



Bridge Buff



Volume 1 No. 2
March/April 2006

A Publication of Unit 116, Buffalo, New York

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President's Message

As your new president I would like to say a few words about the Unit Board's hopes and intentions for 2006.

Our primary hope is to bring harmony to the Buffalo Bridge World. The past few years have been characterized by strife and contention and if we are to have a successful bridge community this must end. We must all learn to work and play together.

The Unit board will strive to promote bridge and satisfy the needs and wants of the majority of our players. It is impossible to please everyone and hopefully if we do something not favored by a few of our members they will accept our decision and move on.

We welcome everyone's input and help and hopefully we will see all of you at our Unit sponsored events this year.

I can be contacted by phone at 885-5364 or by e-mail at johntoy@msn.com. I welcome all comments, opinions and assistance.

John Toy,
President

Bridge Calendar of Events

Date	Event
Feb. 25th	Unit Board Meeting & Unit Game @ Zion Church
March 8 to 12	Regional at Holiday Inn, Grand Island, NY
April-May	Unit Knockouts – Place to be determined
July	'299er Sectional @ Amherst Bridge Club

2006 Unit 116 Board of Directors

Beroza, Allen	689-8769	aberoza@hotmail.com
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Miller, Alex	439-0244	oldsister@verizon.net
Toy, John	885-5364	johntoy@msn.com
Universal, Elaine	947-5122	eunivers@verizon.net

Board Member Report Dick Czarnecki

Unit 116 Board members meeting took place at My Tomato Pie Restaurant on Monday, January 30th.

Officers elected were:

John Toy – President
Elaine Universal – Vice President
Brian Meyer – Treasurer
Alex Miller – Secretary

The next Unit Game will take place on Saturday, February 25th 7:00 p.m. at the Zion Church, Koenig Road – Open Pairs game at a cost of \$4.00.

In April and May Unit Knockouts will take place co-chaired by **Bill Finkelstein** and **Brian Meyer**.

In July a 299er Sectional will take place at Amherst Bridge Center chaired by **Bill Finkelstein**. **Barbara Landee** was selected to fill out eleven (11) month term for the open director's position.

Allen Beroza volunteered to be Tournament Chair and would welcome information on new sites

The next Unit Board meeting will take place on Saturday, February 25th at 5:00 p.m. at Zion Church.

Dick Czarnecki

Interview Corner

This is the second edition where we interview various people in the bridge community at all levels to find out what got them interested in playing Duplicate Bridge.



Today, we interviewed **BETTY LAWRENCE**

Betty started playing bridge twenty-five years ago with Ann Daherty. She took bridge lesson with Ann Barrett on Cleveland Drive. Her high point in playing bridge was winning her first golds with Rosemarie Foley at the Holiday Inn on Grand Island. She is currently working on getting those elusive nine gold points to becoming Life Master
Other interests that Betty has:

- She enjoyed gardening when she was younger.
- She worked several years at the telephone company as well as at AM&A's.
- She likes to play poker with friends
- She has met some interesting people playing bridge
- She is the proud grandmother to twelve grandchildren,

Answers to Last Issue's Trivia Quiz

1. A "bid" is a declaration to win a specified number of odd tricks.
2. Life master #1, selected in 1936, was **David Bruce** (whom we're told was also sometimes known as **David Bernstein**.)
3. **George Burns** was the famous bridge-playing celebrity, in whose name the Burns Trophy is now awarded annually to the senior player in the ACBL who earns the most points in senior events.
4. If you had 200 masterpoints on January 1, 2005, you had more points than about 52% of the members in the ACBL.

5. There are 635,013,559,600 possible hands that a player can hold in bridge.
6. There are 3,756 possible "perfect" hands. Just to give you an idea of the possible combinations, they range from

AKQJ AKQ AKQ AKQ
which has 4 possible hands, up to
AKQJxxxx AK A A

Tiebreaker: When printers used to set type, they kept their letters in cases arranged before them on a table. Each letter had a compartment. Capital letters were kept in the upper case, and small letters in the lower case.

Are you a history buff?

See if you can nail this month's trivia quiz. As always, the judges will rely primarily on the Encyclopedia of Bridge (no fair peeking) to make their decisions, which are final. Based on our completely unscientific poll of Unit members, the answers to this month's quiz appear in this issue (as well as last month's answers).

- 1) Who is credited with perfecting (and first playing) the modern game of "contract bridge" in 1925 from the earlier versions of "whist", "bridge", "auction" and "plafond"?
 - a) Josephine Culbertson
 - b) Ted Lightner
 - c) Waldemar Von Zedtwitz
 - d) Oswald Jacoby
 - e) Howard Shenken
 - f) Charles Goren
- 2) Among the following players, name every one who was NOT one of Ely Culbertson's partners at some point during his winning play of the famous Culbertson-Lenz Bridge "Battle of the Century" in 1931-32:
 - a) Josephine Culbertson
 - b) Ted Lightner
 - c) Waldemar Von Zedtwitz
 - d) Oswald Jacoby
 - e) Howard Shenken
 - f) Charles Goren
- 3) In total, how many hands were dealt in this epic challenge contest?

a) 192	c) 879
b) 400	d) 1200
- 4) How many grand slams were bid and made during the course of the match?

a) None	c) 4
b) 1	d) 42
- 5) What's the significance of December 2, 1990 in ACBL and local bridge history?

- 6) Tiebreaker:
 a) Strictly speaking, what's a Yarborough?
 b) What are the odds against having one in any given hand?
 1) 96 to 1 3) 8,828 to 1
 2) 1,827 to 1 4) 122,443 to 1

Answers to this trivia quiz is on page 6 and 7

Congratulations!

Results of January Sectional

Friday Afternoon 299er pairs – 10 tables

MP's	D	E	F	Names	%
2.02	1			Ken Meier, Dorothy May	60.12
1.62	2	1	1	Carol Bedell, Maxine Johnson	59.82
1.07	3/4	2/3	2/3	Mary Terrana, Patricia Lakeman	54.46
1.07	3/4	2/3	2/3	Marilyn Steffan, Judith McDermid	54.46

Friday Afternoon Open Pairs – 21 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names	%
6.83	1			Jay Costello, Jill Wooldridge	63.19
5.12	2			John Kilmer, Saleh Fetouh	62.5
3.84	3	1		Michael Kisiel, Jr., Alexandra Miller	61.57
2.21		2	1	Ross Markello, Shirley Cassety	56.25
1.28		3/5		Rhoda Jacobs, James Gullo	54.63
1.28		3/5		Anne Watkins, Rita Sofia	54.63
1.28		3/5	2	Virginia Panaro, Mary Davey-Carr	54.63
1			3	Nancy Kessler, Carlton Stone	49.07

Friday Evening Open Pairs – 18 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names	%
4.67	1			Beverly Cohen, Jim Mathis	66.37
3.50	2			Jill Wooldridge, Jay Costello	63.69
2.95	3	1		Fran Kurtz, Jeanne Gladys	61.61

2.21	2	1		Agnes Bak. Jean Gasbarini - Ontario	55.06
1.66	3	2		Nancy Kessler, Carlton Stone	54.46
1.24	4	3		Marsha Powell, Jack Fuller	53.87

Saturday Morning 299er Pairs – 5 tables

MP's	D	E	Names	%
1.51	1	1	Elizabeth Booth, Marian Lynn Coveney - Ontario	57.50
1.13	2	2	Bruce Burr, Ross Markello	54.50
0.85	3		Toby Richards, Mary Ann Byers	52.50

Saturday Morning Open Pairs – 18.5 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names	%
5.67	1			Jay Levy, William Rushmore	66.37
4.25	2			Robert Linn, Robert Andersen	60.72
3.19	3			Eugene Harvey, Judy Graf	59.52
2.95	4	1		Claire Gareleck, Bernice Baker	59.09
2.21		2		Brian Macartney, Ric Stratton-Crawly - Ontario	58.05
1.66		3		Dian Petrov, Joanne Kelley	57.74
1.52		6	1	Gerald Hooley, Phyllis Wilkinson	53.60
1.14			2	Marc Sylvester, F. Randall Cox - PA	52.03
0.86			3	Jean Pardee, Alicia Kolipinski	44.05

Saturday Afternoon 299er Pairs – 4 tables

MP's	D	E	Names	%
1.41	1		Walter Olszewski, Dorothy May	58.33
1.11	2	1	Marsha Powell, Jack Fuller	55.56
0.83	3	2	Vince Sollazzo, Elizabeth Sollazzo - Ontario	54.17

Saturday Afternoon Open Pairs – 17 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names	%
5.17	1			Saleh Fetouh, Randolph Seidenberg	60.90
3.88	2			Jay Costello, Jill Wooldridge	59.62
2.91	3			Gerald Fried, Fred Yellen	59.46

2.81	5	1	1	F. Randall Cox, Marc Sylvester - PA	56.41
2.11	6	2	2	Judy Wade, Lynda Fox	56.09
1.58		3		Donna Steffan, James Gullo	55.77

Sunday limited Swiss teams – 12 tables

MP's	B	C	D	Names	Imp's
4.42	1			Elaine Universal, Teresa Fraas, Eugene Harvey, Kathy Pollock	157
3.32	2	1	1	Dian Petrov, John Ricotta, Judith Padgug, Robert Padgug	138
2.49	3	2		Ken Meier, Dorothy May, Bernardine Czarnecki, Richard Czarnecki	137

Sunday Open Swiss teams – 7 tables

MP's	Names	Imp's
7.25	1 Paul Thurston, Jay Levy, Jill Wooldridge, Saleh Fetouh	137
5.44	2 Jay Costello, John Kilmer, Randolph Seidenberg, Jr., Jim Mathis	113
4.08	3 Gerald Fried, William Bascom, Elizabeth Clark, Powhatan Wooldridge	106



UNIT 116 players got an "A" for their Duplicate Bridge play in Cleveland.

Knockout III – C – 16 tables

MP's	Rank	Names
13.17	A- 1	Allen Beroza, Judith Padgug, Robert Padgug, Barbara Pieterse, Martin Pieterse

Flight A/X Pairs – 22.5 Tables

MP's	A X	Names	Score
19.95	1 1	Brian Meyer, Donna Steffan	62.41%

Flight A/X Swiss – 25 Tables

MP's	A X	Names	Score
27.09	1	Jay Costello, Donna Steffan, Peter Petruzzellis –Toronto,	154.00

**Julian Heicklen –PA,
Brian Meyer**

Flight B Swiss Bracket 5 – 8 tables

MP's	Rank	Names	Score
4.71	1	Allen Beroza, John Ricotta, Martin Pieterse, Barbara Pieterse	156.00

Charity Pairs Results – Tuesday 1/24/06 as of 1/27/2006

Position	Pairs Names	%	MP
1	Judy Marshall & Jerry Geiger	71.42	6376.15
13	Nancy Kessler & Carlton Stone	62.33	5564.63

Charity Pairs Results – Tuesday 1/26/06 as of 1/27/2006

Position	Pairs Names	%	MP
5	Dorothy & Ed Rupp	64.35	3737.66

"Kudos to **Donna Steffan** who walked off with 40 masterpoints at the Cleveland Regional and **Saleh Fetouh** who placed 1st among 384 players with a total of 34 points at St. Catherine's Sectional in February.

Reporter's Column



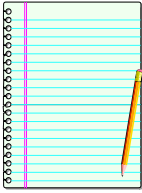
Gold Life Master – **Jay Costello**
Silver Life Master – **Claire Gareleck**
Bronze Life Master – **Jan Fritsch**
Life Master- **Dian Petrov**

Recent Deaths – **Ruth Astmann
Dorothy Hensen
Howard Turner
Rita Pawelczyk**

According to December 2005 District 5 Newsletter - Congratulations to **Brian Meyer** being elected to Board of Governors and **Mike Ryan** to ACBL Goodwill Committee.

Reported by **Jill Wooldridge**: ACBL is having a Membership amnesty until the end of June; people who have let their membership lapse can rejoin and claim all their points.

Bridge Lessons:



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

Two courses are being offered by The Bridge Center of Buffalo at 3362 Sheridan @ Sweet Home Rd. Both are taught by Eugene Harvey, ACBL-certified Bridge Instructor and there is a minimum of 8 students and a maximum of 16 students.

Bridge Boot Camp! ...for Beginners... Classes Begin Monday, February 20th Six Weeks - \$60 – 7 to 9pm

This lesson series will help Beginner-level soldiers...err, students...review information from previous lessons. Lessons will **review & reinforce:**

**Basic Opening Bids & Response (by request, special emphasis on Opener & Responder Rebids), Basic Declarer Play Technique. Students also will learn: Basic Defensive Techniques, The Stayman Convention, Take-out Doubles, The Blackwood Convention (if time permits)*

Beyond Beginners...The Journey Continues...

Classes Begin Tuesday, February 21st – Six Weeks - \$60 - 7 to 9pm This series of classes is designed to help players progress past the Beginner level of bridge competition. Lessons will be tailored for this individual class. Prior to starting lessons, students will complete a brief self-assessment with the instructor to rate their knowledge of and comfort with various bidding conventions, declarer play techniques, and defensive techniques. Lessons will be developed based on student needs. Topic areas will stem from *Standard American Yellow Card (SAYC)* and could include: *Jacoby & Texas Transfers, Weak 2's, Takeout & Negative Doubles, Strong 2C*

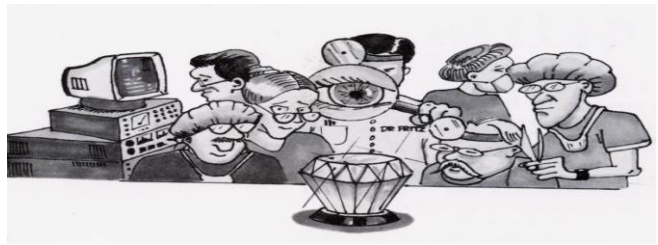
Opening, Declarer Play, Opening Leads, Defensive Signals.

For both Bridge Boot Camp & Beyond

Beginners Please call to sign up @ Bridge Center – 834-4222 // Claire – 835-0635 // Eugene – 823-4060



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



If you have a gem of a hand pattern in bridge and would like to submit it to the Bridge Buff, please send it to bmczarnecki@aol.com

Letters to the Editor!



Just a note to tell you what an awesome job you did on the Bridge Buff. Interesting informative articles and a little humor – a good thing. Glad you're on the job. Thanks.

Nan Denn ndenn@earthlink.net

You did a Great job on the BUFF!

Bev Dale LACYBD@AOL.COM

Regarding the Sectional, **Barbara Libby** sent the following e-mail to the Board and Bridge Buff editor:

To the Board:

I have a few comments to make about the recent sectional.

1. The back of the room was very uncomfortable, hot and airless, on Friday afternoon.
2. I had to wait a total of six minutes for the use of the ladies room and there were women in line behind me. This is not acceptable.
3. My most important comment is that the unit should not be subsidizing one particular bridge club. There are other bridge clubs in

the area and it is not the role of the unit to play favorites. I know that poor planning on the part of the Board led to the lack of a location for the Jan. section. This is no excuse. The Board should have gotten a location a year ago, since it did not, it could have cancelled the Jan. sectional. I hope that this is a lesson and there will be better planning in the future.

To summarize Board Member **Allen Beroza's** response to Barb's e-mail.

1. **Bob Feasley** and others tried a number of things when it became clear that the compressor was shut down and the AC was "off" for the winter, but none were really effective in cooling the room once it became so crowded.
2. Allen mentioned to Barbara waiting in line for the woman's restroom that the "unisex" bathroom was vacant. She chose not to use it. He doesn't quarrel with her personal choice but felt that a sign on the door of the hallway restrooms directing people to the 3rd bathroom might have helped.
3. Counting the 13 tables at the Amherst Bridge Club on Saturday and Sunday, there were 144.5 tables in play at just those two locations during those three days. Note also that the owners of B&P Duplicate supported the Sectional with announcements, etc. and also by playing in it. By my way of thinking, our membership was extremely well served that weekend!

Did You Know By **Dick Czarnecki**



Gloria Brown, 74, a local Bridge player, is among a class of 11 entering the USA Track & Field Masters Hall of Fame. Brown started running at age 46, more

than a quarter-century ago. Now she's a Hall of Famer. Congratulations!!!



The King of Hearts is the only king WITHOUT A MUSTACHE.

Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:

- * Spades – King David
- * Clubs – Alexander the Great
- * Hearts – Charlemagne
- * Diamonds – Julius Caesar

If you know any interesting information about Unit 116 or Bridge in general, please contact us at 731-1707 or bmczarnecki@aol.com

Answers to this issue's Trivia



- 1 **Harold S. Vanderbilt** is credited with perfecting (and first playing) the modern game of "contract bridge" during a cruise through the Panama Canal en route to Havana from Los Angeles in 1925.
- 2 **Oswald Jacoby** and **Charles Goren** were not among Ely Culbertson's partners during the Bridge "Battle of the Century". Jacoby played many of the hands with Sidney Lenz, the eventual loser of the match. Goren, aged 30 at the time of the match, had not yet won any major events and did not participate at all.
- 3 In total, 879 hands were dealt in this contest.
- 4 There were no grand slams bid and made during the course of the match. The Lenz team bid one, but they were set. Overall, the two teams bid 31 "small" slams, making 17.
- 5 December 2, 1990 was the date that **Joel Wooldridge**, aged 11 years and 4 months, attained the rank of Life Master, becoming at the time the youngest person in ACBL history to do so.
- 6 Tiebreaker:
 - a) Strictly speaking, a Yarborough is a hand with no card higher than a 9. It's named after an English lord who customarily would offer to wager 1,000 pounds to one against the chance of such a hand being held by a player.

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- b) The odds against having one in any given hand are 1827 to 1, so the bet was statistically a good one for him.

.....
This is another great appetizer recipe requested by Bridge players. It comes from the kitchen of **Carol Siracuse**.

Bacon Water Chestnut Wraps

1 lb. Bacon
2 cans (8 oz each) whole water drained
½ cup packed brown sugar
½ cup mayo or salad dressing
¼ cup chili sauce



Cut bacon strips in half. In skillet over medium heat, cook bacon until almost crisp, drain. Wrap each bacon piece around chestnut and secure with toothpick. Place in ungreased 13"x9" baking dish. Combine

brown sugar, mayo and chili sauce. Pour over water chestnuts. Bake uncovered in 350-degree oven 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly.

Send your recipes to bmczarnecki@aol.com



A Bit of Humor! **Dick Czarnecki**

A LIVING WILL

A man and his wife were sitting in the living room and he said to her, "Just so you know, I never want to

live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

His wife got up, unplugged the TV, and threw out all of his beer. Then took him by the hand and went to a Bridge Club to exercise his brain.

Five Stages of Life

1. To grow up
2. To fill out
3. To slim down
4. To hold it in
5. To heck with it



UNIT 116

**PROUDLY PRESENTS
FEBRUARY PAIRS**

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2006 @ 7:00 PM

**ZION CHURCH
15 Koenig Circle
Tonawanda, NY 14150**

ENTRY FEES GREATLY REDUCED!

\$4.00 PER PERSON!

**PARTNERS GUARANTEED
15 MINUTES BEFORE GAMETIME!**

**PARTNERSHIP COORDINATOR:
BRIAN MEYER 681-5781**

**STRATS WILL BE DETERMINED BY
THE DIRECTOR TO BEST FIT THE
ATTENDANCE**



Bridge Buff March/April 2006

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)
1:30P 7:30P
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
Friday/Saturday Swiss Teams 9:00A

2nd of 2 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!

