



# Bridge Buff

## November/December 2008



A Publication of Unit 116, Buffalo, New York

Bernie and Dick Czarnecki, Editors - Phone: 731-1707  
Email: [sanbornjoker@aol.com](mailto:sanbornjoker@aol.com)

### President's Message

*Happy Holidays To All!*



The Unit had a very successful year. The Unit Games and Sectionals were well attended and **profitable**.

Thanks to **Dick Rasmus**, the Unit has an active web site with great information, For those who have not used it, the address is [www.arejayare.net/u116off](http://www.arejayare.net/u116off)

Thanks also to **Bernie and Dick Czarnecki**, who not only prepared a new Directory but resumed production of the *Bridge Buff*. I find the interviews and articles extremely interesting and informative.

We reinstated the President's Race and the winners are:

#### 0 to 100 MP's

Place	MP's	Name
1	14.12	<b>Diane Lyons</b>
2	12.03	<b>Shakeel Ahmad</b>
3	11.72	<b>Dorothy Soong</b>

#### 100 to 300 MP's

Place	MP's	Name
1	31.58	<b>Chongmin Zhang</b>
2	16.48	<b>George Donsky</b>
3	12.43	<b>Tova Reinhorn</b>

#### 300 to 1000 MP's

Place	MP's	Name
1	18.08	<b>Alberta Brown</b>
2	12.29	<b>John Ziemer</b>
3	12.02	<b>Walter Olszewski</b>

#### 1000 to 2500 MP's

Place	MP's	Name
1	29.83	<b>Kathy Pollock</b>
2	24.08	<b>William Rushmore</b>
3	19.77	<b>Dian Petrov</b>

#### 2500 + MP's

Place	MP's	Name
1	45.06	<b>Jim Mathis</b>
2	42.53	<b>John Kilmer</b>
3	40.72	<b>Jay Levy</b>

**Pat Rasmus** has done an incredible job of not only arranging sites for our Sectionals but did all the baking and cooking for the last Sectional.

I thank all the Board Members for their help in making the Unit successful.

Congratulations to the new Board members and I'm looking forward to another productive and prosperous New Year.

## Jay Levy

*Your President*

### Your 2008 Unit 116 Board Members

Bailey, Judie	636-6148	<a href="mailto:j.anneb@verizon.net">j.anneb@verizon.net</a>
Czarnecki, Dick	731-1707	<a href="mailto:sanbornjoker@aol.com">sanbornjoker@aol.com</a>
Danielson, Luke	632-5309	<a href="mailto:SLuke32@verizon.net">SLuke32@verizon.net</a>
Fleming, Cleveland	882-1744	<a href="mailto:BfloCleve@Yahoo.com">BfloCleve@Yahoo.com</a>
Jacobi, Jim	688-5578	<a href="mailto:victorianchild@yahoo.com">victorianchild@yahoo.com</a>
Levy, Jay	689-2110	<a href="mailto:JLevyB@aol.com">JLevyB@aol.com</a>
Rasmus, Pat	649-4634	<a href="mailto:prasmus@verizon.net">prasmus@verizon.net</a>
Rieker, Bill	692-2900	<a href="mailto:Sweetwill276@hotmail.com">Sweetwill276@hotmail.com</a>
Toy, John	885-5364	<a href="mailto:JohnToy@msn.com">JohnToy@msn.com</a>

### Your 2009 Unit 116 Board Members

Bailey, Judie	636-6148	<a href="mailto:j.anneb@verizon.net">j.anneb@verizon.net</a>
Czarnecki, Dick	731-1707	<a href="mailto:sanbornjoker@aol.com">sanbornjoker@aol.com</a>
Danielson, Luke	632-5309	<a href="mailto:SLuke32@verizon.net">SLuke32@verizon.net</a>
Lederhouse, Bob	625-9443	
Levy, Jay	689-2110	<a href="mailto:JLevyB@aol.com">JLevyB@aol.com</a>
Metz, Betty	773-7398	<a href="mailto:bettymetz@roadrunner.com">bettymetz@roadrunner.com</a>
Rasmus, Pat	649-4634	<a href="mailto:prasmus@verizon.net">prasmus@verizon.net</a>
Rieker, Bill	692-2900	<a href="mailto:Sweetwill276@hotmail.com">Sweetwill276@hotmail.com</a>
Toy, John	885-5364	<a href="mailto:JohnToy@msn.com">JohnToy@msn.com</a>

### NOTICE!

The new Board of Unit 116 will have an organizational meeting at 5:00 pm on Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at the Zion Church, Parker Blvd and Koenig Road.

*The Buff editors wish to congratulate the new Board Members – **Judie Bailey, Bob Lederhouse and Betty Metz**. Also we wish to thank all the volunteers who helped in the Unit*

games, sectionals, committees and our webmaster to make Unit 116 successful this past year. Thanks!

### Unit Sectionals

<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
Jan. 9-11 2009	Daemen College
April 3-5, 2009	Rescue Fire Hall

### Unit Games

<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
Dec. 8-14, 2008	District V Winter STaC @ clubs

### **Notice!**

Members who have e-mail addresses are requested to go to Unit 116 website [www.arejayare.net/u116off](http://www.arejayare.net/u116off) and enter their names so Unit Games and Sectional flyers can be e-mailed to them electronically. **Dick Rasmus** needs help with the Unit website. Please contact him and indicate your willingness to assist him. Thank you

### *Share Your Story!* By **Bernie Czarnecki**

Readers of the Buff tell me they like the back stories of members and how they were introduced into the *Joys of Duplicate Bridge*. However, I have to admit to a problem. The last five people I asked for an interview turned me down. I try to get interviews from the members of all the bridge clubs in the community.

If the general consensus is that to be interviewed are an imposition and not a method to introduce yourself to the Bridge Community than I will bow to the will of the majority.

People reading this might think "She's just not asking the right people". If you are one of those "right" people, the following questions are those I use for my interview format:

#### **Bridge:**

- How did you get started playing duplicate bridge?
- Who taught you the game? Did you have any formal lessons with seasoned players?

- Who were your mentors?
- Who are your favorite players?
- Tell me what your goals are in the Bridge community?
- Recall a favorable memory playing the game of Duplicate Bridge – a particular hand, a session, or event?
- What is your goal for Unit 116?

#### **Personal:**

- Tell me about your family – parents, siblings, married, single, etc? children? Grandchildren?
- What is or was your occupation?
- Any personal achievements?
- Organizations you belong to?
- Favorite sports, hobbies, etc?
- Anything else you would like to tell us?

Please answer them and send them to me by e-mail: [bernieczar@aol.com](mailto:bernieczar@aol.com) or by regular mail:

Bernie Czarnecki  
2961 Lockport Road  
Sanborn, New York 14132

and the interviews will continue in the Buff. If I receive no responses, the members of the Unit value their privacy over publicity and the interview column will not be pursued.

Remember the Buff is a reflection of the Unit and the job of the editor is to edit the material members want to share. Thanks for your attention and I'll be awaiting your response. Overcome the inertia. Share your story.

### Interview Corner



The editor recently interviewed **Usha Khurana**, an upcoming bridge player, who demonstrates an eagerness to learn duplicate bridge.

#### **Bridge:**

- She started playing bridge three years ago.
- She met **Claire Gareleck** through a mutual friend and joined the Bridge Center of Buffalo without any knowledge or formal training in Bridge.
- She struggled through her first year reading Audrey Grant's book and with

the guidance of **Claire Gareleck** began playing in the mentoring bridge sessions.

- Afterwards **Eugene Harvey** started teaching courses which helped her with renewed confidence Usha began playing in the open games occasionally. She currently plays at least three times a week.
- She has several favorite players who encourage her to improve her game.
- Her most memorable time was when she was playing in an open game as novice and came across a hand where her partner opened one heart. She had 20-21 HCP; a slam hand holding all four Aces. She kept wondering that she couldn't bid 4NT as all the aces were in her hand. Eventually the contract was 4H making seven. She was greatly embarrassed but it seems amusing now to think back.
- She has played in two different Regionals in several sessions. **John Marvin III** encouraged her to play as his partner in one session of both Regionals, which helped get over the nervousness.
- Her goal for Unit 116 is for members to exhibit courtesy and sportsmanship at the table.

#### Personal:

- Her family consists of a son and daughter-in-law (of American origin) and a granddaughter. Her family is very close knit and for that she feels she is indeed fortunate.
- She retired from Roswell Park Cancer Institute where she worked as a Research Scientist in Clinical Immunology followed by four years in Millard Fillmore Gate Circle Hospital.
- She has lived in the United States (Buffalo) for the last 41 years. Her roots are here now and she visits her country of origin (India) every year as a tourist. She is a good blend of two cultures which makes her life easy. She is very Spiritualistic born Hindu with great respect for all religions.
- She was an Indian classical dancer in her youth and gave several dance performances here in Buffalo and

Canada during her first few years in the United States.

- Her hobbies have changed over the years and they currently are: Contract Bridge along with reading, cooking, travelling and socializing.
- Socializing is a big thing with people from India because they left families behind, so friends become family.
- The editor asked her about her unusual name – “USHA” - it has a special meaning. It means “early morning” “DAWN”. All names from India have special meanings.

The editor also recently interviewed a creative and knowledgeable bridge player. His name is **Eugene Harvey**. Eugene also sends the editor a column which appears in the Buff.

#### Bridge:

- At the age of 7, he played Kitchen Bridge with his grandmother. The person who started him down the path of Duplicate Bridge was **Jim Gullo** who gave him “*Bridge for Dummies*” for Christmas around 1997. He read it...and read it...and read it again.
- He started out playing Strong 2's and penalty doubles (back then, a strong takeout bid was a direct cuebid). When Jim asked him to play in Fredonia, he met one of his greatest bridge friends and role models, Mrs. **Irene Otto**. As regular partners, they “*CLEANED UP*” in the 299er games! He won most of his silver points with her. At the St. Catherine's Sectionals, the partnership did so well; the 299ers knew them by name.
- He learned more about the game by playing with **Donna Steffan**, **Judy Graf** and **Joanne Kelley**. He never took formal lessons from anyone but was able to learn the bidding style of **Paul Thurston** from his friends. He has read a “LOT” of bridge books and developed good declarer play and defensive skills from the Daily Bridge Calendar.
- As to who are his favorite players, Eugene answered: “I admire **Buddy Seidenberg**, who I believe is the best male player actively playing at the clubs. In WNY, the ‘best female bridge player’ award has to go to **Chris Urbanek**, whose talent at the table truly is remarkable.”

- His favorable memory at playing Duplicate Bridge was when he was playing in a Grand National Teams qualifier (GNTs) in Meadville, PA. His team consisted of **Joanne Kelly, Judy Graf and Mike Ryan**. In order to qualify the second day, you had to be one of the top 4 teams. It appeared that their team would end up 5<sup>th</sup>. In the deciding match between **Jim Gullo's** team (already in the top 4 ) and the team just behind them, Jim's team beat them so badly that Eugene's team made it to the top 4 by only ONE POINT!!! The second day they met Jim's team in the finals and beat them to win the event and the chance to represent our District at the nationals in Atlanta. They owe their win to **Jim Gullo**. ☺ (Sorry Jim...)
- His main goal for the Bridge community is teaching, which he absolutely loves. Nothing gives him more satisfaction than seeing his bridge students get a good result against him. Recently he's been playing with his students in Regional tournament team games such a Knockouts and Swiss teams in order to introduce them to the strategies of these events. He encourages ALL 'newer' players to play in high-quality bridge games, particularly tournaments. You won't learn anything playing against the same people.
- He is an ACBL-Certified Bridge Teacher and has been teaching for five years predominantly at the Bridge Center. He has taught some private lessons as well. To get certified, one must attend a special 2-day program, usually at a national tournament, where you are taught the basics of instructions and also about the ACBL curriculum (which recently, has had another revision).
- His involvement in Unit 116 is through the contribution of a bi-monthly article to his column "*The Bridge Gene-ie.*" So far, so good! Please make sure you e-mail Eugene at [bridgegenie@gmail.com](mailto:bridgegenie@gmail.com) with any questions, especially newer/299er players out there.

**Personal:**

- He was a clinical social worker for many years, working mostly in the mental health field. Earlier this year, he decided to make a career change to the field of library and information science. He received a full

tuition scholarship to boot so it was a deal he could not refuse. So far, he loves it!

- Eugene won't admit it but he is a great cook. If you happen to attend a session of Duplicate Bridge at the Bridge Center when he prepares a Friday meal, you are in for a treat!
- He belongs to the following organizations: American Library Association and National Association of Social Workers. He also is a Licensed Social Worker in New York.
- His favorite sports and hobbies are volleyball, cooking and baking, pumpkin carving, science fiction and fantasy, and anything that has to do with games or cards.
- He likes to volunteer to help others in need. Eugene encourages others to do the same so they can find out how satisfying it can be!



***Congratulations to Dan Gerstman and Brian Meyer in placing 1<sup>st</sup> in ACBL-wide Instant Matchpoint***

Unit 116 Fall Sectional  
 Williamsville, NY  
 October 31 – November 2, 2008

*Friday Morning Open Pairs – 27.5 tables*

A	B	C	Names
1			<b>Alberta Brown; Stanley Kozlowski</b>
2			<b>Patricia Rasmus; Dan Gerstman</b>
3			<b>John Kilmer; Elbert Hargesheimer III</b>
5	1	1	<b>Paula Kotowski; John Kirsits</b>
6	2		<b>Rita Sierocinski; Fran Kurtz</b>
	3		<b>Paul Libby - Barbara Libby</b>
	5	2	<b>Linda Burroughsford, ON; Marietta Kalman</b>
	6/7	3	<b>Gordon Crone; George Donsky</b>

*Friday Afternoon Open Pairs – 21.0 tables*

A	B	C	Names
1			<b>Judith Marshall - Sharon Benz</b>
2			<b>Judith Padgug; Donna Steffan</b>
3			<b>John Kilmer; Elbert Hargesheimer III</b>
4	1		<b>Claire Gareleck; Catherine Majewski</b>
5	2		<b>Kathy Pollock; Dian Petrov</b>
6	3		<b>Anne Watkins; Rita Sofia</b>
5	1		<b>Gordon Crone; George Donsky</b>
	2		<b>Diane Lyons; Dorothy Soong</b>

Paula Kotowski; Jo hn Kirsits  
3

*Saturday Morning Open Pairs – 24.5 tables*

A	B	C	Names
1			Christine Urbanek; Joan Rose
2			Christy Kellogg; Elbert Hargesheimer III
3			Dan Gerstman; Brian Johnston,ON
6	1		Kathy Pollock; Kingman Bassett
3			Inge Gallant, US; Chongmin Zhang
5	1		Dorothy Soong; Diane Lyons
6	2		Ross Markello - Shirley Cassety
3			Judy Kaprove - Robert Kaprove

*Saturday Afternoon Open Pairs – 19.5 tables*

A	B	C	Names
1			Saleh Fetouh; Jay Levy
3	1	1	Gerald Hooley; Phyllis Wilkinson
6	2		S Luke Danielson; Nita Ferrell
3			Judith Padgug - Robert Padgug
5	2		Diane Lyons; Dorothy Soong
3			Dale Anderson; Celine Murray

*Sunday Swiss Teams – 24 tables*

A	B	C	Names
1			Harry Cheung; Francis Tseng, PA; Marc Sylvester, PA; John Ziemer,
2	1		Kathy Pollock; Chongmin Zhang; Robert Leach - Dian Petrov
3			Elbert Hargesheimer III, ; Christy Kellogg - Michael Ryan - Howard Foster
2			Robert Padgug - Judith Padgug; Elaine Universal; Susan Bergman
3	1		Dale Anderson; Faith Perry; Florence Boyd; Bruce Bronstein
2			Pat Rogers; Franklin Kidd; Marie Suprinick; David Larcom
3			David Whitt; Carl McMurtry,; Val Derenda; Franklin Belz

**Annual Meeting  
Rescue Fire Hall  
December 7, 2008**

A	B	C	Names
1			John Kilmer, Saleh Fetouh
2			Beverly Cohen, Jim Mathis
3	1		Judith Padgug, Robert Padgug
	2	1	Mike Silverman, Lou DiLorenzo
	3	2	Carol Chudy, Henry Chudy
		3	Ruth Kozower, Sandra Scheff

**Sad Tidings**

Norma Gelose  
Jim Grant  
Rhoda Jacobs  
Lavern Lewis  
Barbara Speckmann  
Dr. I A Sternberg  
Dorothea Sterne  
Ray Stoklosa

*If you know of a recent member passing, please send info to Editor. Thank you.*

**Changes to Unit 116 Directory**

Name	Address	Phone	Cell	e-mail
Andersen Robert	9903 Newmarket Clarence 14031	759-6030		
Tannenbaum, Gabriel	12 Old Mill Cir Elma - 14059	655-0237	216-288-3606	Gabetannenbaum @GMail.com

**Bridge Club News**



Bridge Center of Buffalo  
Phone # 834-4222 for reservations and information.

**MENTORING ON  
Tues. & Thurs. @ BCB**

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.



The Bridge Center of Buffalo will hold its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual New Year's Eve party and game on Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. Party begins at 7:00 pm, game time 7:45 pm. Everyone is asked to bring an hors d'oeuvre or dessert and their own alcoholic beverages. The BCB will supply alcoholic snacks, non-alcoholic drinks for the evening, entertainment, appropriate party supplies and champagne for the midnight toast. Please sign up in advance at the club or by calling **John Bielinski** (675-0507) or **Bob Feasley** (992-4320).



Bridge Forensics by **Dick Czarnecki**



**“The Club recently adopted a policy of zero tolerance for bad bridge play.”**

The secret of a good cartoon is the caption. The Buff will award two entries to the Winter Sectional 2009 to be held at Daemen College – January 9-11<sup>th</sup> for the best cartoon submitted by January

2<sup>nd</sup>. Send by e-mail to [Sanbornjoker@aol.com](mailto:Sanbornjoker@aol.com) or US mail:

**Dick Czarnecki**,  
2961 Lockport Rd  
Sanborn, NY 14132.

The best cartoonist will have the cartoon published in the Buff. Cartoons that receive honorable mention will appear in future Buffs. Thanks for your participation.

### **Memories from the past – 1978**

How many names of players currently playing can you recognize?

**Aurora** – Frank Erick-Nick France, Jim Easton-Gordon Connolly

**Barrett** – Diane Daly-Donna Tepas, Sally Gray-Mary Jo Lankes, Michen Lenzer-Marion Morris, June Cohen-Mark Freischlag, Liz Kaufer-Ailene Fischer, Dan Foley-Bill Rieker, Jaye Hubbell-Jackie Zanghi, Anne Bartels-Zel Alpern, Gene and Bark Spickmann, Lou and Jill Woodbridge, Chris Urbanek-John Sinclair, Sue Neubecker-Gert Miles

**Bethlehem** – Skip and Bobbi Peckens, Frank Erick-Ethel Anderson

**Delaware** - Mary Fallis-Mel Ferris, Peg and Bill Rieker

**East Aurora** – Lillian Gotshall-Arlene Clark, Alice Reid-Jerry Thomason

**Gibson** – Betty Fudeman-Shirley Weintraub, Jane Elze-Bev Cohen

**Jewish Center** – NANA Stromberg-Louise Mink, Dot Kumrow-Elinore Meilman, Margaret Stewart-Mary Dowd, Jane Elze-Renzo Renzoni

**Ken Del** – Florence Kenyon-Sam Grossman, Dan Gerstman-Tom Wolstencroft

**Lockport B&G** – Paula and Jim Jones, Pheobe Lange-Ruth Hughes

**North Tonawanda YWCA** – Carol Retzer-Lee Gordon, Mike Kisiel-Tony Scalia

**Olean** – Mary Davis-Fran Rogers, Lillian Mahoney-Gen Soplop, Nea Corey-Edward Geary, Loretta Ambuske-Gen Soplop, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hess, Edward Geary-George Bollman

**Park Lane** – Marge Thrasher-Audrey Phillips, Roselle Selikoff-Nathan Unger

**Regency** – Patty Rapini-Dick Rasmus, Frank Erick-Walt Majewski, Roland Hammond-Bobbi Peckens, Bert Graham-Bob Winkler.

**Salamanca** – Mary Davis-Fran Rogers, Harold Williams-Joe Zoghibe, Gen Soplop-Edward Geary

**Whist** – Rose Tries-Kay Mayer, Max Mingal-Bob Olin.

The editor didn't realize that there were so many Bridge clubs available in June, 1978.

### **BRIDGE CRUISE**

#### **An Unbeatable Combination:**

Warm Caribbean Sun, Luxurious Crown Princess, Exotic Islands and Contract Bridge with Old and New Friends.

#### **Feb. 22 – Mar. 1, 2009 - Itinerary:**

Ft. Lauderdale, Princess Cay (a private island), at sea, St. Maarten, St. Thomas, Grand Turk, at sea, Ft. Lauderdale

Bridge Games (included) – Join **CHRIS URBANEK** – ACBL Certified Bridge Director and **BETTY METZ** – RETIRED Owner/Group Tour Operator Two ACBL sanctioned games each day at sea. Other games will be scheduled around ship's activities and time in port. Family and friends who do not play bridge are welcome to join us on the cruise.

#### **Questions on the Cruise:**

Contact **Betty Metz** – 716-773-7398 or [bettymetz@roadrunner.com](mailto:bettymetz@roadrunner.com)

#### **Questions of Bridge:**

Contact **Chris Urbanek** – 716-694-9221 or [chrisurb@roadrunner.com](mailto:chrisurb@roadrunner.com)

Call us for a brochure – leave your name, phone number and e-mail address.

**More things Horatio!?**

A hand from the BBC 299ers game by **John Marvin**

<b>Dir: S</b>	<b>S-JT864</b>		
<b>Vul: None</b>	<b>H-873</b>		
	<b>D-J8</b>		
	<b>C-Q98</b>		
<b>S-K53</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>S-AQ2</b>	
<b>H-KT4</b>	<b>W E</b>	<b>H-AQ52</b>	
<b>D-Q632</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>D-K</b>	
<b>C-J76</b>		<b>C-AKT53</b>	
	<b>S-97</b>		
	<b>H-J96</b>		
	<b>D-AT9754</b>		
	<b>C-42</b>		

It is possible to make 12 tricks in ♣, ♥, or NT. Play the hand out in all 3 contracts (it doesn't matter what level) and you'll see. 31 point slams, on the other hand, often depend (as in this hand) upon the location of a Q.

Planning your play you must assess what "the room" will be doing. If you're in 3NT should you play for 12 tricks?

In match points you must take all the tricks you can to get consistently winning results. True, after a ♦ opening lead by N declarer might want to take 10 tricks and be satisfied, but in a strong game, that may not be a top. If E were playing it & S had led his 4<sup>th</sup> best ♦ declarer would have had 2 stoppers. If N had led a ♠ declarer would have had timing.

On the other hand, if you're not in slam, perhaps you should hope the club finesse won't work and play to drop the doubleton Q off sides? You might ask yourself, "How's our game at this point in time. Do we need all the match points or will an average plus do?"

Gosh! There's a lot to think about.

**The Bridge Gene-ie**  
**By Eugene Harvey**

By the time you read this column, we'll likely be into the holiday season, which probably brings fond memories to many of us. When I was a

young kid, I remember how much fun I had watching the *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* cartoon on television. Despite 'stop-motion animation' the modern I sure do have it. In fact some the show were of my favorites Couple of the duo of Rudolph and Hermey the Misfit Elf (who wanted to study to be a dentist instead of making toys – what's wrong with him?!



being outdated in technological age, fond memories of the best parts of the songs, and one was "We're a Misfits" sung by

As I was reminiscing, I could not help but think of the problems of "misfits" in bridge. Have you ever wondered what to do with some of the more distributional hands you hold? For example, here's your hand:

♠ K J 8 5 2  
♥ 9 7  
♦ 7  
♣ A Q 6 4 2

...and the bidding ensues (both opponents silent):

Partner	You (Responder)
1♥	1♠
2♦	??

Partner opened 1♥, so you respond 1♠. Then partner rebids 2♦. Remember, the opener's job is to describe the strength and shape of their hand. Thinking about the bidding, partner is showing at least 9 cards in the two red suits (likely 5♥'s and 4♦'s and since they did not jump-shift (to 3♦), their hand strength is limited to a basic opener. How much do you like your hand? What do you plan to do?

Some newer players tend to bid, bid, bid..to they might try 3♣. Well, let's think about this bid. First of all, you, as the responder changes suits, it is 100% forcing for another round of bidding. In other words, the opener will have to bid again. As a result, partner might try a 3NT game with the following hand:

Partner	You
♠ 7 3	♠ K J 8 5 2
♥ A Q 6 5 4	♥ 9 7
♦ A K 8 6	♦ 7
♣ 10 3	♣ A Q 6 4 2

As you can tell, this contract likely will be disastrous. There are gaps everywhere, and the hands are misfits with no good intermediates cards. (Js, 10s, 9s) and no good source of tricks in NT.

As soon as your side senses a misfit, it's best to keep the bidding as low as possible. For this hand, you should carefully retreat back to your partner's first bid suit.

Partner	You
1♥	1♠
2♦	2♥
Pass	

You simply are taking a preference to one of your partner's suits and putting the brakes on the bidding. Even in 2♥ partner may struggle, but at least they can a ♦ loser or two in dummy. If you are in NT, you will not have that luxury...

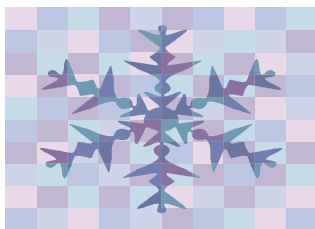


I love the Island of Misfit Toys in the *Rudolph* cartoon, but it sure isn't fun suffering with misfit hands in bridge.

("in a booming voice" 'Genie HAPPY! Send more! Eugene @ [bridgegenie@gmail.com](mailto:bridgegenie@gmail.com))



**Happy Holidays!!**  
Unit 116 Board and  
Bridge Buff Editors



**UNIT 116 WINTER  
SECTIONAL  
DAEMEN  
COLLEGE  
4380 MAIN STREET  
AMHERST (Buffalo), NY 14226**

**Friday, Jan 9  
Pairs (single session)  
Friday, Jan 9  
Pairs (single session)**

**Stratified A/B/C  
10:30 AM  
Stratified A/B/C  
3:30 PM**

**Saturday, Jan 10  
Pairs (single session)  
Saturday, Jan 10  
Pairs (single session)**

**Stratified A/B/C  
10:30 AM  
Stratified A/B/C  
3:30 PM**

**Sunday, Jan 11  
Swiss Teams  
(two session playthrough)**

**Stratified A/B/C  
11:00 AM**

STRATUM "A" 2000+  
STRATUM "B" 500 to 2000  
STRATUM "C" 0 to 500

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

**Tournament Information:**  
E-mail: [prasmus@verizon.net](mailto:prasmus@verizon.net)

Donna Steffan Phone: 716.636.9653  
E-mail: [wsteffan@aol.com](mailto:wsteffan@aol.com)

## Daily Refreshments

Lunch available for  
purchase on Sunday

