



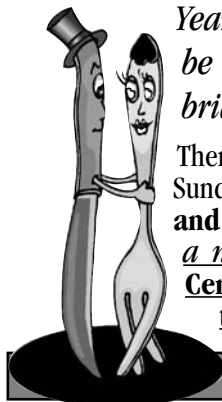
43rd Annual Presidential Tournament

Need a Holiday
from the Holidays?

...*Escape* to play your
first bridge of the New
Year! It will
be the best

bridge you'll have played in all of 2005!

There are **2+** sessions a day, Thursday, January 6 through Sunday, January 9 with a **full schedule of Intermediate and Novice events.** Saturday & Sunday will be held at a new location. The **Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center** has lots of parking & room to play, easy access from the beltway & much more...



Famous WBL Hospitality by Nadine

.....♥ ***Got New Year's Resolutions?***

No worries.... **Healthy treats** for you between sessions all weekend.



♥ ***Party***
to Honor **New
Life Masters**
after Friday Night's Game

your scores every round — one session event, so no qualification is necessary) & **Champagne Punch Game** (check your sobriety every round, too).

.....♣ ***Ready to Break 'em?***

No worries... **Cake** for you at the **New LM Party** Friday night after the **Barometer Pair** (check



.....♠ ***Don't forget about your Bridge Resolutions!***

Plan to attend the **FREE Panel Show** & the **Trophy Race Award Ceremony** on Saturday between sessions.

The complete schedule appears on page 3...

SUGGESTION BOX

Do you have a suggestion that might help to increase membership or otherwise improve the Washington Bridge League? Give any and all ideas to Don Berman, 301-776-3581, don.berman@verizon.net, 13707 Engleman Dr., Laurel, MD 20708, or www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

WBL OMBUDSMAN

Any player with helpful director issues including criticism or praise of the directing staff may contact the Ombudsman, Ann Lindley and be assured that the source of the information will remain confidential. Information should be provided in writing and may be handed to her at any game, or mailed to her at 5740 Windsong Ct., New Market, MD 21774.

♣♦♥♠ ~~~~~ ♣♦♥♠

DEADLINE: JANUARY 13, 2005

TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE MARCH/APRIL 2005 ISSUE

Washington Bridge League BULLETIN (usps #861-240)

VOL. 63, #1 — SUBSCRIPTION \$2 PER YEAR FOR MEMBERS OF UNIT #147 (INCLUDED IN ACBL ANNUAL DUES). NON-MEMBER SUBSCRIPTION RATE IS \$21 FOR THREE YEARS. PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY BY THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE AT 14517 PERRYWOOD DRIVE, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866. SECOND-CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT BURTONSVILLE, MD. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE BULLETIN, ACBL, 2990 AIRWAYS BLVD., MEMPHIS, TN 38116-3847. ALL EDITORIAL AND GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE EDITOR AT 901 CLIFTONBROOK LN., SILVER SPRING, MD 20905-3711.

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The opinions expressed by our columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the ACBL, the WBL, or even the editors of this publication. The WBL is not responsible for the claims of its advertisers.

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 Kitty Gottfried — *Unit Game and Sectional Hospitality* (301-587-3981)

WBL WEBSITE: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org DISTRICT 6 SITE: www.districtsix.org

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Dick Wegman

The North American Pairs finals, played this year in November, were a huge success. More than 160 pairs competed in the finals, easily the best showing that District 6 has had for this event in several years. The winners were: **Dave Ruderman** and **Fred Steinberg** in Flight A, **Bill Hacker** and **Dan Kasture** in Flight B, and **Youssof Seraj** and **Abdul Etemadi** in Flight C. All winners (along with the second and third place finishers) will represent our region in the Nationals next March in Pittsburgh, and their trips to the Nationals will be subsidized. Congratulations to all for doing so well in a very challenging event. And thanks to Bill Cole and Barb Doran for working so hard to produce such a great turnout.

It's well known that tournament bridge players employ a wide variety of systems, treatments, and bidding gadgets. When the system or point range is different from that used by a majority of players in the field, it can skew the results in one direction or the other. What's unusual, though, is when a system skews the results in opposite directions on the very same board.

On Board 2 from the NAP qualifying round, as West I picked up ♠ Q ♥ AKQxx ♦ K10xxx ♣ xx. My partner (Dave Abelow) opened 1NT. He and I play a 10-13 point range (not vul) for our 1NT opening, which most of the field does not play. I transferred into hearts, then bid diamonds, and we ended up at 4♥, played from the East side. Unfortunately, South held ♦ AJxxx, and after my 3♦ bid he found the killing lead of the diamond ace. North, who was void in diamonds, ruffed the second trick, returned a club to his partner's ♣ A, and scored another diamond ruff to set the contract. At most

other tables, of course, there would be no 1NT opening, and my hand would wind up as declarer. 4♥ played from the West side makes easily because North is unable to lead a diamond. Because we had wrong-sided the hand, our -50 score on Board 2 was close to a bottom.

At the end of the round, my wife, Alice, who also uses a 10-13 notrump range with her partner, John Glynn, and who also sat in the same direction, came up to me and said "we got a terrific result from using weak NT this evening." "Great," I said, "on what board?" To my surprise, she said "on Board 2!" At Alice's table, the bidding had started just as it had at our table: 1NT-P-2♦ -P-2♥. But then South decided to compete with 3♥. After a double by West, North redoubled, and South chose to sit for it. When the smoke cleared, Alice and John had scored +1600, for a clear top. Bridge sure is a funny game.

Our first sectional tournament of the New Year will be held January 6-9, 2005. On Saturday and Sunday, we will be playing at a new site, the **Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center** on Forest Glen Road in Silver Spring. This should be a very convenient site for most of our players, with plenty of parking and very comfortable playing space. On Saturday, we will again feature a panel discussion between sessions with a panel of experts who will go over the hands and answer any questions you may have. And of course we will have lots of hospitality, provided by Nadine Wood and Kitty Gottfried.

It should be a great tournament. I hope you'll be able to attend.

—Dick Wegman

WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE SECTIONAL 43rd Annual Presidential Tournament

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

- ♣ Stratified Open Pairs
(unlim/3000/1500/1000/500) 10:30am
Washington Bridge Center, 1620 Elton Road, Silver Spring MD, (301) 445-0276
- ♦ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X unlim/3000, B/C/D Separate 1500/1000/500) & Stratified 199er Pairs (both sites); 0-20 Pairs (Christ the King Church only)
Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria 7:00pm
Christ the King Church, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring 7:30pm
Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right on Grubb Rd. 1st left on Colston. The church is one block on the left.



♥ Party
to Honor New
Life Masters
after Friday's
**Barometer &
Champagne
Pairs Game**

Friday held at Christ the King Church Only

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

- ♥ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) 10:00am, 1:30pm
- ♠ **Barometer & Champagne Pairs:** StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D (1500/1000/500) 7:30pm
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions) 10:00am, 1:30pm, 7:30pm

NEW LOCATION ♦ Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center ♥

SATURDAY & SUNDAY ONLY: 1000 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring, MD: From Beltway exit Georgia Avenue north (toward Wheaton). Turn right at first traffic light which is Forest Glen. Go .7 mile. Senior Center is the building on your right.

New Saturday Start Times

Panel Show & Trophy Race Award Ceremony between sessions

- ♣ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) (single sessions) . . 11:00am, 3:30pm
- ♦ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) (single sessions) 11:00am & 3:30pm
- ♥ Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions) 11:00am & 3:30pm

New Sunday Start Times

- ♠ A/X Swiss Teams, VPs (unlim /3000, 7 round playthru w/short break) 11:00am & TBA
- ♣ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (2000/1000/500, 7 round playthru w/short break) . . . 11:00am & TBA
- ♦ 300/100/50 Swiss Teams, VPs (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:00pm

♣ **Full Schedule of Intermediate and Novice Events ♥**

I/N events: 0-5, 20, 50, 100, 200, 300; Stratification at Director's Discretion.



Famous Washington Hospitality includes snacks, drinks and lunch free of charge on Friday, Saturday and Sunday between sessions. **Chair: Nadine Wood, 301-565-9555, woodthere@comcast.net, Co-Chair: Ann Lindley, 240-994-8416. Volunteer Coordinator: Barbara Summers, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com. Hospitality: Kitty Gottfried, 301-587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com Partnerships: Charity Sack, 703-963-7027, charity@charitysack.com** or try the easy **On-line Partnership Desk:** www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

43RD ANNUAL PRESIDENTIAL TOURNAMENT: JANUARY 6-9, 2005

WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE SECTIONAL

59th Annual City of Washington Tournament

THURSDAY, MARCH 3

- ♣ Stratified Open Pairs (unlim/3000/1500/1000/500)10:30am
Washington Bridge Center,
1620 Elton Road, Silver Spring MD, (301) 445-0276
- ♦ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X unlim/3000, B/C/D Separate
1500/1000/500) & Stratified 199er Pairs (both sites); 0-20 Pairs
(Christ the King Church only)
Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria . .7:00pm
Christ the King Church, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring . .7:30pm
Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right
on Grubb Rd. 1st left on Colston. The church is one block on the left.



Friday held at Christ the King Church Only

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

- ♥ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500)10:00am, 1:30pm
- ♠ **Barometer & Champagne Pairs:** StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D (1500/1000/500) 7:30pm
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions)10:00am, 1:30pm, 7:30pm

♦ **Remainder of Tournament held at Newport Mill Middle School Only** ♥



11311 Newport Mill Road, Kensington MD
Capital Beltway to Georgia Ave North (Exit
31 – State Hwy 97) go 1.7 miles & bear left
onto Veirs Mill Rd. (State Hwy 586). Go
north 1.1 miles and turn left on Newport
Mill Rd. School will be on the left.

Get ready for Spring! Enjoy Luau Hospitality & a Saturday Workshop!

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

- ♣ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) (single sessions) . .11:00am, 3:30pm
- ♦ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) (single sessions)11:00am & 3:30pm
- ♥ Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions)11:00am & 3:30pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

- ♠ A/X Swiss Teams, VPs (unlim /3000, 7 round playthru w/short break)11:00am & TBA
- ♣ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (2000/1000/500, 7 round playthru w/short break)11:00am & TBA
- ♦ 300/100/50 Swiss Teams, VPs (single sessions)11:00am, 3:00pm

♣ **Full Schedule of Intermediate and Novice Events** ♥

I/N events: 0-5, 20, 50, 100, 200, 300; Stratification at Director's Discretion.



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BITS AND PIECES

WELCOME TO THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: **Ms Lynne G Beresford, Mr Ronald B Bush, Mrs Jennifer L Elliott, Dr Dorothy S Fontana, Dr Robert J Fontana, Mrs Caroline R Goodman, Mr Michael H Hart, Ms Patricia L King, Ms Ronnie H Loeser, Mr Philip – Lyons, Jose Porres, Mr Ajaz Rahman, Alicia Ravenel, Ms Shawn C Stringer, Mr Frank C Turley, Mr Zack M Turley, Mr Reginald S Beard Jr, Mr Murat O Berk, Mrs Carol A Besner, Mrs Betty R Churchill, Elizabeth Colton, Mr John Dowicki, Mr Mark B Feldman, Garry S Grossman, Ms Mary L Iglehart, Mr Adam P Jessell, Leslie P Jessell, Mr Zachary Kabelac, Adrienne C Kohn, Ms Lucille C Ludwig, Mrs Elizabeth A Majane, Mr Robert H Moss, Mrs Anita B Ratain, Wenda D Reiskin, Mrs Coralie Richards, Mrs Bernadette D Salyer, Bev Schuyler, and Judith Trachtenberg.**

In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: **Ms Karen Angulo, Atty William C Dixon, Mr David L Genne, Mrs Maureen McGowan, Andreas Rostin, Ms Billie Sandler, Mr Alfred Segal, Rosalind P Dixon, Millie Hartz, Ramanathan K Illango, Mrs Alberta K Levi, Mr Arthur Podolsky, Mr William J Schmonsees, Mrs Linda C Smith, and Dianne Z Welling.**

Please join us at our weekly Unit Game on Thursday evenings and frequent the local bridge clubs in the area. Information can be found on our website, www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

BRIDGE & BOWLING FEBRUARY 5, 2005

Bridge and Bowling will take place on Saturday, February 5! For those interested in playing, please contact Ron Zucker either by phone at (202) 986-2166 or by e-mail at ron@motherzucker.com.

NO PARTICULAR SKILL AT EITHER GAME IS REQUIRED! We will match up teams based on both bridge skill and bowling skill. After the bowling, we'll have a team game, which will be a GNT qualifier.

So get out those tasteful bowling shoes! (Or be like the rest of us and rent them from the alley.) Dig the bowling ball out of the back of the closet. (Or be like the rest of us and go looking for the lightest ball you can lug around that fits your fingers) But come out for this annual event.

Check your e-mail for more details.

LOST & FOUND

Kitty Gottfried has several jackets, umbrellas, etc., that were left at Unit games over the year. Any items not identified or claimed by the end of January will be disposed of. You can contact Kitty at (301) 587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com, or at most Thursday night unit games.

2005 UNIT KNOCKOUTS SIGN UP BY JAN. 27

The 2005 Unit Knockouts, which are scheduled by the teams involved to be played at either a home or club, will be the same popular double elimination format that ran for the first time last year. Teams can be made up of four to six players. Sign your team up by January 27, 2005 with Steve Robinson (robinswr@erols.com or 703-379-4371). For help in forming teams, contact a Partnership Coordinator or try the On-Line Partnership Desk. (See page 20.)

SAD NEWS

Shizu Myers, wife of Larry Myers and mother of Adam, Steven, and David, collapsed on Sunday, October 21st. She was kept on life support for several days, but died the morning of the 28th.

Shizu had played bridge in this area for

more than 40 years and was a regular player at the Laurel Bridge Club.

CLUB NEWS—

WASHINGTON BRIDGE CENTER

**Art Weiss
New Chief Director**

By Jim Allen, Owner

The Washington Bridge Center announced that Art Weiss has assumed the duties of Chief Director. Jackie Thompson is retiring from this position. Jackie will continue as a director and now travel with fewer worries.

Art has been directing at the WBC on Tuesday mornings and recently Monday evenings. He is comfortable with all levels of bridge. He is the Owner and Director at the International Monetary Fund Game on Tuesday nights where he has built a fine game over the last ten years.

Art revealed a keen sense of humor when he announced upon receiving an award that he would not tell anyone how much Glenn Lublin paid him to play with Glenn.

Overheard at the Club

"A man's got to do what a man's got to do. A woman must do what he can't."

"I want a really good partner that will understand my bidding."

To the director: "I know the rules better than you do."

In a loud voice – "Shut up. You have been rude all day and I could hear you at every table."

SUIT YOURSELF BRIDGE CLUB

Not a "Little Game" Anymore!

By Sandy Forsythe

Recently, someone asked me, "How's your little Saturday night game going?" "It's not little anymore!" I replied. "Last month we had eleven and a half tables...our new record!"

My "little Saturday night game" is a monthly 0-750 game held at my house. My husband Steve is the director. We started the monthly Suit Yourself Bridge Club in January of 2001, mainly so we could play duplicate without having to pay a babysitter. When we started, we sometimes had as few as two or three tables, and five tables was a big game. I never dreamed that we'd be routinely hosting nine or ten tables. Our biggest worry now is that we'll run out of tables and chairs!

What's the secret of our success? A relaxed, friendly atmosphere, lots of masterpoints awarded, *and chocolate!* We're known for having the best snacks and the friendliest game in town: we guarantee partners AND chocolate! Playing in our home makes everyone feel comfortable, and the optional pot luck dinner before the game gives the players a chance to socialize. We award extra masterpoints because every game is a Junior Fund charity game. We give away an average of 29 points each game! More than 100 people have earned points at Suit Yourself.

In 2005, our masterpoint limit will go up to 1000...but we'll still have a 0-20 strata to give newer players a chance to win points. Email us at majslf@aol.com or call Steve or Sandy, 301/592-9177, for directions and our schedule.

ADVERTISE?

Advertisements are welcome in the WBL Bulletin. We distribute approximately nineteen hundred copies of each issue, every other month. As of this issue, advertising rates are:

\$75 for a full page ad

\$50 for a half page ad

\$30 for a quarter page ad

\$20 for an eighth page ad

The sixth consecutive appearance of an ad runs free.

**GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS
2004-2005**

DISTRICT FINALS ARE HERE

The District finals get underway for Flights B and C and the Open Flight in February, and Flight A in May. All interested participants must have qualified at the club stage.

If you are in need of partners/teammates, we will have an **On-line Partnership Desk** at www.districtsix.org, or contact Rae Dethlefsen, District 6 GNT Coordinator, at 703-709-5205 or by email at raed824@comcast.net.

All teams must pre-register by the date shown below for their flight. Pre-register your team by the due date shown below by sending Rae Dethlefsen (11232 Chestnut Grove Sq #335; Reston, VA 20190) a list of your team members (ACBL player numbers helpful), designation of the Flight in which you are competing, and a check for \$88.00 (made out to District 6).

The Open and Flight A are only being held in the northern part of the District. The first weekend of Flights B and C are being held at separate northern and southern sites but on the same weekend.

Open

Pre-Registration	February 17
1st Weekend	February 19-20
2nd Weekend	April 9-10

Flight A: 0-5000 MPs

Pre-Registration	May 19
1st Weekend	May 21-22
2nd Weekend	June 4-5

Flight B: 0-2000 MPs

Pre-Registration	February 10
1st Weekend	February 12-13
2nd Weekend	February 19-20

Flight C: Non-LMs 0-500 MPs

Pre-Registration	February 10
1st Weekend	February 12-13
2nd Weekend	February 19-20

The starting time for the first weekend Saturday session of all events is 12:30 pm; on the second weekend, the starting time on Saturday is 12:00 pm; the Sunday sessions will begin at 11:00 am; and each second session is TBA.

The first Saturday of the Open, Flight A

and the northern site of Flights B and C will be held at Christ the King Church in Silver Spring, MD. We will be playing at a nearby site on Sunday. Both days of Flights B and C at the southern site will be at the Peninsula DBC in Newport News.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Rae Dethlefsen.

DIRECTIONS:

Christ the King Church: 2301 Colston Dr., Silver Spring, MD. From the I-495, go south on Connecticut Ave. Turn left onto East/West Highway, turn right onto Grubb Road and then make the first left onto Colston Dr. Christ the King Church is one block down on the left.

Peninsula DBC: 640-A 79th St., Newport News, VA (757-380-6032). From the west: take I-64 E to US-17S (Exit 258A – J Clyde Morris Blvd); after about 5.5 miles US-17 becomes Jefferson. Go about .2 miles on Jefferson and turn left on 79th St. From the east: take I-64W to US-258S (Exit 263A – Mercury Blvd toward James River Br.) for about 3+ miles. Turn left on Jefferson Ave. for .2 miles. Then turn left on 79th St; the bridge club is located in the shopping center.

Washington Bridge Center: 1620 Elton Rd., Silver Spring, MD (301-445-0276). From the I-95/495 Beltway, take exit 28A towards White Oak (MD-650 N/New Hampshire Ave). Turn right on Elton Rd. Turn left into parking lot. Washington Bridge Center is on the second floor.

Laurel Bridge Club: 8654-A Laureldale Dr., Laurel, MD (301-490-1383). From MD-295 (BW Parkway): Exit at MD-198 (Ft. Meade Rd) toward Laurel. Laureldale Dr. is 5th traffic light. Turn right on Laureldale Dr. From I-95: Exit at MD-198 (Exit 33A) toward Laurel. Stay on 198 about 5 miles (crossing US-1 and MD-197). Laureldale Dr. is 3rd traffic light past MD-197. Turn left on Laureldale Dr. Follow the road back until it opens into the parking lot of a professional plaza. The Laurel Bridge Club is in the middle of the plaza on the left with the name on the marquee.

continued on page 19

WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to Mark Chen and Elliot Itkin who tied for first with a score of 470. They win a free entry to the Unit Game and will be invited to be on a future panel. Tied for third were David Rodney, Todd Zimnoch and Marvin Elster with a score of 460. Sixth was Lloyd Rawley and with a score of 450. Tied for seventh were Nikola Tcholakov, Joana Silva, Jay Latham, Fred Steinberg, Rick McDaniel, Sheryl McEwan, Larry Kahn and Larry Harding with a score of 440. Tied for fifteenth were Mike Deverin, Pat Klaus, Sonney Taragin, Tom Musso and Millard Nachtwey with a score of 430. Tied for twentieth were Tom Regan, Richard Wimberley, Yi Zhong, Kevin Barnes, Suzane Abrams, Irish Grandfield, Ken Kaufman, Jason Rosenfeld, Bill Bingham, Kent Goulding, Kathy Paramore, Rossi Lindstrom, Kenn Pendleton and Edith Black with a score of 420. The average score of the 173 solvers was 370. The average score of the experts was 421.

All readers are encouraged to send answers and/or new problems to Steve Robinson, 2891 S. Abingdon St. #A2 Arlington, VA, 22206. In addition to the winner receiving a free play at the WBL Unit Game, Steve will play with anyone who gets a perfect score or who exactly matches all five of his answers. If you send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the above address along with your answers, Steve will send you a copy of the new problems to ensure that you can meet his next deadline. You can pick up a copy of the problems at the WBL Unit Game in Maryland, and can send answers or requests for problems to robinswr@erols.com. WBL Solvers Club uses *Washington Standard* as published July 1996.

The book *Washington Standard* second edition is out. If you are a serious bridge player, this book is a must. You can purchase a copy from Steve for \$25.00 at the Unit Game and at tournaments or can send

him a check for \$28.95 that includes \$3.95 for priority mail.

1) IMPs Both Vulnerable

♠ 106♥ K965♦ A3♣ 109854

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
-----	1♠	2♣	2♠
?????			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
3♠	100	3	12
4♣	80	4	49
3♣	80	2	64
Double	70	1	14
Pass	30	0	10
5♣	30	0	17
3NT	30	0	1
2NT	30	0	1
3♥	20	0	3
3♦	20	0	1

What is this hand worth? Opposite ♠ xx♥ xxx♦ Kx♣ AKQxxx, you could go for 800 in 5♣ doubled. So jumping to 5♣ is an overbid. I don't think you should jump to 4♣, which shows a preemptive hand when you hold two high honors outside your suit. You could easily have a game if partner has a hand with four hearts such as ♠ xx♥ AQxx♦ xx♣ AKJxx. You would like to be able to make a mixed raise. A mixed raise is a jump in opener's suit, but jumping to 4♣ is forcing to 5♣. You could overbid with 3♣, underbid with 3♣ or misbid with 4♣. I like 3♣, which shows a limit raise or better in clubs. Over 3♣, you can live with partner's decision. If partner bids 5♣, he will have at least ten tricks. ♠ xx♥ Ax♦ KQxx♣ AKJxx is enough to make 5♣ and he'll probably bid it if you bid 3♣. If West bids 4♣ and partner doubles, your Ace and King will take tricks. If West bids 4♣ and partner passes, you can pass, and hope to beat them. You know that 5♣ can't be that good. At IMPs, with both vulnerable, you have to be able to take ten tricks for 5♣ to be a good save. If you save,

both vulnerable expecting to go for 500, sometimes the 500 turns into 1100, or still worse, turns into 800 and you could beat their game. If you think you can take ten tricks, sometimes ten turns into eleven.

Two experts agree with me and bid 3♠. If partner opened 1♠ and your black suits were reversed, it wouldn't be that much of an overbid to make a limit raise.

Parker: "3♠—I have defense and don't want to arbitrarily save over 5♣ or want partner to. If I bid 4♣, that does not show any defense. If partner has a good hand we can make 5♣ so I can bid 3♠ and let him decide the correct action. 3♣ is too weak a bid since I will not know what to do over 3♠ to me."

Schwartz: "3♠—Can't see bidding 3♣ with five-card support, and 4♣ with an ace and a king. Partner should be aware that I could have distribution for my bid."

Two experts make a simple raise. I like 3♣ much better than 4♣. You could then bid 4♣ if one of the opponents competed to 3♠. 3♣ shows some defense.

King: "3♠—My spade holding is a big minus. I will bid on to 4♣, but I expect both 5♣ and 4♠ to be down one."

Cappelletti: "3♣—Since I have no singletons, I am not in a hurry to bid 5♣ and probably go minus. I'll listen and decide what to do later. I do have some defense."

Four experts preempt.

Chansky: "4♣—Bid what you think you can make. If I had a singleton I'd bid 5♣."

Adams: "4♣—I would double, except I would then have to decide what to do over 4♣. This way I can give partner a voice. Should not play me for a terrible hand vulnerable."

But he might play you for some more distribution.

Roman: "4♣—Then double if they bid 4♣. The problem with responsive double is that while it gets hearts into the game, a) partner will get the wrong idea about the nature of my hand and I commit myself to bidding 5♣ over 4♣ and b) if we do have a double club/heart fit, we'll never outbid them."

So if partner holds ♠ xx♥ xxx♦ Qx♣ AKQJxx, you either go for

-790, -990, -800 or -1100.

Woolsey: "4♣—We have at least ten clubs and they have at least eight spades, so this is the right level to compete according to the law of total tricks. If they bid 4♣, partner can take over the decision making."

But is partner going to know that you have an outside Ace and a King?

The next bid makes sense to me. Brings hearts in the picture just in case partner has four of them and ten tricks are easier to take than eleven tricks. If they bid 4♣ and partner wants to bid, he should bid 4NT rather than five-of-a-red suit.

Hopkins: "Double—I am going to make a Responsive Double in an attempt to play in Hearts. If we don't find a Heart fit, I hope to raise Clubs at my next turn in the auction."

Don't preempt with non-preemptive hands.

2) IMPs Both Vulnerable

♠ 32♥ AK7654♦ AK3♣ 54

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
-----	-----	1♠	Pass
2♥	3♦	4♦	5♦
?????			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
Pass	100	4	10
Double	90	1	88
6♦	70	3	22
6♥	70	2	30
5♥	60	0	19
7♠	20	0	1
6NT	20	0	1
5NT	20	0	1

Partner has shown a good heart raise and a diamond control. It doesn't take a brain surgeon to figure out that partner's diamond control is shortness, probably a void. So what is AKx opposite shortness? Wasted values and defense. Parker suggests that partner could have ♠ AKxxxx♥ Qxxx♦ x♣ Ax. With that hand he would have bid Keycard over 3♦. If partner has ♠ AKxxxx♥ Qxxx♦ -♣ KQx, he could bid 5♦ Exclusion Roman Keycard Blackwood (ERKB). ERKB, is a jump above RKC and it asks partner how many keycards he has outside of that suit. ERKB is a dangerous bid but works well when used correctly. If partner has ♠ AKxxxx♥ Qxxx♦ -♣ Axx, he

could bid 5NT, the Grand Slam force asking you to bid seven if you have the AK of hearts or he could bid ERKC. Partner, therefore, has a hand that needs help in the black suits. He has a hand where Key-card, ERKC or the Grand Slam Force won't help such as ♠AQxxx♥Qxxx♦-♣QJxx or ♠AQxxx♥Qxxx♦-♣KJxx. He has holes in the black suits. With the wasted AK of diamonds, you want to slow the auction down and doubling is the best way to accomplish that.

Four experts make a forcing pass. This is supposed to let partner make the next decision. But partner doesn't know that you don't have any black Aces or black Kings. He also doesn't know that the opponents cannot make 5♦. Would he double 5♦ holding ♠QJ10xx♥Qxxx♦-KQJx?

Hopkins: "Pass—I am uncertain as to whether we should play or defend, so I remain neutral and let my partner contribute. We have a fair play for a grand opposite as little as ♠AKxxx♥xxxx♦-♣Axxx and would be better off defending if partner has something like ♠AKQJx♥QJxx♦-♣QJ9x."

Adams: "Pass—Forcing due to partners 4♦ bid. My AK of diamonds are good for club pitches in slam if partner does not double. Opponents might well have double fit. Since I do not know if doubling or bidding is right, I pass. If my diamonds were secondary (KQJ) I would double."

Actually 2♥ created a force.

Roman: "Pass—Forcing since I showed game forcing values. I'm driving this hand to 6♥, and partner may be able to bid a grand with AK of spades, four hearts and the Ace of clubs."

Schwartz: "Pass—Should have a black card for 6♦."

Three experts try for the grand. Slight overbid when you might not be able to make 5♥. If you can make 7♥, partner would have asked for keycards over 3♦.

Parker: "6♦—This should show solid hearts and first round Diamond control. All he needs is ♠AKxxx♥Qxxx♦x♣Ax to make a grand. He should bid it with that hand. If he does not have hearts then he must have solid spades, but my partners have hearts for that bid."

King: "6♦—Where are the points in

this hand? At least one of my diamond honors is probably wasted and maybe partner has something like ♠KQJxx♥QJxx♦-♣KQJx, so I should pass and pull to show slam interest, but that seems too extreme a position to take. I will show my Diamond control and let partner bid seven if he has the black suits under control."

Woolsey: "6♦—It's pretty hard to imagine a hand partner can hold where we don't have a decent play for a small slam, so I'm willing to commit to that. Partner will know that I am trying for a grand yet I am presumably off both black aces since I bypassed them both, so I must have something like this. If he has both black aces and a sufficient source of tricks, he should be able to bid the grand."

If he had both black aces and a sufficient source of tricks, he would have bid keycard.

Two experts jump to slam. Sometimes when you jump to slam, the opponents believe you and save.

Cappelletti: "6♥—Doubling 5♦ is even less appealing with partner on lead. And there is no way to check for a grand."

Chansky: "6♥—Partner has void in diamonds and must have some hearts. No way to tell if he has the right cards, but 6♥ should have a good chance."

You have bid your hand when you bid 2♥, which is game forcing. Don't bid the same values again. AKx opposite shortness are wasted values, which is where I came in.

3) IMPs None Vulnerable

♠QJ2♥KQ93♦AJ762♣2

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
—	—	1♠	2NT
????*			
*3♦ = 10+HCPs with 3+ spades			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
Double	100	4	27
3♦	80	3	89
4♣	70	3	18
4♠	40	0	24
4NT	30	0	4
4♦	30	0	2
3♠	30	0	2
3♥	30	0	4
5♠	20	0	1
3♣	20	0	1

Holding strong diamonds behind East, this hand has defense. Double of 2NT shows defense against at least one of the opponent's suits. If you double 2NT and West bids 3♣ and partner, with four or more clubs doubles it, they should be in hot water. If somehow, they land in diamonds, there could be a four-figure number on our side. If partner has ♠Axxxx♥xxx♦x♣AKxx, we could be getting 500 against 3♣ and might not be able to make 4♠, losing two hearts and two spades. If LHO bids 3♣ and partner passes, you can cuebid to show a good 4♠ bid.

Three experts agree with me and go for the throat.

King: "Double—Showing I have good defense against at least one of their suits and letting partner double clubs if he has that suit. There is too good a chance for a big pick up to let them off the hook with a 3♦ bid now."

Adams: "Double—Suits are breaking badly. If partner has Clubs, opponents are in trouble, and 4♠ not 100%. If partner does not double clubs, I can cuebid."

Roman: "Double—First order of business is to see if partner can double the club bid that's coming. If not, I will bid 4♠ (or double 5♣)."

Three experts splinter. The lack of a fourth trump can be disastrous especially when trumps don't figure to split well. 4♣ IS a slam try and you have a hand where you might not even make game. The Splinter sets spades as trumps and does not allow for getting to hearts when partner has four or five of them.

Parker: "4♣—I lack a fourth spade but have a great hand and I can show my hand in one bid, so why not? Odds are that partner has some hearts but it is too hard to find them."

Cappelletti: "4♣—This hand best described by splinter."

Woolsey: "4♣—As usual, a splinter figures to be the best bid to help partner evaluate. He needs as little as ♠AK10xx♥AJx♦x♣xxxx for slam to have decent play. Since he has room to cuebid if he is only worth a try, the splinter is fairly safe — obviously I'm done after this. The lack of a fourth spade shouldn't make

much difference."

Three experts set trumps by bidding 3♦. This is the Unusual over Unusual convention where bidding the higher of the opponent's suits (♠ & ♦) shows a limit raise or better in the higher of our possible two suits (♥ & ♠). In this case, since we have bid spades, 3♦ shows at least limit raise values with at least three-card support. 3♣ would show hearts, limit or better and since hearts haven't been bid, would show at least five. 3♠ shows spade support with less than limit raise values. 3♥ shows a weak-two in hearts. Since 3♦ could be a three-card limit raise, partner is less likely to go overboard.

Chansky: "3♦—More important to show partner what you have than to hope for a big plus by doubling."

Hopkins: "3♦—I think the advice is to bid to the limit of your hands before thinking of doubling the opponents. We could have a play for slam if partner has a hand such as: ♠AKxxx♥AJxx♦x♣xxx."

Schwartz: "3♦—OK, Ill bite. 4♣ would show four-card support and can't see hiding the spade support."

When you have a stack in one of the opponent's suits, and only minimal support for partner give partner a chance to double the other suit.

4) IMPs Both Vulnerable

♠-♥Q103♦J95♣AJ97654

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
—	4♠	Pass	Pass
????			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
Pass	100	7	128
5♣	80	3	34
Double	30	0	9
4NT	30	0	1

I have found that this is a bidders game. More often than not, bidding works out better than passing. Remember, good bridge is making the next to the last mistake. Even if bidding 5♣ is wrong, East could make the last mistake by bidding 5♠. He could have ♠Kxx♥xxxx♦Axx♣xxx and bid 5♠ just to find out that West opened 4♠ holding

♠ AJ98xxx♥xx♦KQxx♣-. If you bid 5♣, on bad days when partner has the worst possible hand such as ♠KJ9x♥xxxx♦xxxx♣x, you go for 1700 and they can't even make 4♠. However, give partner ♠xxx♥AKxxx♦Ax♣Q10x and you could make 7♣. If you give West nine points in spades, there are twenty-three HCPs to be divided between North and East. It would be very unlucky to find North with no help in the three non-spade suits. If East had all of the missing HCPs, he might have made a slam try. There is one more reason to bid 5♣. You bid one more with a void. I think most players would bid 4♣ if it went 3♠ - pass - pass so this is like bidding one more.

Two experts agree with me and take a dive. If this is a good day, 5♣ will make. Hopefully partner won't hang you if he has a good hand.

King: "5♣—Anything could be right. Pass could lead to a double game swing. I think partner would expect more defense from a double and it could also get us to the wrong strain. 5♣ seems like a middle of the road choice, but could easily be wrong. If the opponents were not allowed to bid above the two-level our lives would be a lot easier."

Woolsey: "5♣—I play that if partner had doubled 4♠ that would be penalties. He didn't do, so therefore we probably aren't beating them. How many tricks we can make in clubs is anybody's guess, but it wouldn't be inconceivable for this hand to be a double game swing if the hands fit well, so bidding appears to be the percentage action."

Six experts pass like a chicken. Nothing ventured, nothing gained and in this case nothing lost.

Parker: "Pass—Pass like a chicken. Why go down when they might? Partner's double of 4♠ does not show penalties like it used to, just a good hand. With a spade stack he must pass. Change me to white and I bid 5♣."

Cappelletti: "Pass—Partner is much more likely to have cards which beat 4♠ than cards which will make 5♣."

Chansky: "Pass—Too risky to do anything else. Partner may have some spades."

Hopkins: "Pass—Partner might have the perfect cards, but there is no guarantee and any finesses I might need in the red suits are likely to lose."

Adams: "Pass—Only good thing that could come from bidding is getting opponents one higher, but that is not worth the risk. Hard to imagine 5♣ making, and easy to imagine beating 4♠."

Roman: "Pass—Sorry partner, left my cape and tights in the trunk."

Schwartz: "Pass—Close, but 5♣ loses in two ways, partner can bid six or we can go to a number. This assumes partner only doubles 4♠ with convertible values."

This is a bidders game. Even if 5♣ is wrong, there are still two opponents out there to save you.

5) Matchpoints None Vulnerable

♠ K54♥ AK54♦ 5♣ KQJ54

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♣	1♥	Dbl	Pass
????			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
1♠	100	2	15
2♣	90	1	5
2♥	70	3	34
3♣	70	2	19
Pass	60	1	19
2NT	60	1	41
2♠	40	0	7
1NT	40	0	21
3NT	30	0	6
4♣	20	0	1
4♠	20	0	1
4♥	20	0	2
3♠	20	0	1

There is no call, which precisely fits this hand. Sixteen points falls between a 1NT rebid, which shows 11-14 and a 2NT rebid, which shows 18-19. Jumping in clubs shows a six-card suit, bidding spades promises four and a cuebid is forcing to game. So which white lie do you tell? My thought is to bid 1♠. Playing in spades at a low level should get you a plus score. Might not be the best possible plus score but plus scores gets you matchpoints. Opposite ♠ Jxxx♥xx♦KQxxx♣xx where

do you want to be? In 1♠ or 2♣. Opposite ♠AQJx♥xx♦Axxxx♣Ax you can make 7♠ but only six notrump. Playing in spades can be right if partner is weak or if he is strong.

Two experts agree with me and stay low. Underbid.

Cappelletti: "1♠—Stay flexible, if possible, with hands that have no clear bid. If partner bids again, I might make a game try in notrump. Like he might have as little as ♠Axxx♥xx♦Axxxxxxx."

Woolsey: "2♣—A slight underbid, but if partner passes we probably don't have a game and 2♣ may well be the best contract. The hand doesn't figure to play well in a 4-3 spade fit with the hearts being ruff wrong, and for notrump to score partner will probably need some extras."

One expert passes for penalties. Wrong if partner is 4144 with weak diamonds. Right if partner is 4342 with strong diamonds. Good partners have the latter.

Hopkins: "Pass—I hope partner doesn't have Club length. I am hoping for +300 if we don't have a game and +500 if we do."

The remaining experts show strong hands. Overbid. Two experts jump in a five-card suit. How would you like to play in 3♣ if partner holds ♠QJxx♥xx♦QJxxxx♣x?

Parker: "3♣—Tough hand. I don't want to pass, bid spades or 1NT. Not strong enough for 2NT, but too strong for 2♣, so 3♣ it is. Something to be said at matchpoints to bid 1♠ since we might scramble a lot of tricks if they do not lead trump."

Chansky: "3♣—A white lie, but most flexible. Partner can bid 3♥ if he's looking for 3NT."

Three experts cuebid. Cuebids are forcing to game. But can't partner have a bad hand, ♠Jxxx♥xx♦KQxxx♣xx for example. Opposite that junk don't you want to play in 1♠?

King: "2♥—It is tempting to pass for penalties, but if West has QJ10xxx of Hearts and a black Ace we will only get 300 when game is virtually a certainty and a club slam might be cold."

Why is game a certainty? We don't have an eight-card spade fit and we might not have a diamond stopper. Opposite ♠QJxx♥xxx♦Jxx♣Axx 3NT and 5♣ have no play. 4♠ is the only game contract which has play.

Adams: "2♥—Seems crazy, but what else can I do? At least this shows my values without overstating clubs or spades."

2♥ does not overstate your clubs or spades but does overstate your values. I would expect at least 18 HCPs.

Roman: "2♥—When I next bid spades, I play it will show three (with four, I would bid some number of spades now)."

Over my weak example hand, partner bids 3♦ and you bid 3♠ and then what?

One expert overbids a tad. Will be in 3NT opposite a balanced eight-count such as ♠AQxx♥xx♦Qxxx♣xxx.

Schwartz: "2NT—Nothing else comes close as this hand certainly is worth 18 balanced."

Plus scores is the name of the game.

SOLVERS' SCORES

John Adams	4♣	Pass	Dbl	Pass	2♥	450
Mike Cappelletti	3♣	6♥	4♣	Pass	1♠	430
Hy Chansky	4♣	6♥	3♦	Pass	3♣	390
Robbie Hopkins	Dbl	Pass	3♦	Pass	Pass	400
Fred King	3♣	6♦	Dbl	5♣	2♥	390
Steve Parker	3♠	6♦	4♣	Pass	3♣	420
Steve Robinson	3♠	Dbl	Dbl	5♣	1♠	460
Jeff Roman	4♣	Pass	Dbl	Pass	2♥	450
Alan Schwartz	3♠	Pass	3♦	Pass	2NT	430
Kit Woolsey	4♣	6♦	4♣	5♣	2♣	390

2004 TROPHY RACE STANDINGS

www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Updated by our Webmaster, Don Berman

The Lovenberg Race is open to all WBL members; the Izzy Cohen Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 1500 masterpoints; the Tubbs Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year as a Non-Life Master; the Woolridge Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 20 masterpoints; the Machlin Race has been canceled due to lack of sufficient interest in senior events.

Winners in each category will receive four sessions of free plays. Second place gets two and third place gets one.

This list is up to date through November 18, 2004 not including RR points. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

Lovenberg

- 1 199.45 Leo LaSota
- 2 172.74 Steve Robinson
- 3 154.85 David Ruderman
- 4 134.20 John Adams
- 5 121.75 Alfred Steinberg
- 6 117.69 Robert Bell
- 7 106.19 Mark Shaw
- 8 86.48 Earl Glickstein
- 9 78.17 Richard Wegman
- 10 77.00 Leon Letwin
- 11 73.44 Ellen Cherniavsky
- 12 70.99 Fred King
- 13 65.07 Hailong Ao
- 14 63.44 Rossi Lindstrom
- 15 61.69 Warren Kaufman
- 16 61.64 Donald Berman
- 17 61.63 Barbara Shaw
- 18 60.60 Lloyd Rawley
- 19 60.43 Charity Sack
- 20 59.16 Arnie Frankel
- 21 57.26 Joel Miller
- 22 54.82 Neal Rosenthal
- 23 53.65 Janet Dence
- 24 52.23 Yi Zhong
- 25 51.86 Jane Sturgis

Izzy Cohen

- 1 65.07 Hailong Ao
- 2 60.60 Lloyd Rawley
- 3 60.43 Charity Sack
- 4 57.26 Joel Miller
- 5 54.82 Neal Rosenthal
- 6 53.65 Janet Dence
- 7 51.86 Jane Sturgis
- 8 50.88 Ellen Rosenthal
- 9 50.31 Richard Ferrin
- 10 45.45 Jason Meyer
- 11 44.93 Robert Ellis
- 12 43.25 Alice Wegman
- 13 41.47 John Lowe III
- 14 39.23 Herbert Behre III
- 15 39.02 Bill Gainer

Tubbs

- 1 54.82 Neal Rosenthal
- 2 50.88 Ellen Rosenthal
- 3 39.23 Herbert Behre III
- 4 38.99 Rama Kapur
- 5 32.81 Mirsad Mujezinovic
- 6 29.01 Shlomit Rind
- 7 26.97 William Gill
- 8 26.89 Steven Schatzow
- 9 25.39 William Kingery Jr
- 10 25.39 Daniel Koch

Woolridge

- 1 29.01 Shlomit Rind
- 2 26.89 Steven Schatzow
- 3 25.13 Eric Beard
- 4 18.45 Roma Chandra
- 5 15.72 Richard Levin
- 6 12.72 Steven Nesseler
- 7 11.94 Prem Garg
- 8 9.74 Richard Riseberg
- 9 9.40 Yasmina Patel
- 10 8.69 John Graham

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SCHEDULE

All Games held at Christ the King Church

- 01/13/2005StrataFlighted Club Championship
- 01/20/2005StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 01/27/2005NVBA Sectional
- 02/03/2005GNT Qualifier (StrataFlighted Swiss Teams)
- 02/10/2005StrataFlighted Upgraded Club Championship
- 02/17/2005STAC Stratified Pairs
- 02/24/2005StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 03/03/2005WBL Sectional
- 03/10/2005StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 03/17/2005StrataFlighted Charity Game
- 03/24/2005StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 03/31/2005StrataFlighted Membership Game
- 04/07/2005NVBA Sectional
- 04/14/2005StrataFlighted Upgraded Club Championship
- 04/21/2005Stratified District Six-wide Charity Game
- 04/28/2005WBL Sectional

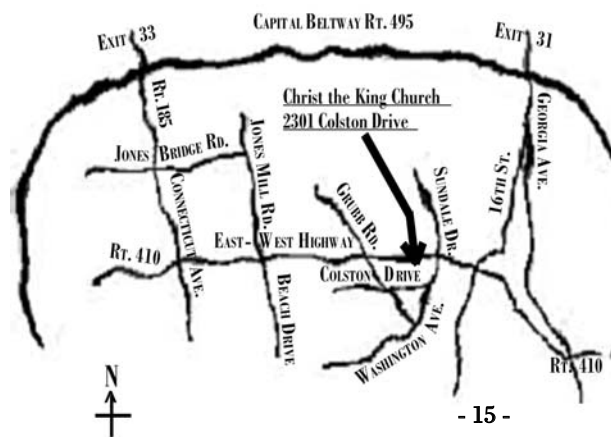


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The Washington Bridge League could use a little of either! In order to keep events exciting and entry fees low, the WBL relies on the goodness of our members to volunteer for small jobs at the Unit Game and Sectional Tournaments. Some jobs require brains while others require muscle. We'll be happy to employ either.

From setting up and breaking down tables, to publicity and events development, a little effort from you will make our bridge community even better. Busy schedule? No worries. Most volunteer assignments take only 15 minutes to 1 hour a month.

Here's how to help:

1. Reply by email, phone or in person if you are willing to help in any way.

2. Please indicate if you can offer any special skills (such as marketing or a strong back).

3. Someone will contact you shortly with a choice of assignments you can pick from.

BONUS – You will be invited to the summer Volunteer Gathering and BBQ Party.

Thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide.

Barbara Summers, Volunteer Coordinator, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com,

GAME IS TO START PROMPTLY
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UNIT GAME CARPOOL AVAILABLE

To arrange a carpool, contact Don Berman, Carpool Coordinator, at 301-776-3581 or don.berman@verizon.net.Or log on to the WBL's new **Online Carpool Notices** at: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.



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COMITTEE ACTION XLVII

by Rich Colker, rcolker@worldnet.att.nat

The following situation arose in the first qualifying session of the NABC Open Pairs this past Spring in Reno.

Bd: 16

Dlr: West

Vul: E/W

- ♠ ---
- ♥ AQ98
- ♦ 95
- ♣ QJ95432
- ♠ A10763 ♠ QJ9854
- ♥ K732 ♥ 1054
- ♦ 106 ♦ K4
- ♣ AK ♣ 107
- ♠ K2
- ♥ J6
- ♦ AQJ8732
- ♣ 86

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
1♠	2♣	4♠	5♦
Dbl(1)	Pass	5♠	All Pass

(1) 4-5 second hesitation

Both sides agreed that West hesitated (albeit briefly) before doubling 5♦. The Director was called immediately after the double, determined the facts, and instructed that the bidding and play continue. On the ♦9 opening lead, 5♠ was defeated three tricks, -300 for E/W. The Director ruled that there had been a break in tempo that made unauthorized information available to East and that demonstrably suggest-

ed bidding 5♠. The Director also determined that, given East's previous 4♠ bid, passing 5♦ doubled was a LA. The contract was changed to 5♦ doubled made five, +550 for N/S.

E/W appealed the Director's ruling and were the only players to attend the hearing. They contended that 4-5 seconds did not constitute a break in tempo in this auction.

The Committee was told nothing about the length of the hesitation other than that it was "brief." Based on the Director's confirmation that the double was made after 4-5 seconds, the Committee decided that 4-5 seconds was an appropriate amount of time for West to take before making a call in a high-level, competitive auction such as the present one. Therefore, they decided that there had not been a break in tempo and restored the table result of 5♠ down three, -300 for E/W.

You might want to decide for yourself what you think about the Director's ruling and the Committee's decision before reading further. Ready?

Many players believe that once partner hesitates in a competitive auction, they are barred from any further action. While the implications of partner's hesitation can vary from situation to situation, it is not true that all breaks in tempo bar you from bidding. For example, some hesitations convey no useful information about what partner was thinking, and so place no constraints on your action. For example, suppose partner raises your 1NT opening to 2NT-natural and invitational-after long thought. Was he thinking of

passing 1NT before finally deciding to invite or was he thinking of bidding 3NT before finally deciding to invite? Since it is unclear which alternative course of action he was considering, you are free to pass or bid on, as you wish. (But you'd be wise to encourage him to try to make his calls in proper tempo so as not to risk depriving you of the right to exercise your judgment.)

In other cases, even though partner's hesitation suggests a certain action on your part, if you make a bid that is not consistent with the action suggested or if your own hand makes that action 100% clear-cut even though the hesitation also suggests it, you are entitled by law to take the action.

Having said that, what do you think West was thinking about over 5♦? Surely any unduly lengthy thought suggests uncertainty about doubling, and the only logical reason for that would be if West's diamond holding were less than optimal for defending (it is short and/or weak) but he has enough strength and/or shape for further action, all of which suggests you should pull the double. Your extra spade length also suggests bidding 5♠ but your ♦K is a defensive value that you need not have had for your 4♠ bid, which strongly suggests defending. All things considered, passing and bidding on are both possible actions, and neither is clear-cut in this situation. But since partner's hesitation favors bidding 5♠, and since passing the double is also a possible action-what we call a logical alternative (to bidding 5♠)-you must take the action that is not suggested by the unauthorized information from partner's hesitation.

So, if from what I have just said you have probably concluded that I support the Director's ruling, but you would be wrong. Had West sat there and thought for 30 seconds over 5♦ before doubling, I would

then agree with the Director's decision to adjust the score to 5♦ doubled. However, West took only about 4-5 seconds to double 5♦, which would have been an appropriate amount of time for West to take even if the auction had been at a much lower level, say 1♠-(2♣)-2♠-(3♦); Dbl. But here the auction suddenly accelerated to the five level before West had a chance to make a second bid. And even though South was not the one who jumped to such a high level, once a skip bid is made (particularly to a high level) each of the other players at his next turn should be expected to take a little extra time to consider the implications of the auction. And by the same token, each player must be careful not to make his next call too quickly.

For example, suppose West holds ♠Axxxx ♥Kxxx ♦Qxx ♣K in this auction. Now, no one holding that hand would consider doing anything other than passing. Still, West must pause a few extra seconds (4-6 would be appropriate) before passing since, if he passes too quickly, he conveys unauthorized information to East that he is not at all interested in competing to 5♠. (And East, holding something like ♠KQxxx ♥QJx ♦x ♣xxxx, might be tempted to bid 5♠, and he'd be right to do so opposite the actual West hand-but not the above "fast pass" one.)

So, I agree with the Committee that West took an entirely appropriate amount of time to act over 5♦, and I see nothing to convince me that any unauthorized information was present in this auction. (Of course, if it were on the record that West habitually passes at lightning speed in such auctions I could be convinced that unauthorized information was present from West's break in tempo-but not from the 4-5 seconds he took over 5♦ here but rather from the 1 second he improperly normally takes.)

Bits & Pieces *continued...*

CONGRATULATIONS TO WBL MEMBER SUCCESSSES AT THE ORLANDO FALL NATIONALS

—TOP 10 LISTS—

All WBL Members

1	117.40	William Pettis
2	105.39	Steve Robinson
	105.39	Peter Boyd
4	97.13	Beth Palmer
5	85.46	Frederick Allenspach
6	84.93	Michael Gill
7	69.76	Peggy Allen
8	65.93	William Peters
9	60.13	Jason Rosenfeld
10	58.64	Nadine Wood

WBL Members with < 2000 masterpoints

1	84.93	Michael Gill
2	65.93	William Peters
3	60.13	Jason Rosenfeld
4	35.82	James Andre
5	29.14	Shawn Cantlin
6	26.97	Lucy Pestaner
7	25.99	Emerita Hayward
8	24.86	Reni Malloy
9	23.87	Franz Delahan
	23.87	Madeline Delahan

WBL Members with < 750 masterpoints

1	84.93	Michael Gill
2	60.13	Jason Rosenfeld
3	35.82	James Andre
4	29.14	Shawn Cantlin
5	25.99	Emerita Hayward
6	24.86	Reni Malloy
7	23.87	Franz Delahan
	23.87	Madeline Delahan
9	15.60	Scott Landrum
10	12.47	Lily Andre

**—NATIONAL EVENT SUCCESSSES—
(from District 6)**

BOBBY NAIL LIFE MASTER PAIRS

17	Ai-Tai Lo, Reston VA; Alan Schwartz, Fairfax VA
27	Steve Catlett, Richmond VA
37	William Pettis, Silver Spring MD; Frederick Allenspach, Potomac MD
44	Eugene Kales, Arlington VA
48	Alan Sontag, Gaithersburg MD

LIFE MASTER WOMENS PAIRS

5	Nadine Wood, Silver Spring MD
43	Cecily Kohler, Washington DC

OPEN B-A-M TEAMS

13	Alan Sontag, Gaithersburg MD
14	Steve Robinson, Arlington VA; Peter Boyd, Silver Spring MD
17	Mark Dahl, Richmond VA; David Butler, Keswick VA; Ai-Tai Lo, Reston VA; Alan Schwartz, Fairfax VA
28	Tom Callahan, Covington VA
31	William Pettis, Silver Spring MD; Frederick Allenspach, Potomac MD

MARSHA MAY STERNBERG WOMEN'S B-A-M TEAMS

12	Beth Palmer, Silver Spring MD
----	-------------------------------

BLUE RIBBON PAIRS

7	William Pettis - Beth Palmer, Silver Spring MD
15	Peter Boyd, Silver Spring MD; Steve Robinson, Arlington VA
33	Steve Catlett, Richmond VA
34	James Murphy, Chesapeake VA
48	Ai-Tai Lo, Reston VA; Alan Schwartz, Fairfax VA

NATIONAL 99ER PAIRS

5	Marie Sarsten, Belle Haven VA; Gunnar Sarsten, Bellehaven VA
---	--

REISINGER B-A-M TEAMS

10 Alan Sontag, Gaithersburg MD

KEOHANE NORTH AMERICAN SWISS TEAMS

17 Tim Crank, Wheaton MD; Fred King, Falls Church VA

26 Jim Wakefield, Fairfax Station VA; Helene Bauman, Arlington VA

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD

LUCK TO THE DISTRICT 6 REPRESENTATIVES TO THE NAP FINALS IN PITTSBURGH

Flight A (one site only)

- 1 David Ruderman, Burtonsville, MD - Alfred Steinberg, Potomac MD
- 2 Steve Robinson, Arlington, VA - Peter Boyd, Silver Spring, MD
- 3 Sumner Steinfeldt, Washington DC - Ken Davis, Alexandria VA

Flight B (split site)

- 1 William Hacker, Germantown MD - Dan Kasture, Centerville VA (North Site)
- 2 Debnarayan Dhar, Oak Hill VA - Dharendra Ghosh, McLean VA (North Site)
- 3 Ed Kinlaw, Midlothian VA - Stephen Wheeler, Richmond VA (South Site)

Flight C (Split Site)

- 1 Youssof Seraj, Alexandria VA - Abdul Etemadi, Alexandria VA (North Site)
- 2 Shyam Giridharadas, Chevy Chase MD - Prem Garg, Potomac MD (North Site)
- 3 William Seawall, Newport News VA - John Procyon, Newport News VA (South Site)

PARTNERSHIPS AND CARPOOLS

Need a Partner or a Carpool for Unit Games or Tournaments?

Players who would like assistance can obtain help either on-line or by contacting one of the WBL's partnership coordinators or Don Berman, the carpool coordinator.

(1) **On-Line Partnership Desk.** The WBL has established an on-line partnership desk on its web site (www.washingtonbridgeleague.org). The WBL is the first unit in the country to do this. Sign up, indicate which events you are available for, and find out if other players are available for the games you wish to play in. Simply log on to the WBL website and click on the partnership desk. Please give it a try.

(2) **Partnership Coordinators.** For those who prefer assistance in person, two people have volunteered to help players find partners in advance of the unit game or sectional events. Charleen Brand will assist players for the unit game (301-946-8483). For a last minute partner for the Unit Game, call Barbara Doran on the **new WBL cell phone (301-395-2760)**. Charity Sack will assist players for the sectionals (emailsack@aol.com; 703-963-7027). Please let them know as early as you can what game or events you would like to play in.

(3) **On-Line Carpool Notices.** Post your requests and look at others at the WBL website. To post requests, send an e-mail to the Web Master (don.berman@verizon.net). Include your name, when you need a ride (either a specific date or a general request, e.g., all unit gmes), and how to contact you (E-mail or phone numbers).

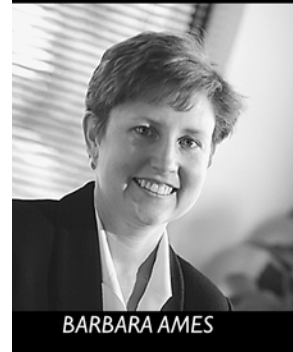
(4) **Don Berman, Carpool Coordinator** can also be contacted at 301-776-3581.

Good luck! We look forward to seeing you on Thursday evenings & at the WBL sectionals.

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THE WORKER BZZZ

BILL COLE — Volunteer Extraordinaire

by *Jim Allen*

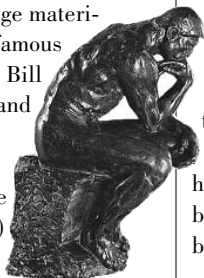
Bridge doesn't just happen! Bill Cole is making it happen.

"I would rather be known for my ethics and as a hard worker than as a great bridge player," Bill said. He is all three.

Bill retired as President of District Six, representing Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. He was elevated from Vice President prematurely in 2001 when Jim Hooven had to retire and Bill was subsequently elected twice more (traditional term limit) to serve two and one half years.

He was instrumental in putting together the first District Six bulletin. This new bulletin was made necessary when the ACBL declined to continue with the insert that advertised our tournaments. After hard work and many decisions, Bill achieved his dual goals: a) informing players accurately about upcoming tournaments and b) offering an interesting magazine that did not duplicate existing bridge material. You can envision the famous statue by Rodin, just put Bill on the pedestal with his hand on his jaw.

The Thinker by Auguste Rodin (19th century)



One of Bill's first jobs was seeding for WBL events. The Directors seeded the fields in the early eighties. Guesses of the better pair led to great frustration. Nadine Wood became Tournament Chairman and appointed Bill to handle seeding. Bill stepped in, created systems and brought order to chaos. He was one of the first players in the country to seed fields. His leadership and attention to detail unraveled the riddle. Later, the seeding in team events was replaced with a

random draw and unfairness became bad luck and the team events grew dramatically.

Rodin's Famous Gate, *Les Portes de l'Enfer*



The gate to the Grand National Team leadership was opened by Charlie Stenger, the District Representative to the ACBL Board of Directors, when he appointed Bill to the Grand National Team Committee. Bill became chairman in 1991, replacing Jim Wood. The District Six GNT event is the best attended of any GNT in the United States. It is an event where the best teams go head to head against their peers and is unlike any event in District Six, most like a local Vanderbilt. Bill's leadership is one of the major reasons.

Nadine, now District Six Representative to the ACBL Board of Directors, praised Bill by saying, "When Bill takes on a task he is thorough. He looks at every angle before he acts. This is the way he plays bridge as well."

"As an administrator, Bill has a lot of good ideas about how to improve the game," Steve Robinson of the ACBL Hall of Fame said. "Participation in the Grand National Teams and North American Pairs has increased while he has been committee chairman for these events."

Bill has been the prime mover for many successful ideas including: the promotion of novice games at sectionals; the dealing machine with the resultant pre-dealt hands

for WBL events; and significant help for the clubs. He has worked for the reduction in number and hence increased importance, of Washington area Sectionals.

Nadine said, "When is working on a new plan, he considers those that are knowledgeable, those in leadership roles. One of his great strengths is his willingness to consult with others for ideas and opinions before he acts."

Bill began his professional career with the phone company, AT&T at the time, in Florida. He returned to the Washington Area where he worked through the company's name changes including C&P and Verizon, for a total of 30 years. He grew up in Towson and attended the University of Maryland. He is the name sake and grand nephew of Congressman and Judge, William Purington Cole the chairman of the board of Regents of the University of Maryland, 1944 to 1952. Cole Field house was named for his grand Uncle.

Bill has earned two national championships and is a Grand Life master with over 12,000 master points. He represented District 6 and won the North American Pairs with Ron Sukoneck. He was Mixed Pairs Champion with multiple National and World Champion Beth Palmer. He saw her potential and began the partnership with her when she was a novice. Stevie advises, "It's important to me to have a partner or teammate who puts a lot of effort into the game and Bill Cole is that kind of player."

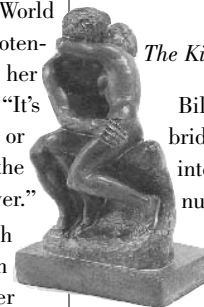
Bill also formed a partnership with Eric Greco who was 15 years old when they nearly won a Reisinger and other National events. Bill said that one of many fond bridge memories is watching Eric and Beth grow as multiple National Champions. In the local GNT and NAOP the best local players go head to head against each other year after year. Bill has won more trips than any other player except Stevie or Peter Boyd.

The Burghers of Calais in Victoria Tower Gardens, By Rodin



Bill said, "the exchange of ideas with many Washington experts, especially Stevie and Lynn Deas (when she lived in Washington) has been a big help in developing the conceptual part of the game." He says that it is very hard to teach bridge. He knows because he teaches, but only when he can do it right. "I won't do it unless it is done well," he relates. He feels that the hardest part of bridge is being consistent on the easy and middle range hands. He says, "great players rarely mess up these hands." Emotional control at the table has been a career long struggle. Bill says that the characteristic he would most like to acquire to help his game is Peter's winning attitude. As stated by Rodan of Alexandria, (c 5 B.C.) "Only a brave person is willing to honestly admit, and fearlessly to face, what a sincere and logical mind discovers."

The Kiss by Rodin



Bill is dedicated to the growth of bridge. He finds the lack of people interested in teaching to be the number one hurdle to bringing new people into the game. He realizes that money is not the stumbling block and that people are the issue. The WBL continues under the leadership of Dick Wegman, WBL President, to find teachers and to encourage students to learn bridge in schools. Bill joins him and continues to encourage people to create start-up bridge programs and to find the fun in getting new people into the great game he loves.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE TROPHY RACES

1957 - present

A few issues ago, I asked if anyone knew something about the people our top awards are named for. Thanks to Peter Boyd's research, here follows a short history of the Washington Bridge League Trophy Races and the people the trophies are named for. I would also like to thank previous WBL Bulletin editors, Jim Wood and Bryan Coleman from whose pages the following is compiled.

TROPHY RACE POLICY

Currently, four travelling trophies are awarded each calendar year to Washington Bridge League members who win the most masterpoints in WBL events based upon the criteria listed below. Anyone who wins more than one category receives the awards for all categories won. In case of a tie, the awards are divided and the trophy is shared.

The trophies (categories) and their limits are: **Lovenberg**, open to all WBL members; **Cohen**, open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 1500 masterpoints; **Tubbs**, open to all WBL members who started the calendar year as a non-Life Master; **Woolridge**, open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 20 masterpoints; **Machlin**, open to those WBL members who participate in Senior events at WBL Sectionals. Starting in 2004, there are no senior events (due to insufficient demand), therefore, the Machlin trophy has been retired. There also used to be a **Woman of the Year** trophy until 1975, when the WBL Board came to their senses. (ed. op.)

The events to be counted are:

1. Thursday night Unit games.
2. Unit qualifiers for the GNT and NAP
3. WBL Sectionals played at WBL site only.
4. The Non-LM sectional played at WBL site
5. NVBA sectional overalls which are played at WBL site.
6. Unit KO and the Round Robin
7. GNT District level held at a WBL sectional. Points won that weekend only. If it's the first weekend, points won thru Sunday, i.e. points thru ¾. If it's the final four weekend, the point difference

between ¾ and first or second.

8. NAP District level held at WBL Sectional – all points
9. In any STaC in which the WBL participates, overall awards will count when won at the WBL Unit site.

Points excluded:

1. District-wide and ACBL-wide points in events which otherwise qualify (only local overalls count)
2. Thursdays BAM portion of Bracketed pairs & the Life Master/Non-life master game.
3. Points won at a non-WBL site

Points counted in player of the year competitions are limited to those won while a player is a member of the WBL. Points will count from the date an individual joins the WBL unless he has never been a member of another Unit or similar organization in another country in which case points will count from January 1. Nobody will be penalized for administrative delays, which may occur when they transfer into the Unit.

Beginning in January 2002, in addition to the trophy, the prizes awarded are the same for all categories. Free plays will be awarded as follows:

1. Firstfour sessions
2. Secondtwo sessions
3. Thirdone session

These free plays will be valid for the "City of Washington" sectional (the second sectional of the calendar year) but may be used at another sectional at the discretion of the tournament chair.

WINNERS

For the 48th time, we are about to award the Lovenberg Bowl to our most successful player in WBL-sanctioned tournaments during the calendar year. **Charles C. Lovenberg** succumbed in 1956 to leukemia, leaving his many bridge playing friends missing his sharp wit, keen mind and talent for mimicry, as well as his almost contradictory gentle side. Those who knew him at the bridge table always have remembered him as a hard and

serious player, extremely ethical, and that rarity — an artist with the cards. An LM by the age of 25, he won an outstanding array of titles in his 10 years of tournament play.

It is thought that his work at Naval Ordinance Lab as a chemist somehow brought on his illness; consequently, Brown University dedicated a major scholarship program to his memory, as one of several alumni who gave their lives in the pursuit of science.

Charles was truly devoted to his wife, Nonny. Once when she was kibitzing, he was indulging himself with one of his patented tantrums, loudly fussing with the opponents. Finally Nonny could stand no more. She spoke up: "Charles, if this doesn't stop, I'll have to just leave." Misunderstanding, Charlie responded reassuringly, "Just be patient, honey, they'll be gone in a minute."

He could not stomach playing in consolation events. But once Wallace Ashby cajoled him into one, following a below average afternoon performance. Not wishing the embarrassment of having his name typed upon the Consolation recap sheet, Charles wrote his name backwards on the entry blank: Selrahc Grebnevol. However, right after picking it up, the alert caddy returned to the table and said that she couldn't quite make out the name written there. She asked, "Which is this — Ashby or Ashly?"

Within a month of his death, over 20 friends had donated the money to purchase the huge sterling bowl which we will again award each year at our January sectional. These are all of the winners so far:

1957 Stuart Dunlop	1981 Glenn Lublin
1958 Andrew Gabrilovitch	1982 Peter Boyd
1959 Andrew Gabrilovitch	1983 Peter Boyd
1960 William Christian	1984 Peter Boyd
1961 Terry Michaels	1985 Steve Robinson
1962 Dr. Joseph Henry	1986 Steve Robinson
1963 Andrew Gabrilovitch	1987 Peter Boyd
1964 Norma Gill	1988 Steve Robinson
1965 Ray Wilhide	1989 Steve Robinson
1966, Fred Karpin	1990 Beth Palmer
1967 Peggy Ekel	1991 Steve Robinson
1968 Kathy Cappelletti	1992 Steve Robinson
1969 Peggy Parker	1993 Steve Robinson
1970 Steve Parker	1994 Steve Robinson
1971 Steve Parker	1995 Steve Robinson
1972 Mike Cappelletti	1996 Steve Robinson
1973 Kit Woolsey	1997 Steve Robinson
1974 Steve Robinson	1998 Alfred Steinberg
1975 Bobby Lipsitz	1999 Steve Robinson
1976 Steve Parker	2000 Steve Robinson
1977 Glenn Lublin	2001 Fred Steinberg
1978 Ed Manfield	2002 Fred Steinberg
1979 Ed Manfield	2003 Steve Robinson
1980 Peter Boyd	2003 Kevin Barnes

Israel (Izzy) Cohen built Giant Food Inc. into one of the largest grocery store chains in the nation. He rose to his position from a stockboy and grocery truck driver for his father's single store on Georgia Avenue.

During World War II, he contracted Tuberculosis. After his return, he began to take up bridge to help pass the time while he took leave from the store due to his illness.

Izzy proved to be a quick learner and a fierce competitor at the bridge table. He rose immediately in the ACBL when he won the National Open Pairs and placed second in the Chicago Teams, now known as the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams, both at the 1952 Fall North American Championships. He also placed second in the National Open Individual in 1956 and the Master Mixed Teams at the 1963 Summer National Championships.

Throughout this period, and up until his passing, Izzy was a member and supporter of the Washington Bridge League, its games, and its charities. Barbara Ames, our former Vice President, and current Board Director remembered how Izzy made a substantial contribution to the WBL's Bridge in the Mall event held January, 1996, a charity event held for Children's Hospital. She recalled that he wished that his contribution remain private and that the contributor would be anonymous. As we will see, this was totally within character for Izzy, a complex man who could be defined with such words as private, inconspicuous, generous, modest, and loyal.

His generosity, which he would always try to maintain anonymously, was still renowned and appreciated by those who benefited from his help. One Christmas some time ago, the Salvation Army was prevented by a local mall from ringing their bells in front of one of his Giant stores. Izzy, who felt very badly that he could not overrule the mall people, quietly made sure that the Salvation Army received a large contribution that Christmas.

When Izzy was asked what he did for a living, he would always answer that he "ran a deli," and when asked what was his position at Giant, he would answer, "I work for the Company." Izzy, the Grocer, visited his stores frequently and always addressed his employees by their first names and made sure they did so in return. He was well-loved by all the Giant employees, and it was common for workers to stay late after their shift was over when they knew he was about to come by for a visit, just so they could shake

his hand. Being down-to-earth. Giant was family to him, and he wanted the best for his company, and the best for his employees.

Izzy's sister, Lillian, received a letter from Al Roth upon her brother's passing. In the letter Mr. Roth told her that, "I believe I enjoyed my life best in the 1950's in D.C. when I was friends with Izzy, who shared my love for bridge." Tributes like that came from all over and showed how much love and devotion came from so many people whose lives Izzy touched.

1996 Kefu Xu	2000 Yi Zhong
1997 Kefu Xu.	2001 Leo Lasota
1998 Sven Pride	2002 Ellen Cherniavsky
1999 Leo Lasota	2003 John Lawrence

Speaking of that January tournament, it is now known as the Presidential, but for many years it was The Northern Virginia Tournament. Lewie Tubbs had run it during the late 1930's in the George Mason Hotel in Alexandria, as he did other "proprietary" tournaments in Frederick and Hagerstown each year. Gas rationing during the war moved it into the District, where it grew during the late 1940's too large for the George Mason's quarters. While Lewie was in the Navy his successors had to relinquish the sponsorship when ACBL refused to sanction any more individually controlled tournaments.

Lewis G. Tubbs was one of the all time gentlemen of the game: always an outstanding partner, never griping or criticizing; and invariably polite to any opponent. Yet the list of his tournament triumphs was long, including scores of Sectional and Regional event wins, plus 2nd in the 1954 national Master Mixed Teams, 2nd in the 1958 national Commercial & Industrial Teams, and 1st in a 1944 Brazilian championship.

He retired from the Alexandria Post Office in 1956, with 32 years' service. During the 1950's and 1960's he was a prominent local bridge teacher at area Y's, officers' clubs, etc. When he died in 1971, he left wife Anna Laurie, son David and brother & frequent partner Lloyd.

Lewie was first elected WBL president in 1949, reelected 1950 & 1951; served again 1963 & 1964. Symbolic of the respect in which he was held by the membership, he was elected again in 1967, although his health at that time precluded his active service. As a national Board member 1965-1967, he arranged for our 1973 Summer Nationals, and was largely responsible for

the formulation of regulations requiring open membership in all Units.

1975 Frank Balay	1990 Janet Lee
1976 Charleen Brand	1991 Lee Jensen
1977 Earl Glickstein	1992 Walter Kerns
1978 Alfred Steinberg	1993 Mark Umeno
1979 Roy Jacobstein	1994 Paul Block
1980 Chris Kaufman	1995 Jim Wang
1981 Andrew Kaufman	1996 Jim Wang
1982 John Huffman	1997 Yi Zhong
1983 Phil Articola	1998 Arthur Weiss
1984 George Subt	1999 Leo Lasota
1985 Mike Blaher	2000 Hailong Ao
1986 Bob Bell	2001 Hailong Ao
1987 Ellen Klosson	2002 Charity Sack
1988 Jacky Abrams	2003 Kevin Barnes
1989 Fred Allenspach	

Our established rookie-of-the-year competition was renamed in 1978 in honor of **Mrs. Clyde E. Woolridge**, treasurer of the WBL from 1965 to 1973. Clyde won a number of events during the 1960's, including Mixed Prs. with both Leon Jones and Dr. Joseph Henry and Teams with them and Roscoe Alexander; her ABA wins were plentiful. She worked for many years in the Howard University College of Medicine Cardiovascular Dept., and upon her passing (early in 1978) left a son and daughter, plus 6 grandchildren. Clyde also loved music, plays, reading, travel & sports; two favorites were jazz concerts and visits to the track. A vital, involved person, she would speak her mind and her emotions at Board meetings whenever the occasion warranted. And she was outstanding in her work as Unit Treasurer; it happens we have been blessed by a sequence of honest and efficient treasurers including her predecessors and successor.

1964 Iris Carr	1984 Ned Griffith
1965 Alan Wilhide	1985 Jim Smith
1966 Ivan Brendler	1986 Jimothy Bigelow
1967 Paul Deporte/ Dave Cotlove	1987 Robert Jenkins
1968 Fred Neuberger	1988 Norris Peterson
1969 Jack Mortick	1989 Cassandra Smith
1970 Liz Goldberg	1990 Ben Laden
1971 Mike Roberts	1991 Toru Amano
1972 Masaki Shiratori	1992 Leslie Shafer
1973 Rosemary Shaw	1993 James Alien
1974 Ralph Cate	1994 Nagui Kamel
1975 Dottie Esher	1995 Robert Schwenk
1976 Robin Taylor	1996 Yi Zhong
1977 Barry DePristo	1997 Martha Chen
1978 David Rodney	1998 Josh Sher
1979 Chris Kaufman	1999 J. T. Block
1980 Dan Huzzard	2000 Mark Rosen
1981 Katie Stein	2001 Robert Packwood
1982 Paul McMullen	2002 David Hamilton
1983 Phil Articola	2003 Neal Rosenthal

The **Woman of the Year** trophy was awarded through 1974:

1964 Norma Gill	1970 Peggy Parker
1965 Joan Schoder	1971 Peggy Parker
1966 Terry Michaels	1972 Kathy Cappelletti
1967 Peggy Ekel	1973 Kathy Cappelletti
1968 Kathy Cappelletti	1974 Peggy Lipsitz
1969 Peggy Parker	

Jerry Machlin: On July 21, 1997, we lost the last member of a bridge family distinguished for its role during the rapid growth and popularity of competitive bridge after WWII. Sadie Machlin, the deceased's mother, was the original office staff and "Uncle Al" (Sobel,) was the internationally known Chief Director.

Jerry, as he was known to his thousands of friends and admirers, joined this family tradition soon after returning from military service. Like "Uncle Al", Jerry quickly rose to Chief Director at ACBL's North American Championships which grew in size to involve thousands of players and hundreds of directing staff.

The annual State Department world-wide bridge event held simultaneously in many US

embassies and in its stately Washington diplomatic reception hall was always planned and conducted by Jerry. He also directed special bridge matches between the US Congress and British Parliament, and between the US Congress and "Corporate America". The latter team typically included Malcolm Forbes, Warren Buffet, and other major corporation CEOs. Jerry was the founding father of the Mid-Atlantic Bridge Conference. He also directed bridge matches in China.

However, despite these numerous accomplishments, Jerry was best known for his inevitable warmth and good humor. He was in continual demand nationwide as a raconteur with a never-ending supply of entertaining stories about the world of bridge and its more famous bridge personalities.

Some of his most interesting and risqué stories were published by Jerry in a popular book entitled "Uncensored Memoirs".

1996 Audrew Marbach	2000 Marie Creisher
1997 Shou-Ling Wang	2001 Barbara Rothkin
1998 Mary & Jim O'Neil	2002 Rosemary Marks
1999 Marie Creisher	2003 Audrew Marbach

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NLM MASTER POINTERS

by I/N returning guest Columnist, Leslie Shafer

Here's an excerpt from Leslie Shafer's *Bridge Students 'R Us* newsletter. If you enjoy this article, you might consider subscribing by sending a check for \$25 to Leslie at 690 Concerto Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20901. There are six issues per year. Three years of back issues available upon request. You can email her for more information at slamhand@verizon.net



JUST IN CASE BIDS

Dear Leslie: If we're not supposed to rebid five-card suits, how does a responder show he has a five-card heart or spade suit? This keeps messing me up and we are missing our 5-3 fits. —Julia in California

Hi Julia: Excellent question! When responder introduces a major at the one-level, it only promises a four-card suit, but it could be longer. If he has six of them, there's no problem with rebidding them again to show that. However, with only five, how will he be able to show that type of distribution? The answer is that we are not alone in the auction. We have a partner who will help us with a "just in case" bid.

You

- ♠ 5
- ♥ A Q 3
- ♦ 8 7 3
- ♣ A Q J 9 8 3

Partner

- ♠ K 2
- ♥ J 10 8 5 2
- ♦ K Q 6 2
- ♣ K 7

The bidding should go:

You	Part
1♣	1♥
2♣ (1)	2♦ (2)
3♥ (3)	4♥ (4)

(1) "I have six of these puppies."
(2) A new suit by an unpassed responder is forcing and at least invitational in strength. Here responder is forcing the opener to further describe his hand.

(3) This is called a "delayed raise." I also call it the "just in case" bid: "I didn't have enough of them to raise you the first time (which would show four-card support) but would three be okay 'just in case' you have five of them over there, pard?" "Also, I'm jumping to show that I want to be in game if you're inviting me."

(4) "Yes, I do have five of them!"

Many times we can go back and raise our partner later in the auction, saying "I was kind of close to raising you the first time. If you're looking for more information from me, I do have a tolerance for your suit!"

The more information you can share in the auction, the better the chances are you can find the right contract!

Here's another "just in case" bid that I like:

You

- ♠ 5
- ♥ A Q 3
- ♦ 8 7 3
- ♣ A Q J 9 8 3

Partner

- ♠ K J 2
- ♥ 10 2
- ♦ K Q 6 5 2
- ♣ K 7 2

The bidding should go:

You	Part
1♣	1♦
2♣ (1)	2♠ (2)
3NT (3)	

(1) "I have six of these!"
(2) "Well, we should probably be in notrump. I have the spades stopped 'just in case' you were worried about those for notrump purposes. Oh, since I'm bidding a new suit, I have a good hand and you're forced to bid again."

(3) "Cool! I have hearts stopped so now I know we can play in notrump. Thanks, partner!"



AREA BRIDGE CLASS OFFERINGS

LESLIE SHAFER'S CLASSES

Winter Semester — January 2005

Montgomery County Rec. Dept. Classes:

Bridge Beginner Part II. Advanced Beginners. **Begins Jan. 18th**, Tuesdays from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. \$71 for eight weeks. Perfect for returning beginners or those who have not played in a while. Covers when to count shortness points, takeout doubles, weak 2's, strong 2C openers and when to jump in the bidding. The more you play, the faster you learn. Come prepared for lots of fun! \$15 material fee due to instructor.

Bridge Sidestep Those Frequent Mistakes. Intermediate-Advanced. **Begins Jan. 24th**, Mondays 10A – noon. \$54 for six weeks. A happy opponent = a very unhappy partner! Tips on bidding, play and defense will help you avoid the mistakes that still plague accomplished players. Great for improving your game and empowering you to find better partners. Lots of hands will be played in each class. \$15 material fee do to instructor at class. NEW MATERIAL

Bridge: Leslie Sez. Intermediate. **Begins Jan. 19th**, Wednesdays from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. \$71 for eight weeks. Many of you hear

your friends say, 'Eight ever, nine never', a very fundamental saying in bridge, but do you really understand the concept? Why do they say, 'Down one is good bridge' and what exactly is the meaning of, 'Second hand low' and 'Third hand high'? Unlock the mysteries and meanings of these and other examples of 'table talk' by playing lots and lots of hands that reveal and emphasize why they exist! Those who have not played in a while and would like to brush up are welcome to join in the fun. \$15 material fee due to instructor at class. Call **Leslie Shafer** at 301-593-6828 or email at slamhand@verizon.net. NEW MATERIAL

Classes at other locations –

Kenwood Country Club. Supervised Play. **Begins Jan. 19th**, Wednesdays from 1-3 p.m. Let's play lots of hands that brush up your bidding and play skills. A more specific topic will be announced soon. Intermediate level. Cost: \$150 for eight weeks.

Call **Leslie Shafer** @ 301-593-6828 or email slamhand@verizon.net for more information.

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS

As of December 1, 2004

Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

Michael Berard	Grazyna Gdula
Barbara Putney	David Desjardins
Ajaz Rahman	

Club Masters (20 Masterpoints)

Ileana Eblighatian	Yasmina Patel
Arthur Milholland	Lucille Mostello
Joanne Ranshaw	Richard Ranshaw
Galia Steinbach	

Sectional Masters (50 Masterpoints)

Roma Chandra	Elaine Wagner
John Graham	Susan Graham
Namik Haverich	Winnie Yonkers
Katherine Rabenstein	

Regional Masters (100 Masterpoints)

Marie Siefring

National Masters (200 Masterpoints)

Steven Schatzow

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WBL SOLVERS' CLUB'S NEW PROBLEMS

January/February 2005

1) IMPs Both Vulnerable

♠ J654♥ AK106543♦ -♣ A5

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♥	Pass	1♠	2NT
?????			

2) IMPs They're Vulnerable

♠ 765♥ A7654♦ KJ9♣ 65

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
—	1♦	3♥	3♠
?????			

3) Matchpoints They're Vulnerable

♠ QJ83♥ 3♦ AQJ8765♣ A

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♦	2♣	Pass	Pass
?????			

4) Matchpoints They're Vulnerable

♠ 10986♥ 9♦ AQ97♣ AKQ9

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
?????			

5) Matchpoints You're Vulnerable

AKJ8♥ QJ954♦ KQ2♣ 5

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
—	—	—	1♣
Dbl	Pass	1NT	Pass
?????*			

*2♥ shows 11-14 & therefore is not a valid bid

Return answers by January 10 to:

Steve Robinson
 2891 S. Abingdon St #A2,
 Arlington VA, 22206
robinswr@erols.com