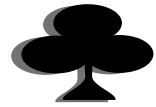




Bridge Buff



Volume 1 No. 6 November/December 2006

A Publication of Unit 116, Buffalo, New York

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Greetings WNY bridge player...

We are trying out a new website for our unit to see how well received it might be. You will find tremendous amounts of information - and if something is missing, there is a link on the main page for 'webmaster.' feel free to click there and submit your question, problem, concern, or idea. we'll be happy to make the site more suitable for whatever your bridge needs might be.

Bridge Calendar of Events-

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Date	Event
Oct. 21 – 7:00 pm	Unit Stratified-Amherst Bridge
Nov.16-17- 7 pm	Unit 2-Session Swiss Team-Bridge Center of Buffalo
Nov. 27- Dec.3rd	District 5 Stac – various clubs
Dec. 17 th -noon	Holiday Party & Annual meeting – Daeman College
Dec. 26-31	Unit Game Week-various clubs
Jan 19-21, 2007	Legends of Bridge Sectional-Bridge Center of Buffalo

What's the address? here it is:
<http://www.geocities.com/tyrrhena/frontpage.html>

Please check it out - and if there is a link you'd like to see, please let us know. We are striving to make bridge better in Buffalo! Thank you for your assistance!

Unit 116 B.O.D

Unit 116 Board Election Report By **Dick Czarnecki**

There are four open Board Member positions and one vacancy to fill due to a resignation.

The following people have volunteered their time, energy and creativity to assist the Unit in its activities:

1. **Curt Hallis**
2. **Alexandra Miller**
3. **Helen Panza**

If you want to join this stalwart band of people determined to make Unit 116 the best Unit in ACBL - please contact **Mike Kisiel** at 692-3474 or Mkisiel@adelphia.net

Important Notice

All mail regarding Unit 116 should be sent to the address listed below. Mail should no longer be sent to anyone's home.

Frontier Unit 116-ACBL
Post Office Box 68

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Editor's Note

Please e-mail us at dickczarnecki@aol.com or call at 731-1707 and let us know the features of the Buff you like the most and what needs improvement, Thanks

The next date for submitting information or articles to the Bridge Buff editors is December 15, 2006. Thanks all who have contributed in the past.

Bridge Buff Editors

Notice

Interested in learning more about bridge? Lessons are offered at all levels at the **Bridge Center of Buffalo**. For more information, contact **Claire Gareleck** at the Club- 834-4222 or at home 835-0635.



Interview Corner

The Bridge Buff editors decided to interview two sets of people for this issue.

First, we interviewed **Doanne Jackson** who is a regular player at Sectionals.

Regarding bridge:

- Doanne started playing bridge around 1960. Her mother, **Suzanne Jackson** was a bridge teacher and Doanne used to type her lessons, fill in when someone was late or absent. She would listen to the discussions about bidding and play.
- She played for about two years, went to her first ABA National Tournament in New York City in 1960.
- She quit for a short time and resumed playing in 1992 when there was a tournament in New Orleans. She seized the opportunity to play with her mother when two of her mother's part-ners, **Bessie Fugitt** and **Donnie Duke** were unable to attend and has been playing even since.
- She loves the defense in playing Bridge, especially the joy of SETTING the opponent

and enjoys meeting so many wonderful people at the bridge table.

- Her regular partner is **Pam Murphy** but she and bridge are taking a back seat to her wonderful baking. Other partners include: **Lennie Self**, **Mary McLeod** and **Thelma Daughtry**.
- She worked on Unit 116 Board and it was a learning experience she enjoyed.

About the person:

- She retired last November from Buffalo City Court where she has worked 23+ years as a Civil Special Term Clerk.
- Does volunteer work.
- Raises tropical fish that is a passion of hers for many years.
- Even though she retired, she is not free for she has a 15-year old yellow lab-beagle mix and a tuxedo cat which likes to have the run of the house.
- By this time next year, she hopes to expand her game and playing time to at least four days a week.

We look forward to seeing the progress that Doanne makes in the near future.

Next we interviewed a person who I am mentoring and is willing to converse with you at the Bridge table. This is, non other than **Merce Reinboldt**.

- **Marge Schomers** and **Mike Kisiel** also mentor Merce. She also participates in a workshop tutored by Mike at **Alex Miller's** house.
- She looks forward to meeting bridge opponents who are willing to advising her on how she can improve her game.
- She also plays Bid Pitch (a Lockport game), euchre and pinochle. She frequently places first with her partner in playing pinochle at tournaments run by Dale Association in Lockport.

Personally:

- Born and raised in North Tonawanda. Has also lived in Sanborn and Allegheny County. Currently resides in Lockport.
- Was an office manager at Grant's.

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- Comes from a family who enjoyed hunting. She has killed a deer and gone turkey hunting without success. She also enjoys fishing.
- Her husband passed away ten years ago. She has three daughters, 1 grandchild and two great grandchildren.
- She enjoys golfing and bowling.

We look forward to seeing Merce achieve her potential in Bridge.

Congratulations!

The Best NLM Sectional Ever

Working with the principle that Non Life Master Sectional players deserved all the service and structure of a regular sectional, the Amherst Bridge Club drew 139 tables in its four-day competition.

To show how successful this event was, some sessions had more tables than last year's sectional of 23-1/2 tables.

Advertised by special flyers and e-mail, the activity brought in over 100 people outside of our unit. Over 50% of the players on Thursday were out of towners.

You didn't need a partner to play. In fact coming without a partner was fruitful. People who were paired at the partnership desk won overall awards in some strats in seven of the eight sessions.

Players received royal treatment in the refreshment department. Friday – pizza and Italian ices, Saturday – Arby's roast beef, potato and pasta salads and real whipped cream puffs, Sunday – DiBella subs, Frito Lay chips, cut fruit and assorted Good Humor ice cream bars. Baked goods were available at the beginning of each session.

In fact the non life master players were so impressed with their treatment, they doubled the usual attendance at the Perfect Pairs Sectional.

The Amherst Bridge Club certainly deserves kudos for its efforts in the non life master sectional. This really raises the accomplishment bar for next years Non life master Sectional.

Results of the NLM Sectional are:

Thursday Eve-250/100 prs – 15 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
1.11	5	3		Ken Meier, Dorothy May
.89			2	Frank Levin, Jeanette Levin
.67			3	John McCrea, Dale Anderson

Friday AM 300/100 prs. 25.5 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
2.72	2	2		John Kirsits, Paula Kotowski
1.34		5	2	Bill Regan, John McCrea
1.01			3	Barbara Landree, Carol Bedell

Friday Aft – 275/150 prs. 25 tables

MP's	C	Names
.87	3	Dale Anderson, Helen Panza

Fri Eve. – 300/200 prs – 12 tables

MP's	A	B	Names
2.22	1		Betty Dorio, Ruth Moor, Minesing
1.92	2	1	Ken Meier, Dorothy May
1.08	4	3	Barbara Pieterse, Martin Pieterse

Sat. Morn – 250/75 prs/ 20.5 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
2.35	2			Shirley Cassety, Ross Markello
1.77	5	2	1	Cynthia Helfman, Ronnie Helfman
1.33		3		D Nan Denn, Dorothy May
.77			3	Rajat Basy, Gautam Mukherji Oman

Sat. Aft. 250/75 prs – 15 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
1.29	4	3	1	Ross Markello, John Mooshie, Fla
.73		5	3	Judy Kaprove, Robert Kaprove

Sunday AM 300/100 pr – 12 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
1.92	3	1	1	Cynthia Helfman, Ronnie Helfman
.82		4/5	3	Marie Suprinick, Isabelle Banas

Sun Aft. 300/225 teams – 14 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
2.42	1	1		Barbara Pieterse, Martin Pieterse, Paula Kotowski, John Kirsits
1.59	2/3			Betty Dorio. Helen Panza. David Larcom, Jane Larcom

1.45	4	1	Manju Ceylony, Shakeel Ahmad, Giovanna Van Brummelen, Bill Regan
1.09	2		Marie Suprinick, Isabelle Banas, Patrick Drake, PA, Lucille Schlack. PA

Winners of the Unit 116 Semi-Annual meeting game held at Wheatfield Community Center on August 27th, 2006 are:

Afternoon Session – 15.5 tables North/South

A	B	C	Names	MP's
1			Jim Mathis/Beverly Cohen	3.68
2			Daniel Foley/Nita Ferrell	2.76
3			Judy Graf/Donna Steffan	1.55
4	1		Michael Weber/Patricia Weber	1.25
5	2		Janet Frisch/Elizabeth Lawrence	.94
6	3		Bob Padgug/Judy Padgug	.70
		1	Mercedes Reinbolt.Maggie McNamara	.68

Afternoon Session – 15.5 tables East/West

A	B	C	Names	MP's
1			Jay Levy/ Jay Costello	2.07
2/3	1	1	Jean Macdonald/David Milward	2.22
2/3			John Toy/Dan Gerstman	1.11
5	2	2	Willard Sanscrainte/Lee Gordon	1.67
6	3		James Rawcliffe/Jutta Rawcliffe	.53

Evening Session 7.5 tables – One Winner Movement

A	B	C	Names	MP's
1			John Toy/Dan Gerstman	2.55
2	1		Dian Petrov/Judy Padgug	1.91
3			Donna Steffan/Judy Graf	1.43
4	2	1	Paula Salamone/Thom Burnett	1.27
5	3	2	Marie Zayan/Frances Witnauer	.95

Results from the Perfect Pair Fall Sectional held at Amherst Bridge Club on Sept 29th through October 1st, 2006.

Friday Morning NLM pairs – 20 tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
2.27	2	1	1	Maggie McNamara, J Garrity
1.70	2	2	2	Cynthia Helfman, H. Ronald

1.23	6	3	3	Helfman Gloria Brown, Jim Brown
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Fri Morn Strat Open Pair - 12.0 Tables / Based on 32 Tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
7.00	1			Jay Levy, Randolph Seidenberg, Jr.
5.25	2	1	1	Shirley Lyth, Paula Weiser
3.94	3			Beverly Cohen, Jim Mathis
.90		2		S. Luke Danielson, Carolyn Siracuse
1.42		3	2	Judith Padgug, Jean MacDonald
1.07		4	3	LaVern Lewis, Joan Lewis

Fri Aft Flight A Open - 4.0 Tables / Based on 24 Tables

MP's	A	Names
5.67	1	Jay Levy, Randolph Seidenberg, Jr
4.25	2	John Kilmer, Elbert Hargesheimer III,

Fri Aft Flight BCD Pairs - 19.5 Tables

MP's	B	C	D	Names
4.02	1			Betty Dorio, Helen Panza
3.06	2	1		Janet Frisch, Betty Lawrence
1.72	5	3	2	Carol Bedell, Barbara Landree

Fri Evening Open Pair - 10.0 Tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
2.57	1/3	1		Cleveland Fleming, Mike Ryan
2.57	1/3			Christy Kellogg, Catherine Majewski
2.57	1/3			John Toy, Dan Gerstman
1.62	6	2	1	Ruth Kozower, Michael Kozower
1.22		3	2	John Ricotta, Lori Meyer

Sat Morn Strat Open Pair - 20.0 Tables / Based on 40 Tables

MP's	A	B	Names
6.25	2		John Toy, Dan Gerstman
3.51	4	3	Kathy Pollock, Bert Feasley

Sat Morn N L M Pairs - 20.0 Tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
2.65	1/2			Frank Morabito, Ann Edwards
2.65	1/2	1		Fenton Harris, Robert Davis
1.70	3			John Kirsits, Paula Kotowski
1.57	4	2	1	Jim Brown, Gloria Brown
1.18	6	3		Helen Panza, Dale Anderson
1.02			2	Cynthia & H. Ronald Helfman

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Sat Aft Flight A Open - 9.0 Tables / Based on 32 Tables

MP's	A	X	Names
7.00	1		Margaret Klamp, Judith Marshall
5.25	2		Dan Gerstman, John Toy
3.94	3		Randolph Seidenberg, Jr., Jim Mathis
4.64	4	1	Harry Cheung, Elizabeth Clark
2.61		3	Robert Andersen, Robert Linn

Sat Aft Flight BCD Pairs - 23.0 Tables

MP's	B	C	D	Names
3.32	2			Ross Markello, Don Cameron
2.99	3/4	1/2	1	Martin Pieterse, Barbara Pieterse
2.99	3/4	1/2		B. Ruth Hnath, Louis Stern, MI
1.92	5	3		Nancy Kessler, Carlton Stone

Sun Morn N L M Pairs - 13.0 Tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
1.15	4	3	2	Mamju Ceylony - Shakeel Ahmad
.72	6	4	3	Rasashree Pandit - Vinay Pandit,

Sun Morn Strat Open Pair - 10.0 Tables / Based on 23 Tables

MP's	A	C	Names
4.13	2		Michael Ryan, Judy Graf
3.09	3		Jim Mathis, John Kilmer

Sunday Aft Open Pairs - 14.5 Tables

MP's	A	B	C	Names
4.17	1			Saleh Fetouh - Randolph Seidenberg Jr
2.35	3			Michael Kisiel Jr., Louis Stern, MI
1.61		5	1	Martin Pieterse, Barbara Pieterse
1.21			2	Shakeel Ahmad - Mamju Ceylony,
.91			3	Isabelle Banas, Rod White, NJ

.Congratulations

NEW Silver Life Master
Rhoda Jacobs

Total masterpoints: 18695.77 earned by 1956 players



25 57.80 Judith Padgug,
26 57.80 Dorothy Boyd,
31 56.10 Allen Beroza



The editors received this recipe from **Carol Siracuse** who brought this recipe to the Unit Lockport Bridge game.

House Shrimp Dip
(By Mr. Food Cookbook)

1-½ lbs. Cooked and divined

shrimp

2 containers each (8 oz whipped cream cheese)

1-cup mayonnaise

1 tbsp. Worchester sauce

2 tsp hot pepper sauce

2 tbsp. Chopped scallions (tops – the green part

Coarsely chopped shrimp

In a bowl combine shrimp and all remaining ingredients. Refrigerate several hours or overnight before serving. Enjoy!

Send your favorite recipes to bmczarnecki@aol.com

Reporter's Column

A LETTER TO THE BRIDGE COMMUNITY

I would like to openly thank the bridge community in Buffalo for the visits, cards, gifts, flowers, phone calls and especially for all your words of support and encouragement during my recent hip replacement surgery and rehabilitation. Your good wishes helped to keep my spirit positive. I can't imagine being involved with a nicer group of people. I am lucky to know you all. Thank You.

Christine Urbanek

From **Mike Silverman**, we received the following:

ARE SOME CONTRACTS BETTER THAN OTHERS?

Some bridge players have favorite contracts. Truscott writes in Bridge Book that **Sidney Lenz**

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“...had a passion and addiction for no-trump”. Other players avoid particular contracts they do not like, such as when a bid of one no-trump is *always* forcing.

Is there any validity to the claim that, given the hierarchy of the suits and duplicate scoring system, some contracts are more “point profitable” than others?

An attempt was made recently to test this hypothesis. At a New York State sanctioned club near in Amherst, a Buffalo suburb, travelers were collected for a three month period. These score sheets included 3,368 contracts played by 32 different pairs representing all levels of expertise. At each session, 24 to 28 boards were played. Two sets of data were collected on the contracts played for each board: first, whether each contract was made or went down; and second, what the ranking was of the score for each contract.

For reliability, contracts with small samples (<40) were dropped. For the remainder included in the study, the percentage for successful completion of the contract was compiled. In addition, the weighted average ranking of the contract scores were computed. These results are shown in the following chart.

Analysis of Over 3,000 Contracts Played by Over 30 Pairs At the Amherst Bridge Club

Contract	Percentage Made	Weighted Average Rank Score
1NT	46	3.7
2H	66	4.2
2S	68	4.2
2NT	63	4.4
3H	66	4.0
3NT	78	5.6
4H	70	5.0
4S	69	4.4
5C/5D	48	3.9
All Slams	73	6.3

Four observations are made from these data:

- 1) The 1NT contract was the least successful, both in terms of percentage made (46%) and in rank score (3.7). My partner and I now play “1NT is forcing”.
- 2) The combined data for the 5C and 5D contracts also showed them being achieved less than 50% of the time, and having the second lowest rank score. We now avoid these contracts unless our hands meet the Law of Total Tricks.
- 3) All slams combined were made 73% of the time, - to us, a surprising result, - and produced the highest rank score. My partner and I are now on constant alert for potential slam bids, using Gerber almost exclusively. Not shown in the table was the finding that of all the slams that were made (taking 12 or 13 tricks), only 40% were actually bid.
- 4) Overall, 3NT was the most successful contract. Our data would thus justify Lenz’s proclaimed “passion and addiction”. Two explanations are offered for this result. First, there is a wide gap between making game at 3NT and at 7NT, coupled with a timidity to bid slam. Second, there is the scoring advantage and the fewer number of tricks needed to make game in 3NT, as opposed to bidding game in a suit.

These data and explanations are viewed as tentative. We would like to see replications with other samples of contracts at other clubs. Perhaps different findings will occur where there are a lot of expert players or beginners. We do assume that, with the exception of our esteemed director, that the players at our club run pretty much the same gamut of odd characters as do most bridge clubs

From ACBL the following:

2006 Membership Survey

Thank you to the nearly 2000 members who completed the ACBL’s Membership Survey, allowing us to keep up with demographic data and attitudes. Demographic information in particular is helpful to encourage sponsorship of tournament activities. The 2006 survey was conducted by the online survey firm Zoomerang.

Pairs vs. Teams

The 2006 survey asked members whether they preferred pairs, Knock-out Teams or Swiss Teams,

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or had no preference. Interestingly, 45% prefer pairs. 26% have no preference, 18% prefer Knock-outs, and 11% prefer Swiss. The numbers shift more dramatically when compared to the number of masterpoints held. Only 6% of those with 0-50 masterpoints prefer Knock-outs, while 64% prefer pairs

From **Alexandra Miller** and **Michael Kisiel**, Co-Chairs of the *Perfect Pairs*: Sectional:

Dear Bridge players:

A big THANKS goes out to all the players who attended the Unit 116 "Perfect Pairs" sectional to make it the success that it was. Mike and I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the clubs that closed their doors while Mike and I ran this sectional. A thanks goes out to **Bill Finkelstein** for his invaluable help and suggestions and organizational skills and his cool demeanor in making this sectional a success. We would also like to thank **Allen Beroza** who was kind enough to run an errand for me so that I wouldn't have a "panic attack". Also a thanks goes out to the players who helped us set up and with cleanup at the end of the tournament.

From **Cleveland Fleming** we received the following:

The Kibitzer

A doctor was called away from a bridge tournament to tend to an emergency. There was still the last board to play. They ask a kibitzer to take his place, although he knows nothing about the game. They tell him "just bid what you've got and follow suit."

South Dealer
East/West vulnerable.

North
S A9
H AKQ65

D AK
C Q1054

West		East	
S	KQ108	S	76542
H	J1097	H	8
D	Q10	D	J9
C	KJ8	C	987632
		South	
		S	J3
		H	432
		D	8765432
		C	A

He, Sitting south, thereupon starts the following bidding sequence:

S	W	N	N
1C	Pass	2H	Pass
2S	Pass	3C	Pass
3H	Pass	4NT	Pass
7D	Double	Pass	Pass
	Pass		

Opening lead – King of Spades

South took the lead of the King of Spades with the Ace, cashed the Ace and King of trumps, came to his hand with the Ace of Clubs and played all of his diamonds. On the last diamonds, West was hopelessly squeezed in hearts and spades and ultimately discarded a heart, whereupon South made the last four tricks in hearts.

When the opposition saw South's hand, they called the Director, who asked for an explanation of the bidding and got this reply:

"I was told to bid what you've got, and I have 1 club, 2 spades, 3 hearts and 7 diamonds."

The Editors would like to thank Cleveland for sending in this interesting hand pattern and request any other bridge player to submit hand patterns they find interesting with accompanying result. Thank you!

The Bridge Buff editors wish to thank Jay Costello for his contributions to District 5 Column and wish

to welcome **Allen Beroza** as the new District 5 Column editor.

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The Bridge Center of Buffalo knows you like to play bridge. If you like to eat as well- be sure to come to the Bridge Center of Buffalo, 3362 Sheridan Drive, Amherst on Sunday December 3rd, promptly at 1:00 p.m.

Jim Gullo and **Bernice Baker** are hosting a "Battle of the Chefs" lunch. Participate in the judging!

An open bridge game will follow. Sign up at the Bridge Club or call **Bernice Baker** at 689-7200, or **Cathy Majewski** 608-0011. Leave a message if you need a partner and we will call you back.

If there are enough 299ers we will have a separate game for them. Cost: non-members \$8.00 Members \$7.00

*Bridge – A Key To Better Health
From CNN.com-Health*

Playing bridge already is known as a mechanism to delay or even postpone the memory loss associated with old age.

Did you know that playing contract bridge leaves players with higher number of immune cells? **Marian Cleaves Diamond**, a professor of Integrative Biology at Berkley, at a meeting of The Society of Neuroscience, presented evidence that the human cortex can play a role in stimulating the immune system.

Bridge was selected because it stimulated the dorsolateral cortex, which might influence the immune system.

Professor Diamond said, "Contract bridge was ideal for what we were after. Bridge players plan ahead, they use working memory, they deal with sequencing, initiation and numerous other higher order function with which the dorsolateral cortex is involved."

So enhanced your memory and immune system – play Bridge!



Stratified "Descriptor" Pairs Unit Game

To be held at

Amherst Bridge Club
4230A Ridge Lea Road
Amherst New York
October 21st at 7:00 p.m.
\$4.00 entry fee



Have fun by adding an adjective to each bid. Bid a "chunky" heart suit, "strong" pass, or an "unpullable" double.

Individuals who arrive at least 15 minutes early are guaranteed a partner.

For information, contact

Cleveland Fleming @ 998-9882
Bill Finkelstein @ 836-7016



UNIT 116 PRESENTS: TWO NIGHTS OF TEAMS!

**WHAT: STRATI-FLIGHTED (IF
ATTENDANCE ALLOWS) SWISS TEAMS!
(FLIGHT A: 2000+ separate; B/C/D stratified)**

**WHEN: THUR AND FRI EVENING –
NOVEMBER 16 AND 17, 7:15PM**

**WHERE: THE BRIDGE CENTER OF
BUFFALO**

**WHO: YOU, YOUR PARTNER, AND YOUR
TEAMMATES! PLEASE REGISTER IN
ADVANCE AS SOON AS YOU HAVE A
TEAM**

For more information, to register, or to find a partner/teammates, please call: Brian Meyer

(681-5781), brian_meyer@verizon.net or check on <http://www.geocities.com/tyrrhena/frontpage.html> and click on 'coming events'.

