



Bridge Buff



May/June 2008

Bernie and Dick Czarnecki, Editors - Phone: 731-1707
Email: sanbornjoker@aol.com

A Publication of Unit 116, Buffalo, New York ;

President's Message

A number of our local players are doing quite well in earning master points and receiving well-earned recognition. As of May6th, the following WNY players are leading their respective categories in the *District Mini-Mckenny Masterpoint Races*: **Andrei Reinhorn, George Donsky** (with other WNY players ranking 2-5), **Fred Yellen, Brian Meyer** and **Dan Gerstman**.

In addition, local players won 3 of the 4 flights and will be representing District 5 in Las Vegas this summer:

C Flight: **George Donsky, Gordie Crone, Fred Yellen** and **Minn Zhang**.

B Flight: **George Donsky, Dian Petrov, Mike Ryan** and **James Gullo**.

A Flight: **Tom Donnelly, Brian Meyer, Bud Seidenberg** and **Jay Levy**.

Keep up the good work

Jay Levy
Your President

Unit Sectionals

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
July11-13, 2008	Bridge Center/Bflo
Aug. 15-17, 2008	Daemon College
Oct. 31-Nov 2, 2008	Lamm Post

Unit Games

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
December	TBA

Your Unit 116 Board Members

Bailey, Judie	636-6148	j.anneb@verizon.net
Czarnecki, Dick	731-1707	sanbornjoker@aol.com
Danielson, Luke	632-5309	SLuke32@verizon.net
Fleming, Cleveland	882-1744	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	Sweetwill276@hotmail.com
Toy, John	885-5364	JohnToy@msn.com

Editor's Note

Unit 116 – 2008 Directory is available on or about June 1st – Check with your Director or Club Manager to purchase a copy for \$2.00.

Thanks to all who made it possible.

The Editors



Please note submissions to the Buff will be accepted until the Buff reaches eight (8) pages or by the publishing date, whichever comes first. The Buff will be published on the schedule listed below:

July/Aug. 2008 – Week ending Aug 15, 2008
Sept/Oct 2008 - Week ending Oct. 24, 2008
Nov/Dec 2008 - Week ending Dec. 26, 2008

Thank you for helping us make the Bridge Buff what it is.

The Editors

Unit 116 has a website created by Dick Rasmus

www.arejayare.net/u116off/

You can find the following information:

- Board Member information
- Bridge Buff
- Clubs
- Electronic Directory
- Masterpoints
- Results
- Schedule

The *Presidential Master Point Race* is a collection of Unit members who win @ unit games and unit sectionals. These people will be recognized at the Annual Meeting. Below is the highest Masterpoints earned in the five categories after the Spring Sectional and Pro Am Game:

Frontier Unit 116
Presidential Masterpoint Race

0 to 100 MP's

Place	MP's	Name
1	8.51	David Whitt
2	7.97	Carl McMurtry
3	3.72	Shakeel Ahmad
4	3.65	Sandra Scheff
5	2.74	Andrei Reinhorn

100 to 300 MP's

Place	MP's	Name
1	15.16	Chongmin Zhang
2	6.87	Mike Silverman
3	6.17	George Donsky
4	5.76	Helen Panza
5	4.70	Gloria Brown

300 to 1000 MP's

Place	MP's	Name
1	10.64	Alberta Brown
2	7.28	Bert Feasley
3	7.26	Fred Yellen
4	5.46	Betty Rubins
5	4.85	Gordon Crone

1000 to 2500 MP's

Place	MP's	Name
1	11.07	Alice Lind
2	10.49	Joanne Kelley
3	8.74	Robert Feasley
4	8.46	James Gullo
5	7.41	Eugene Harvey

2500+ MP's

Place	MP's	Name
1	20.46	Jim Mathis
2	17.68	Christine Urbanek
3	16.36	Jay Levy
4	16.18	Randolph Seidenberg, Jr.
5	15.82	John Toy



Interview Corner

The editor recently interviewed **Fred Yellen**, a friendly and personable gentleman.

Re Bridge:

- Fred started playing Contract Bridge with a group of guys twenty years ago and Duplicate bridge 5 years ago.
- He was recommended to play at **Dick Rasmus'** game on Cayuga Road by **John Toy**.
- His favorite partners are **Buddy Seidenberg, Jr.** and the late **Gerry Fried**.
- His memorable session in bridge was playing with Buddy against a 2NT* contract. Buddy and Fred defended the contract and set the vulnerable contract 6.
- His goal for the Unit is to keep on giving beginners lessons and to continue to make people feel welcome at the game.

On a personal side:

- Fred is divorced and has four (4) children; twin girls and 2 sons.
- One of the twin daughters is going to get married in August.
- Twins run in the family. Beside the twin daughters, Fred is the proud grandfather of twin grandsons.

- He is a retired math teacher who taught at several Buffalo schools at the Junior High level – grades 7-9.
- He enjoys racquetball, bowling and hockey

2.05		3		Anne Watkins,; Rita Sofia
1.46		5	2	Walter Olszewski, Maggie McNamara
1.10			3	Mary Ann Byers - Jean Sommerville

The editor interviewed **Louise Mink**, one of the matriarchs of Duplicate Bridge in Buffalo.

Regarding bridge:

- She started playing bridge with **Nana Stromberg** at the Barrett Bridge Club.
- Subsequently, she took lessons with **Alan Greer**.
- Favorite partners are **Bob Olin, Judy Marshall** and **Nana Stromberg**.
- She served on Unit 116 Board for 8 years.
- Her memorable moment playing Duplicate is opening 6S and making the contract
- She hosts two home bridge games on Tuesday and Thursday .
- She would like to return to Duplicate Bridge in the next month or so.
- Her goal for Unit 116 is to recruit more players

On a personal note:

- She is married, has three sons and one daughter and 6 grandchildren.
- She worked as a Dental hygienist, insurance salesperson and Real Estate Broker for many years.
- Her hobby, of course, is playing cards.

**Buffalo Spring Sectional
North Tonawanda (Buffalo) NY
April 11-13, 2008**

Friday Morning Open Pairs – 21.5 tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names
5.33	1			Alberta Brown, Stanley Kozlowski
4.00	2			Jay Levy, Jim Mathis,
3.00	3			Joan Rose, Christine Urbanek
3.65	5	1	1	Mike Silverman - Sandra Scheff
2.74		2		Alice Lind - Robert Olin

Friday Afternoon Open Pairs – 20.5 tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names
5.17	1	1		Chongmin Zhang, Joanne Kelley
3.88	2			Robert Andersen, Robert Linn
2.91	3			Jay Levy, Jim Mathis
2.63	5	2		Eugene Harvey, James Gullo
1.97	6	3		Rita Sierocinski, Fran Kurtz
1.84		4	1	David Whitt, Carl McMurtry
1.38			2	Tova Reinhorn - Andrei Reinhorn
1.04			3	Jeanette Levin - Frank Levin

Saturday Morning Open Pairs – 22.0 tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names
5.33	1	1		Alice Lind, Robert Feasley
4.00	2			Jim Mathis - Randolph Seidenberg Jr.
3.00	3			Judith Marshall, Walter Majewski
2.85		2		La Vern Lewis, Dorothy Kumrow
2.14		3		Allen Beroza, Elaine Universal
2.17		4	1	Marie Suprinick, Ann Smith
1.63		5	2	Mahendra Rana, Walter Olszewski
1.27			3	Helen Panza, Mike Silverman

Saturday Afternoon Open Pairs – 21.5 tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names
5.33	1			Saleh Fetouh, John Kilmer
4.00	2			John Toy, Christine Urbanek
3.80	3	1		Elaine Kurasiewicz, Barry Passer
2.85	4	2		Chongmin Zhang, James Gullo
2.14	6	3		Rick Benstock, Mark Pascale, PA
1.95			1	Helen Panza, Mike Silverman,
1.46			2	Dorothy Soong - Larry Soong
1.10			3	Marietta Kalman, Andrei Reinhorn

Sunday Swiss Teams – 14 tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names
6.00	1			Christine Urbanek, Randolph Seidenberg Jr - Jim Mathis, John Kilmer
4.50	2			Saleh Fetouh - William Rushmore - John Toy, Jay Levy
4.43	3	1		Joanne Kelley, Alberta Brown, Kathy Pollock, Bert Feasley
3.32	4	2	1	Chongmin Zhang, George Donsky, Gordon Crone, Fred Yellen
2.49	5	3		Judith Padgug - Robert Padgug, Ken Meier, S Luke Danielson
2.07			2	David Whitt, Carl McMurtry, Jim Brown - Gloria Brown
1.55			3	Carol Bedell - Tova Reinhorn, Elizabeth Metz, Marietta Kalman

**Unit 116 Pro-Am Pairs
Amherst Bridge Club
April 27, 2008**

Morning Session 12 tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names
3.12	1	1	1	Betty Rubins, Ruth Kozower,
2.34	2			Carolyn Siracuse, David Whitt
1.76	3			Barbara Libby, Rosemary Richert
1.50	4	2		Cleveland Fleming, Gloria Brown
1.13	5/6	3	2	Shakeel Ahmad, Janice Butler
0.78		5	3	Paul Ganley, Sara Panzarella

Afternoon Session 12 tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names
3.12	1			Patricia Rasmus, Carl McMurtry
2.34	2	1	1	Betty Rubins, Dale Anderson
1.76	3	2	2	Shakeel Ahmad, Helen Panza
1.13	5	3		Richard Czarnecki, Gloria Brown
0.73		5	3	Charles Heimerl, Marie Suprinick

**Unit 116 Open Pairs
Lockport Duplicate Bridge Club
May 17, 2008**

Afternoon Session 14.5 Tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names
3.54	1			Donna Steffan, James Gallo
2.66	2			Douglas Dean, Claire Gareleck
1.99	3			Elbert Hargesheimer, Alex Kowal
1.90		1		Bernie Czarnecki, Dick Czarnecki
1.47		2	1	Walt Olszewski, Maggie McNamara
1.07		3		C. Majewski, Chongmin Zhang
1.10			2	Betty Metz, Marietta Kalman
.83			3	Tova Reinhorn, Andrei Reinhorn

Congratulations!!!!



**New Life Masters!
Gordon Crone**

**Sad Tidings
Norma Williams**

We slipped up in the last Buff in not recognizing a member's accomplishment in achieving Silver Life Master in 2007. Here goes:

**2007 Silver Life Master
ck Schorr**



**Bridge Club News
MENTORING ON
Tues. & Thurs. @ BCB**

Every week, Newcomer Games, 0-20 master points, 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!

Southtown News

Dave Larcom, Manager of the East Aurora Bridge Club, sadly reports the death of **Norma Williams**, the previous director of the East Aurora Bridge Club. Ms. Williams passed away in April 2008.

Under Norma's direction, the Club is the second longest club in existence outside of the Whist Club in Western New York. Dave is proud to report the East Aurora Bridge Club is continuing in its useful course under his management.

To serve the Duplicate Bridge players of the Southtowns, Dave has received a sanction for a unit game at the East Aurora Bridge Club.

The Bridge "Gene-ie"

Hello everyone, and welcome to the first article of a local bridge column devoted solely to answering questions from newer and intermediate players! First, let me introduce myself. My name is **Eugene Harvey**, and I am an ACBL-certified Bridge Teacher. I've been teaching at The Bridge Center for almost 4 years now, but I've been playing bridge for much longer. (Ahh how time flies!) I've thought about doing a bridge column locally for quite some time now, and I can think of no better opportunity than the present to volunteer some "teacher time" to all of you puzzled players!

If you are a novice or intermediate player, please feel free to email me (see below) any bridge-related question, and your question might be the one selected anonymously for the column! I'll do my best to respond to emails whenever possible...

To get the column started, let's use an emailed question from a student in one of my classes: "Last night's lesson was great! Also, in what situation do I need 18 points to bid 2NT? It came up last night, and I think I misled my partner..."

When you have a balanced hand with 18 to 19 High-Card Points (HCP), you open 1 of a suit and later plan to **jump-shift** to 2NT. A jump-shift by the opener shows a very strong-hand, and a jump-shift to 2NT is no exception. In fact, it shows a very specific point range. Over time, you will find it easier to remember what I call "The Notrump Structure." Let me walk you through it:

12-14 HCP = open 1 of a suit and plan to rebid 1NT (or cheapest NT available)

15-17 HCP = open 1NT

18-19 HCP = see above

20 to 21 HCP = open 2NT

22 to 24 HCP = open a Strong 2♣ first, then plan to rebid 2NT

25 to 27 HCP = open 3NT

With more than 27 HCP, CALL ME IMMEDIATELY! Obviously you're lucky and I want to play with you right now! ☺ (Actually, there are bids to handle those very rare stronger hands, but I'm running out of column space!) The key to NT ranges is to memorize (yes, memorize) your 1NT, 2NT, and 3NT openings, and then anything outside those ranges should pique your curiosity and hopefully "spark" a memory of the Bridge Genie's NT Structure. ☺

I hope I've granted you your first wish! Now it's your turn to email me some questions... Please contact me using the email address below. Good fortune to you all!

Even the Bridge Genie cannot make all of your finesses work. However, if you would like any other wish granted, simply email Eugene at: bridgegenie@gmail.com.



From **Eugene Harvey**, we received this excellent soup recipe:

Cream of Tomato Soup

4 T. butter, halved into 2 T. each (I substituted olive oil for half the butter, thus 2 T. of each)

2 - 28 oz. cans diced tomatoes, drained with 3 cups of the juice reserved

1 - 14 oz. can diced tomatoes, drained (optional)

1 medium onion, chopped finely

3 cloves - garlic, minced

2 T. dried basil

pinch - ground red pepper or cayenne pepper (optional)

1/4 cup light brown sugar

1 T. tomato paste

2 T. flour

1 3/4 cup (1 can) chicken stock

1/2 cup heavy cream (but I used half-and-half)

Pepper to taste (be careful of using additional salt - the tomatoes and stock already have sodium)

- 1) Melt 2 T. butter in stock pot or Dutch oven over medium heat. Add drained tomatoes, onion, garlic, brown sugar, and tomato paste. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the onion and garlic is softened and the tomatoes begin to caramelize (about 15 min.).
- 2) Puree mixture in food processor or blender until smooth. (may have to do it in batches)
- 3) In same pan, melt remaining 2 T. butter and stir in flour (roux). Cook 1 min. or until golden. (If roux clumps, add 1 T. olive oil to loosen it.) Return puree to pan and stir with the roux.
- 4) Stir in broth and reserved tomato juice, scraping up the bottom of the pan. Add dried basil. Bring to a simmer and cook for 10 to 15 min. (If desired, add additional smaller can of diced tomatoes for chunkier soup.)
- 5) Stir in cream and return to a brief simmer, then remove from heat. Season with pepper to taste before serving. Serve with croutons or crackers

Garlic Asiago Croutons

3 T. olive oil
2 garlic cloves, minced (OR 1/2 t. to 1 t. garlic powder)
1 t. salt
1 t. pepper
4 c. bread cubes (preferably at least day-old stale, sturdy bread)
1 c. shredded Asiago (or parmesan) cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

- 1) Cube bread if not already done. In a large bowl, whisk oil, garlic, salt and pepper. Using your hands, toss bread cubes in oil mixture until evenly coated.
- 2) Add cheese and toss well.
- 3) Spread cubes onto a baking sheet and bake until golden, about 20 to 25 min.
- 4) Let croutons cool to room temperature, and then gently break apart if cheese has caused them to stick together. Serve in soup or salads.

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

It's All In Your Mind By **Dick Czarnecki**

Did you ever hear your partner say that in a moment of frustration? You just said "*The Bridge Gods are just against me! How else can you explain our 22% game?*"

Maybe it's not in your mind, the fault may be in your brain. Did you know that scientific research indicates that the brain shrinks by a 1/2% each year after the age of 30.

If you accept the statistic that the average Duplicate Bridge player is 68 years old, that's a lot of shrinkage going on.

However, the brain really is an electrical circuitry buried in fat. The synapses in the brain continues to grow at a speed determined by intensity of brain activity. You build a lot more synapses playing Duplicate Bridge, researching an article, learning a new language than watching "*Law and Order.*"

To compound the problem for couch potatoes is the reptilian part of your brain. **Dr. Martha Beck** in her book "*Steering by Starlight: Find Your Right Life No Matter What*" says:

"The inner reptile is the most primitive part of us, it is also the deepest layer of the human brain. The only function is to broadcast aversion and fear signals. It will keep you running toward things that will save you and away from things that are dangerous at the exclusion of everything including your own happiness."

Dr. Beck also says:

"On one hand our reptilian brain is convinced that we lack everything we need. We don't have enough love, time, money, everything. On the other hand, something terrible is about to happen to us."

So not only are our frontal lobes vanishing, which is where we store memories, we are in a constant state of anxiety.

Can't you just see yourself saying to your partner "I knew something horrible was going to happen but I didn't remember why." Then you fill out the traveler and ask: "Down four vulnerable, that's 1100 isn't it?"

Maybe the answer is getting in touch with the 90% of the brain we are not using. But that's a myth! We really are using all of our brain all the time or maybe misusing it would be a better word.

Nature has an axiom that is true "Use it or lose it." So shake off your reptilian alter ego. Stay positive. If we think we will fail, we will behave that way.

The Bridge Gods did not cause you to lose. Read a good book on defending or declaring. Play up. Get outside of your comfort zone. Play against tougher opposition. Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Find out what makes good players good and use it against them to get better. You will help your memory circuits to grow and keep your reptile buried deep in your brain dungeon. It really is not in your mind, it's in your hands.

Buffalo Regional 2008

Holiday Inn

Grand Island NY ♣ June 24th to 29th

TUESDAY – June 24th

Tuesday Bracketed KO's

9:00A 1:30P 7:30P

1st, 2nd & 3rd of 3 Sessions

299er Stratified Pairs (Single Session)

9:00A 1:30P 7:30P

Morning Side Series Pairs - 9:00A

Tuesday Stratified Open Pairs (2 Sessions)

1:30P 7:30P

Afternoon Side Series Pairs - 1:30P

Evening Side Series Pairs - 7:30P

WEDNESDAY – June 25th

Morning Bracketed KO's

9:00A - 1st of 4 Sessions

299er Stratified Pairs (Single Session)

9:00A 1:30P 7:30P

Morning Side Series Pairs - 9:00A

Wednesday/Thursday Bracketed KO's

1:30P 7:30P - 1st and 2nd of 4 Sessions

Wednesday Stratified Open Pairs (2 Sessions)

1:30P 7:30P

Wednesday Stratified Swiss Teams

(1 Session) 7:30P

Afternoon Side Series Pairs - 1:30P

Evening Side Series Pairs - 7:30P

THURSDAY – June 26th

Morning Bracketed KO's

9:00A - 2nd of 4 Sessions

299er Stratified Pairs (Single Session)

9:00A 1:30P 7:30P

Morning Side Series Pairs - 9:00A

Wednesday/Thursday Bracketed KO's

1:30P 7:30P - 3rd and 4th of 4 Sessions

Thursday Stratified Open Pairs (2 Sessions)

1:30P 7:30P

Stratified Swiss Teams (2 Sessions)

1:30P 7:30P

Afternoon Side Series Pairs - 1:30P

Evening Side Series Pairs - 7:30P

FRIDAY – June 27th

Morning Bracketed KO's -9:00A

3rd of 4 Sessions

299er Stratified Pairs (Single Session)

9:00A 1:30P 7:30P

Morning Side Series Pairs - 9:00A

Friday/Saturday Bracketed KO's

1:30P 7:30P - 1st and 2nd of 4 Sessions

Friday Stratified Open Pairs

(2 Sessions) 1:30P 7:30P

Friday Stratified Swiss Teams (1 Session) 7:30P

Afternoon Side Series Pairs - 1:30P

Evening Side Series Pairs - 7:30P

SATURDAY – June 28th

Morning Bracketed KO's - 9:00A

4th of 4 Sessions

299er Stratified Pairs (Single Session)

9:00A 1:30P 7:30P

Morning Side Series Pairs - 9:00A

Friday/Saturday Bracketed KO's

1:30P 7:30P - 3rd and 4th of 4 Sessions

Saturday Compact KO's

1:30P 7:30P

Saturday Stratified Open Pairs (2 Sessions)

1:30P 7:30P

Afternoon Side Series Pairs - 1:30P

Evening Side Series Pairs-7:30P

SUNDAY – June 29th

Stratiflighted Swiss Teams - 11:00A

PLAYTHROUGH 7-7 Board Matches

Stratiflighted Events

Stratum "A1" 3000+
Stratum "A2" 0-3000
Stratum "B" 1000-2000
Stratum "C" 300-1000
Stratum "D" 0-300

Stratified Events

Stratum "A" 2000+
Stratum "B" 500-2000
Stratum "C" 0-500

Partnerships

Mike (The Matchmaker) **Ryan**
716.626.9332 or 716.645.6029
E-Mail: meryan@buffalo.edu

Tournament

Pat Rasmus 716.649.4634
EMail: prasmus@verizon.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 American Contract Bridge rate
\$95.00 Single or Double
(Available until June 6th)
Great Hospitality!

Free Parking!

District 5 low entry fees **\$10.00** per session
\$12 for non & unpaid ACBL members



Buffalo
"Silver Point"
299er Sectional



July 11-13, 2008
Friday thru Sunday
at the Bridge Center
of Buffalo, Inc.
Amherst, NY

Friday, July 11

Single Session Pairs
9 am, 1:30 pm, 7 pm
Free Lesson at 6:15 pm
Food before and between sessions

Saturday, July 12

Single Session Pairs
10 am, 3 pm
Free Lesson at 2:15 pm
Food before and between sessions

Sunday, July 13

10 am Single Session Pairs
3 pm Single Session Swiss
Lesson on Team Tactics at 2:15 pm
Food before and between sessions

Free Parking
Free Lessons
Free Food
Trophies
Prizes

Stratifications:
0-50, 50-200 and 200-300

Game fees:
\$8 for ACBL members
\$9 for non-members

Tourney Chairs:

Kathy Pollock
716-834-2855
KandEmmett@aol.com
Tova Reinhorn
716-632-6056
Ttr2@buffalo.edu

Partnerships:
Kathy Pollock
716-834-2855
kandemmett@aol.com