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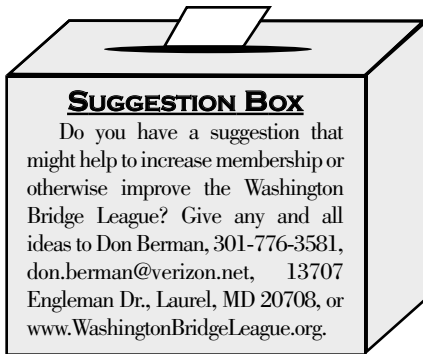
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(See your June/July 2008 District 6 TableTALK or www.mabcbridge.org for the full schedule of events.)





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 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 8822 Fircrest Pl., Alexandria, VA 22308.

♣♦♥♠ ~~~~~ ♣♦♥♠
DEADLINE: JUNE 16, 2008
 TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE MAY/JUNE 2008 ISSUE

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Fred King

I am just back from our annual meeting (we had a great turnout of 60 tables) and I want to thank all of those who made it go so well. Jim Allen carried out the election expeditiously. A number of people were instrumental in preparing and serving the wonderful food that we had. These included **Nadine Wood, Millard Nachtwey, Kitty Gottfried, Ron Zucker, Barb Doran, Barbara Shaw, Ellen Rosenthal, Rosemary Shaw, Winston Edwards, Frances Burek, Audrey Marbach, Steve Robinson, Mark Shaw, Jane Shaw, Brian Geer, Lois Geer, Audrey Stern and Gloria Schulstad.**

While there are so many people who do so much to make the WBL the success that it is, I was very happy to be able to use the occasion to recognize four special volunteers who have contributed greatly to the WBL over the years. They were **Frances Burke, Barbara Doran, Steve Robinson and Barbara Summers.** *Thanks for all you do!*

I don't like to use this column for lecturing or complaining, but I am going to anyway. Last month I was playing at the country's largest regional in Gatlinburg and at the end of one session, fruit was being given away. I watched in amazement as a herd of people stampeded over to the distribution point and began grabbing 4 or 5 pieces of

fruit each. When I went over, I almost felt like asking if it was okay if I took only one. Unfortunately I feel some people act almost this rudely at our unit game when we have our hospitality breaks. They grab two or three of the plastic cups that are there for drinks and fill them with cookies or crackers or other snacks. Let's remember that the food is supplied by the unit for all of us and not just for the first ones to arrive and who take more than their fair share.

Ever since **Steve and Sandy Forsythe** left, the board has been trying, without success, to find a venue, instructors and directors to take their place. Now, the private sector has stepped in and a new game for players with less than 200 points will be starting on Saturdays, beginning with May 31 at St. James Episcopal Church. It will include a mini-lesson before the game. For more details see page 29 in this bulletin or speak with **Mark Lavine.** We will let you know if any other games directed at non-LMs are started in any WBL club.

I hope all of you will attend the 4th of July Regional in Reston and that you are getting excited about the 2009 NABC which will be held in Washington. **Margot Hennings** and I are looking for volunteers, so please contact us.

BITS AND PIECES

WELCOME TO THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: **Ms Sylvia J Burke, Mr Gabriel C Cornett, Ms Nancy J Feldman, Mrs Ellen N Forman, Ms Mary Halow, Mr Richard A Hart, Ms Jacqueline C Leifer, Mr Steven L Leifer, Mr Jeffrey L Ward, Mrs Susan S Ward, Ms Denie S Weil, and Mrs Georgette B Weiss.**

In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: **Mr C. William Black, Mr Larry G Carswell, Mr Calvin H Cobb Jr, Ms Nancy H Davis, Mr John Flynn, Mrs Evelyn Grunley, Mr Martin R Grunley, Mrs Ellinor H Hatton, Mrs Bette O Kramer, Damian Kulash, Marjorie Kulash, Mr Paul M McLean, Mr Victor E Stewart, Mr Alex Stouck, Mrs Cynthia B Sutton, Mr Mike Sutton,** and

...continued on p. 5, column 1

SILVER SPRING, MD: AUGUST 7-10, 2008

Take a Summer Holiday in the Potomac Valley!



Washington Bridge League's
63rd Annual Potomac Valley Tournament

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

- ♣ 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. Church is on the left before the next intersection.

Friday—at Christ the King Church Only

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8

- ♦ Stratified Pairs (unlim/2000/500) 10:00am
 - ♥ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D (1500/1000/500) Pairs 2:00pm
 - ♠ **IMP Pairs** StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D (1500/1000/500) 7:30pm
- The Friday Night IMPs are back!** Friday nights are your chance to try a different form of the game. With IMP pairs, you only need one partner, but it scores like a team game. Your result on each board will be IMPed against all the other results from your direction, then averaged for your final score.
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions) 10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

◇ SAT. & SUN. ONLY at the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center ♡

1000 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring, MD: From Beltway exit Georgia Avenue north (toward Wheaton). Turn right at first traffic light onto Forest Glen Rd. The Senior Center is .7 mile on your right.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

- ♣ **NEW! Compact KOs** Four rounds of knockouts finish in one day! 11:00am, 3:30 pm
- ♣ **Tired of pair games?** You're guaranteed to play a full session of two rounds of the knockouts.
- ♣ Stratified Pairs (unlim/2000/500) (single session) 11:00am
- ♥ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) (single session) 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
- ♣ Don't miss the between sessions **Panel Show** 2:30pm

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

- ♦ A/X Board-A-Match Teams, (unlim /3000, 2 session 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 ♡

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



Famous Washington Hospitality includes snacks, drinks and Friday, Saturday and Sunday lunch free of charge. Chair: **Nadine Wood**, 301-565-9555, woodthere@comcast.net. Volunteer Coordinator: **Barbara Summers**, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com Hospitality: **Kitty Gottfried**, 301-587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com Partnerships: **Barbara Doran**, 301-608-0347, Sectional Partner@DistrictSix.org or try the easy Online Partnership Bulletin Board: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE MACHLIN TROPHY

In 2006, in conjunction with our 75th Anniversary, the WBL initiated a new annual award, the **Machlin Trophy for Sportsmanship**. The trophy is named in honor of Jerry Machlin, whom many of you will remember as one of the greatest directors the game has ever known. Jerry served as Chief Director for games in the Washington area during the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's and probably contributed more to the growth of tournament bridge in our area during the three decades following World War II than any other single individual. Jerry also founded the Mid-Atlantic Bridge Conference (the organization that hosts all of the regionals in our area), and he organized and staged matches in which Members of Congress competed against corporate leaders and members of the British Parliament. These matches helped to promote the game among the country's political and corporate leadership and demonstrated the wide appeal of tournament bridge.

In 2006, the award went to **Dr. Charles Stenger** a worthy choice as the first recipient and someone who sets an example that we all should strive to emulate. In 2007, **Peter Boyd** won the award, another example of sportsmanship at the table. A committee will be appointed soon to consider this year's nominees and make a selection for this third year of the trophy. The criteria for awarding the trophy are as follows:

“The candidate should (1) demonstrate strong ethical standards and a commitment to active ethics (i.e., full disclosure of systems and agreements to opponents, etc.); (2) behave graciously at the table after bad results or good results; (3) exhibit exemplary behavior at all times toward partner and opponents; (4) demonstrate an ability to get along with multiple partners; and (5) demonstrate a willingness to help mentor other players in the game. A player wouldn't necessarily have to satisfy all five, but these are the main the criteria that the selection committee will consider.”

We welcome nominations from the membership of the WBL. Please send your suggested candidate to Fred King at fredmking@gmail.com or in person at the unit game or the August Sectional. It would be appreciated if you would indicate in two or three sentences why you think your nominee is a good candidate for the award. We would like to hear from you by September 1, 2008.

Bits & Pieces, continued from p. 2...

Rodrigo D Valderrama.

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

2007-2008 WBL/NVBA PLAYER OF THE YEAR— FINAL STANDINGS

To be eligible, a player: (1) Must be a member (or pending member) of either the NVBA or the WBL; (2) Must attend at least three WBL and three NVBA sectionals during the contest period (August, 2007 through May, 2008). Points won on Tournament Thursday evenings are included in the totals, but do not count towards eligibility; (3) Must be a member in good standing of the ACBL and a local affiliate throughout the contest period and remain so through the award presentation.

Awards: Two trophies will be awarded.

Standings: Here are the final standings after all eight Sectionals. The asterisk* indicates that the player has met eligibility requirements.

<u>Player</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 Leo LaSota	154.11 *
2 Steve Robinson	149.55 *
3 Mark Shaw	146.94 *
4 Helene Bauman	121.21 *
5 William Cole	103.74 *
6 Peter Boyd	97.01 *
7 Robert Gookin	91.97
8 Arnie Frankel	90.97 *
9 Eugene Kales	79.27 *
10 Richard Ferrin	78.88 *
11 Janet Gookin	78.45
12 Jim Wakefield	78.35 *
13 Fred King	77.37 *
14 David Milton	72.56 *
15 Barbara Shaw	71.43 *
16 Stan Schenker	70.98 *
17 Steven Schatzow	64.99 *
18 Margot Hennings	61.51
19 Leon Letwin	60.88 *
20 David Ruderman	60.67 *

<u>Player</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 Kiyomi Shiba	50.98 *
2 Albert Lauber	44.41 *
3 Alfred Liepold	41.58 *
4 F Parisi-Presicce	37.27 *
5 Amanda Carter	34.23 *
6 Ned Griffith	33.89 *
7 Minako Komura	30.04 *
8 Robert Claypool	28.62 *
9 Raghavendra Rajkumar	25.90
10 Art Hartstein	24.72 *
11 Terry Vann	24.72 *
12 Jose Porres	24.59 *
13 Neil Selvin	24.33 *
14 Kevin O'Brien	24.15 *
15 Roger Laumark	23.99 *
16 Joyce Currie	22.17 *
17 Arun Guha	22.04
18 Joe Hertz	21.75
19 Richard Wedgewood	20.92 *
20 Amy Bloom	19.80 *

2008-2009 NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS – CLUB QUALIFICATION BEGINS

It's time to start thinking about the **North American Pairs!** Come out and play in a local club qualifier.

Club qualifying for the 2008-2009 event will be held during June, July, and August of 2008. There are three Flights, Open, 0-2000 and Non Life Master (with fewer than 500 points). Qualification in a flight qualifies you for all lower flights for which you are eligible. Qualification is by individual (not pairs) – including flight eligibility — from any club qualifier in the ACBL directly to the District 6 Final. Flight eligibility is determined by your master point holding on June 1, 2008. All players who play in the District Final must have qualified at the club level and must be bona fide members of District 6. **There will be no exceptions.** See the District 6 website (www.districtsix.org) for information on club games in your area.

The **District 6 Final** for all flights will be held on the weekend of September 20-21, 2008. The Open Flight and 0-2000 Flight Finals will be 4-session events, with roughly

...continued on p. 22, column 1



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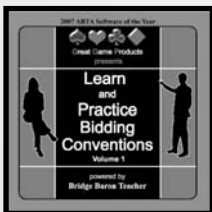
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WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to **Yi Zhong** 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 also play with him at a future Unit Game. Tied for second were **Richard Wimberly, Jeff Zaller, Noble Shore** and **Jim Wilkey** with a score of 490. Tied for sixth were **Dick Robinson, Ivan Feit, Ruth Cohen, Jeffrey Klemm, Richard Riseberg** and **Enid Hughes** with a score of 480. Tied for twelfth were **Joe Wallen, Donna Rogall, George Green,** and **Mike Polunin** with a score of 470. Tied for sixteenth were **William Hohe, Lloyd Rawley, Jay Weinstein, Bruce Waugh, Ed MacArthur, Jim Wade, Ed Molner, Zbych Bednarek, Robert Stone** and **Francesco Parisi-Preseice** with a score of 460. Tied for twenty-sixth were **Dave Smith, Ken Davis, Lyle Poe, Kent Goulding,** and **Albert Lauber**, with a score of 450. Tied for thirty-first were **Richard Freedman, Roman Koluzmacki, Wes Gray, Arun Guha, Bill Meeks, Walter Kerns, John Horner, Jason Rosenfeld, Robert Boorman, JJ Wang, Nikola Teholakov, Al Duncker, Joe Lentz** and **Bob Blodgett** with a score of 440. The average score of the 214 solvers was 394. The average score of the experts was 457.

All readers are encouraged to send answers and/or new problems to Steve Robinson, 2891 S. Abingdon St. #A2 Arlington, VA, 22206-1329. 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, I 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. You can also see and answer the problems at the WBL web site. WBL Solvers Club uses *Washington Standard* as published July 1996. I accept only one answer from each solver.

I personally score all the problems. If a majority of the solvers vote for an answer, and

the answer is reasonable I will give that answer 100 points. I will not give 100 points to an answer that I consider bad no matter how many experts vote for it. There are times when I want to make a point. I will give that answer 100 points and will therefore give the majority answer 90 points. For the other answers I consider how good the answer is and how many experts vote for it for its score. If you submitted an answer that got 20 points, that bid would get a bad score at the table. A good exercise would be to figure out why I gave your answer 20 points. You might have misread the problem.

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, at tournaments or can send him a check for \$29.60 that includes \$4.60 for priority mail.

1) Matchpoints, They're Vulnerable

♠ A3♥ K104♦ QJ754♣ AJ4

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
?????*	1♠	Dbl	3♠ (weak)
		*Double is responsive	

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
Double	100	7	89
5♦	80	2	19
4♠	70	1	09
3NT	40	0	73
4♦	30	0	10
4♥	30	0	12
4NT	30	0	02
Pass	20	1	00

What is a responsive double? A responsive double says that you have at least two places to play. If you knew for sure where you belonged, don't bother doubling. When you double a major you are usually showing both minors and deny a four-card holding in the other major. When you double a minor, it usually shows both majors. You could double diamonds with spades and clubs planning on correcting hearts to spades. Again, you have two places to play. If you had four bad hearts, a game-forcing hand and a good long minor, you could respon-

sive double and bid then bid 4♥ over four-of-either-minor showing two places to play. If the takeout doubler has only three hearts (you are allowed to make a takeout double with only three of the other major) he should run from 4♥ thus avoiding the 4-3 heart fit. If you decide that 4♥ is where you belong, double and then bid 4♥. That would avoid the 3-3.

Does this hand fall into the two places to play category? Five experts find other alternatives.

Two experts follow one of the basic principles of bridge. Bid what you think you can make.

Parker: “5♦ —Bid what I think we can make. Looks like everyone else has minimal values. 3NT will depend on partner having first round controls while 5♦ should make opposite any reasonable take out double.”

Bidding what one thinks they can make has a lot going for it. 5♦ has good play opposite ♠ xx ♥ Axxx ♦ Kxx ♣ KQxx while 3NT has no play.

Roman: “5♦ —Bid what I think I can make.”

One of the problems with bidding 5♦ is that partner might not know whether you are stretching, sacrificing or bidding to make. If partner has a really good hand, he might guess wrong. The vulnerability is right for a sacrifice. I would jump to 5♦ holding ♠ x♥ xx♦ KQJxxx♣ QJxx as a two-way shot.

One expert bids 4♠.

Hopkins: “4♠ —If partner has a minimum hand, I expect him to name his cheapest suit and I will either pass or convert 5♣ to 5♦. If partner has more, I expect him to bid something such as 4NT (for minors?), 5♠ (I pick), or a jump to six-of-a-suit (he picks).”

I would expect 4NT to ask you to choose among minor suits. Over 4♠, I would bid 5♦ holding ♠ xx♥ AJxx♦ Kxxx♣ KQx or ♠ xx♥ AJx♦ Kxxxx♣ KQx, bid 5♣ holding ♠ xx♥ AJxx♦ Kxx♣ KQxx or ♠ xx♥ AJx♦ Kxx♣ KQxxx. and bid 4NT holding ♠ xx♥ AJx♦ Kxxx♣ KQxx.

One expert passes. If partner has ♠ x♥ AQxx♦ AKxx♣ xxx for his takeout double, there are layouts of the opponent's hands where you will be -140. You can see what I think about his bid by looking at the score I gave to pass.

Olson: “Pass—Some N-S pairs who bid game will guess right and collect +400 or +420. However, by passing and defeating 3♠, I'll beat the majority who get to the wrong game and go minus. Plus scores are good at matchpoints.”

Six experts agree with me and make a responsive double. There could be better match-

point contracts then 5♦ such as 4♥, 3NT or even 6♣. Double leaves room for investigation.

King: “Double—Let's see what partner has to say.”

Maybe partner has five hearts and bids 4♥. Maybe partner has a spade stopper and bids 3NT. Maybe partner has a very good hand and bids 4♠. If partner bids 4♠, it wouldn't be unreasonable to jump to 6♣.

Woolsey: “Double—If partner passes, that probably will be fine. If he bids 3NT or bids a red suit, that will be fine. If he bids 4♣ I'll have to guess, but I won't be any worse off than I am now.”

Landen: “Double—3NT unlikely to make unless partner has the Queen or King of spades. I'm willing to let partner play 4♥. If he bids 4♣, I'll try 5♦.”

Unless you have nine top tricks, you're won't make 3NT with the expected spade lead.

Cappelletti: “Double—Most flexible bid - I will pass partner's probable 4♥.”

I'm not sure why partner will probably bid 4♥. It's very unusual to make a takeout double holding five hearts.

Schwartz: “Double—I'm probably headed for 6♣ as partner certainly has a stiff spade with the unfavorable opponents, but cant hurt to start with double.”

I would bid 3♠ over the takeout double holding ♠ Qxxx♥ xxx♦ x♣ Qxxxx, so I don't see why the 3♠ -bidder has to have a stiff spade.

Adams: “Double—My partners always have bad hands for 3NT for instance ♠ x♥ QJxx♦ Kxxx♣ KQxx. Double gives us a chance at a few different strains.”

Adams said it perfectly. Double gives us a chance at a few different strains.

2) Matchpoints, They're Vulnerable

♠ 105♥ 4♦ 87643♣ AQ1093

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2♥*	Pass	2♣	Pass
?????		3♥	Pass
		*one ace or two kings	
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
4♣	100	7	128
3NT	90	4	59
4♦	40	0	08
4♥	20	0	10
3♠	20	0	02
Pass	20	0	07

Partner has a strong two in hearts. The

problem with 3♥ is that you're at the three-level and if you had support you couldn't show it below game. Support is not the problem here. Over 3♥, all new suits are natural. You can't cuebid until a fit has been established. The choices are 4♣ planning on ignoring the diamond suit, 4♦ planning on bidding clubs next or 3NT. The only way to get to 3NT is to bid it now. It would be nice to be able to hedge with 3♠ but 3♠ is natural showing at least five spades. Until a suit has been supported, new suits are attempts to name trump.

The game is matchpoints and therefore 3NT has to be strongly considered. Three experts agree with me and make the matchpoint bid. There is only one way to get to 3NT. Why can't partner have ♠ AK♥ AKJ109x♦ QJx♣ Kx or ♠ KQJ♥ AKQJ109♦ KQJ♣ x? Partner will know that your 3NT-bid might have been a stretch. Like Bob Hamman says, when 3NT is a possibility, bid it.

King: “3NT—Don't like to go past 3NT, especially at matchpoints.”

Olson: “3NT—If ten tricks are available in 3NT and eleven tricks in a minor suit game, 3NT wins. At matchpoints, err on the side of the notrump premium.”

Adams: “3NT—No real choice here, not going past 3NT at matchpoints. Perhaps Steve will share Peter and his improved methods over a 2♥ control showing bid. Standard methods are sorely lacking.”

My methods are to bid the most important suits ASAP. Majors are more important in bridge than minors. Therefore, I play that over 2♥, 3♣ shows hearts and 3♥ shows clubs. This method allows hearts to be bid and supported at the three-level. Over the 2♠ -control bid, I switch clubs with hearts and diamonds with spades. 3♣ shows hearts. 3♦ shows spades. Three-of-the-major shows the corresponding minor. Please don't spring this on a new partner

Seven experts bid their best suit and leave 3NT behind.

Parker: “4♣ —What else? Partner may have a club fit and how else do we find it? He may also have a diamond suit and can bid it over 4♣. I will pass 4♥. As Jeff Roman said in problem five last month, I can't wait to find out what I'm missing here.”

Woolsey: “4♣ —Partner might like to know what my best suit is. We could still have a slam. 3NT would be a shot in the dark.”

Landen: “4♣ —Where I live.”

Cappelletti: “4♣ —Most descriptive bid.”

Hopkins: “4♣ —I am treating the Diamonds as a four-card suit and showing where my values are. I would not be upset if partner put me in game or slam in Clubs. Of course, I can always raise Diamonds if partner does bid 4♦. And I will not be ashamed of what I put down if partner bids 4♥ where I will leave him.”

Schwartz: “4♣ —Bid where I live, not bidding diamonds unless partner does.”

Roman: “4♣ —Usually we would bid our higher ranking five-card suit but here the disparity of the quality of my suits is so great, and the target of a 5-3 diamond fit so narrow, that I will bid where I live and give up on diamonds unless partner can bid them.”

When partner opens 2♣ you can always bid 3NT. If 3NT is not the right contract that's partner's fault.

3) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠ K106543♥ 8♦ 5♣ KQ975

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	1♥	Pass
?????		2♣	Pass
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
4♣	100	6	52
3♣	90	2	42
3♦	70	1	16
2♦	50	1	24
4♦	50	1	13
3♠	50	0	11
5♣	40	0	32
2♠	40	0	20
4NT	30	0	01
Pass	30	0	01
2♥	20	0	02

Expecting partner to bid two-of-a-red suit, we are pleasantly surprised that partner bid clubs. How do we continue? All but one of the experts agrees that we should support clubs the only problem is how strongly. There are seven ways to support clubs. Pass, 3♣, 4♣, 5♣, 3♦ (splinter), 4♦ (who knows but could be keycard for clubs), or 2♦ (4th suit game forcing) followed by club support. Partner is allowed to have two-card or even three-card spade support so one shouldn't automatically discount getting to 4♠. Opposite ♠ Qx♥ KQxxx♦ Kx♣ AJxx 4♠ is the only game that has play. Partner could have a minimum hand such as ♠ x♥ KJxxx♦ Kxx♣ AJxx where trump leads and bad

splits could hold you to six tricks. Partner could have ♠x♥KQJxx♦KQJ♠J10xx and guess how many tricks the opponents can cash.

One expert agrees with me and makes a minimum raise. 3♣ could be the limit if you're off all four aces.

Landen: "3♣—I'll underbid at this vulnerability. With the trash everyone opens nowadays, forcing to game is a stretch."

Partner could have real trash ♠x♥Axxxx♦xx♣AJxxx where 5♣ is cold or he could have eighteen HCP such as ♠x♥KQJxx♦KQJ♣AQxx where you are off three aces. It's not how many points partner has, it's how many aces he has.

Six experts bid 4♣. 4♣ is highly invitation-al. To force, you go thru fourth suit. Hopefully partner will look at his aces not his HCP. Most would pass 4♣ with ♠x♥Axxxx♦xx♣AJxxx where 5♣ is cold and bid on with ♥xKQJxx♦KQJ♣AQxx where 4♣ is the limit. Since 3♣ is invitation, 4♣ is an overbid.

Parker: "4♣—This should be invitation-al since I could bid fourth suit first to force.

Partner can bid 4♠ with two, since he did not raise with three. He might have some hand like ♠x♥KQxxx♦Axx♣Axxx and we have a play for game."

Woolsey: "4♣—There are too many hands where partner will pass 3♣ and we will want to be in game. Also this call may get partner to bid a slam if he has the goods."

Cappelletti: "4♣—Would be even better if this were Gerber or Minorwood."

I like to play a jump to 4♦ as RKC for clubs.

Olson: "4♣—At matchpoints, I might just bid 3♣, not forcing, but at IMPs, I'm bidding one more to get to some kind of game. If North bids 4♥, I'll bid 4♠, giving North a choice between spades and clubs."

Schwartz: "4♣—Don't know whether the standard interpretation is forcing or invitation-al, but either way its close. Shows a lot of clubs with no interest in notrump. Partner is unlikely to have more than one spade with the opponents not bidding."

I don't think you should trust your opponents bidding or lack of bidding. There are conservative bidders out there.

Roman: "4♣—This is a brutal problem, but at least partner will understand that I have a very distributional club raise and not a powerhouse club raise, for with that I

would start with 2♦."

The following expert makes a reasonable bid as long as he plans on passing 4♣. This also assumes that partner thinks it's a splinter and not a diamond suit.

King: "3♦—I think a splinter is the best way to show this hand. Partner can still show secondary spade support and 5♣ is fine at IMPs."

Two experts make game-forcing bids. The disadvantage of 4♦ is that you will not uncover a spade fit if one exists. I can possibly see 4♦ if it is keycard, but if it is a splinter, but if it is a splinter partner will have to make the final decision. What is he supposed to do with ♠Ax♥KQJxx♦xx♣AJxx? He has no ace-asking bid.

Hopkins: "4♦—Depending upon the number of Aces partner has, we might only be able to make a partscore if he has zero or one ace, game if he has two, small slam if he three, or grand if he has all four aces. I can't figure a way to handle all these possibilities so I am going with the principle of greatest gain and targeting my bidding to getting to the proper game or slam and accepting a small minus when we belong in a partscore. I believe 4♦ is a splinter in our methods (Oh, it would be nice if 4♦ were KickBack!) and I hope partner cooperates by bidding 4♥ when he has that Ace and only one other so I can bid 5♣ and deny the Spade Ace. He will know I am highly distributional (fewer than three Hearts, short Diamonds) so will know Aces are critical and I expect partner to carry on when in possession of three or four Aces."

One expert bids fourth-suit game forcing. The main advantage of using fourth-suit game forcing is that you will find out if partner has two or three spades. The disadvantage is that most of the time you'll get too high. Did I remember to say that fourth suit is game forcing?

Adams: "2♦—Perhaps commits us too high, but strain selection will be difficult without a game force."

If you start counting the number of aces you have and the number is zero go conservative.

4) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠6♥87654♦Q2♣AQJ43

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
		2♣	Pass
2♥*	Pass	3♦	Pass
?????		*one ace or two kings	

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
4♦	100	4	20
4♣	90	4	76
3♥	80	3	101
3NT	50	0	07
4NT	30	0	01
4♠	30	0	02
Pass	20	0	01
5♦	20	0	04
5♣	20	0	01
4♥	20	0	01

This time partner has shown a strong two in diamonds. The minimum needed to open a strong two in diamonds is higher than a major-suit-strong two since you need eleven tricks to make game in a minor. You can afford to open one-of-a-minor with stronger hands since it's very unlikely to be passed out especially when you are short in one of the majors. Two-suited hands with diamonds and a major are especially awkward to show. Some play that 2♣ - 2♦ - three-of-a-major shows a four-card major and longer diamonds. Since partner opened 2♣ with diamonds as his main suit and did not rebid 2NT, he should have a long diamond suit and is probably not interested in other suits.

The most important part of constructive bidding is setting trumps as soon as possible. Once trumps are set, then the only problem will be the level. Opposite a strong 2♦ opener, Qx is good support. 3♥ or 4♣ would just confuse matters. Once you've set trumps keycard or cue bids can be used. You even have a ruffing value.

Three experts agree with me and support partner. Partners are always happy when they are supported.

Parker: "4♦—Qx is great support and he knows I have an Ace on the side. I must support now so partner can take control. Five small hearts is not a suit worth bidding and 4♣ will not allow an auction where partner can take control."

Cappelletti: "4♦—I probably have several tricks in diamonds - will cue bid clubs if partner cue bids."

Schwartz: "4♦—Many times partner has six on this auction so Qx should be OK."

Seven experts bid their five-card suit. Since there are two five-card suits the experts are divided with four bidding clubs.

Woolsey: "4♣—This may be all partner needs to know. If he bids 4♦, I can follow with 4NT, which shows slam interest."

Landen: "4♣—I'm sure to have the director award an arbitrary zero, for not bidding my "five?" card major, but 4♣ to be followed by jumping to 6♦ might let partner to bid seven with the right hand."

It's opening-five-card majors before longer minors that I stress. If you're responder, you should bid five-majors before longer minors. Here, I have nothing against treating 87654 as a four-card suit especially in this case when partner does not figure to have four hearts. There are some responding or overcalling hands when you can treat the five-card major as a four-card suit.

Hopkins: "4♣—Again I am going to treat my five small as a four-card suit, although this time because I am so much stronger and I am looking for the best slam (which won't be Hearts except when partner has something like three or four to the AKQ)."

Roman: "4♣—Same as problem two. I'm not going to bid a five small suit when I have a five-card suit to two of the top three honors in what is going to be a slam auction. I'm driving to 6♦."

Three experts bid their pathetic suit. If partner has a singleton heart, he'll think that you have wasted heart values.

Olson: "3♥—How else will we ever find their potential eight or nine-card heart fit?"

Adams: "3♥—Yuck, but maybe we have hearts."

King: "3♥—Not a great suit, but I do have five of them."

Looks more like four to me.

Set trumps as soon as possible. Number one rule of constructive auctions.

5) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠QJ2♥4♦AJ43♣A10876

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

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
2NT	100	7	121
Pass	80	4	51
3♣	70	0	31
3♦	30	0	06
2♠	20	0	04
3NT	20	0	01

Partner is a passed hand and there's a reason why he didn't open some number of

hearts. He can't have KQJxxx of hearts or at least my partners can't. With six good hearts there is no excuse not to open 2♥. Therefore it is not likely that partner has a heart suit that will play well opposite a singleton. Of course, 2♥ could be the best of bad possible contracts. 2♥, 2NT and 3♣ are all possibilities. 3♣ works when partner has three clubs. 2NT works when partner has a weak heart suit with honors on the outside. 2♥ works when 2NT and 3♣ doesn't work. Of the three possibilities, not one expert bid 3♣.

Four experts pass. One of the problems with bidding is that you can't be sure that you're improving the contract. If you're going to be in a bad contract stay as low as possible. The advantage of passing is that West might save you by bidding 2♠. Of course, he might punish you by doubling for takeout which East would convert to penalties.

Parker: "Pass—I see no good alternative to bidding higher. If I bid 2NT we will probably get to 3NT or 3♥, neither, of which will be a good contract with partner being a passed hand. Granted partner did not open a weak two in first seat but he may still have six hearts and even with five good ones he can still scramble at the two-level. They may very well bid 2♠ and save us."

Unless partner has a two-suiter, he is unlikely to bid over 2NT. If you wanted to play game opposite the points and five hearts you would bid 3NT.

Landen: "Pass—Partner must be prepared for me to pass 2♥; he either has six or five very good hearts."

Just because partner bids a suit, doesn't mean he's prepared to play in it opposite

shortness. All he is doing is showing you that he has at least five hearts and somewhere around ten HCP.

Olson: "Pass—We lack the values for game, so, I'm getting out early, even at IMPs."

Schwartz: "Pass—A moderate minus is better than trying for an unlikely makeable spot and getting doubled."

Six experts agree with me and try to improve the contract.

King: "2NT—This seems to describe my hand best."

Woolsey: "2NT—I'm not playing in hearts with a singleton opposite a partner who didn't open a weak two."

Cappelletti: "2NT—Want to stop or slow things down."

The simplest way to stop or slow things down is to pass 2♥.

Hopkins: "2NT—If partner passes, I don't expect a large swing as I will probably go off one or maybe even make it."

Adams: "2NT—A heart suit not good enough for a non-vulnerable weak two bid, will not play well opposite my singleton very often. Perhaps partner can help run a minor suit in notrump."

Roman: "2NT—My second choice would be pass. I would've opened 1♦ and not had this headache. It is true that I might just have a different headache, but it's the one I've chosen for many years and it works out better far more often than it works out badly."

You open 1♦ and rebid 3♣ over 2♥. Partner with 2-2 in the minors preferences you to 3♦ and you play your 4-2 fit.

You see what happens when you fail to open a weak two. Partner will assume that you don't have a good suit.

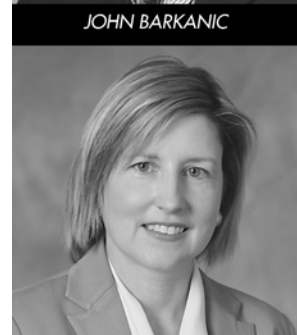
SOLVERS' SCORES

John Adams	Dbl	3NT	2♦	3♥	2NT	420
Mike Cappelletti	Dbl	4♣	4♣	4♦	2NT	500
Robbie Hopkins	4♠	4♣	4♦	4♣	2NT	410
Fred King	Dbl	3NT	3♦	3♥	2NT	440
Steve Landen	Dbl	4♣	3♣	4♣	Pass	460
Craig Olson	Pass	3NT	4♣	3♥	Pass	370
Steve Parker	5♦	4♣	4♣	4♦	Pass	460
Steve Robinson	Dbl	3NT	3♣	4♦	2NT	480
Jeff Roman	5♦	4♣	4♣	4♣	2NT	470
Alan Schwartz	Dbl	4♣	4♣	4♦	Pass	480
Kit Woolsey	Dbl	4♣	4♣	4♣	2NT	490

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2008 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 less than 1500 masterpoints; the Tubbs Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year as a Non-Life Master with less than 500 masterpoints; the Woolridge Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with less than 20 masterpoints.

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

This list is up to date through June 10. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

Lovenberg

- 1 85.37 Mark Shaw
- 2 78.39 Barry Bragin
- 3 61.52 Steve Robinson
- 4 60.17 Brad Theurer
- 5 58.88 Leo LaSota
- 6 56.00 Martin Graf
- 7 50.35 Peter Boyd
- 8 45.57 William Hacker
- 9 44.91 Robin Taylor
- 10 44.47 Robert Bell
- 11 40.47 Leon Letwin
- 12 37.48 Fred King
- 13 37.34 Charleen Brand
- 14 35.83 Robert Stearns
- 15 35.42 Lloyd Rawley
- 16 35.03 Michael Richey
- 17 34.45 Clyde Kruskal
- 18 33.00 Steven Schatzow
- 19 31.92 Donald Berman
- 20 31.84 Ronald Zucker
- 21 29.86 Michael Gill
- 22 29.23 Noble Shore
- 23 28.92 William Cole
- 24 27.86 Eugene Kales
- 25 27.25 William Goldman

Izzy Cohen

- 1 44.91 Robin Taylor
- 2 35.42 Lloyd Rawley
- 3 35.03 Michael Richey
- 4 31.84 Ronald Zucker
- 5 29.86 Michael Gill
- 6 27.25 William Goldman
- 7 26.44 Richard Ferrin
- 8 23.68 Arun Guha
- 9 22.54 Mark Rosen
- 10 20.02 Margie Coccodrilli
- 11 19.77 Howard Tash
- 12 18.24 Edwin Fuller Jr
- 13 16.91 Joel Miller
- 14 16.82 Linda Marshall
- 15 16.75 Robert Henry

Tubbs

- 1 27.25 William Goldman
- 2 23.68 Arun Guha
- 3 15.14 Suzanne Floyd
- 4 15.01 Albert Lauber
- 5 14.41 Kay Miller
- 6 13.80 Namik Haveric
- 7 13.80 Mirsad Mujezinovic
- 8 13.71 Bernadette Merceron
- 9 13.36 Richard Wessman
- 10 13.35 Alfred Liepold

Woolridge

- 1 13.71 Bernadette Merceron
- 2 8.94 Edmund Gehan
- 3 6.55 Phyllis Cohen
- 4 5.60 Patricia Mitchell
- 5 4.49 Douglas Woods
- 6 4.38 T S L Perlman
- 7 4.33 Dennis Olson
- 8 4.11 Mark Conheady
- 9 3.72 Lynn Johns
- 10 3.01 Susan Weiss

**0-20
LESSON
& GAME**

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PARTNERS!**

**7:30PM -
10:30PM**

JOIN ANYTIME

The cost is \$5. This includes a 30 minute lesson followed by fun, enjoyable bridge for players with 0-20 masterpoints.

Lessons will cover slam bidding, weak twos, 3 level+ pre-empts, overcalls, takeout doubles, negative doubles, opening leads, and signaling. Each lesson will be tailored to the needs and interests of the players.

This is a great program for beginners as well as experienced social bridge players! Partners will be provided if needed. For more information, contact Shawn Stringer at (301) 622-5619 or by email at shstringer@aol.com

~ ♣ ♦ SCHEDULE ♥ ♠ ~

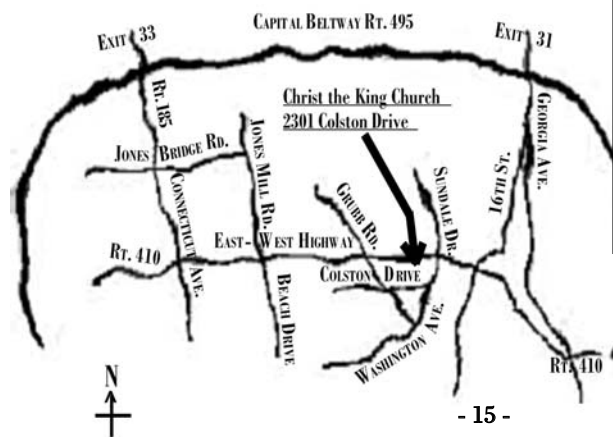
All Games held at Christ the King Church

- 06/19/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 06/26/2008StrataFlighted North American Pairs
- 07/03/2008Closed Reston Regional
- 07/10/2008StrataFlighted North American Pairs
- 07/17/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 07/24/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 07/31/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 08/07/2008WBL Sectional
- 08/14/2008StrataFlighted Club Championship
- 08/21/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 08/28/2008StrataFlighted North American Pairs
- 09/04/2008NVBA Sectional
- 09/11/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 09/18/2008Stratified STaC Pairs
- 09/25/2008StrataFlighted Club Championship upg
- 10/02/2008WBL Sectional
- 10/09/2008StrataFlighted Appreciation Pairs
- 10/16/2008StrataFlighted Charity Pairs
- 10/23/2008NVBA Sectiona
- 10/30/2008StrataFlighted A/X BAM; B/C/D Swiss
- 11/06/2008StrataFlighted Unit Championship

For a Last-Minute Partner, to say you'll be late, to hear announcements (closings posted by 4pm), or to contact the Unit Game for any reason, call the WBL Cell Phone:

(301) 395-2760

MAP TO CHRIST THE KING CHURCH



**WBL GUARANTEED
PARTNER PROGRAM**

You never need to miss the unit game because you don't have a partner at the last minute! The WBL has a guaranteed partner (GP) program for players who occasionally need a partner for the unit game. Here's how it works: we provide a standby partner; if an odd number of people in need of a partner arrive, we match the players as best we can, and the GP plays with the one who is left. (If there is an even number of players looking, the GP goes home). You can always get a game.

Players in search of partners should try to arrive between 7:00 and 7:15 (or call ahead). The partnership desk closes at 7:25. You can call the WBL cell phone (301) 395-2760 at the last minute if are on your way and know you'll be at bit late.

To find a partner at least a day in advance, contact **Barbara Doran** (see below), or log on to the **Online Partnership Bulletin Board** at: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

You might want to volunteer for the GP program yourself. It's a great way to meet people. If you play on the night you're the GP, you play free. If you volunteer, you receive a free play for any future unit game whether or not you play that night.

Email **Barbara Doran** at UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org or barbd@starpower.net, or call her at (301) 608-0347 between 9am and 10pm.

Partnerships Close At 7:25pm

TO START THE GAME PROMPTLY AT 7:30PM. CALL IF YOU'RE LATE, OR YOU MAY NOT BE ACCOMMODATED.

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.

THE UNIT GAME

by Ted Ying, unitgamedirector@districtsix.org

This column will answer some frequently asked questions about the WBL Unit Game. **Ted Ying** is the Club Manager and Chief Director of the WBL unit game. He can be reached at unitgamedirector@districtsix.org

PARTNERSHIP DESK

The WBL runs a partnership desk and guaranteed partner program for regular Thursday night games. The partnership desk is open from 7:05 – 7:25 PM. After 7:25 PM, players without partners are no longer guaranteed to be matched up to play that evening.

Players who come to the Thursday night game without a partner can sign up for a partner. The partnership person will take down the player's masterpoint holding and what games they are interested in playing in (Open A/X, Under 1500 B/C/D or NLM). They will try to match unpaired players based on what event they prefer to play in. Each week, we have a guaranteed partner that will be there to play, if needed. If we have an even number of players, the guaranteed partner will not play. If there are an odd number of players, the guaranteed partner will play with the last unmatched player. The partnership desk will do their best to match people according to their level and event that they wish to play.

On WBL or NVBA Sectional Thursday games, we still run a partnership desk, but do not have a guaranteed partner (GP) available.

We can always use volunteers as GPs. The GP plays for free on any night they are the GP. They also get one additional free play to use on another night when they are not the GP. If you are interested in occasionally filling in as the GP, please contact our partnership chair, Barbara Doran at barbd@starpower.net.

If you have any questions about how the Unit Game is run, please send them to me at unitgamedirector@districtsix.org and I will try to answer them in upcoming columns.

UPCOMING SECTIONALS

♠	♥
<u>August 7-10, 2008</u>	<u>October 23-26, 2008</u>
Silver Spring, MD	Fairfax, VA
♣	♦
<u>September 4-7, 2008</u>	<u>January 8-11, 2009</u>
Fairfax, VA	Silver Spring, MD
♦	♥
<u>October 2-5, 2008</u>	<u>February 5-8, 2009</u>
Silver Spring, MD	Fairfax, VA

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,

COMMITTEE ACTION #61

by Rich Colker, rcolker@mail.com

The second qualifying session of the Rockwell Mixed Pairs at the Detroit NABC this past spring produced another appeal (my last article featured a case from this same event) that reinforces a point that players would do well to remember: Partner's hesitation does not automatically bar you from bidding. Here's what happened at the table.

Bd: 8; Vul: None; Dlr: West

<u>North</u>			
♠ 9			
♥ AJ653			
♦ 54			
♣ AQJ62			
<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>		
♠ 5	♠ AKQ7632		
♥ Q942	♥ K8		
♦ AKQ1083	♦ 62		
♣ K7	♣ 104		
<u>North</u>			
♠ J1084			
♥ 107			
♦ J97			
♣ 9853			
<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
1♦	2NT	3♠	3NT
Dbl	Pass	Pass	4♣
Dbl ⁽¹⁾	Pass	4♠	All Pass

⁽¹⁾After a break in tempo (BIT)

4♠ made five, +450 for E/W. The Director was called after the 4♠ bid and again at the end of play. North's 2NT showed hearts and clubs and East's 3♠ bid was forcing. West asked about 2NT at his next turn to bid and then "broke tempo" before his second double. (The length of the hesitation was disputed; see below.) West admitted to "a slight break."

The Director polled a number of players and established that passing was not a logical alternative (LA) for East. Since Law 16A had not been violated the Director allowed the table result to stand.

N/S appealed the Directors' ruling and

argued that West's hesitation showed doubt playing 4♣ doubled. He further argued that if East was always going to bid 4♠ he should have done it at his previous turn, when 3NT was doubled. South believed that West's hesitation lasted 5-7 seconds; East judged it to be 2 or 3 seconds; West thought it was around 5 seconds. Finally, West said that he doubled 4♣ to stop East from bidding more spades.

The Committee first discussed whether there had been an unmistakable hesitation by West. This required them determining what the "normal" tempo of this auction would be. Unable to reach a satisfactory decision, they discussed whether, if there was a BIT, it demonstrably suggested bidding over passing. They decided that it did. They then discussed whether passing 4♣ doubled was a LA for East. Four members thought that, although pass could be right, as the Director's poll had indicated it was an action that was unlikely to be chosen by anyone.

Since they decided that passing was not a LA for East, the Committee upheld the Director's decision to allow the table result to stand. They also decided that the appeal had merit.

All things considered, the Committee did a reasonable job here, even though I myself would not have made all of the same determinations they did. West opened the bidding 1♦ and by the time the bidding got back around to him it was at the three level, North having announced a club-heart two-suiter, East a good hand with spades (West's singleton), and South a desire to play game at equal non-vulnerable. What was going on here? Had a pinochle deck mistakenly been substituted for the usual bridge deck in the board? I personally think that 5-7 seconds is quite within what should be "normal" tempo for the opening bidder's second call in such an auction.

But having decided that the tempo issue was unclear, the Committee next (again quite reasonably) determined that if there was indeed a hesitation it would have suggested

bidding over passing. I'm more-or-less on board with this decision, though I can envision a West hand with long diamonds and a spade misfit (perhaps even a worse hand for East than West had) where West's doubles were intended as a sharp warning to East not to bid again and where South actually has his 3NT bid (i.e., both spades and diamonds stopped) and E/W are off four tricks (perhaps one in each suit or two spades and two other tricks). But the real clincher, once we fail to decide that 5-7 seconds does not a BIT make, is that both the players polled and the Committee members believed that, while passing 4♣ doubled with the East cards could be right, it was not an action likely to be taken by anyone.

Finally, N/S's argument that if East was going to pull 4♣ doubled he should have pulled 3NT doubled on the previous round just does not hold water. With a seven-card suit likely to be running once the opponents' stopper is knocked out, and with a likely second-round entry behind North's hearts, I find it eminently reasonable to play for 500 or better against 3NT doubled, but not to defend 4♣ with nine of your 12 HCP in a suit that is virtually guaranteed not

to take more than one trick defending a suit contract. Even if partner shows up with three defensive trick you will only get 300 against your possible 420, and there's also the very real possibility that 4♣ doubled could actually make.

So the lesson to be learned here is that when partner hesitates and then doubles you are obligated to continue to play bridge and not just throw away your cards in the face of partner's *faux pas*. When bidding on is clear from your hand you are allowed to do so. On the other hand, if partner's double suggests pulling and it is reasonable to sit with your hand, then you must bend over backwards to do so and not to run, as the unauthorized information from the hesitation suggests—even if you think running is the “percentage” action. It must be completely clear cut, something that virtually everyone holding your cards would do, before you will be allowed to keep your good result if it turns out to be the winner. If there is any doubt you will be better off in the long run if you pass and hope you can beat 4♣ and that 4♠ goes down, or that your plus against 4♣ is worth more than your game.

♣ **Arlington, VA** ♦ **SEPTEMBER 4-7, 2008** ♥



SEPTEMBER SENSATIONS SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT
The Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge #2188

8421 Arlington Boulevard, Fairfax, VA; 703-560-2188

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

*Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA (NVBA)
 Christ the King Church, one block south of East-West Highway on
 Colston between Washington and Grubb, Silver Spring, MD (WBL)*

NVBA (Beth El) WBL

Novice/Intermediate Lecture 6:30 p.m.

STRATAFLIGHTED OPEN PAIRS (A/X=3000+/3000; B/C=2000/750) . . .7:00 p.m. . . .7:30 p.m.

NVBA 199ER PAIRS (200/100/50/20); WBL NLM PAIRS (NLM/100/50) .7:00 p.m. . . .7:30 p.m.

NEWCOMER PAIRS (0-5)7:00 p.m.

...REST OF TOURNAMENT AT ELKS LODGE...

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)2 p.m.

299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) and 49ER PAIRS (50/20/5)2 p.m.

TRIPLE NICKEL SWISS—5 rounds, 5 boards, 5 minutes a board .7:30 p.m.

299ER PAIRS (300/200/100)7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)9:30 a.m.

STRATIFIED SENIOR PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)9:30 a.m.

299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) and 49ER PAIRS (50/20)9:30 a.m.

0-5 PAIRS9:30 a.m.

FLIGHT A/X PAIRS (3000+/3000; 2-session Play-thru event) 2 & 7:30 p.m.
 —Single session pairs accommodated during the evening session

STRATIFIED B/C PAIRS (2000/750; 2 single sessions) . . .2 & 7:30 p.m.

STRATIFIED SIDE GAME (3000+/3000)2 p.m.

299ER PAIRS (300/200/100; 2 single sessions)2 & 7:30 p.m.

49ER PAIRS (50/20/5)2 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Novice/Intermediate Lecture (Jeff Roman)10:15 a.m.

FLIGHTS A/X (3000+/3000) & B/C (2000/750) SWISS TEAMS .11:00 a.m.

Both 2-session events, with one hour break—on-site food available

299ER SWISS TEAMS (300/200/100; Single session)11:00 a.m.

49ER SWISS TEAMS (50/20/5; Single session)11:00 a.m.

299ER SWISS TEAMS (300/200/100; Single session)3:30 p.m.

DIRECTIONS: From Route 50/Arlington Boulevard heading west from DC and Arlington AND from Route 495/Beltway: Continue on/Take Route 50 West about one mile outside the Beltway, and turn left at Javier Road (the second stoplight after the intersection of 50 and 495). Take an immediate right onto the access road that runs parallel to Route 50. The Elks Lodge will be two buildings down on your left—parking on the side and in the rear. From Fairfax, heading East on Route 50: Pass the intersection of Route 50 and Prosperity Avenue—the Prosperity Medical Center will be on your right. Between the first and second lights after Prosperity, turn right into the access road that runs parallel to Route 50 and look for the Elks Lodge immediately to your right—parking on the far side of the building and in the rear.

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THE GADGET-MATIST

by *Barry Bragin*, bbragin@comcast.net

After too much turkey at a large family gathering, the old Gadgetmatist was trying to get a little nap on the couch. The youngsters would have none of that.

"Wake up Grandpa, you promised to tell us about how weird things were in the 'good old' days."

"OK. Do you want to hear about a time when people could only make phone calls from their homes or offices?"

"No, you told us about that last time."

"Well, how about when it took days or even weeks before you could see the photos you took with your camera?"

"Boring."

"Here's one you won't believe: there was a time when you could bid a natural, invitational 2NT in a competitive auction."

"No way!"

"I don't believe it"

"That must have been a zillion years ago."

LEBENSOHL 2NT

Actually, the convention started up in the 1960's as a counter measure to aggressive overcalling of 1NT opening bids. It reached formal status when an article in *The Bridge World* by **George Boehm** in 1970 described it in detail. Before that, it was assumed that a 2NT response by partner would have the same meaning as if there had been no overcall: 8-9 HCP and balanced distribution. Players started realizing how infrequently that hand came up. It was more important to be able to distinguish between a competitive and a forcing hand. Also, the partnership needed a way to locate a 4-4 major fit and ensure that the overcaller's suit was protected. By giving up the natural meaning of 2NT, a lot more information could be exchanged.

The basic outline after the sequence (1NT by partner-2X by RHO) is:

Double – balanced hand, enough points to compete,

2 in any suit – natural, non-forcing,

3 in any suit except overcalled – natural, forcing to game,

Q-bid (3 in overcalled suit) – Stayman, asking opener about a 4-card major and denying* a stopper in the overcalled suit,

3NT – to play, denying* a stopper in the overcalled suit,

2NT – a relay bid forcing the opener to bid 3-clubs**; after that:

3 in suit of lower rank than overcalled – natural, non-forcing,

3 in suit of higher rank than overcalled – natural, invitational,

Q-bid – Stayman as above, but promising* a stopper in the overcalled suit,

3NT – to play, promising* a stopper.

* This version, 'slow with', says to go slow (through 2NT) when you have a stopper and bid 'fast without' by going directly to the 3-level (either Q-bid or 3NT) with no stopper. Some players reverse the meanings of these bids ('fast with').

** In 'better minor Lebensohl' opener bids 3 of his better minor rather than always 3-clubs. This sacrifices the ability to get out in 3-clubs with a long club suit and a bad hand but allows finding the better fit when responder has both minors and wants to compete.

In future articles I'll discuss other uses for 2NT in competitive auctions including Lebensohl over weak two's, Rubensohl, and good/bad 2NT.

Bits & Pieces, continued from p. 5...

half the field qualifying for the second day. The NLM Flight Final will be a 2-session event held on Saturday, September 20 at the Northern site and on Sunday, September 21 at the Southern site.

The **Open Flight Final** is held in the North only. It will be held at Christ the King Church in Silver Spring on Saturday and the Sligo Creek Community Center at the corner of Dennis Avenue and Sligo Creek Parkway on Sunday.

The **0-2000** Finals are split site. The Northern site is Christ the King Church in Silver Spring on Saturday and Laurel DBC, 8564-A Laureldale Drive in Laurel MD on Sunday. The Southern site on both days is the Peninsula DBC in Newport News, VA.

The **NLM** Finals are also split site; held **Saturday only** at Christ the King Church in the North and **Sunday only** at the Peninsula DBC in Newport News, VA in the South. (NLM eligible players may play in the 0-2000 event on Saturday at either site and in the NLM event on Sunday in the South if they don't qualify for the second day of the 0-2000 from either venue. Players who plan to do this should note their intent when they pre-register.)

For the Southern venue only: If fewer than 9 tables pre-register for the 0-2000, it will be cancelled. The NLM Final will be cancelled if the 0-2000 is cancelled and there are fewer than 9 tables pre-registered for the NLM flight or if the NLM has fewer than 5 tables pre-registered when the 0-2000 is not cancelled.

Pre-registration is required in order to play in the District Finals. Pairs must pre-register by September 11th. Pre-register by sending a check for \$48.00 (per pair) made out to District 6 to Barbara Doran, 1107 Dale Drive Silver Spring MD 20910-1607.

Three pairs in each flight will qualify for the National Finals, to be held at the spring 2009 NABC in Houston, TX.

The **qualifiers will be subsidized** (to various extents) for travel expenses and hotel rooms by the ACBL and/or District 6. Membership dues or Life Master service fee

must be current and continuous from the start of the District Final to the completion of the North American Pairs Final at the NABC in order to play in the National Final.

For more information, visit the District 6 web site or contact Barbara Doran at (301) 608-0347 or by email to barbd@starpower.net

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DISTRICT 6 GNT WINNERS!

We are happy to report we had another large turnout in the Grand National Teams. At the district final level we had 14 championship teams, 16 teams in flight A, 37 teams in flight B, and 20 teams in flight C. We had winners from five different units. In the 0-5000 flight we had repeat winners for the first time in many years. Good luck to all the first place teams at the Summer North American Bridge Championships in Las Vegas.

Championship Flight (Open)

- 1** **Steve Robinson - Peter Boyd - William Cole - Beth Palmer - Stephen Landen - William Pettis**
- 2 Mark Dahl - David Butler - Alan Schwartz - Ai-Tai Lo
- 3/4 Earl Glickstein - Robert Bell - Fred King - Dwayne Jones
- 3/4 Leo LaSota - Mark Shaw - Alfred Steinberg - David Ruderman - Alan Tenenbaum - Andrew Gofreed

Flight A (0-5000)

- 1** **Mark Laken - Harvey Charkatz - David Milton - Stan Schenker**
- 2 Diane Walker - Kenton Schoen - Thomas Lavender - John Klayman - Lynn Jones - Joseph Trapani
- 3/4 Ann Lindley - Alfred Duncker - Bruce Houston - Rammohan Sarangan
- 3/4 Don Berman - Richard Ferrin - Bruce Culmer - Ron Spieker
- 5/8 Katherine Rabenstein - Linda Marshall - James Beller - Lawrence Heinen - John Glynn
- 5/8 Steven Schatzow - Robin Taylor - Lloyd Rawley - Michael Richey - Jason Meyer - James Geist
- 5/8 Rusty Krauss - Barry Falgout -

- Sumner Steinfeldt - Hal Hindman - David Rodney
- 5/8 Leo LaSota - Michael Gill - David Abelow - Noble Shore

Flight B (0-2000)

- 1** **Barry Bragin - Eleanor Bragin - Richard Price - Melissa Price**
- 2 Jason Meyer - Larry Kahn - H John Edmonds - Lloyd Rawley
- 3/4 Ronald Kral - Jose Cortina - Jay Kelkar - Steve Bunning
- 3/4 Robert Burgess - Jian-Ping Chen - David Burnes - Charles Sadowski
- 5/8 John Glynn - Alice Wegman - Beta Nahapetian - Barry Depristo
- 5/8 Robert Boorman - William Goldman -

- M Bruce Todd - Fletcher Thompson
- 5/8 Jane Shaw - Rosemary Shaw - Robin Taylor - Hank Meyer
- 5/8 Edward Moldenke - Don Magann - David Wingfield - Gilbert Brooks

Flight C (NLMs under 500)

- 1** **Owen Byer - John Horst - Jordan Rohrer - Leah Boyer**
- 2 Jeff Youngen - Terry Jones - Terry Carlton - Candace Carlton
- 3/4 Teri Harrison - Sorina Negulescu - Veronica Flynn - H Phillip Davis
- 3/4 Paul Anderson - Francis Terminella - Stephen Chaplin - Sidney Bloom - Nitin Shah - Randall Holden

...continued on p. 29, top

THE BRIDGE HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR IS HERE!

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703-644-4878,
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Carolyn Gibson, 703-323-9495,
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See the April/May/June NVBA Newsletter for a complete schedule of newcomer, novice, and intermediate events. Schedules are also in the April/May and June/July District 6 TableTALK publication and on the web at www.mabcbridge.org.

The 2008 WBL Annual Meeting was called to order by President **Fred King** at 7:05 PM.

Without objection, the minutes from last year's meeting were approved by the membership. The Treasurer's report, presented by Treasurer Steve Robinson, was approved by the membership without objection.

Jim Allen, Election Chair, conducted the election of unit officers and directors. As there were no additional nominees, Officers **Fred King** (President), **Don Berman** (Vice President), **Richard Ferrin** (Secretary), **Steve Robinson**



recognize the volunteers who had been instrumental in preparing and serving the wonderful

food that we had. These included **Nadine Wood, Millard Nachtwey, Kitty Gottfried, Ron Zucker, Barb Doran, Barbara Shaw, Ellen Rosenthal, Rosemary Shaw, Winston Edwards, Frances Burke, Audrey Marbach, Steve Robinson, Mark Shaw, Jane Shaw, Brian Geer, Lois Geer, Audrey Stern** and **Gloria Schulstad**.

President King concluded by presenting his *President's Awards*. Fred said, "While there are so many people who do so much to make the WBL the success that it is, I am very happy to be able to use this occasion to recognize four special volunteers who have contributed greatly to the WBL over the years." He named **Frances Burke**, who has done so much for new players; **Barb Doran**, for her participation on the Round Robin Committee and heading the Partnership Desk; **Steve Robinson**, who has served tirelessly as Treasurer; **Barbara Summers**, for coordinating volunteer efforts.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 PM.



(Treasurer) were elected by acclamation. Similarly, as there were no additional nominees for the Board of Directors, **Ellen Cherniavsky,**

Jim Geist and **Linda Marshall** were elected by acclamation to two year terms on the Board of Directors.

President Fred King next presented the *Mini-McKenney* and *Ace of Clubs* awards.

Fred then took the opportunity to



2006 MINI-McKENNEY WBL UNIT 147 WINNERS

0 TO 5 Alan Walter	100 TO 200 Roger Laumark	500 TO 1000 Jeffrey Boak	5000 TO 7500 Fred King
5 TO 20 Shyamalendu Pal	200 TO 300 Mike Frosch	1000 TO 2500 John Klayman	7500 TO 10,000 Lou Reich
20 TO 50 Helen Long	300 TO 500 Shawn Stringer	2500 TO 5000 Lynn Jones	OVER 10,000 Steve Robinson
50 TO 100 Robert Claypool			

2006 ACE OF CLUBS WBL UNIT 147 WINNERS

0 TO 5 Jeffrey Caplan	100 TO 200 Alfred Caponiti	500 TO 1000 Roma Chandra	5000 TO 7500 Dalia Kende
5 TO 20 Arun Guha	200 TO 300 Linda Marshall	1000 TO 2500 Allen Lord	7500 TO 10,000 Rossi Lindstrom
20 TO 50 Minako Komura	300 TO 500 Malvern Sheffield, Jr.	2500 TO 5000 Dara Khambata	OVER 10,000 Eugene Kales
50 TO 100 Robert Claypool			





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Bits & Pieces, continued from p. 23...

— CLUB NEWS —

LAUREL BRIDGE CLUB

The Laurel Bridge Club will participate in the Worldwide Bridge Contest on Saturday, June 7th at 1:30 PM.

A 0 to 1500 game will be held on the following Saturdays at 7 PM, June 7th and 21st, and July 12th and 26th.

All games have pre-duplicated boards and hand records.

ROCKVILLE DUPLICATE

BRIDGE CLUB

301-503-3348

mlavine@gcsii.com, www.rockvilledbc.com

We would like to announce a new open game which started on May 17 and a new 0-200 game which started on May 31. Both games start at 1:30pm and cost \$6. There will be a mini-lesson starting at 12:45 before the game.

These games continue on Saturdays at St. James Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Road. **Directions:** Take Rt 270 to Exit 4B (from either direction) Montrose Road. This will take you to Seven Locks Road. Left on Seven Locks Rd 3 blocks. St James Church is on the left (going south), between Post Oak and Gainsboro Rd. There are two buildings, the game and mini-lesson are in the building on the left facing the church. There is plenty of parking in the rear, and a rear entrance to the building (1 flight of stairs if you enter from the rear of the building).

BRIDGE IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

This year we've made terrific progress and we'd like it to continue! Please join our team to make 2008-09 another great year. Some of the areas we'll need help with are:

- * Coordinating an Elementary School and a Private Schools Program
- * Marketing
- * Teaching

email: [Ellen Rosenthal](mailto:Ellen.Rosenthal@nealandellen.com), nealandellen@cs.com
[Shawn Stringer](mailto:Shawn.Stringer@aol.com), shstringer@aol.com

WBL's FIRST YOUTH BRIDGE TOURNAMENT —

RESULTS

MAY 17TH, 2008

report from

Ellen Rosenthal and Elaine Conway

The first **WBL Youth Bridge Tournament** was a huge success and enjoyed by students as well as the volunteers. There were 20 students ranging in age from 10 to 16 and all have participated in the **Bridge in Schools** program for 1 to 2 years. The students played a 5 round Howell movement, enjoying pizza after round 4.

Congratulations go to the WINNERS of the tournament, **Nabil Ahmed** (16) and **Dan Emmons** (16), both from Thomas Jefferson High School in Virginia, with a score of 67.6%. With this win, Nabil and Dan have won a trip to the Atlanta Youth Bridge Tournament in July representing District 6.

Placing second were **Eli Robbins** (14) and **Marcus Maibach** (14) both from St. Andrews Episcopal School in Potomac, Md with 57.9%.

Placing third were: **Daniel Rubin** (12) and **Marc Finzi** representing Washington Episcopal School in Bethesda, Md with 57.3%.

Many thanks to **Suzanne Abrams**, **Reni Malloy**, **Joanne Prettyman**, and **Roy Tibery**, who assisted the students with filling out convention cards, score keeping, etc.

The tournament was held in conjunction with Mark Lavine's game St. James Episcopal Church with co-direction by **Mark Lavine** and **Barry Leiberman**.



NLM MASTER POINTERS

by I/N Columnist, Sandy Forsythe, majslf@aol.com

MORE DOUBLE TROUBLE!

Woe to the bridge player who responds incorrectly to his partner's takeout double! When the opponents have opened one or two (or even three or four) of a suit and partner doubles, it's for takeout. Pard is promising at least three cards in each of the unbid suits, and he wants you to bid something. The number one rule is: Don't pass because you're weak! (Unless RHO bids, then you're off the hook.) If you pass with a weak hand, they'll make their doubled contract and rack up a big plus score.

So what do you bid? As usual, it's all about the majors.

Responding in a Suit

The takeout double shows an opening hand, no five-card major and support for all the unbid suits, *with preference for the unbid major(s)*. If the opponents have opened a minor, the doubler should have four in one or both majors. If the opponents have opened a major, the double shows exactly four cards in the other major. So your first priority is to bid a four-card or longer unbid major if you have one. If you don't have a major, and you don't have enough points to bid notrump (see below), you can bid your longest minor suit.

With a flat hand and less than 10 HCP, bid your suit at the cheapest level. Say LHO opens 1♥, partner doubles, and you have Kxxx xxx Qx xxxx. You would bid 1^a, showing 0-9 HCP. With Kxx xxx Qxx xxxx, bid 2♣, your cheapest available club bid. Partner should pass, unless he has at least 16+ points.

With a better-than-minimum hand, you can jump one level. How many points you need to jump bid depends on the length of your suit. With a four-card suit you need 10-

12 points, since you might be playing in a 4-3 fit. With a five-card suit you can jump with 9-11 points. Over 1♥ – X – P, you can bid 2♠ with KQxx xxx KQx xxx or Axxxx xx KQx xxx. Partner can then pass, invite or raise to game based on what you've told him.

Responding in Notrump

With a balanced hand and no 4+-card major, you can bid notrump with enough points and a stopper in the opponents' suit. Bid 1NT with 8-10 points, 2NT with 11-12 and 3NT with an opening hand. Over 1♦ – X – P, bid 1NT with Qxx xx Qxxx Axxx. Bid 3NT with Qxx Kx KQxx Axxx.

Responding With a Cue-Bid

Cue-bidding the opponent's suit shows at least 10 points and asks pard to name her four-card major, or her better major if she has both of them. After 1♦ – X – P, use the cue-bid to find your fit or to get to game with these hands:

1) KQxx Qxxx xx Kxx. Partner may have only one four-card major, so when you have both, cue-bid 2♦ to find out which one she has. Raise to three of pard's suit to invite with this hand. With an extra king, bid game. But be careful! With 4-4 in the majors and less than 10 points, you're not strong enough to cue-bid, so just pick your better major.

2) Kx QJxx AJxx Qxx. You want to play in hearts if pard has four of them, or notrump if not, so use the cue-bid to find out. With this hand, you'll rebid 3NT or 4♥ after pard responds to the cue-bid. With 10-12 HCP and a stopper in the opponents' suit, invite with 2NT or three of the major with a fit.

What if the Opponents Bid My Suit?

When the opponents have bid your only four-card suit, you still need to find a bid.

STEPPING UP TO

NEW HEIGHTS:

As of May 1, 2008

Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

Deena L Kaplan
Patricia E Mitchell
Della Morris
T S L Perlman
Elinor Stolar
Mr Sperry Storm
Larry G Wallace

Club Masters (20 Masterpoints)

Conrad Hipkins
Ms Bernadette M Merceron

Sectional Masters (50 Masterpoints)

Mr Spencer B Berg
Mrs Carolyn S Kier
Victoria Miller
Ms Mavis A Walters
Nancy L Wanicur

Regional Masters (100 Masterpoints)

Lloyd Bowling
Morris Fidelman
Mrs Beth E Wisinski

NEW!
SATURDAY 0-200 GAME
& MINI-LESSON

Starting Saturday, May 31, the **Rockville Duplicate Bridge Club** began holding a 0-200 game with a mini-lesson.

Mini-Lesson: Saturdays, 12:45 pm
0-200 Game: 1:30 pm
Cost: \$6.00
Location: St. James Episcopal Church
11815 Seven Locks Road
Directions: Take Rt 270 to Exit 4B (from either direction) Montrose Road. This will take you to Seven Locks Road. Left on Seven Locks Rd 3 blocks. St James Church is on the left (going south), between Post Oak and Gainsboro Rd. There are two buildings, the game and mini-lesson are in the building on the left facing the church. There is plenty of parking in the rear, and a rear entrance to the building (1 flight of stairs if you enter from the rear of the building).
For additional information, contact **Mark Lavine**, 301-503-3348 or mlavine@gcsii.com

NABC Masters (200 MPs)

Eric S Beard
Mrs Amy J Bloom
Alex Goldenberg
Mr Bruce Goldstein

at the three level, you can bid game in a major with 10+ points.

Converting to a penalty double

When are you allowed to pass and convert the takeout

double to a penalty double? Only when the opponents can't make their contract! For you to know you can set them, you need a trump stack: five of their suit with three honors (counting the 10) if they're at the one level, and one less trump or one less honor for each level they bid above one. So with x Kxx AQT87 xxxx, you can pass over 1♦ – X – P.

After an Opening Preempt

A double of the opponent's opening bid at the one or two level is for takeout. But what if they open at the three or four level? You and partner should decide at what level the double becomes penalty. There's a spot on your convention card to mark this.

At higher levels, your responses change somewhat. Over an opening bid at the one level, pard may double with the right shape and slightly less than an opening hand, but over a two-level preempt, he should have good opening strength. To do a takeout double over a three-level preempt, pard needs closer to 14 or 15 points. When pard doubles

Just Kidding!

When partner bids a new suit after you've responded to her takeout double, she was just kidding about having support for all the unbid suits! She's showing a hand that was too strong for a simple overcall: usually 16+ points. Unless you're broke, you should try to bid again. You can expect pard to have five or more cards in her suit, so with three-card support, you should raise.

Coming up next: responding to a negative double.

**WBL SOLVERS' CLUB'S
NEW PROBLEMS**

1) Matchpoints, None Vulnerable

♠ 8732♥ Q10632♦ 54♣ J9

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
Pass	1♠	2♥	
?????			

2) Matchpoints, Both Vulnerable

♠ 92♥ AKJ92♦ -♣ J108742

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
Pass	1♥	1♥	2♦
?????			

3) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠ A♥ AQ6532♦ A643♣ Q8

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♥	Pass	INT	Pass
?????			

4) IMPs, They're Vulnerable

♠ AQ43♥ 65♦ A104♣ K876

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♣	Pass	1♥	3♥*
Pass	Pass	4♦	Pass
?????			*(natural)

5) Matchpoints, You're Vulnerable

♠ KJ107♥ 1097♦ 652♣ K54

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
Pass	1♠	2♣	Pass
?????			3♣

Return answers by June 16 to:

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

**NEED A RIDE OR A PARTNER
FOR THE THURSDAY UNIT GAME?**

Contact **Barbara Doran** UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org, (301-608-0347 between 9am and 10pm) to find a partner in advance or go to www.washingtonbridgeleague.org to try the **On-Line Partnership Bulletin Board**. For a last minute partner, call the **WBL cell phone (301-395-2760)**.

Don Berman, Carpool Coordinator can be contacted at 301-776-3581 or (don.berman@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.