, here we are, the month of December already. We are really enjoying our stay here at Palm Creek.

They have three duplicate games a week here --- run anywhere between 5 to 9 tables. Additionally there are two games a week in Casa Grade; one at the Elk's Club and one at the VFW. None of the games are ACBL accredited. The cost is either 1 or 2 dollars per player. At the RV Resort they play prize money so we are actually making a little money playing bridge (the competition isn't really too stiff).

Paul is doing pottery in the pottery shop and I'm going to do a few projects in the woodworking shop – when time permits. We've taken up golf (there is a beautiful par three course here at Palm Creek) so we don't have too much spare time. There is lots of room for improvement in our golf game.

Say hello to everyone for us.

Paula & Jim Jones (Arizona)

Freedom of Speech In Bridge

According to **Stephanie Strom** In the *New York Times* Nov. 21, 2007, the six members of the Women's Championship Bridge Team were threatened with punishment by the U. S. Bridge Federation for speaking their minds.

At the Awards Dinner in Shanghai honoring their winning of the Venice Cup, team members held up a sign drawn on the back of a menu that read "**WE DID NOT VOTE FOR BUSH**" they did it to let players from other countries know not all Americans supported the Administration's Foreign Policy.

The Federation threatened a yearlong ban followed by one-year probation, the team to

perform 200 hours of community service and to inform who came up with the idea of the sign.

Jill Levin one of the players said, "A lot of people thought what we did was inappropriate but were horrified by the sanctions that they came down on our side. The punishment was so disproportionate to our actions, a lot of well-respected players who had been sitting on the sidelines objected strongly once they learned about it."

An agreement to drop these punishments was reached based upon a stipulation that both the U.S. Bridge Federation and the team will not take legal action against each other. The American Contract Bridge League was considering cutting Federation funding but the proposal was withdrawn.

For your Information

By Dick Czarnecki

Life Master – the highest rank of playing in the American Contract Bridge League. The category created by the American Contract Bridge League in 1936 and selection of the first Life Master was based on national tournament successes.

The National offices maintain a record for each player of points won in sanctioned tournaments. Rankings are based on the following table:

Masterpoint Ranks

Title	Masterpoints Earned
Rookie	Fewer than 5
Junior Master	5
Club Master	20
Sectional Master	50 (5 must be silver)
Regional Master	100 (15 silver, 5 red or gold)
NABC Master	200 (50 pigmented with at least 5 gold, 15 red or gold and 25 silver)
Life Master	300 (50 silver, 25 gold and 25 red or gold)
Bronze Life Master	500
Silver Life Master	1000
Gold Life Master	2500
Diamond Life Master	5000
Emerald Life Master	7500

Platinum Life Master	10,000
Grand Life Master	10,000 and see below*

*This is the highest rank in ACBL. It requires 10,000 masterpoints and one victory in one of the following: NABC+ event with no upper masterpoint limit, Open or Women's Team Trials or equivalent, or any of the following WBF events: Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, Rosenblum Cup, McConnell Cup, Open Pairs, Women's Pairs, Team Olympiad or Women's Team Olympiad.

Caddies Wanted

We are making a new list of young adults that would like to caddy the Unit Sectionals and the Buffalo Regionals. If you have children, grandchildren or know of any children (11 or older) who would like to make extra money, please contact Pat Rasmus (649-4634) or email prasmus@verizon.net. Thanks for your help.



Buffalo Spring Sectional
April 11-13, 2008
Rescue Fire Co. #5
1241 Strad Avenue
North Tonawanda, NY

Friday & Saturday – 10:00 AM & 3:00 PM
 Stratified Pairs: 0-500; 500-2000; Unlimited

Sunday – 10:00 AM 7-7 Board matches
 Playthrough – no dinner break
 Stratified Swiss Teams
 0-500, 500-2000; Unlimited

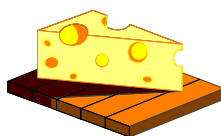
Entry fee per player per session - \$8.00
 Non-member - \$9.00

Tournament:

Chairperson – **S. Luke Danielson**
 632-5309 – Sluke32@verizon.net
 Co-Chairperson – **Jay Levy**
 716-689-2110 – JlevyB@aol.com
 Partnership –
Nita Ferrell -688-8483
NitaFer@aol.com

Location Instructions:

Driving down Niagara Falls Blvd (#62 North) towards Niagara Falls, NY passing Boulevard Mall, St. Christopher's Church and staying in the left lane, when you approach Tim Horton's you will be at the signal where Shawnee is on right side and Erie Rd is on the left. Make a left turn onto Erie (#425 South) and then make a quick turn onto Strad Avenue. You will pass three (3) stop signs; 1 @ Elwood, 1 @ Linden and 1 @ Eddy. After passing stop sign on Eddy, you will approach Leah Drive. On opposite side of road is Rescue Fire Co. #5, turn left into parking lot and park at the rear of the lot.



Leap Year Wine & Cheese Unit Game



(Remember it only happens once every 4 years!)

Hosted by the Buffalo Bridge Center and Unit 116

February 29, 2008

The Bridge Center of Buffalo

7:00 PM

Partnerships or info contact

Kathy Pollock (834-2855) or
 Pat Rasmus (649-4634)

Stratified by attendance
 Entry Fee \$6.00 per player

*The Editors and the Unit
 Board want to wish you*

Happy Easter

