

www.Washington
BridgeLeague.org



Washington Bridge League

Mar./Apr. 2005

B ♦ U ♥ L ▲ L ♦ E ♥ T ★ I ▲ N

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, 2:00pm
- ♠ **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, 2:00pm, 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.



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**, 301-438-1335. **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**

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 3100 N Leisure World Blvd, Apt. 606, Silver Spring, MD 20906.

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DEADLINE: MARCH 11, 2005

TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE MAY/JUNE 2005 ISSUE

Washington Bridge League BULLETIN (usps #861-240)

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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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 Ron Zucker — (202-965-3357), ron@motherzucker.com

SOME KEY VOLUNTEERS

Nadine Wood — *Tournament Chair* (301-565-9555)
 Ann Lindley — *Tournament Co-Chair* (301-438-1335)
 Frances Burke — *Membership Secretary* (301-384-6103)
 Ted Ying — *Unit Game Chief Director* (301-490-3154)
 Michael Carroad — *Unit Game Manager* (301-322-4289)
 Charleen Brand — *Unit Game Partnerships* (301-946-8483)
 Charity Sack — *Tournament Partnerships* (703-963-7027)
 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

Our first sectional tournament of 2005, the 43rd Annual Presidential Tournament, was a major success. We had more than 380 tables in play, the highest attendance in more than three years. The Saturday and Sunday events were played in the **Margaret Schweinhaut Center** on Forest Glen Road – a convenient site with plenty of parking, good lighting, and wonderful facilities for providing hospitality. Speaking of hospitality, **Barbara Shaw's** chili on Sunday was a great hit, along with other fare provided by **Nadine Wood**, our tournament chair, and **Kitty Gottfried**, our hospitality chair. The expert panel show between sessions on Saturday was also very popular. **Steve Robinson**, **John Adams**, and **Jeff Roman** led the discussion, and gave everyone a chance to discuss the tough bidding and play problems from the hands that had been played on Saturday morning.

Twelve new players from high schools in Montgomery County joined us on Saturday. They are participating in the High School Bridge Program that has been organized by **Ron Starr**, and Ron ran a separate three table event for them on Saturday morning. From everything I've heard, the response from these students was very enthusiastic, and we look forward to seeing them again at a future tournament. (Please see pg. 22 for a picture of the players in their ACBL t-shirts).

I'm very grateful to so many people who pitched in to make this a great tournament. **Bill Cole** and **Nadine Wood** deserve a great deal of credit for locating the new site and working out the logistical arrangements, as well as **Barbara Rothkin**, who currently directs two games at the Center. Thanks also to **Barbara Summers**, who organized our volunteer help for the weekend, and to **Jim Geist**

and **Vince Wilmot** who helped with tables and equipment after the tournament ended on Sunday evening.

We hope to be able to use the Schweinhaut Center for weekend events at future WBL tournaments. Because of prior commitments, we will be holding the Saturday-Sunday events at our upcoming March and April tournaments at the **Newport Mill Middle School** in Kensington. We will feature a workshop between sessions on Saturday, March 5, a panel show on Saturday, April 30, and lunch will be provided on both Saturday and Sunday.

We have just concluded the 2004 Washington Bridge League Round Robin. For the first time, the Round Robin tournament was sponsored by **Fidelity & Trust**. We are very much indebted to **Michael Chelst** and to **Fidelity & Trust** for their generous support, and Michael has just informed me that **Fidelity & Trust** plans to sponsor the Round Robin again in 2005. See page 6 for a complete list of the winners and the top finishers. *Congratulations to all!*

I'm very pleased that this spring we will be participating in the first game to be sponsored jointly by the **Washington Bridge League** and the **Washington Bridge Unit of the American Bridge Association**. Our friends at the WBU will be hosting the game, and it will be held on Saturday, April 16th. I hope many of you will make plans to attend; it should be a great event. Look for more information at the unit game and by Robinson's email notice.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

—Dick Wegman

60TH ANNUAL POTOMAC VALLEY TOURNAMENT: APRIL 28-MAY 1, 2005

WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE SECTIONAL 60th Annual Potomac Valley Tournament

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

- ♣ 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) (both sites); Stratified NLM Pairs (NLM/100/50) & 0-20 Pairs (Christ the King Church only); Stratified 199er Pairs (Beth El 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, APRIL 29

- ♥ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) 10:00am, 2:00pm
- ♠ **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, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

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Celebrate
Cinco de Mayo...
with a
Bridge Fiesta!

Always follow your partner's lead!

Even I can't ruff up against notrump!



May is here! Enjoy MEXICAN FIESTA HOSPITALITY & a SATURDAY PANEL SHOW!

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

- ♣ 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

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- ♠ 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. **Friday, Saturday and Sunday lunch** provided between sessions. **Chair: Nadine Wood**, 301-565-9555, woodthere@comcast.net, **Co-Chair: Ann Lindley**, 301-438-1335. **Volunteer Coordinator: Barbara Summers**, 301-598-5838, majself@aol.com **Hospitality: Kitty Gottfried**, 301-587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com **Partnerships: Barbara Ames**, 301-654-2337, BarbAmes@aol.com or try the easy **On-line Partnership Desk: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org**.

BITS AND PIECES

—CLUB NEWS—

WASHINGTON BRIDGE CENTER

WBC Club Sectional March 25-27

1620 Elton Road, Silver Spring
301-445-0276

FRIDAY March 25

10:30 a.m. Stratified Open Pairs
(Open/2000/NLM)
2:00 p.m. Stratified pairs (Open/2000/NLM)
7:30 p.m. Stratified Pairs (Open/3000/1500)
7:30 p.m. . . Stratified Novice/ Intermediate
pairs (1000/NLM/100)

SATURDAY March 26

10:00 a.m. Stratified Pairs
(Open/2000/NLM)
2:00 p.m. Open Pairs Stratiflighted
(A/X=open/3000; B/C=2000/750)
7:00 p.m. Open Fast Pairs - Stratified
(Open/2000/NLM)

MEET AND GREET

Pizza party after the Saturday afternoon session for players who played in the afternoon and plan to play in the evening. This social event will include beverages and conviviality. The whole tournament will have excellent hospitality.

SUNDAY March 27

11:00 a.m. . . . SWISS TEAMS (A/X; B/C/D)
*Both flights are two session events with
45 minute break - food available*

Tournament Chairman

Jim Allen, 301-590-9250

Partnership Chairman

Frances Burke, 301-384-6103

Chief Director

Michael Carroad, 301-322-4289

Note: Stratification likely as advertised but may be changed by game time to accommodate NLM's.

DIRECTIONS: West on 495 to Exit 28A, New Hampshire Ave. Right at first light, Elton Rd. and park on the left. 1620 Elton Rd. Overtop the Vietnamese Restaurant. Elevator available.

—SILVER POINTS—

SUIT YOURSELF BRIDGE CLUB

Looking for New Bridge Players!

By Sandy Forsythe

Would you like to share the fun of duplicate bridge with your friends, neighbors, co-workers, children or grandchildren? Do you know someone who would like to learn but doesn't have time for weekly lessons? Someone who used to play and needs a refresher? We have a one-day class just for them!

Actually, we have two classes! Steve Forsythe's **Instant Bridge Player Seminar**, on Saturday, March 5 from 11 am to 5 pm., will include one room for absolute beginners, and one for those who just need to brush up on play and modern bidding. Even the beginners will be playing bridge before they leave!

The cost is just \$20 with a reservation or \$25 at the door. (Students \$10 with reservation; \$15 at the door.) A free booklet, pizza lunch, coffee and snacks are included. The class will be held at the **Washington Bridge Center**, 1620 Elton Road in Silver Spring. Take I-495 to New Hampshire Ave North. Turn right at the first light and left into Hillandale Shopping Center. The WBC is on the second floor, above the Chinese restaurant.

For more information or to make a reservation, call Steve or Sandy Forsythe at 301/592-9177 or email majslf@aol.com.

LAUREL BRIDGE CLUB

The Laurel Bridge Club is pleased to announce that for the second year in a row, **David Idleman** has won the **PJ Fram Award**, which recognizes the player who has won the most masterpoints at the club in the previous year.

We now have duplicated boards and hand records for every session, and will begin a **Pizza Night** every Tuesday at our 7:30 PM game.

WELCOME TO THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

The WBL welcomes the following new

ACBL members: **Kaye A Appleman, Madelyn Berkeley, Mr Jim Douds, Mrs Patty Douds, Ms Gaye Hirz, Mr Lawrence D Hollman, Arnold Kling, Ms Val A Lubbers, Mr Brian J Mc Namara, Ms Linda S Newman, Alex J Quinones-Bangs, Ms Roseann R Rafferty, Trudy Reeves, Bryant D Renaud, David M Sangillo, William A Sinclair, and Geoff M Turley.**

In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: **Ms Bonnie A Brocies, Rita Kahn, Mr Henry P Leweling, Mr Bruce T Schroth, and Col V S Sharma.**

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.

ERRATA

Last issue, we ran a *Short History of the WBL Trophy Races*. The 1993 winner of the Woolridge Trophy should have been listed as James Allen.

RUN FOR THE BOARD?

If you would like to run for the WBL Board, please submit a bio form and picture to the editor by **March 11** which will be published in the next issue. The offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary are one year terms. The six Unit President positions are two year terms, three of which will be open this year. Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting and Charity Game on May 12 at the Unit Game at Christ the King Church.

MARCH 24 UNIT GAME LOCATION TBA

Look for announcements at the unit game and the Robinson email notification for the location of the March 24 Unit Game. (The Church is closed.)

SAD NEWS

Evan Duquette of Hyattsville, MD was found dead in his home Saturday, Dec. 11, 2004. Evan was a regular player at the Washington Bridge Center and will be sorely missed.

MORE SAD NEWS

The Montebello Duplicate Bridge Club was shocked and saddened to learn that Gerda Mudd died Monday, December 20, 2004, of complications following surgery. Gerda, a life master, had a legion of friends in our District.

2004-2005 WBL/NVBA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Eligibility: Players must attend at least three WBL and three NVBA sectionals during the contest period (August, 2004 through May, 2005). Points won on Tournament Thursday evenings are included in the totals, but do not count towards eligibility.

Awards: Two trophies will be awarded.

Standings: Here are the standings after six of nine Sectionals. The asterisk* indicates that the player has met eligibility requirements.

<u>Player</u>	<u>Open Leaders</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 Leo LaSota		158.94*
2 Mark Shaw		111.17*
3 Steve Robinson		99.53*
4 Alfred Steinberg		88.41*
5 John Adams		77.30
6 Fred King		75.07*
7 Robert Bell		66.92*
8 William Cole		65.14*
9 Michael Gill		62.16*
10 Yi Zhong		61.14
11 Kenneth Davis		58.73*
12 Hailong Ao		55.80
13 David Ruderman		54.86
14 Earl Glickstein		53.05*
15 Barbara Shaw		50.39
16 Rusty Krauss		50.20*
17 Noble Shore		48.12*
18 Weizhong Bao		47.15*
19 Janet Gookin		47.10*
20 Clyde Kruskal		39.89

<u>Player</u>	<u>NonLM Leaders</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 Michael Gill		62.16*
2 David Banh		36.38*
3 Jason Rosenfeld		29.91
4 David Chechelashvili		27.16
5 Thomas Din		20.33
6 Christon Johnson		19.84
7 Rama Kapur		19.66
8 Behnaz Fardshisheh		17.45*
9 Angeliki Magklara		17.29
10 Steven Schatzow		16.48
11 Jian-Jian Wang		16.00
12 Paul Stygar		15.42*
13 Gloria Halstead		14.27
14 Carl Gutschick		13.76
15 John Mason Jr		13.75
16 Madeline Delahan		13.49*
17 Franz Delahan		13.49*
18 Roma Chandra		13.39
19 Katherine Rabenstein		13.34
20 Shlomit Rind		13.02

CONGRATULATIONS, 2004 FIDELITY AND TRUST ROUND ROBIN WINNERS!

Flight A

1st: Steve Robinson, Bill Cole, Peter Boyd, Mark Shaw

2nd: Robbie Hopkins, Joan Lewis, Bill Pettis, Kent Goulding, Rusty Krauss, Barry Falgout

3rd: Leo Lasota, Barb Shaw, Fred Steinberg, Dave Ruderman, Alan Tenenbaum

4th-6th: Fred King, Bryan Coleman, Dave Abelow, Dick Wegman, Hailong Ao, Weizhong Bao

4th-6th: Donna Rogall, John Adams, Bob Gookin, Kefu Xu

4th-6th: Adrienne & Gene Kuehneman, Ann & Alan Schwartz, Barb Doran, Eric Landau

Flight X

1st: Clyde Kruskal, Mike Ritchey, Larry Kahn, John Edmonds

Flight B

1st: Michelle Cantave, Cecelia Valdivieso, James Geist, Michael Dulski, Carole Banks

2nd: Steven Fox, Albert Lauber, Malcolm Stewart, Jonathan Siegel, Steven Forsythe, Sandy Forsythe

Flight C

1st: Neal Rosenthal, Ellen Rosenthal, Richard Levin, Steve Sacks, Marc Weiner

SURVEY ANALYSIS

by Fred King, WBL Vice President

Almost two years ago the WBL circulated a questionnaire to its members on a number of topics. It was a very long and complicated set of questions that needed a series (Nov./Dec. 2003 - July/Aug.2004 WBL Bulletins) to report on the answers that were received. What I would like to do in this article is summarize the findings that the Board has found most useful in its recent deliberations on a number of topics.

First, it was clear that there were many areas where change was not needed. For example, few people thought the WBL should provide baby-sitting at our games. Secondly, there was very little demand for changes in the games (match points, Swiss teams, etc.) that we run. However, there are some areas where improvements are clearly needed. A priority of the board over the last few years has been a continuous search for better sites for our unit game and sectionals. The priorities you indicated in

the survey—parking, lighting, ease of getting to, temperature and noise have guided us in our search. We noted also that almost two-thirds of the respondents expressed a willingness to pay more for better facilities. As many of you know, we did find a great, new site for our January Sectional, the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center, and we will begin using it regularly starting in October as it seemed to be a big improvement over our recent locations.

A second action taken as a result of survey requests was to increase assistance from the WBL in finding partners—where we are now guaranteeing partners both at the unit games and the sectionals. We have a partnership coordinator for both our unit game and our sectionals and in addition we have an on-line partnership desk at the WBL Web Site.

In other areas, it stands out that for many questions there are not simple, common answers. One of these is starting times for our sectionals. The survey showed that there are three main groups of players. One of them would like us to start as early as practical, a second one would like us to start late morning and a third group would prefer a first session start in the afternoon. For example on the Sunday starting time at sectionals, of those who expressed a preference, 30% want to start at 10:00, 16% want 10:30, 21% want 11:00, 6% want 11:30 and 13% want to start at noon. Clearly, there is no way to satisfy all of these groups. The tournament committee has been experimenting for the last year, cutting back to only two sessions on Saturday and going with the middle times on both Saturday and Sunday. The results, as measured by table count goes, have been satisfying, but we would be happy to hear the views of members on this issue and we may be doing a mini-survey soon. Similarly there is great variation in the preferences for lengths of breaks between sessions, with one hour, one and a half hours and two hours all receiving substantial totals. However, with the league now providing food for free, almost all players have chosen to stay and eat at the site, leading to shorter breaks.

Finally, in closing, let me say that even now at board meetings when an issue comes up, often one of the first questions asked is “what did the survey say about that?” We will continue to make use of the feedback we received from you during the last survey and will look into using shorter, more focused surveys as new issues arise.



Get out there.™



WASHINGTON AREA BRIDGE PLAYERS Panama Canal Cruise Vacation

10 Night Eastbound Panama Canal Cruise
Departing 02-DEC-2005
From Miami, Florida
aboard **Brilliance Of The Seas**

STEVE ROBINSON will direct and teach several sessions of bridge both during the days at sea and in the evenings. You must be a part of this group

to play in these sessions. ACBL points will be awarded, but you need not be a bridge player to join us on this cruise. Once again, there will be lots of opportunities for bridge as well as visiting fascinating ports of call.

Day	Ports of Call	Arrive	Depart
1	Miami, Florida		5:00 PM
2	At Sea		
3	At Sea		
4	Oranjestad, Aruba	7:00 AM	
5	Oranjestad, Aruba	1:00 AM	
6	Panama Canal (Cruising)	7:00 AM	3:00 PM
6	Cristobal Pier, Panama	3:00 PM	7:00 PM
7	Puerto Limon, Costa Rica	7:00 AM	7:00 PM
8	At Sea		
9	George Town, Grand Cayman	7:00 AM	6:00 PM
10	At Sea		
11	Miami, Florida	8:30 AM	



ITINERARY SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

While onboard enjoy:

- ❖ Rock-climbing wall
- ❖ ShipShape® Day Spa and Fitness Center
- ❖ Sports court with basketball/volleyball court
- ❖ Indoor/outdoor country club with golf simulator
- ❖ Latté-tudesSM a specialty coffee house featuring Seattle's Best Coffee®
- ❖ The Colony Club, a unique British colonial-style lounge with self-leveling pool tables
- ❖ Casino RoyaleSM
- ❖ Chops Grill
- ❖ Themed bars and lounges
- ❖ Indian Raj-themed Solarium
- ❖ Portofino Italian Restaurant
- ❖ Seaview Café
- ❖ Casino RoyaleSM
- ❖ Adventure Ocean® youth facilities

All of this and more for only: Interior Stateroomfrom USD 1189
Deluxe Oceanview Stateroom . .from USD 1339

For information and reservations contact:
Wendy Epstein, ALL WAYS TRAVEL
6505 DEMOCRACY BLVD
BETHESDA MD, 20817
Phone: 3015710400 Fax: 3015710404
bridgecruise@allwaystvl.com

Rates are per person, double occupancy, and include port charges, taxes and fees. AIRFARE TO AND FROM MIAMI, AIRPORT TRANSFERS, and TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE ARE ADDITIONAL. Balcony cabins also available. Gratuities, alcoholic beverages, items of a personal nature, and tours are additional.

Look for Robinson's travel log about last year's bridge cruise to Hawaii in the next issue of the WBL Bulletin.

WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to **Ted Wilkinson** who came in first with a perfect score of 500. He wins a free entry to the Unit Game and will be invited to be on a future panel. I will play with him at a future Unit Game. Tied for second were **Yi Zhong, Paul Stygar** and **Joe Lentz** with a score of 490. Fifth was Robert Stone with a score of 480. Tied for sixth were **Susan Bowles, Bernie McCurdy, Jim Saxon, Linda Gaylor, Kathrine Loh, Murray Jacobson** and **Peter Haglich** with a score of 470. Tied for thirteenth were **Bala Chandran, Priscilla Smith, Ken Kaufman, Pete Whipple** and **Murray Jacobson** with a score of 460. Tied for eighteenth were **Mike Zane, John Lawrence, Michelle Cantave, JJ Wang** and **Suzanne Abrams** with a score of 450. Tied for twenty-third were **Reese House, Tim Francis Wright, Jay Weinstein, Bob Levey, Jim Allen, Julie Brexler, Wrus Kristiansen, Chuck Yaple** and **Elliot Grant** with a score of 440. Tied for thirty-second were **Randy Thompson, Al Graham, Mike Richey, Zbych Bednarek, Saul Penn, Hadi Abushakra, Kieran Dyke, Richard Wimberly, Sam Bowlin** and **Bill Meeks** with a score of 430. The average score of the 297 solvers was 374. The average score of the experts was 409.

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

♠ J654♥ AK106543♦ ♣ A5

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♥	Pass	1♠	2NT
?????			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
3♦	100	4	51
4♦	90	5	79
3♣	60	1	44
Double	50	0	5
4♥	40	0	12
4♠	30	0	34
4NT	30	0	8
3♠	30	0	30
5♦	30	0	8
5♠	20	1	11
3♥	20	0	11
6♠	20	0	1
Pass	20	0	2
3NT	20	0	1

You have four-card support for partner but you also have a strong seven-card heart suit. So which way do you go? Support partner or rebid your suit? The answer depends somewhat upon how often your partner responds 1♠ when holding four bad spades. If partner has only four spades and spades split badly, he might lose control. If I have four spades and two hearts, I won't respond 1♠. I will respond 1NT with fewer than 12 HCPs and will respond 2♣ with more than 12 HCPs. I need three more spades than hearts to respond 1♠. Therefore, if I have four spades, I would have fewer than two hearts. If I have two hearts, I will have at least five spades when I bid 1♠. 1♥ - Pass - 1♠ leads to difficult auctions in Standard.

There's another factor in your answer. East has shown at least 5-5 in the minors. This means that spades and or hearts might not split well.

There are two ways to show strong spade support below game. One is to splinter. A jump to 4♦ shows four-card spade support, diamond shortness and game-forcing values. Another way to show support is to make use of use of East's 2NT-bid. Three-of-either minor can be the Unusual over Unusual (U/U) convention. 3♣ shows a good 3♥-bid and 3♥ shows a minimum 3♥-bid. 3♦ shows a good 3♠-bid and 3♠ shows a minimum 3♠-bid.

So which way do you go? Splinter or U/U? Three experts agree with me and bid U/U. The reason why I don't splinter is that there are many messages to be sent and 4♦ fails to say it all. 4♦ does not show a void in diamonds, strong hearts, weak spades and first round club support. 4♦ sets spades as trumps which means that you can't play in 4♥.

I like 3♦. 3♦ is lower and therefore you could get a chance to tell partner more about your hand. You might also learn how strong partner is. Suppose West passes and partner bids 3♠. 3♠ is a signoff, meaning that if there was no competition and you had jumped to 3♠, which is the minimum that 3♦ shows, 3♠ could have ended the auction. You might also get to play in 4♥.

Three experts agree with me and bid 3♦.

Schwartz: "3♦ —It makes sense to play unusual over unusual here. I don't want to give away my minor suit distribution with a splinter, and it still could be right to play in hearts. If 1♠ showed at least five, I would chance 5♠ as that gets right to the issue and any spade honors rates to be insides."

Chen: "3♦ —I would like to have more information about partner's hand strength and spade holding. I will bid 3♦, which is a nice, economical bid that tells partner I have a good hand with spade support. Hopefully, partner will get a chance to respond at the three or four level. If you changed the four of spades to the queen of spades, I would bid 5♦, Exclusion Keycard Blackwood right away."

Parker: "3♦ —I once had this hand with Qxxx of spades rather than Jxxx and had an easy 5NT bid. Since I expect 3♦ to show

Spade support and expect opponents to bid at a high level soon, I can bid Hearts next to show a good suit and a spade preference. If I bid 4♥ now, then what do I do over five-of-a-minor back to me?"

Five experts splinter.

Adams: "4♦ —Comforting to know that in Washington Standard, partner will have five spades or four with short hearts. Makes my strain guess less important so I can make a descriptive bid. Partner will know that good trumps are enough. Interestingly, a 4♣ splinter on this hand could be a matchpoint winner, where stopping the club lead can be worth a trick, but this is IMPs, and a bidding challenge, so I resist the urge."

Another reason not to splinter. You'll probably get a club lead.

Woolsey: "4♦ —When in doubt, splinter. You never know what kind of magic you might find partner with. If he drives to a slam, this hand will not be a disappointment."

Ikkin: "4♦ —Splinter finds out if responder has wasted diamond honors. If responder has ♠ KQxxx♥ xx♦ xxxx♣ Qx, 6♠ is a good contract. But if responder has ♠ Qxxxx♥ xx♦ KQxx♣ xx, 4♠ may be in trouble."

Hopkins: "4♦ —I am going to show Spade support, Diamond shortage, and hint at slam aspirations. With very strong Spades, partner might work out I am control rich."

Roman: "4♦ —An Exclusion Key Card bid of 5♦ is too much given my weak spades and the likelihood of bad breaks, so I show a game-forcing hand with hearts, spades and short diamonds and leave it partner."

One expert agrees that this hand might not belong in spades.

King: "3♣ —I need to find out more from partner. We could belong in either spades or hearts and so I need to create a force and see what more he can say. I don't think this sets spades as trumps, at least I hope not."

One expert jumps to the five-level. Assuming 5♠ asks about trumps, AQxx or AKxx might not be good enough to make slam. It's silly to go down in 5♠ when partner has a minimum.

Cappelletti: "5♠ —Maybe partner or the opponents will do something favorable."

In a constructive auction, the cheapest

bid is usually best.

2) IMPs They're Vulnerable

♠ 765♥ A7654♦ KJ9♣ 65

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
-----	1♦	3♥	3♠
?????			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
4♥	100	3	87
6♥	80	2	38
5♥	80	2	120
7♥	50	1	9
Pass	50	1	35
3NT	50	1	2
5♣	50	1	0
Double	20	0	2
4♠	20	0	2
4NT	20	0	1

If you assume that partner has a normal 3♥-bid, KQJxxx or KQJxxxx of hearts and the opponents are in the slam range. What strategy do you use to make life difficult for the opponents? Silence is one strategy. By not bidding, each of the opponents will think his partner has heart length. Raising hearts is another strategy. Take away bidding room and make them guess. For instance, if you bid 6♥, the only slam invitation is pass by West. Another strategy is to try to fool them by bidding 3NT, 4NT, 4♣, 5♣ or cuebidding. Of course, knowledge of your opponent's bidding style might help you make the right bid at the table.

If you are going to raise hearts, how high do you go? One thing is sure. Decide how high to bid and bid it directly. Don't bid 4♥ then 5♥ and then 6♥. If you are going to bid 6♥, bid it directly.

Two experts agree with me and make the minimum heart bid. Why tell the opponents that you think they can make a slam.

Woolsey: "4♥—This takes away West's cuebid. I don't have any particular reason to think they can or cannot make a slam, and for all I know 5♥ is going for more than the value of their game. So let's see what they think they can make when they are a bit cramped. If it sounds like they are cold for 6♠ from the bidding, then maybe I'll save. If I bid an immediate 5♥, that is like waving a red flag in their faces, inviting them to bid slam."

Schwartz: "4♥—Want to take away a cuebid without pushing them to a slam while leaving them an easy 4♠ bid although a diamond trick is likely on defense."

Two experts jump to 6♥. The problem is that the opponents might believe you and bid one more. I don't think you want to push the opponents into slam holding KJx of diamonds.

Adams: "6♥—I do not know if they can make six of something, so I expect they do not know either."

Roman: "6♥—Hopefully making the next-to-last mistake on this hand...maybe they can make 6♠ and maybe they can't. My concern is that they can make 7♣, and this may prevent the suit from ever being bid."

One expert gives up a large number when the opponents might not even be able to make game. Partner has ♠x♥KQJ109x♦10x♣QJ10x and you take one heart, two diamonds and a club against 4♠.

Itkin: "7♥—7♥ is no worse than -1400. With diamond honors onside, 6♠ likely makes, so 7♥ is a good sacrifice. 7♠ may also make. If we bid 6♥ or less, opener can show spade support giving responder a chance to bid 7♠. Make opponents guess at seven-level. Any bid less than 7♥ allows opener to cooperate with responder."

Two experts middle the heart bids. 5♥ shows weakness, inviting the opponents to bid higher.

Chen: "5♥—I want the opponents to stop in 5♠ or double us in 5♥, so I will bid 5♥ right away."

Hopkins: "5♥—They could be cold for seven or down in six depending upon the location of the Diamond honors. I hope to make them guess about slam and by offering the sure 500 or 800, expect to minimize our worry about a large loss."

One expert takes up no room from the opponents. Passing allows West to cuebid, pass or rebid diamonds at the four-level. Bidding 4♥ shows a fit but not necessarily a large fit.

King: "Pass—I think they are cold for 6♠, but I don't want to force them to bid by a preempt on my part. If they don't know about our fit, maybe they won't know how good their fit is."

Two experts try to fool the opponents.

Parker: "3NT—I want to get in the auction but not just push them into a cold slam. Any jump by me in Hearts will tell them they have no losers there and give them momentum. I have seen it go 4♠ all pass after this type of auction. I will decide how high to save later."

Cappelletti: "5♣—Might deter opponents from bidding slam."

This hand is more of a psychology problem than most, so experience helps.

3) Matchpoints They're Vulnerable

♠ QJ83♥ 3♦ AQJ8765♣ A

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♦	2♣	Pass	Pass
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
4♦	100	1	7
3♦	90	1	80
Double	80	4	68
2♠	70	3	61
2♦	70	2	65
Pass	50	0	9
3♠	20	0	2
3♣	20	0	4
2♥	20	0	1

There are two reasons to pass. The opponents could have a giant heart fit or could have the rest of the strength. They could also be cold for 3NT. However, it seems wrong to let the opponents play in 2♣ when you are 4-7. Even if the opponents are cold for 4♥, 5♦ is probably a cheap save which means passing is out of the question. However, bidding 2♦ or doubling makes it easy for the opponents to find their possible heart fit. You want to describe your hand while making it difficult for the opponents if it's their hand.

One expert agrees with me and jumps in diamonds. Not as high as my jump however.

Parker: "3♦—Partner must have a stack and a good hand. They surely have Hearts. Maybe we have a slam in Diamonds or 3NT, but I do not want to let them find their fit. I have a great playing hand."

Three experts bid 2♠. I hope they are playing five-card majors where an opening 1♦ denies holding five spades. You don't want partner to think that you are 5-6 and let you play in spades with only three-card support. I think the chances are slim that part-

ner has four spades.

Adams: "2♠—Shows a hand similar to this, exactly four spades and long Diamonds. Can't double without any Heart tolerance. Besides, we might not beat 2♣ even if partner has four or five of them. Only other bid to consider is Pass. Pass could work when the opponents miss the Heart fit, but that seems too strange a position to take on a very good hand."

Chen: "2♠—The only way we might find our possible spade fit is to bid spades now. Double is out because of my singleton heart and extra diamond length. If the opponents compete to 3♣, I will bid 3♦ to complete the picture of my hand."

Cappelletti: "2♠—Let's tell partner I have spades."

Two experts reopen with 2♦.

Woolsey: "2♦—I'm not trying to penalize them on this hand, and selling out is too big a position. I'll simply bid out my shape and partner can take over."

Schwartz: "2♦—Worth 2♠ but can't afford to play a 4-3 spade fit. With only 14 HCPs, 2♦ is unlikely to be passed out. Plan on bidding spades next even at the three-level."

Four experts reopen with a double. Would you be happy, holding only two tricks, if it went all pass?

Itkin: "Double—Just in case responder has a penalty pass."

Hopkins: "Double—I believe this is what I am supposed to do in case partner has a penalty pass. I will probably not be unhappy with a Diamond lead. And, if partner chirps Hearts, I can move along with Spades or Diamonds."

Roman: "Double—Job one is to see if we can penalize them (although that Ace of clubs means that is probably not partner's hand type). After that, I'll correct hearts to spades, or compete to 3♦ if the enemy bids 2♥. I guess if the bidding is at 4♥ by them when it gets back to me I'll wish I hadn't balanced, but passing is out of the question."

King: "Double—Not the ideal shape for this, to say the least, but need to look for a big score at these colors in matchpoints."

Don't reopen with a double when you would not be happy if partner passed.

4) Matchpoints They're Vulnerable

♠ 10986♥9♦ AQ97♣ AKQ9

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
?????			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
2♣	100	8	111
Pass	60	3	135
2NT	40	0	29
3NT	30	0	16
3♣	20	0	6

You have three four-card suits. You have bid two of them and have a perfect opportunity to bid the third. If partner knows your hand type, he will be in a perfect position to place the contract. The only problem is that you would bid the same with a 12-count. 2♣ allows you to play in a suit contract if partner is weak and allows you to get to game if partner has a maximum.

Seven experts agree with me and bid out the pattern.

Woolsey: "2♣—We could easily belong in a minor. Over a 2♦ preference I will bid 2NT, and partner can choose the best contract. If he passes 2♣, that could easily be right."

Schwartz: "2♣—If 2♣ gets passed, it rates to make more than notrump. Plan on bidding 2NT over any preference and partner will have a much better idea whether to continue, as he might be afraid of clubs. With the aces, spots and married honors this hand is worth more than 15 HCPs which I would show by converting two-of-a-pointed suit to 2NT."

Partner will also know if his hearts are good enough to play notrump opposite shortness.

Chen: "2♣—Pattern out and let partner decide what to do next. We could be cold for 5♣ if partner has as little as ♠ Ax♥xxxx♦ Kx♣J10xxx. Even if we don't have a good minor suit fit, we might be able to scramble for eight or nine tricks, which would tie or beat the possible +90 by passing 1NT."

Parker: "2♣—Partner has a minimum and is not interested in looking for a heart fit. If he is 2434 or some such pattern, clubs will play great. Sometimes he has five clubs. How can I not bid clubs here?"

Hopkins: "2♣—With my hand, I would prefer to play in a suit. There are even some hands where game is possible ♠ Ax♥ Qxxx♦ Kx♣ 10xxxx."

Roman: "2♣—3♣ shows a stronger hand, 2NT shows a stronger and different hand, and anybody who passes 1NT deserves to find partner with ♠ x♥ Qxxx♦ Kx♣ Jxxxxx, down in 1NT, cold for 5♣."

King: "2♣—We don't have a fit yet, but clubs could play two or three tricks better than notrump."

Three experts pass 1NT. You could be missing a cold game if partner has club length. On the other hand, 1NT could be right if partner has club shortness and heart strength.

Adams: "Pass—Plus scores are good, and notrump gets a bigger plus than two-of-a-minor usually."

Itkin: "Pass—1NT making two is worth more than two-of-a-minor making three and we might not even have an eight-card minor fit."

Cappelletti: "Pass—Hope he makes it - if I was going to bid, I'd try 2NT."

By bidding out your pattern, partner will probably make the right decision.

5) Matchpoints You're Vulnerable

♠ AKJ8♥ QJ954♦ KQ2♣ 5

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

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

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
2♣	100	4	89
2NT	90	4	86
3♥	50	3	43
3NT	40	0	26
Pass	30	0	29
2♠	20	0	10
2♦	20	0	5
4♥	20	0	1
3♦	20	0	1
3♣	20	0	2
2♥	00	0	4

With a bad hand, partner could have bid 1♦ or bid a three-card major, so partner's 1NT-response is constructive. With ♠ Qxx♥ Qxx♦ xx♣ xxxxxx, partner should respond 1♥. Partner should have eight to a bad eleven, which means we are in the game

zone. But which game? If partner has only one club stopper we probably belong in hearts unless partner has fewer than two. How do we investigate? The answer is to cuebid. Over 2♣, partner should bid 2♥ holding ♠ xxx♥ Kxx♦ AJx♣ Qxxx. Holding one weak club stopper, partner should not bid notrump again and is free to bid a three-card major. Partner denies a four-card major when he bids 1NT. If partner has good clubs and rebids two or three notrump we will happily abide by his decision and play in 3NT.

Why can't we bid 2♥? 2♥ is an Equal Level Conversion bid showing a minimum hand with five hearts and four spades, ♠ AKxx♥ QJ9xx♦ Jx♣ xx for instance. If you overcall 1♥ with that hand, you could miss your 4-4 spade fit. To show a good hand with five hearts, you have to jump or cuebid. However, if you double and then bid 2♣, you are showing strength. Doubling and bidding the highest unbid suit is always strong.

Three experts agree with me and explore. **Adams:** "2♣—Partner shows values for 1NT. I want to get to game and this will help me get to the right one."

Woolsey: "2♣—If I'm not allowed to bid 2♥ immediately, I'll see if I can get it in over partner's likely 2♦ call. If not, I can always bid hearts at the three-level."

But if partner rebids notrump showing good clubs, there is no reason to introduce the heart suit. However, it does make sense to bid hearts over any other call.

Schwartz: "2♣—What's left? Partner shouldn't rebid notrump without a second stopper."

Four experts ignore the heart suit.

Opposite ♠ 10xx♥ Kxx♦ Axx♣ Qxxx you might make 5♥ on good days but 3NT can always be held to four. 3NT will go down if East has five clubs and could be held to three if clubs are 4-4.

King: "2NT—I have enough to invite game over a freely bid 1NT, but not enough to force."

Itkin: "2NT—Not strong enough for a game-forcing 2♣ and hearts not good enough for an invitational 3♥."

I think this hand is worth a game-force opposite a 1NT response. The five-card suit, well placed honors, and knowledge of the location of the strength is worth extra values.

Parker: "2NT—I have a strong notrump so why not show it. I overcall either 1♥ or Michaels with this type of hand so I do not have this problem."

Overcalling 1♥ would be my second choice but Michaels would be my last choice.

Hopkins: "2NT—About right in playing strength and HCPs."

Three experts jump in hearts but shouldn't 3♥ show six?

Chen: "3♥—I want partner to choose between 3NT and 4♥, so I don't see any reason not to ask him right now. I wish my hearts were a little stronger, but I figure partner will not raise me to 4♥ without three-card support or an honor doubleton."

Roman: "3♥—Choice of games. 2♣ followed by a heart bid shows a double-and-bid-hearts hand."

Cappelletti: "3♥—2♣ followed by 3♥ would be forcing."

When you are not sure which game you belong in, a cuebid can sometimes help with the decision.

SOLVERS' SCORES

John Adams	4♦	6♥	2♠	Pass	2♣	400
Mike Cappelletti	5♠	5♣	2♠	Pass	3♥	250
Mark Chen	3♦	5♥	2♠	2♣	3♥	400
Robbie Hopkins	4♦	5♥	Dbl	2♣	2NT	440
Elliot Itkin	4♦	7♥	Dbl	Pass	2NT	370
Fred King	3♣	Pass	Dbl	2♣	2NT	380
Steve Parker	3♦	3NT	3♦	2♣	2NT	430
Steve Robinson	3♦	4♥	4♦	2♣	2♣	500
Jeff Roman	4♦	6♥	Dbl	2♣	3♥	400
Alan Schwartz	3♦	4♥	2♦	2♣	2♣	470
Kit Woolsey	4♦	4♥	2♦	2♣	2♣	460

2004 FINAL 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 final for 2004. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director. **Congratulations to the 2004 Winners!**

Lovenberg

- 1 217.66 Leo LaSota
- 2 183.81 Steve Robinson
- 3 161.93 David Ruderman
- 4 141.22 John Adams
- 5 124.78 Mark Shaw
- 6 122.97 Robert Bell
- 7 122.33 Alfred Steinberg
- 8 97.05 Earl Glickstein
- 9 83.62 Charity Sack
- 10 83.39 Lloyd Rawley
- 11 82.72 Richard Wegman
- 12 82.49 Leon Letwin
- 13 81.63 Fred King
- 14 80.76 Hailong Ao
- 15 74.40 Ellen Cherniavsky
- 16 72.41 Barbara Shaw
- 17 70.88 Donald Berman
- 18 64.49 Arnie Frankel
- 19 63.96 Rossi Lindstrom
- 20 62.39 Neal Rosenthal
- 21 61.69 Warren Kaufman
- 22 61.26 Joel Miller
- 23 60.90 Yi Zhong
- 24 57.94 Ellen Rosenthal
- 25 57.75 Weizhong Bao

Izzy Cohen

- 1 83.62 Charity Sack
- 2 83.39 Lloyd Rawley
- 3 80.76 Hailong Ao
- 4 62.39 Neal Rosenthal
- 5 61.26 Joel Miller
- 6 57.94 Ellen Rosenthal
- 7 57.23 Janet Dence
- 8 54.47 Richard Ferrin
- 9 53.66 Robert Ellis
- 10 53.05 Jane Sturgis
- 11 52.91 William Gill
- 12 47.12 Jason Meyer
- 13 45.28 Larry Kahn
- 14 45.05 Bill Gainer
- 15 44.89 Herbert Behre III

Tubbs

- 1 62.39 Neal Rosenthal
- 2 57.94 Ellen Rosenthal
- 3 52.91 William Gill
- 4 44.89 Herbert Behre III
- 5 38.99 Rama Kapur
- 6 32.81 Mirsad Mujezinovic
- 7 32.43 Steven Schatzow
- 8 32.20 Shlomit Rind
- 9 27.29 William Kingery Jr
- 10 27.29 Daniel Koch

Woolridge

- 1 32.20 Shlomit Rind
- 2 25.85 Eric Beard
- 3 22.97 Richard Levin
- 4 20.92 Roma Chandra
- 5 16.00 Steven Nessler
- 6 14.35 Prem Garg
- 7 10.46 Yasmina Patel
- 8 9.74 Richard Riseberg
- 9 9.12 Zvi Gur
- 10 8.69 John Graham

0-20 LESSON & GAME

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7:30PM - 10:30PM

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~ ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ ~

UNIT GAME PARTNERS GUARANTEED

To find a partner one day or more before the game, contact Charleen Brand (301-946-8483). Or log on to the **Online Partnership Desk** at: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

SCHEDULE

All Games held at Christ the King Church

- 03/03/2005WBL Sectional
- 03/10/2005StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 03/17/2005StrataFlighted Charity Game
- 03/24/2005StrataFlighted Unit Championship*
*(Church CLOSED - Site TBA)
- 03/31/2005StrataFlighted Charity Game
- 04/07/2005NVBA Sectional
- 04/14/2005StrataFlighted Club Championship
- 04/21/2005Stratified District Six-wide Charity Game
- 04/28/2005WBL Sectional
- 05/05/2005StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 05/12/2005Annual Meeting, StrataFlighted Charity Game
- 05/19/2005StrataFlighted Unit Champ/NLM Sectional
- 05/26/2005StrataFlighted Club Championship
- 06/02/2005Stratified North American Pairs
- 06/09/2005Stratified North American Pairs

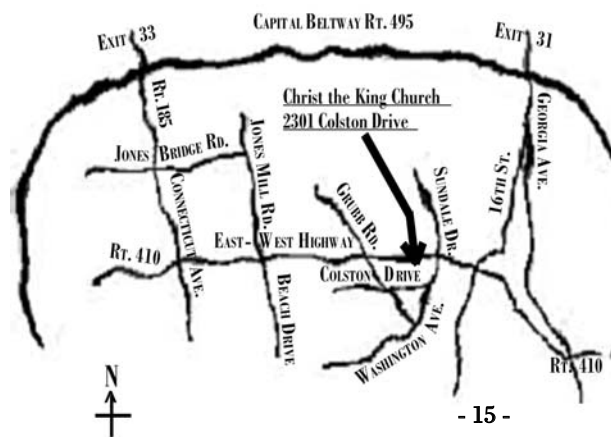
~ ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ ~

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DO YOU HAVE ANY MUSCLE OR BRAINS TO SPARE?

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 AT 7:30PM
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 301-649-1812

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 XLVIII

by Rich Colker, rcolker@worldnet.att.nat

Part I

One of the most contentious and frequently misunderstood issues in bridge arises when during the play of a hand a player removes a card from his hand and then returns it and plays another card. When is the first card considered played? The answer, as many of you know, depends on which player—the declarer or a defender—has done this and what exactly was done with that first card. The two key issues that must be resolving in dealing with such situations are: (A) What did the player's actions with the first card divulge about his intentions? (B) Could unauthorized information about the identity of the card have been transmitted to his partner? First we'll consider the case where it's declarer who does the double clutching; then we'll look at a defender's played card.

Declarer's Played Card:

Law 45C2 says "Declarer must play a card from his hand held face up, touching or nearly touching the table, or maintained in such a position as to indicate that it has been played." What does that all mean? First, it does not mean that any card declarer detaches from his hand is played as soon as it's face becomes visible. Second, it does not matter whether a defender saw—or could have seen—the card's face. Declarer can flash either or both defenders one or more of the cards in his hand without becoming obligated to play them. (But note: if it is determines that declarer showed his cards in an attempt to claim, then play ceases and the claim laws, Laws 68-71, apply.) Third, the issue of UI is irrelevant for declarer since his partner, the dummy, is not a participant in the play. Thus, whether dummy saw—or could have seen—declarer's card is immaterial.

So then what does Law 45C2 say? It says that for a card to be considered played it must not only be held face up, it also must be touching, or nearly touching, the table. Thus, if declarer pulls a card from his hand and is in the process of lowering it toward the table, the card does not become played

until it comes into close proximity with the table top. So if, in the process of lowering a detached card to the table, declarer jerks his hand back in mid descent, the card is not considered played. And it does not matter whether dummy or either or both defenders saw the card's face. As long as it was not released onto the table, or held touching or nearly touching the table to indicate that it is being played, the card can be retracted.

Note: it is improper—not to mention rude—for a player to repeatedly start to play a card and then to retract it. If this happens to you, just call the Director, not to argue that the card was played but to have the player educated about the inappropriateness of his actions. (Do not take it upon yourself to do the educating.)

...to be continued next issue

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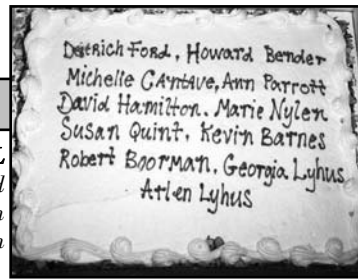
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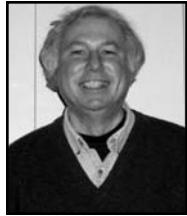




Congratulations to the new WBL life masters! Kevin Barnes, Howard Bender, Robert Boorman, Deitrich Ford, Arlen Lyhus, Georgia Lyhus, Marie Nylen, Ann Parrott, Susan Quint



Martin Aronsohn, Carol Schuman, William Gill, Rama Kapur, Charles Carrington, Arthur Podolsky, Michael Goldman, Harold Minus, III, Harold Minus, Sr., Arthur Weiss, John Mattioli



Howard Bender is any language communications firms as a software architect. He has a B.S. from Penn State, an M.S. from Polytechnic Institute of N.Y. and a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland.

In college, in 1966, he saw some players at the student union, kibitzed them for awhile and eventually asked to sit in. Soon after, Howard started playing in tournaments. He plays wherever he is. He has been a WBL member for three years.

Howard prefers Standard American. His favorite books are, Watson's *Play of the Hand*, and Mollo's *Bridge in the Menagerie*.

Two exciting moments were when he placed in the top 20 in a national pairs game before stratification and becoming Life Master. Howard's grandest wish is to play in friendly, competitive games.

Kevin Barnes is currently a senior economist at the World Bank, having moved from England to Washington in 1991 to work first for the Institute of International Finance, where he was Director of Comparative Country Analysis, and later for the International Monetary Fund. He has a supportive wife, Farah, and a four-year old son, Julian, who is great fun (and has already learned to follow suit) but does limit Kevin's bridge-playing opportunities.

Kevin learned bridge from his parents at the age of nine, and has played at least intermittently ever since. In the UK, he won the Civil Service knock-out and teams of eight on Treasury teams in 1990, as well as recording a very respectable performance in the prestigious Portland Pairs the same year. After moving to the U.S., the

need to find new partners and adapt to different bidding systems meant that Kevin only played sporadically for a while. But, he started playing more regularly at the Unit Game in the late 1990s, winning the Tubbs trophy in 2003. Depending on partnerships, Kevin plays Precision Club, a hybrid weak notrump system, or sometimes even Washington Standard. At one stage, he played six different no-trump ranges with five different partners!

Favorite bridge books include *Precision in the 90s*, by Barry Rigal (who was a regular on Kevin's pub trivia quiz team in the UK) and the chapter on "Pressure Bidding" in *Partnership Bidding in Contract Bridge* by Andy Robson and Oliver Segal.

His biggest bridge thrill was taking on Meckstroth-Rodwell and the rest of the formidable Nickell team in the 2002 Washington Spingold - and covering (barely) Steve Robinson's spread.



Charles Carrington is retired from the Federal U.S. District Court where he was a Federal Probation Officer. He has a daughter, Tamara, who works as a chemical engineer.

Charles started playing Mom & Pop bridge with Dr. & Mrs. James Burke in 1968 in Baltimore. After moving to D.C. later that year, he began playing duplicate with the late Harrison McClinton and his wife, Elaine in the Marbury Plaza Apt.s. where they all lived. The next year, Charles began traveling the country to play in tournaments. While a member of the ABA, he played in Detroit, New York City, Atlantic City, Durham, Charlotte, Atlanta and Houston. As a member of the ACBL, he has traveled to play in

Lancaster and Richmond.

In 1975, at an ABA National Swiss Teams when all 114 teams played against each other without any flying, Charles experienced one of his most exciting moments in bridge when he and his team won all 8 of their matches.

He says that his reputation is ruined till this day by a hand that occurred while he was still a novice at a Nationals in New York. Charles hand was AKxxxxx/AK/A/A7. With 3 passes to him, Charles announced, "I'm about to make a skip bid - 7NT!" Partner came down with Qx/Qxx/xxxx/xxx and due to partner's queens, the hand rolled home! 30 years later, people still tease him about the bid. *It just goes to show that accurate and efficient bidding isn't always fully appreciated.* - Ed.



Deitrich C. Ford is retired from the D.C. government as a supervisor in human resources management. After retiring, she substituted in the P.G. County school system. Deitrich has a B.S.

from the University of Maryland and an M.A. from George Washington University. Currently, she volunteers at least twice a week at Meals on Wheels and at R.R. National Airport.

After having played bid-whist for many years, learning bridge was a natural progression. Deitrich started playing in 1997 after retirement and now wherever she visits, she tries to find a bridge game.

Deitrich prefers playing 2/1 and one of her favorite books is, *2/1 Game Force* by Max Hardy. She has several tournament wins, but her biggest thrill in bridge came when she became able to recall the hands she had played.



Rama Kapur is retired from IBM where he worked as a computer scientist. He has a son, Hans, and two grandchildren.

While growing up in India, his uncle taught Rama whist. In the 1980's, in the Boston area, he played duplicate for the first time. After a couple of years, he stopped playing and didn't pick it up again until Christmas of 2003. Rama joined the WBL just over a year ago and does not intend to ever stop playing again.

An exciting moment came at a recent sectional when he managed to make 2S doubled in only a 5-0 fit. His partner bid 2C (Drury) as a passed hand, when he actually had a club suit and was void of spades.

Rama's other hobbies include hiking, tennis, woodworking and stain glass art. He says that his only personal goal for bridge is to count and to consistently make less than 24 mistakes per session. which he adds can be a hard thing to do.



John B. Mattioli is an assistant controller for Fidelity and Trust Mortgage (*generous sponsors of the WBL Round Robin*). His educational background includes a BBA degree.

In 1990, John got into bridge as an extension of other card playing. He started playing in tournaments that same year. He enjoys playing a 2/1 system often at the Washington Bridge Center and his favorite bridge author is Larry Cohen. In addition to bridge, John also takes part in fantasy sports leagues.



Ann E. Parrott is retired as a computer programmer specialist. Her family includes her daughter, Chris Hoban.

Ann grew up in the D.C. area and always wanted to learn bridge.

In 1963, she took lessons from Carolyn Whitehead at the Chevy Chase Duplicate Bridge Club. She has enjoyed playing on cruises and in many area clubs including Holiday Park, Gaithersburg, Margaret Schweinhaut, Washington Bridge Center, and the JCC.

Ann is a big Redskin fan. Since 1957, she has only missed two regular season home games. She also enjoys golf, duckpin and tenpin bowling, puzzles and other games.

In 2001, at a Wilmington, DE regional, after never having won any gold previously, Ann came home with 17.12 gold points from four days of play. With that, she was well on her way to becoming a Life Master.

Art Podolsky and his wife Joy of 46+ years have four daughters and nine grandchildren. He is retired from the U.S. Office of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, as a statistician, after 34+ years with the Federal government. In his spare time, Art is an Officer and Board member in the Nevey Shalom synagogue and Nevey Shalom Mens' Club. He constructed Timed Kriss Kross puzzles for Dell Magazines for about 15 years,

He learned to play bridge in his college days in C.C.N.Y. in the cafeteria section where bridge games were held at random. Art played in a foursome rubber bridge game for about 25 years at 1/20 of a cent a point on a weekly basis. When the kitty had enough money, the four couples enjoyed an evening out.

He retired April 3, 1991, and, after his daughter's wedding in July, found the need for something to do to occupy his time. So, he took up duplicate and began playing in local clubs. He would like to thank Mary Dresser of the Laurel Bridge Club, who taught him much of what the game of duplicate was about, and Pam Schaffer, owner of

the Severna Park bridge club, who coached him in passing the Director's exam. Art now directs a non-sanctioned bridge game in Leisure World when he is home in Maryland, and is working on a similar venture in Century Village in WPB, FL.

Art prefers simple, uncomplicated systems. He feels that if a bidding system occurs too seldom or is too complex, it's not worth worrying over. He does use Stayman, Jacoby, Kennedy, Cappelletti, weak 2's, limit raises, Michaels, and unusual no-trump.

One of his biggest thrills at the bridge table was at Hunt Valley last summer when he earned the .70 in gold he had needed for over 3 years to become a Life Master. Art is now a Bronze Life Master.

Carol Schuman and her husband Shelly (who has just started taking lessons from Leslie Shafer) live in Rockville. They have three adult children and four adorable grandchildren. Carol is a retired physical therapist who worked as an early intervention specialist for young children with developmental delays for Ivymount School for most of her career. Carol is on the Advisory Board of Jewish Foundation for Group Homes which serves adults with special needs and she was named Volunteer of the Year in 2000. She has also worked as a Court Appointed Special Advocate.

She is an avid traveler and enjoys reading and theater. She has played bridge since her children were tiny. Whoever was dummy would feed a baby. Ten years ago, after much "kitchen table" bridge, she and her buddies decided to get serious and started taking lessons and playing duplicate. Although Susie Quint had to drag her kicking and screaming to her first duplicate game in Chevy Chase, Carol now plays several times a week in Rockville.

Most memorable was the recent tournament in Lancaster where she became a life master by a win of one point. Carol and her partners, Terri Sanker, Rena Rutstein and Bobbie Feldman celebrated with dinner and bowling. She wants to thank her steady partners Susie Quint, Joanie Cutler and Doris Konecke for putting up with her "inconsistent" playing each week. She hopes to continue to improve her game and would especially like to thank the late John Harrison for being a wonderful mentor.

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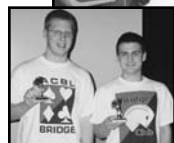
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Results



**T H E
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They were honored at this tournament. Congratulations all! (From l to r): Lizzy Cohen Trophy (0-1500); Charity Sack; Lovernberg Trophy (Open); Leo LaSota, Woolridge Trophy (0-20); Shlomit Rind, Tubbs Trophy; (non-LMs); Neal Rosenthal.



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

from Bethesda Chevy Chase High and St. Andrews Episcopal competing in the tournament. Some players learned to play at their schools during lunch time or after school and others learned in a one day introduction to Bridge at the Washington Bridge Center. There will be another Intro to Bridge on March 5th. Call Barbara Summers 301-806-1184 or email jimbarb1184@aol.com. If you want to start a bridge club in your school call Ron Starr at 301-365-1144 or email r4starr@comcast.net and he can help you get started. Begin playing and see why George Washington, Dwight Eisenhower, Omar Shariff, Bill Gates and Warren Buffet all loved to play.

THURS MORN OPEN PAIRS

Stratum A, 19 Pairs

- 1 Carrolena Key - Rosalind Dixon61.90
- 2 Robert Ellis - Benjamin Stauss60.20
- 3 Mita Banerjee - Hanna Schepps58.64
- 4 Michael Gottesman - Silas Wasserstrom 58.50
- 5 Alfred Steinberg - Andrew Gofreed . .54.63
- 6 Alice Miller - Marie Creisher54.41

THURS MORN OPEN PAIRS

Stratum B, 11 Pairs

- 1 Carrolena Key - Rosalind Dixon61.90
- 2 Michael Gottesman - Silas Wasserstrom 58.50
- 3 Bjorn Odegaard - James Geist54.07
- 4 Arlan Lyhus - Georgia Lyhus49.20

THURS MORN OPEN PAIRS

Stratum C, 7 Pairs

- 1 Carrolena Key - Rosalind Dixon61.90
- 2 Michael Gottesman - Silas Wasserstrom 58.50
- 3 Arlan Lyhus - Georgia Lyhus49.20

THURS EVE FLT A/X PAIRS



Stratum A, 78 Pairs

- 1 Leon Letwin - Joel Miller62.59
- 2 Alan Tenenbaum - Kefu Xu62.02
- 3 Marie Creisher - Hanna Schepps . . .62.00
- 4 Andrew Gofreed - Stephen Swearingin 60.42
- 5 Denis Taneri - Martin Graf58.58
- 6 David Genne - Sven Pride58.17
- 7 Audrey Marbach - Warren Manison .58.12
- 8/9 Candace Kuschner - Bruce Houston .57.87
- 8/9 Edward Gofreed - Sumner Steinfeldt .57.87

THURS EVE FLT A/X PAIRS

Stratum X, 49 Pairs

- 1 Joel Miller - Leon Letwin62.59
- 2 Marie Creisher - Hanna Schepps . . .62.00
- 3 Denis Taneri - Martin Graf58.58
- 4 David Genne - Sven Pride58.17
- 5 Candace Kuschner - Bruce Houston .57.87
- 6 Robert Hartmann - Ronald Spieker .56.94

THURS EVE FLT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum B, 44 Pairs

- 1 Glenn Young - Terry Jones67.00
- 2 Bruce Roberts - Khaled Mostafa . . .60.98
- 3 Namik Haverich - Mirsad Mujezinovic 60.23
- 4/5 James Adams - Hadi Abushakra . . .59.47
- 4/5 Herbert Behre III - Richard Allison .59.47
- 6 Donald Goldman - Jon Ranhand . . .58.33

THURS EVE FLT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum C, 34 Pairs

- 1 Glenn Young - Terry Jones67.00
- 2 Bruce Roberts - Khaled Mostafa . . .60.98
- 3 Namik Haverich - Mirsad Mujezinovic 60.23
- 4/5 James Adams - Hadi Abushakra . . .59.47
- 4/5 Herbert Behre III - Richard Allison .59.47
- 6 Donald Goldman - Jon Ranhand . . .58.33

THURS EVE FLT B/C/D PAIRS



Stratum D, 25 Pairs

- 1 Bruce Roberts - Khaled Mostafa . . .60.98
- 2 Namik Haverich - Mirsad Mujezinovic 60.23
- 3 Herbert Behre III - Richard Allison .59.47
- 4 Donald Goldman - Jon Ranhand . . .58.33
- 5 Phyllis Sonen - Hilda Getz55.68
- 6 Parween Yunus - Abdul Etemadi . . .55.50

THURS EVE NLM PAIRS @ SIL SPR



Stratum A, 18 Pairs

- 1 Teresa Caplan - Craig Caplan67.56
- 2 Shlomit Rind - Steven Nesseler56.85
- 3 Michael Berard - Bob Grudberg56.25
- 4 Roma Chandra - Yasmina Patel55.06
- 5 Thomas Reckford - Behnaz Fardshishch 54.17

THURS EVE NLM PAIRS @ SIL SPR

Stratum B, 15 Pairs

- 1 Craig Caplan - Teresa Caplan67.56
- 2 Shlomit Rind - Steven Nesseler56.85
- 3 Michael Berard - Bob Grudberg56.25
- 4 Roma Chandra - Yasmina Patel55.06
- 5 Larry Gebbie - Murat Berk53.87

THURS EVE NLM PAIRS @ SIL SPR

Stratum C, 6 Pairs

- 1 Roma Chandra - Yasmina Patel55.06
- 2 Larry Gebbie - Murat Berk53.87

THURS EVE 199ER PAIRS @ ALEX

Stratum A, 16 Pairs

- 1 Martha Bley - Ross Bley60.00
- 2 Deborah Branch - Cynthia Santelli . .57.08
- 3/4 Marshall Fite - Nancy Detweiler . . .56.67
- 3/4 Virginia Morgan - Ray Morgan56.67
- 5 Sharon Wynns - Peyton Wynns56.25

THURS EVE 199ER PAIRS @ ALEX

Stratum B, 14 Pairs

- 1 Martha Bley - Ross Bley60.00
- 2 Deborah Branch - Cynthia Santelli . .57.08
- 3/4 Marshall Fite - Nancy Detweiler . . .56.67
- 3/4 Virginia Morgan - Ray Morgan56.67
- 5 Sharon Wynns - Peyton Wynns56.25

THURS EVE 199ER PAIRS @ ALEX

Stratum C, 11 Pairs

- 1 Martha Bley - Ross Bley60.00
- 2 Deborah Branch - Cynthia Santelli . .57.08
- 3/4 Marshall Fite - Nancy Detweiler . . .56.67
- 3/4 Virginia Morgan - Ray Morgan56.67

FRI MORN FLT A/X PAIRS



Stratum A, 16 Pairs

- 1 Michael Gill - Jason Rosenfeld62.38
- 2 William Foster Jr - Harold Minus Sr .59.10
- 3 Steven Forsythe - Sandra Forsythe . .58.55
- 4 Shou-Ling Wang - Dalia Kende57.27
- 5 Lorraine Morgan - Leila Whiting . . .56.17

FRI MORN FLT A/X PAIRS

Stratum X, 8 Pairs

- 1 Michael Gill - Jason Rosenfeld62.38

- 2 Steven Forsythe - Sandra Forsythe . . .58.55
- 3 Mark Rosen - Eugene Fisher55.53

FRI MORN FLT B/C/D PAIRS



Stratum B, 17 Pairs

- 1 Robert Von Moss (pic.) - Frank Shull III 58.08
- 2 Samuel Keiter - Richard Robinson . .54.89
- 3 Audrey Warren - Mildred Lieder . . .54.77
- 4 Nelson Waks - Willa Garner54.53
- 5 Malvern Sheffield Jr - Marlene Stone 54.16

FRI MORN FLT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum C, 12 Pairs

- 1 Robert Von Moss - Frank Shull III .58.08
- 2 Samuel Keiter - Richard Robinson . .54.89
- 3 Malvern Sheffield Jr - Marlene Stone 54.16
- 4 Arthur Mackwell - Zoe Martindale .51.30

FRI MORN FLT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum D, 6 Pairs

- 1 Malvern Sheffield Jr - Marlene Stone 54.16
- 2 Audrey Bourke - Jane Lee50.81

FRI MORN NLM PAIRS



Stratum A, 12 Pairs

- 1 Teresa Caplan - Craig Caplan61.17
- 2 Robert Edwards - Steven Dunn60.00
- 3 Elaine Pollock - Sylvia Miller56.67
- 4 Suzanne Steiner - Richard Steiner . .53.42

FRI MORN NLM PAIRS

Stratum B, 9 Pairs

- 1 Craig Caplan - Teresa Caplan61.17
- 2 Robert Edwards - Steven Dunn60.00
- 3 Elaine Pollock - Sylvia Miller56.67
- 4 Sally Hollman - Lawrence Hollman .52.61

FRI MORN NLM PAIRS

Stratum C, 5 Pairs

- 1 Robert Edwards - Steven Dunn60.00
- 2 Sally Hollman - Lawrence Hollman .52.61

FRI AFT FLT A/X PAIRS



Stratum A, 24 Pairs

- 1/2 Julian Heicklen - David Chen61.55
- 1/2 Candace Kuschner - Marshall Kuschner 61.55

- 3 James Geist - Mita Banerjee60.80
- 4 Glenn Lublin - Jim Allen Jr59.85
- 5 Alfred Steinberg - Steve Robinson .57.58
- 6 Randy Zeibert - Roy Tibery55.49

FRI AFT FLT A/X PAIRS

Stratum X, 9 Pairs

- 1 James Geist - Mita Banerjee60.80
- 2 Randy Zeibert - Roy Tibery55.49
- 3 Michael Gill - Jason Rosenfeld51.89
- 4 John Glynn - M Cassandra Smith . .51.14

FRI AFT FLT B/C/D PAIRS



Stratum B, 22 Pairs

- 1 Janet Dence - Edwin Fuller Jr63.39
- 2 Pat Tyler - Joan Anderson61.61
- 3/4 John Hartwell - Mary Lou Mayer . .57.74
- 3/4 Michael Gottesman - Silas Wasserstrom 57.74
- 5 Alan Dockterman - Richard Cassell .57.14
- 6 Behnaz Fardshisheh - Pari Khoshkish54.17

FRI AFT FLT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum C, 15 Pairs

- 1 Pat Tyler - Joan Anderson61.61
- 2/3 John Hartwell - Mary Lou Mayer . .57.74
- 2/3 Michael Gottesman - Silas Wasserstrom 57.74
- 4 Alan Dockterman - Richard Cassell .57.14
- 5 Behnaz Fardshisheh - Pari Khoshkish54.17

FRI AFT FLT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum D, 9 Pairs

- 1 Michael Gottesman - Silas Wasserstrom 57.74
- 2 Alan Dockterman - Richard Cassell .57.14
- 3 James Beller - Lawrence Heinen . . .52.38
- 4 Margaret Buda - Mary Lafferty51.79

FRI AFT NLM PAIRS



Stratum A, 18 Pairs

- 1 Judy Glick - Carol Poland67.60
- 2 Robert Edwards - Steven Dunn59.99
- 3 Robert Lawrence - Frances Lawrence 59.18
- 4 Tsung Lee - Bor Hsu56.85
- 5 Diane Lucci - Patricia Drummond . .55.83

FRI AFT NLM PAIRS

Stratum B, 13 Pairs

- 1 Judy Glick - Carol Poland67.60
- 2 Robert Edwards - Steven Dunn59.99
- 3 Diane Lucci - Patricia Drummond . .55.83
- 4 Michael Berard - Bob Grudberg . . .55.78
- 5 Katherine Rabenstein - Albert Phillips 52.55

FRI AFT NLM PAIRS

Stratum C, 7 Pairs

- 1 Robert Edwards - Steven Dunn59.99

- 2 Florence Drake - Robert Drake51.49
- 3 Judy Bernstein - Charles Haynes . . .50.12

FRI EVE FLT A/X BAROMETER PAIRS



Stratum A, 28 Pairs

- 1 John Adams - Steve Robinson68.71
- 2 Lou Reich - Abby Heitner63.28
- 3 Diane Walker - Rae Dethlefsen59.37
- 4 Hy Chansky - Kitty Gottfried58.30
- 5 Leo LaSota - Barbara Shaw57.68
- 6 Carole Banks - M Cassandra Smith . .57.25

FRI EVE FLT A/X BAROMETER PAIRS

Stratum X, 14 Pairs

- 1 Diane Walker - Rae Dethlefsen59.37
- 2 Hy Chansky - Kitty Gottfried58.30
- 3 Carole Banks - M Cassandra Smith . .57.25
- 4 Michael Gill - Jason Rosenfeld53.69
- 5 Harold Minus Sr - Harold Minus III .50.64

FRI EVE FLT B/C/D BAROMETER PAIRS



Stratum B, 32 Pairs

- 1 Michelle Cantave - Howard Bender .68.61
- 2 Steven Fox - Albert Lauber62.78
- 3 Kathrine Loh - Gloria Halstead61.67
- 4 David Mead - Kathleen O'Toole60.97
- 5 Timothy Stewart - Gregory Clark . . .57.64
- 6 Michael Berard - Bob Grudberg . . .57.36

FRI EVE FLT B/C/D BAROMETER PAIRS

Stratum C, 26 Pairs

- 1 Michelle Cantave - Howard Bender .68.61
- 2 Steven Fox - Albert Lauber62.78
- 3 Kathrine Loh - Gloria Halstead61.67
- 4 David Mead - Kathleen O'Toole60.97
- 5 Timothy Stewart - Gregory Clark . . .57.64
- 6 Michael Berard - Bob Grudberg . . .57.36

FRI EVE FLT B/C/D BAROMETER PAIRS

Stratum D, 13 Pairs

- 1 David Mead - Kathleen O'Toole60.97
- 2 Timothy Stewart - Gregory Clark . . .57.64
- 3 Michael Berard - Bob Grudberg . . .57.36
- 4 Shlomit Rind - Zvi Gur56.94
- 5 Steven Nessler - Eric Beard54.86

SAT MORN FLT A/X PAIRS



Stratum A, 45 Pairs

- 1 Mark Rosen - Steven Forsythe61.71
- 2 Leo LaSota - Mark Shaw59.03
- 3 James Geist - Eugene Fisher58.23
- 4 Julian Boyce - Pamela Bowman57.34
- 5 Carl Nelson - Eric Branfanm56.93
- 6 Barry Falgout - Rusty Krauss56.82
- 7 Rammohan Sarangan - Rae Dethlefsen 55.75

SAT MORN FLT A/X PAIRS

Stratum X, 22 Pairs

- 1 Steven Forsythe - Mark Rosen61.71
- 2 James Geist - Eugene Fisher58.23
- 3 Barry Falgout - Rusty Krauss56.82
- 4 Rammohan Sarangan - Rae Dethlefsen 55.75
- 5 Richard Wieland - Glenn Young . . .55.65
- 6 Mitchell Weisberg - Arthur Hayes . .53.77

SAT MORN FLT B/C/D PAIRS



Stratum B, 40 Pairs

- 1 Thomas Reckford - Behnaz Fardshisheh 69.05
- 2 Mildred Lieder - Audrey Warren . . .61.90
- 3 Jon Ranhand - Donald Goldman . . .61.61
- 4 Marshall Kramer - Stephen Mac Arthur 58.93
- 5 Nancy Hoyer - Jean Marx58.63
- 6/7 Allen Shearn - Peggy Shearn56.55
- 6/7 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal . .56.55

SAT MORN FLT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum C, 34 Pairs

- 1 Thomas Reckford - Behnaz Fardshisheh 69.05
- 2 Jon Ranhand - Donald Goldman . . .61.61
- 3 Marshall Kramer - Stephen Mac Arthur 58.93
- 4 Nancy Hoyer - Jean Marx58.63
- 5/6 Allen Shearn - Peggy Shearn56.55
- 5/6 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal . .56.55

SAT MORN FLT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum D, 22 Pairs

- 1 Thomas Reckford - Behnaz Fardshisheh 69.05
- 2 Jon Ranhand - Donald Goldman . . .61.61
- 3 Marshall Kramer - Stephen Mac Arthur 58.93
- 4/5 Allen Shearn - Peggy Shearn56.55
- 4/5 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal . .56.55
- 6 Michael Goldman - William Mendez Jr 55.06

SAT MORN NLM PAIRS

Stratum A, 22 Pairs

- 1 Ann Sjoerdsma - Paul Lubell62.20
- 2 John Graham - Susan Graham61.31
- 3 Willis Paley Hume - Arthur Keefe III 59.18
- 4 Diane Lucci - Patricia Drummond . .57.65
- 5 Norris Hekimian - Edgar MacArthur .55.91
- 6 Shlomit Rind - Zvi Gur54.66

SAT MORN NLM PAIRS

Stratum B, 17 Pairs

- 1 Ann Sjoerdsma - Paul Lubell62.20
- 2 John Graham - Susan Graham61.31
- 3 Willis Paley Hume - Arthur Keefe III 59.18
- 4 Diane Lucci - Patricia Drummond . .57.65
- 5 Shlomit Rind - Zvi Gur54.66

SAT MORN NLM PAIRS

Stratum C, 9 Pairs

- 1 Ann Sjoerdsma - Paul Lubell62.20
- 2 John Graham - Susan Graham61.31
- 3 Willis Paley Hume - Arthur Keefe III 59.18
- 4 Geoff Turley - Jennifer Elliott53.49

SAT MORN 49ER PAIRS



Stratum A, 12 Pairs

- 1 Virginia Morgan - Ray Morgan66.17
- 2 Veronica Flynn - H Phillip Davis . . .59.75
- 3 Sharon Stewart - Anne Vaeth59.42
- 4 Ross Bley - Martha Bley58.58

SAT MORN 49ER PAIRS

Stratum B, 6 Pairs

- 1/2 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed52.08
- 1/2 Larry Gebbie - Murat Berk52.08

SAT MORN 49ER PAIRS

Stratum C, 6 Pairs

- 1/2 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed52.08
- 1/2 Larry Gebbie - Murat Berk52.08

SAT MORN 0-5 PAIRS

6 Pairs

- 1 Andrew Hale - Jake Schuessler59.38
- 2/3 David Sangillo - David Brown56.25
- 2/3 Adam Jessell - Zack Turley56.25

SAT AFT FLT A/X PAIRS



Stratum A, 50 Pairs

- 1 Rusty Krauss - Barry Falgout67.49
- 2 Leo LaSota - Mark Shaw64.21
- 3 Robin Taylor - Alan Sontag61.91
- 4 Daniel Feldman - Rodney Severson . .61.29
- 5 Juline Glaz - Daniel Shankle Jr61.12
- 6 Jeremy Koegel - Robert Bell57.61

SAT AFT FLT A/X PAIRS

Stratum X, 28 Pairs

- 1 Barry Falgout - Rusty Krauss67.49
- 2 Daniel Feldman - Rodney Severson . .61.29
- 3 Juline Glaz - Daniel Shankle Jr61.12
- 4 Diane Walker - Ellen Cherniavsky . .55.54
- 5 Arthur Hayes - Mitchell Weisberg . .55.44
- 6 Jane Sturgis - Jane Thurman54.70

SAT AFT FLT B/C/D PAIRS



Stratum B, 28 Pairs

- 1 Steven Schatzow - Sarah Goodstein . .63.64
- 2 Koko Soderberg - Barry Smith60.04
- 3 Joan Benesch - Bill Benesch59.28
- 4 Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer . .58.52
- 5 James Geist - John Lowe III57.77
- 6 Cynthia Helms - Wanda Avila55.49

SAT AFT FLT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum C, 22 Pairs

- 1 Koko Soderberg - Barry Smith60.04
- 2 Cynthia Helms - Wanda Avila55.49
- 3 Michelle Cantave - Khaled Mostafa . .53.79
- 4/5 Davyd Breeskin - John Breeskin . . .53.41
- 4/5 Franz Delahan - Madeline Delahan . .53.41
- 6 Linda Marshall - Charlotte Olesker . .53.22

SAT AFT FLT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum D, 12 Pairs

- 1 Koko Soderberg - Barry Smith60.04
- 2 Cynthia Helms - Wanda Avila55.49
- 3 Michelle Cantave - Khaled Mostafa . .53.79
- 4/5 Davyd Breeskin - John Breeskin . . .53.41
- 4/5 Franz Delahan - Madeline Delahan . .53.41

SAT AFT NLM PAIRS



Stratum A, 22 Pairs

- 1 James Andre - Gloria Halstead58.93
- 2 Veronica Flynn - H Phillip Davis . . .58.63
- 3/4 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed57.14
- 3/4 Steven Nesseler - Shlomit Rind57.14
- 5 Diane Lucci - Patricia Drummond . .55.65
- 6 Carl Gutschick - Anita Gutschick . .55.06

SAT AFT NLM PAIRS

Stratum B, 18 Pairs

- 1 Veronica Flynn - H Phillip Davis . . .58.63
- 2/3 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed57.14
- 2/3 Steven Nesseler - Shlomit Rind57.14
- 4 Diane Lucci - Patricia Drummond . .55.65
- 5 Bettye Whitney - Robert Moss54.76

SAT AFT NLM PAIRS

Stratum C, 9 Pairs

- 1 Veronica Flynn - H Phillip Davis . . .58.63
- 2 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed57.14
- 3 Ray Morgan - Virginia Morgan53.57
- 4 Murat Berk - Larry Gebbie49.70

SUN FLT A/X SWISS

Stratum A, 17 Teams

- 1 Yi Zhong - Hailong Ao - Weizhong Bao - Jian-Jian Wang105.00
- 2 Leo LaSota - Alfred Steinberg - Barbara Shaw - David Ruderman - Alan Tenenbaum . .89.00
- 3 Christon Johnson - Frank Cardillo - Robert Boorman - Paul Krueger88.00
- 4/5 Rusty Krauss - Barry Falgout - Robert Hopkins Jr - Joan Lewis86.00
- 4/5 Clyde Kruskal - Linda Maloney - Jason Rosenfeld - Donna Rogall86.00

SUN FLT A/X SWISS

Stratum X, 4 Teams

- 1 Yi Zhong - Hailong Ao - Weizhong Bao - Jian-Jian Wang105.00

SUN FLT B/C/D SWISS



Stratum B, 29 Teams

- 1 John Glynn - Edwin Fuller Jr - Janet Dence - Ronald Susi96.00
- 2 Sid Finkelman - Mary Peters - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried92.00
- 3 Robert Padgett - Linda Padgett - John Mason Jr - Michael Polunin91.00
- 4 Ron Starr - Ellen Rosenthal - Neal Rosenthal - Candy Greenway90.00
- 5 Juan Pardo - Margaret Buda - Roma Chandra - Ajaz Rahman83.00
- 6/8 Audrey Warren - Mildred Lieder - Martha Chen - Marlys Moholt80.00
- 6/8 Sarah Goodstein - Steven Schatzow - Daniel Koch - William Kingery Jr80.00
- 6/8 Neal McKinney - Norma Pierzchala - Kim Ashenden - John Miles80.00

SUN FLT B/C/D SWISS

Stratum C, 17 Teams

- 1 Ron Starr - Ellen Rosenthal - Neal Rosenthal - Candy Greenway90.00
- 2 Juan Pardo - Margaret Buda - Roma Chandra - Ajaz Rahman83.00
- 3/4 Richard Cassell - Stephen Goldstein - Samuel Phillips - Jean Phillips77.00
- 3/4 Leo Cardillo - Robert Brady - Glenn Young - Stuart Fleischmann77.00

- 5 George Green - Ednae Trevey - Gloria Halstead - Rama Kapur76.00

SUN FLT B/C/D SWISS

Stratum D, 12 Teams

- 1 Ron Starr - Ellen Rosenthal - Neal Rosenthal - Candy Greenway90.00
- 2 Juan Pardo - Margaret Buda - Roma Chandra - Ajaz Rahman83.00
- 3 Richard Cassell - Stephen Goldstein - Samuel Phillips - Jean Phillips77.00
- 4 George Green - Ednae Trevey - Gloria Halstead - Rama Kapur76.00

SUN MORN NLM SWISS



Stratum A, 10 Teams

- 1 James Andre - Shlomit Rind - Zvi Gur - Barry Lieberman51.00
- 2 Lorraine Davis - Jean Agenbroad - Shirley Forrester - Freida Joyce50.00
- 3 James Dailey - Vicki Dailey - Nancy Detweiler - Elizabeth Parker49.00
- 4 Robert Lawrence - Frances Lawrence - Robert Drake - Florence Drake45.00

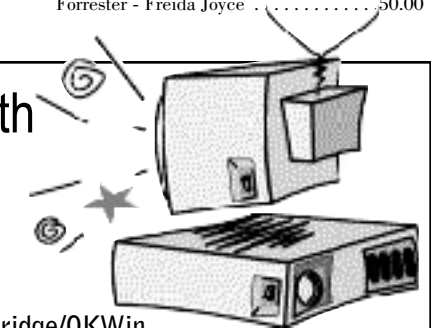
SUN MORN NLM SWISS

Stratum B, 4 Teams

- 1 Lorraine Davis - Jean Agenbroad - Shirley Forrester - Freida Joyce50.00

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Diane Walker

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Computer Consulting

301-990-8534
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NLM MASTER POINTERS

by I/N Columnist, Vince Wilmot, vwilmot@erols.com

FINESSES ARE FUN

One of my favorite things to do when I learned to play a hand was to take a finesse. It is fun to see my lower honor cards win tricks. Here's how finesses work.

<u>Your hand</u>	<u>Dummy</u>
AQ	32

If you need to win two tricks in this suit, lead a low card from the dummy, and when your Right Hand Opponent (RHO) plays low, try playing the queen. Should your RHO have the king, you will win two tricks in the suit. Leading this suit from your hand will only allow you one winner.

Let's try some more examples. How do you take three tricks with the following holdings?

	<u>Your hand</u>	<u>Dummy</u>
1.	AKJ	432
2.	AQJ	432
3.	AQT	432

In each case, you lead a low card from dummy. In the first two cases, when your RHO follows low, you play the jack from your hand. In the first example, if your RHO has the queen, you now have your three tricks. In the second example, if your RHO has the king, your work is not yet done. You have two tricks so far. You need to return to the dummy, and lead low again to your queen in order to get your third trick. This is called a repeating finesse.

In the third example, you lead low to the ten. If RHO has the king and jack, you can return to dummy, and repeat the finesse, this time with the queen. Is it sufficient to finesse with the queen the first time? No. If you finesse the queen and it wins, RHO will now have the king and jack left, and can play one of them when you go for the second finesse. Now you can see the importance of finessing the ten the first time.

How about this one?

<u>Your hand</u>	<u>Dummy</u>
AJT	K32

This time you can lead a low card from dummy playing the ten from your hand. If RHO has the queen, you now have your three tricks. Optionally, you could lead the jack from your hand, and play low from the dummy. In this case, you win if your left hand opponent (LHO) has the queen. Which one is right? Sometimes you can get clues from the bidding, or previous card play. The best solution is to get the opponents to play the suit for you. Then you have no way of getting this wrong. Assume RHO leads the suit. Play the ten from your hand, and whether your LHO plays the queen or not, you always have three tricks. Optionally, if LHO starts the suit, play low from dummy and win the trick in your hand as cheaply as possible. Again, you end up with three tricks.

Next time, we will have fun with more kinds of finesses.

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS

As of January 1, 2005

Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

Marie Berard Elizabeth Colton
Francie Gingrich Andreas Rostin

Club Masters (20 Masterpoints)

Martha Bley Ross Bley
Richard Cissel

Regional Masters (100 Masterpoints)

Kathleen O'Toole Shlomit Rind

National Masters (200 Masterpoints)

James Andre Reni Malloy

AREA BRIDGE CLASS OFFERINGS

LESLIE SHAFER'S CLASSES

Questions: Call **Leslie Shafer** at 301-593-6828 or email slamhand@verizon.net.

Magic Hands NEW!! NEW!!

Ages 18&Up: Genuine massage for your brains! Each deal presents a thinking problem for everyone at the table, not just the declarer. We'll show you how to tap into that illusive bridge logic that everyone desires. Build your card sense with enlightening new material based on Eddie Kantar's new lesson deals. \$15 material fee due to instructor. ***begins April 4th*** Monday mornings at ***Potomac Com. Center*** from 10 a.m. - noon. For advanced players!!!

Introduction to Play of the Hand

Ages 18&Up: Now that you have some basic bidding skills, let's go over basic play techniques regarding how to establish tricks using promotion, length and finessing. Course also covers distribution of missing cards. Also emphasis will be placed on how to estimate your winners or losers. Basic beginner bidding knowledge is a prerequisite for this course. This course was designed to give the student LOTS of playing time. \$15 material fee due to instructor at class. ***Begins April 5th*** on Tuesday nights at ***Potomac Com. Center*** 7:30 - 9:30.

JACK MOSS' CLASSES

Call **Jack Moss** @ 301-438-0188 or email questions to jlmoss@erols.com

At the ***Leland Community Center in Bethesda***, both of the following ***starting on Tuesday April 5, 2005***. Cost to Montgomery Cty. Residents is \$71, all others \$81.

Polishing Your Basics- Part I

8 Weeks- 1 PM to 3 PM. Prerequisite- Bridge I and Bridge II or a working knowledge of the basics. Get more play and less ponder in this bidding and play workshop. Up to 7 fixed hands available each week. Explore basic bidding and play of the hand techniques to reinforce lessons as well leads, Stayman, Blackwood, slam bidding, jump raises, watching entries, opening and responding bids and more. Booklet with topic mini lessons and hand examples provided. \$15 Materiel fee due to instructor.

Polishing Your Basics- Part II Plus

8 Weeks- 7:30 PM to 9 PM. Prerequisite- Part I or a working knowledge of bridge.

Bridge: Introduction to Signaling

Ages 18&Up: Beginner. Explore the basics of defensive signaling and you could become a Superman complete with x-ray vision! Understand the importance of being able to visualize your partner's bridge hand and your partner's ability to visualize yours. Here's an opportunity to arm yourself because the real object of the game is to get the most tricks & win the war! \$15 material fee due to instructor at class. ***Leland Com. Center April 6th*** from 7:30 - 9:30 and ***Kenwood Country Club April 6th*** from 1-3 p.m.

Bridge: Beginner Part I

Ages 18&Up: For absolute beginners. Join in on the card craze that's sweeping the nation and bridging the social gap! Here's a new and fun way to learn the tricks of the game of bridge. The focus is on playing as soon as possible. The more hands you play, the faster you develop your skills. Come prepared for merriment & we bet you just might make some new friends, too!. \$15 material fee due to instructor at class. ***Begins April 4th*** at ***Coffield Com. Center*** on Monday nights from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Here's help to find the keys that unlock the dilemmas of bidding and help you open more doors to knowledgeable play of the hand. Discover what your partner is telling you and keep your concentration on bidding later in the auction. Focus on new bidding systems such as transfer bids, weak 2 bids and the strong 2 club bid. Not for beginners. Booklet with topic mini lesson and hand examples provided. \$15 Materiel fee due to instructor.

At Potomac Community Center on Falls Rd, the following course ***starts on Wednesday April 6*** and is for 8 weeks from 10 AM to Noon. Costs are the same as above.

Bridge I- Club Series (Bidding)

Fundamentals of contract bridge, including point count, opening bids, rebids, overcall, leads, and basic play of the hand. \$15 Material fee due to instructor.

UNIT GAME PARTNERSHIPS & CARPOOLS

Contact Charleen Brand (301-946-8483) one day or more in advance to find a partner for the unit game. For a last minute partner, call Barbara Doran on the **WBL cell phone (301-395-2760)**. Check out the country's first **On-Line Partnership Desk:** www.washingtonbridgeleague.org.

Don Beriman, Carpool Coordinator can be contacted at 301-776-3581 or (don.beriman@verizon.net) or log on to the **On-Line Carpool Notices** at www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

Good luck! We look forward to seeing you on Thursday evenings.

THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE
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BURTONSVILLE, MARYLAND 20866

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WBL SOLVERS' CLUB'S NEW PROBLEMS

March/April 2005

1) Matchpoints Both Vulnerable

♠ -♥ A9754♦ AKQ87653♣ -

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
_____	_____	_____	1♣
?????			

2) Matchpoints Both Vulnerable

♠ KQ73♥ 76♦ AK932♣ 85

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
_____	_____	1♦	Pass
1♠	Double	Redouble*	2♣
?????			

*3-card spade support

3) IMP's Both Vulnerable

♠ K♥ K♦ A5♣ AJ9865432

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
_____	1♥	Pass	1♠
?????			

4) Matchpoints You're Vulnerable

♠ KJ1053♥ 9♦ AK765♣ 95

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
_____	_____	1♣	1♥
1♠	4♥	4♠	5♣
?????			

5) IMP's There're Vulnerable

♠ -♥ AKJ10876♦ A5♣ J654

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
_____	2♠	Pass	4♠
5♥	5♠	Pass	Pass
?????			

Return answers by March 3 to:

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