

It's the
WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE'S

47th Annual Presidential Tournament

**A
Trick
in Time
Saves**

200



**January 8-
11, 2009**

**Try a new event
Sunday:**

***Bracketed
Teams***

Check out this format! Each bracket of eight teams (by master-points) will play a complete round robin. *Each team plays all of the other teams in its bracket!* The top bracket will hold an unlimited number of teams and will play a Swiss format. Your team may choose to play up—but only into the top bracket.

**Toast the New Year
at the 7:30 pm Friday Night**

Champagne & IMP Pairs

Don't miss the 2:30pm Saturday

**Panel Show & Party
to Honor New Life Masters**

and the 2:30pm Sunday

WBL Trophy Race Winners' Presentation

See page 3 for the full tournament schedule...

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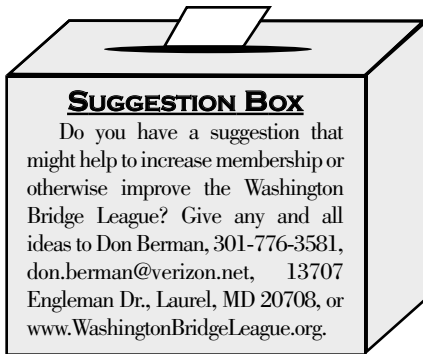
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WBL OMBUDSMAN
 Any player with helpful director issues including criticism or praise of the directing staff may contact the Ombudsman, Ann Lindley and be assured that the source of the information will remain confidential. Information should be provided in writing and may be handed to her at any game, or mailed to her at 8822 Fircrest Pl., Alexandria, VA 22308.

♣♦♥♠ ~~~~~ ♣♦♥♠
DEADLINE: JANUARY 5, 2009
 TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009 ISSUE

Washington Bridge League BULLETIN (usps #861-240)
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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Fred King

Wasn't that a great election? Maybe it went on too long and was too nasty at times, but how would it have been if there had been only one candidate running? Not very interesting or enlightening. Yet all too often in recent years that is how it has been at the WBL elections. Indeed sometimes it difficult to find even one candidate to run for each office. Wouldn't it be better to have some debate and competing views? Have you ever said to yourself, "I could do better job than these guys and gals?" If so, you are the type of person the WBL needs. Our elections are coming up in May at the annual meeting, but it is not too early to start thinking about running for an office, or a board position or just volunteering for one of the many committees that need staffing. When we can only come up with one person willing to serve for each position open, then we don't really have an election, but just a confirmation of those willing to run. I am told that in

the old, old days before I joined the WBL (and that was 1973), there were many hotly contested elections and that one year the presidential election was decided by one vote! I think that to return to those days would be great. Contested elections bring more energy and new ideas to the organization. So think about running (you only need 25 signatures on a nominating petition and we have over 1600 members) or convince one of your friends to run.

I would like to congratulate **Jim Geist** on his recent winning of the Machlin Sportsmanship award. He joins our first two winners, **Charles Stenger** and **Peter Boyd** as a player recognized for his exemplary behavior at the table and his contributions to the WBL. It is not too early to start thinking about whom you would like to nominate for the award next year. Even if you have not won the award, you can exhibit proper behavior at the table and make the game enjoyable for all of us.

Finally I would like to extend a special thank you from all of the members of the WBL to **Ted Ying**. Ted has contributed greatly to the WBL over the years, most recently as our head director and club manager. Ted will be cutting back on his work load as other aspects of his life (yes our directors do have a life away from the WBL!) are increasingly time consuming. **Chris Miller** will be taking over Ted's positions, but we will continue to see Ted directing from time to time and also maybe he will even have some more time to actually play bridge! Join me in saying "thanks" to Ted and "welcome aboard" to Chris.

Happy Holidays!

—Fred King

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I certify that the above statements are correct and complete — Donna Rogall, Editor

SILVER SPRING, MD: JANUARY 8-11, 2009

A TRICK IN TIME SAVES

2009

THURSDAY,
JANUARY 8



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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

Friday—at Christ the King Church Only

- ♦ Stratified Pairs (unlim/2000/500) 10:00am
- ♥ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D (1500/1000/500) Pairs 2:00pm
- ♠ **Champagne & IMP Pairs** StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D (1500/1000/500) ... 7:30pm
 Friday night's special game toasts the new year with IMP Pairs. You only need one partner, but it scores like a team game. Your score will be averaged with all the other scores from your direction on each board. You win and lose IMPs when you compare your score to the average.
- ♣ 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.

♥ Panel Show & Party ♥ SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

to Honor New Life Masters between sessions

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

WBL Trophy Race Winners' Presentation between sessions

- ♠ **Bracketed Teams**, (2 session playthru w/short break) 11:00am & TBA
Check out this format! Each bracket of eight teams (by masterpoints) will play a complete round robin. Each team plays all of the other teams in its bracket! The top bracket will hold an unlimited number of teams and will play a Swiss format. Your team may choose to play up—but only into the top bracket. If you like playing A teams, you can—otherwise, play against your peers!
- ♣ 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 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

WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE SECTIONAL

SILVER SPRING, MD: FEB 26-MAR 1, 2009

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- ♣ 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, FEBRUARY 27

- ♦ Stratified Pairs (unlim/2000/500) 10:00am
- ♥ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) 2:00pm
- ♣ **Barometer Pairs** 7:30pm
StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500)
Check your scores every round! Friday nights are your chance to try a different form of the game. This one session Barometer Pairs has no qualification necessary. Everyone plays the same boards at the same time and you can see how you're doing after every round.
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs 10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm
(300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions)

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 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, FEBRUARY 28

- ♣ **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) or Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:30pm
- ♣ *Don't miss the between sessions **Panel Show*** 2:30pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

- ♦ A/X Swiss Teams, (unlim /5000, 7 round playthru w/short break) 11:00am & TBA
- ♥ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (2500/1000/500, 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 **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**

Washington Bridge League's
63rd Annual City of Washington Tournament

BITS AND PIECES

WELCOME TO THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: **Thayer Baine, Mrs Carol Butler, Mr Jim R Campbell Jr, Mrs Lindsay Eakin, Mrs Mary J Freeman, Mrs Carol Kahn, Ms Patricia Kiesewetter, Mr Tom Locraft III, Ms Sandra Mabry, Ms Nancy E McIntyre, Ms Maria L Moen, Mrs Ruth R Preuss, Ms Ellen P Roche, Mr Mark D Rothman, Nancy C Silerman, Mark J Silverman, Alan L Skvirsky, Mark L Yecies, Mrs Barbara B Childs, Norman Mitchell, Sandy Mitchell, Ms Peggy A Moore, and Mr Duane E Webster.**

In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: **Mr Larry Blackwell, Ms Phoebe Brown, David J Bulman, Mrs Leah B Chernov, Mr P David Chernov, Mr Thomas M Loughney, Ms Kiyomi Shiba, Mrs Neola O Young, and Mrs Barbara B Childs.**

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.

NEW WBL PHONE DIRECTORY

The WBL will be issuing an updated *Phone Directory*. The contents are based on the information the ACBL supplies to us. Please make sure the ACBL has your correct information. If you have any recent corrections please send them to both the ACBL and Don Berman (don.berman@verizon.net).

2009 WBL UNIT KO

The deadline to sign up for the 2009 Washington Bridge League Unit KOs is **January 22**. The GNT qualifier on that day will be used as a factor in the seeding of the KO; however, you don't have to play in the GNT qualifier in order to play in the Unit KOs.

If you have six members of your KO team, they can play on six different GNTs. They will have six different seed numbers.

There will be two flights of play. The cost is only \$30/team for the whole event.

Contact **Steve Robinson** to find partners, for more information, or to sign up a team of 4, 5, or 6 players:

Email: robinswr@erols.com

phone: 703-379-4371

snail mail: 2891 S. Abingdon St #A2,

Arlington, VA 22206

—CLUB NEWS—

LAUREL BRIDGE CLUB'S NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY AND GAME

The Laurel Bridge Club will host a *Pot Luck Dinner and Bridge Game* on Wed, Dec 31st. Dinner will begin at 7 PM and bridge will follow at approximately 8:00. Bring a dish for the dinner, and get a discount on the game. For more information contact **Mary Dresser** at 301.776.5992 or **Rose Berman** at 301.776.5981.

2008-2009 WBL/NVBA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

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, 2008 through May, 2009). 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.

...continued on p.17



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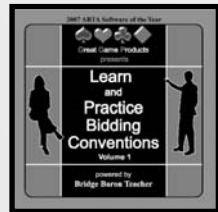
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Bridge Baron 18 \$64.95

• You can now see what Bridge Baron is “thinking” about, at higher levels of bidding and play • At higher levels of bidding and play, while Bridge Baron is “thinking”, you can force it to bid or play immediately by clicking the “Bid Now” or “Play Now” button • The option to choose among hand evaluation methods, such as long-suit point count or short-suit point count • Improved bidding and play, including improved Two-over-One bidding, improved matchpoint-focused bidding and play when playing tournament deals at matchpoints, and more realistic double-dummy cardplay • Bridge Baron can optionally alert and announce bids • We have greatly expanded and improved the statistics Improved claiming by Bridge Baron, especially in notrump contracts • Twelve new bidding conventions

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Two New Editions of Learn and Practice Bidding Conventions \$29.95

Available on CD-Rom for Windows 95/98/2000/Me/NT4.0/XP/Vista (English only)

Basic Conventions (Volume 2): Blackwood, Takeout Doubles, Strong 2C, Preempts, Stayman, Jacoby Transfers, Weak Two-Bids

More Basic Conventions (Volume 3): Unusual 2NT, Michaels, Splinters, Limit Major Raises, Forcing 1NT, Jacoby 2NT, Negative Doubles

Practice conventional bids, responses, rebids on thousands of deals with feedback tailored to reinforce conventional understandings and correct bidding mistakes.



A Computer's Twist:

Play Problems for You with Bridge Baron \$19.95

Not just your average book of bridge problems, “A Computer’s Twist: Play Problems for You with Bridge Baron Analysis” provides challenging and entertaining bridge problems for you to enjoy and also includes a never before seen look inside the world of computer bridge!

Bridge Baron Companion: How to Get the Most out of Your Computer Bridge Game \$24.95

If you are new to Bridge Baron, this book will help you get up and running quickly; if you are a long-time user, this book will point you to parts of the program you may not have previously explored and help you to use Bridge Baron to improve your bridge game.



WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to **Dave Smith, Kevin Avery** and **Tom Musso** who tied for first with a score of 470. They win a free entry to the Unit Game and will be invited to be on a future panel. Tied for fourth were **Jim Murphy, Brad Theurer, Elliot Grant, Mark Chen, and Bruce Kretchmer**, with a score of 460. Tied for ninth were **George Zolovick, Marvin Elster, Earl Goldberg, Merril Hirsh, Nikola Tcholakov, Earl Brown Jr. and Ken Davis** with a score of 450. Tied for sixteenth were **Millard Nachtwey, Chuck Yapple, Hank Meyer, Ed Molnar, Al Duncker, Walter Kerns and Tanya Rodich** with a score of 440. Tied for twenty-third were **Natalie Aronsohn, Kenton Schoen, Robert Spencer, Barbara Summers, Sorina Negulescu, and Prahalad Rajkumar** with a score of 430. The average score of the 282 solvers was 344. The average score of the experts was 408

I overlooked **Barbara Pohl and Jim Allen** who had a 450 in my last problems

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 con-

sider 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 \$29.80 that includes \$4.80 for priority mail.

1) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠ 10983♥ Q83♦ K♣ AJ1075

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
		1♥	Pass

???? (1NT forcing)

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
3♥	100	2	09
1NT	80	9	83
1♠	60	2	96
2♥	40	0	49
2♣	30	0	36
4♥	30	0	03
2NT	20	0	02
2♦	20	0	01
2♠	20	0	01
3♣	20	0	01
3♦	20	0	01

Seven good HCP and a singleton King looks like a limit raise ♠ x♥ AKxxx♦ Axxx♣ xxx is a minimum opener and 4♥ has excellent play. How does one show a limit raise? One way is to bid 1♠ or 1NT and then jump to 3♥ over a minimum bid. Another way is to bid 3♥. If the auction goes 1♥ - 3♥ - 4♥, the opponents do not know anything about declarer’s hand. They are leading blindly and could easily lead declarer’s second suit. On the other hand, if the auction goes 1♥ - 1NT - 2♣ - 3♥, the opponents have more information. Another advantage of the direct route is that if West wants to bid, he has to enter at a higher level. A third advantage of the direct route is that the opponents might think that you have a nine-card fit and take liberties. I think it’s right to make three-card limit raises on distributional hands, where choice of

strains will not be a factor. There are two hand types when I would not make a distributional three-card limit raise. One is if partner opens 1♠ and I have three spades and four hearts. If partner has four hearts, the 4-4 fit could easily play better than the 5-3 spade fit. Another is if I have a very bad limit raise.

One expert agrees with me and makes the practical bid.

Woolsey: “3♥—There is no reason to bid 1NT when you know you belong in hearts. So what if you don’t have four hearts. Partner will find out how many hearts you have when you put the dummy down. This hand is exactly worth a limit raise, so make one.”

Nine experts bid 1NT forcing, planning on jumping in hearts. If I couldn’t bid 3♥, my second choice would be 1NT.

Keiter: “1NT—I consider this a borderline invitational hand. I would prefer 2♣ if 2♣ isn’t forcing to game, but assume that it is. 1♠ might turn out best, but seems more likely to mislead partner about where I live.”

In *Washington Standard*, 2♣ is forcing to game.

Parker: “1NT—No good way to catch up if you respond 1♠. After a forcing notrump you can bid 3♥ over partner’s response showing a balanced ten count and three-card support. This is as close to it as possible.”

Actually a three-card limit raise should be 11 points. You could overbid with a good ten or underbid with a bad 12 but partner should play you for 11.

Cappelletti: “1NT—With three trumps and stiff King, this hand is not quite a direct 3♥ limit raise. I don’t like a 1♠ bid followed by 3♥, as partner might miscalculate a close hand. And, yes, once again, I would rather be playing semi-forcing notrump on this hand.”

Schwartz: “1NT—The spots and in and out evaluation should make up for the Diamond King being singleton. 1♠ is wrong as partner will reject a later invitation in hearts with exactly the type of hand you want which is shortness in spades.”

Landen: “1NT—I intend to follow with 3♥ over most of partner’s minimum continuations showing a three-card limit raise. 1♠ is out for me; since if partner raises to 2♠, my 3♥ is game forcing. I believe in *Washington Standard*, 3♥ would be not forcing.”

Laken: “1NT—Followed by 3♥. Meckwell would likely bid 4♥.”

Hopkins: “1NT—This just looks like a good three-card limit raise. Even if we have

a 4-4 Spade fit, we would need partner to have very good Spades and weak Hearts to make that the right strain.”

Roman: “1NT—I’m going to show a limit raise with three trumps, and see no reason to emphasize spades on the way.”

Two experts bid 1♠. The problem with 1♠ is that when partner is evaluating his hand, he will look at his spades. A singleton spade will turn him off. Not exactly what you want partner to do.

Stone: “1♠—A great lesson hand. The question is, how good is your hand? To find out, you need information about partner’s hand. If you bid a forcing 1NT, you won’t get the information you need. If partner rebids 2♣ or 2♦, you won’t know if partner is 5-3-3-2 or has four clubs or four diamonds; so you’ll just guess to make a limit raise in hearts. But if you bid 1♠, partner’s rebid will tell all. If partner rebids 1NT, you’re probably worth no more than a rebid of 2♥. Partner knows you have some values on this auction and can bid on. If partner rebids 2♣, I think the hand is worth a rebid of 4♥ on the double fit. If partner rebids 2♦, the hand is worth a limit raise to 3♥.”

King: “1♠—I don’t think I am good enough to force to game with 2♣ and I don’t see why I should pass over my spade suit and bid 1NT.”

Consider the value of making three-card limit raises.

2) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠ K93♥ J3♦ J85♣ AKJ52

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	Pass	Double	3♦
????			Pass
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
4♣	100	2	74
3NT	90	4	43
5♣	80	4	87
4♦	70	3	12
Pass	60	0	53
3♠	30	0	04
4♠	30	0	09

Partner has made a balancing double. Since partner could be light, when you respond to a balancing takeout double you are supposed to subtract a king. In direct seat you would pass 3♦ holding ♠ AJxx♥ Axxx♦ x♣ xxx or ♠ QJxx♥ KQxx♦ xx♣ Qxx but in pass-out seat you would double for takeout. You don’t want to be in 5♣ opposite either hand. Partner might not even have club support. Takeout doubles are made in order to find major-suit fits. I would double 3♦ in balancing seat and probably in

direct seat holding ♠ AJxx♥ AKxxx♦ xxx♣ x or ♠ AJxx♥ AKxxxx♦ xx♣ x. If partner bids 4♣ I correct to 4♥ (equal level conversion). If you overcall 3♥, you could easily miss your eight-card spade fit.

Four experts jump to 5♣. Partner doesn’t promise clubs and you need more strength to make an eleven trick game. I’m not sure 5♣ is right even if partner was in direct seat when he doubled 3♦. Would you jump to 5♣ if you held ♠ K93♥ J3♦ J85♣ AJ1052? If you subtract a king, that’s what you have.

Keiter: “5♣—We need to be in game. 3NT will likely be best if partner has a diamond picture, but I have no way to determine that. 4♠ will probably be best if partner has five spades, but 3♠ could be passed and 4♠ is much too unilateral. Thus 5♣. This may well make even if partner has only Qxx of clubs. E.g., ♠ AQxx♥ AKxxx♦ x♣ Qxx.”

If partner has your example hand, he’ll bid 4♥ over 4♣.

Lublin: “5♣—At IMPs.”

Schwartz: “5♣—I have a decent suit and an opening bid with no ability to investigate notrump without bidding it myself. Certainly wouldn’t be unhappy if partner can raise to six with any major suit finesse likely to be on.”

Laken: “5♣—Tough. I expect PASS and 3NT to be the popular choice, but either could be very wrong. Would consider 3NT at matchpoints.”

Four experts bid 3NT. On good days bidding 3NT works. On bad days they take the first seven tricks and laugh at you. You’re non-vulnerable so the gain on bidding game is about the same as going down when you can make a partscore. 3NT is a matchpoint bid.

Stone: “3NT—If partner is the classic 4=4=1=4 without a singleton Ace, King, or Queen in diamonds, I’ve made the wrong call. But, we’re playing IMPs and must bid game, and I think the decisive point is that 3NT will make much more often than 5♣. If the 3♦ opener were on my left, I think 3NT would be even more clear-cut.”

Landen: “3NT—In this day and age the not vulnerable 3♦ bidder has a weakish suit and will often not lead his suit even when it’s running. Also, partner will often contribute enough to prevent them running the suit. Nothing else is likely to land us in a better game contract. Pass will likely provide us a good score, unless partner is strong, in which case we might miss an easy slam.”

If you bid 3NT, the partner of the 3♦ bid-

der will be on lead.

Parker: “3NT—The expert bid. We may have a diamond stopper or they block or they are not led.”

Roman: “3NT—Maybe the suit blocks, maybe we have a stopper, maybe we have two stoppers. Just another 3NT adventure.”

Three experts bid 4♦. The problem with bidding 4♦ is that if partner bids 4♥, you won’t know how many hearts he has. If you bid 4♣ and partner bids 4♥, you know that he has at least five hearts.

Woolsey: “4♦—If partner bids 4♠ he probably has five spades and four hearts, so I’ll pass. If he bids 4♥ he probably doesn’t have five spades, so I’ll bid 5♣.”

4♦ usually shows two suits which could be both majors or one major and clubs. Therefore with five spades and four hearts, the doubler should bid 4♥ in response to the 4♦-cue bid just in case the cue bidder has clubs and hearts.

Hopkins: “4♦—I am going to play partner for Diamond shortness and put us in 5♣. Partner might have tried 3NT with a good hand and Kx(x) or Ax(x) of Diamonds.”

Cappelletti: “4♦—Followed by 4♠ over expected 4♥. A good partner might be able to work it out.”

4♠ shows four spades and at least four clubs. Partner with 3=4=2=4 might decide to play the 4-3 spade fit.

One expert agrees with me and makes the minimum bid in his five-card suit.

King: “4♣—Yuk. Anything could be right. Pass should give us +100 or 300. 3NT could make if partner has an honor in diamonds, but it could also be down three off the top. 4♠ or 5♣ could make, but it is just a guess. I like to take out partner’s take out doubles, so I would make an underbid of 4♣.”

When partner makes a balancing bid, subtract three points from your hand and bid accordingly.

3) IMPs, You’re Vulnerable

♠ -♥ KJ1087♣ AQJ103♣ K103

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♥	2♠	4♥	4♠
????			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
5♦	100	8	140
5♠	80	2	02
5♥	60	0	68
5♣	40	1	06
6♥	40	0	22
6♦	40	0	01

4NT	30	2	32
Double	20	0	04
Pass	20	0	07

Partner could have a preemptive hand such as ♠xxx♥Axxxx♦x♣xxxx. Unless you're playing that 2NT shows a limit raise in hearts, partner could have a hand with strength anywhere between a limit-raise to a hand, which is not quite good enough to make a slam try. Partner with at least a mild slam try and heart support should bid 3♠.

Seven experts agree with me and bid their second suit. If partner happens to have a diamond fit, he'll bid on over 5♠. 5♦ is not necessarily a slam try. Just in case they bid 5♠ partner will have additional information.

Parker: "5♦ —Partner did not bid 3♠, so he may not have a good hand. If so both of us can be making at the four-level. I will bid 5♦ for a lead if they bid on or to let partner know my hand is offensive in nature."

Schwartz: "5♦ —Should show a second suit and needs partner's help if they bid on."

Laken: "5♦ —Trying to help partner to decide whether to double 5♠ or bid a slam. We could belong in 6♦, which is my 2nd choice."

Stone: "5♦ —A multi-purpose bid. First, we may need a diamond lead to beat 5♠ or to extract the maximum penalty if the opponents later sacrifice in 6♠. Second, and more important, partner did jump to 4♥, red on white. With Axxxx in hearts and out, we're probably on no more than a diamond finesse to make slam; and Axxxx and out may be enough. If partner bids a slam, I won't be unhappy. Why not just jump to 6♥? Because partner may be aceless: ♠x♥Qxxxx♦xx♣QJxx."

Hopkins: "5♦ —If they get to 5♠, I know what I want led and I don't expect to go down very much if we end up in 5♥."

Landen: "5♦ —I can't see defending 4♠ with his hand when partner is long in hearts. The question is whether to bid 5♣, 5♦ or 5♥. I'm a bit sure which minor I want lead, so I will bid my length in case partner has a perfecto and continues on to slam. Long time partners should have an agreement on whether five-any is lead directing or either length or a cuebid and slam invitational. I think it should show length."

King: "5♦ —I want to show where my second suit is and what lead I would like from partner if we defend."

Two experts bid RKC. If partner has two aces, clubs and hearts, 6♥ could be on the diamond finesse.

Keiter: "4NT—I need to make a move

toward slam. 5♠ gets us there willy-nilly. 5♦ will encourage partner to bid 5♠ if he has that ace, and probably stop in 5♥ if he does not. So I plan to bid six if partner has two aces. If they are in the round suits our chances are excellent, and we could even survive if one is the ace of spades."

Roman: "4NT—I'm willing to gamble that partner doesn't have the ace of spades."

Two experts bid 5♠. Bidding 5♠ will gain if the opponent save and they go down four assuming we can make five hearts. Why not bid RKC to make sure partner has at least one ace.

Woolsey: "5♠ —I'm certainly bidding a small slam, and we might have a grand. Partner will surely need the aces of hearts and clubs plus another card to justify bidding a grand over 5♠, so the grand will be at worst on a finesse. If the opponents take their expected 6♠ save, which probably won't go for more than 800 or 1100, then the odds favor bidding a grand on a finesse as opposed to defending 6♠ doubled."

Lublin: "5♠ —Make them guess and learn if partner has the club and heart ace."

One expert bids his shorter minor. As you can see from the above answers, one bids his longer suit in this sequence.

Cappelletti: "5♣ —Should tell partner that I am thinking about the possibility of bidding on the six-level."

New suits at the five-level in competitive auctions show where your values are and shouldn't be taken as a slam try.

4) IMPs, They're Vulnerable

♠ AJ104♥ Q107♦ 874♣ A53

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	Pass	1NT	Dbl*
2♣*	Pass	2♥	3♦
????			

*(1 suiter)

Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
Double	100	7	142
3♠	70	4	60
3NT	60	2	38
3♥	40	0	13
Pass	30	0	16
4♥	20	0	10
4♠	20	0	01

East has shown a one-suited diamond hand, probably a seven-bagger, with at most eight diamonds. Unless he's off his rocker, he has a hand that figures to take at least seven tricks, with hopes of more if partner has a key honor. I would have something like ♠x♥x♦AQJ10987♣KJxx or ♠x♥x♦AKJ10xxx♣J9xx to bid 3♦. If

dummy comes down with ♠xxxx♥xxxx♦x♣Q10x, he can use dummy's club entry to finesse the ♦K on my first example and play diamonds from the top in my second example. 3♦ doubled will not get us a good result.

Four experts bid 3♠. With East having seven or eight diamonds, suits are not going to split well so you don't want to play a seven-card fit.

Lublin: "3♠ —I would bid 3♠ and hope partner raised or bid 4♥. Diamond shortness is in partner's hand so I want to be tapped there. I would never double as there is an eight-card suit on my right."

Keiter: "3♠ —Partner can bid 3NT if he has a diamond stopper, or raise to 4♠ if he has three-card support. If Opener has three little diamonds, West presumably has none to lead. If partner says 4♣, I'll say 4♥."

Hopkins: "3♠ —Hopefully partner will recognize I am looking for the best game and bid accordingly. I can stand a three-card raise if partner has a doubleton Diamond and 3NT is still in the picture if partner has Diamonds stopped. This is a sort of pre-serve-your-options bid."

Roman: "3♠ —After this hand blows up, I'll explain to partner that 3♠ shows a game-forcing hand with four spades and no diamond stopper."

Seven experts double 3♦. Double of 3♦ has to show a strong hand, and is probably not a stack. There's nothing about your hand which says that you have a lock on beat them. East is looking at the vulnerability and saw your partner open 1NT. He does not have a bad hand.

Parker: "Double—We can't make anything, so I will hope they go down at least one. I can't see how they have any tricks outside of Diamonds."

Cappelletti: "Double—Unless playing against the "Rock of Gibraltar."

Schwartz: "Double—We have no sure fit and thus no sure game RHO should not have the remaining eight diamonds so we are odds on to beat it and would not be surprised if its down two."

Laken: "Double—I have good defense, and no game is certain. Declarer will probably not be able to reach dummy. We gain two IMPs for +500 if we can make a game, but gain ten for +500 vs. -50. Assuming bad breaks, the odds strongly favor the double."

Stone: "Double—I don't think 2♣ created a force at the three-level, so I must double to show cards. Partner will bid with five hearts or four spades. Partner heard East bid 3♦ red on white,

so with major suit concentration e.g., ♠KQx♥AKJx♦xx♣Kxxx, partner might choose to bid 3♠. If partner passes, this is a heck of an opening lead problem, but I expect to go plus."

Your double does show four spades, since you bid 2♣ and don't have four hearts.

Landen: "Double—This is simply strength showing. I imply spades, denies hearts and states it's our hand, leaving the final contract placement to partner. It looks like RHO will be playing one against two, unable to get to dummy."

King: "Double—I would like to pass if it were forcing, but I don't think it is, so I would double."

One expert agrees with me and bids 3NT. If partner has ♠KQx♥AKJx♦xx♣Kxxx, he should pull since you would double with a diamond honor.

Woolsey: "3NT—It would be nice if pass were forcing, but it isn't. I surely must have four spades for this sequence, so we won't miss a spade fit. If partner has nothing in diamonds he might wonder why I didn't double 3♦ at this vulnerability, and if he comes to the right conclusion he may scramble out to a playable spot."

Be careful doubling partscores at IMPs.

5) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠ 4♥ A♦ AKQ9875♣ KJ103

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
????			1♥
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
2♦	100	7	57
3NT	80	2	25
5♦	70	1	43
3♥	40	0	04
4NT	30	1	25
2NT	30	1	25
3♦	30	0	02
4♦	30	0	03
Double	30	1	88
1NT	20	0	01
2♥	20	0	08
Pass	20	0	01

You have a hand where one card from partner will allow you to make game. You also have a hand where if partner has nothing the opponents will be able to take five tricks against 3NT and three tricks against 5♦.

Six experts join me and bid 2♦. Holding eleven cards in the minors makes it almost impossible for 2♦ to end the bidding. Maybe the rest of the auction will tell you something.

Schwartz: "2♦ —With only 17 HCP and two cards in the majors, it should not go all

pass. This gives me a much better chance to investigate. If given room, I will cue bid next.”

Laken: “2♦ —No need to hurry. Club Queen makes 5♦ almost cold. There will be more bidding. Al Roth would have agreed.”

Stone: “2♦ —I would downgrade double a lot, because you’re likely to get partner to jump in with the wrong hand, (lots of spades) and you’ll never get to ask partner about club values. The only drawback to 2♦ is that it might get passed out, but I view that as unlikely, and if it does, game may not be on. If the auction continues, you’re well placed to show secondary clubs and get an opinion from partner. Obviously, this hand is a tremendous player, but if partner’s hand is dead, the extent of the hand may be nine tricks in diamonds. I have sympathy for an offbeat 2NT, because it gets clubs into play, but that bid would need to have some prior understanding with partner not to convert a subsequent 4♦ bid by me to 5♣, with ♦ x♣ xxx or even ♦ x♣ xxxx.”

Woolsey: “2♦ —The auction won’t die here when I’m 1-1 in the majors. By going slowly and simply bidding my suit maybe I’ll find out something.”

King: “2♦ —I would never double with only one Spade. Second choice is 3NT.”

Roman: “2♦ —Sure hope somebody bids something. Double is out, and with the spade suit missing, I like my chances of somebody doing something so I get another chance to bid.”

One expert jumps to 5♦ . Figures to be a good contract. If 3NT makes, 5♦ figures to also make.

Parker: “5♦ —All partner needs is the club Queen. They may be able to make a lot of hearts so bid them up.”

Two experts bid 3NT. They could take the first

five spade tricks with partner having the ♣ AQ.

Hopkins: “3NT—I hope partner has a black Ace! This could be an interesting auction. I still have 5♦ in reserve if opponents go on and partner doesn’t doubt them.”

Lublin: “3NT—I bid 3NT and save over 4♥ .”
One expert makes a takeout double. Making a takeout double with shortness in an unbid major will not get you a good score.

Landen: “Double—This hand is way too strong for a simple overcall. I intend to start by doubling and will later bid diamonds at whatever level is required. 3NT is out with only eight tricks and no spade stopper.”

One expert bids 4NT. I think 4NT is unusual, not Blackwood. Shows at least 6-5 in the minors. I don’t think there’s any way that you can find out how many aces partner has. Later jumps to 4NT will show long diamonds and short clubs.

Keiter: “4NT—Not knowing what suit I intend to make trump, partner should answer aces only. If he has two, I’ll bid 6♦ . If he has just one, I’ll stop at five, even though six may turn out to make. Taking a slower route is likely to result in my having to bid over 4♥ while still knowing little or nothing about partner’s hand. A 4NT bid at that point would ask partner to choose between the minors, telling me nothing I need to know. Exclusion Blackwood is of no advantage here.”

One expert bids 2NT. Will not learn anything from partner’s likely club bids.

Cappelletti: “2NT—Maybe something good might happen. More bad than good happens after double.”

Overcalling two-of-a-minor with a strong hand gains when you get information about partner’s hand.

SOLVERS’ SCORES

Mike Cappelletti	1NT	4♦	5♣	Dbl	2NT	330
Robbie Hopkins	1NT	4♦	5♦	3♠	3NT	400
Sam Keiter	1NT	5♣	4NT	3♠	4NT	290
Fred King	1♠	4♣	5♦	Dbl	2♦	460
Mark Laken	1NT	5♣	5♦	Dbl	2♦	460
Steve Landen	1NT	3NT	5♦	Dbl	Dbl	400
Glenn Lublin	1NT	5♣	5♠	3♠	3NT	380
Steve Parker	1NT	3NT	5♦	Dbl	5♦	440
Steve Robinson	3♥	4♣	5♦	3NT	2♦	460
Jeff Roman	1NT	3NT	4NT	3♠	2♦	370
Alan Schwartz	1NT	5♣	5♦	Dbl	2♦	460
Robert Stone	1♠	3NT	5♦	Dbl	2♦	450
Kit Woolsey	3♥	4♦	5♠	3NT	2♦	410

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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 play. Second place gets two and third place gets one.

This list is up to date through November 20 + the Unit KO. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

Lovenberg

- 1 194.75 Leo LaSota
- 2 190.88 Steve Robinson
- 3 182.05 Brad Theurer
- 4 148.94 Barry Bragin
- 5 147.47 Fred King
- 6 145.23 William Hacker
- 7 144.63 Robert Bell
- 8 141.37 Mark Shaw
- 9 106.33 Leon Letwin
- 10 106.16 Peter Boyd
- 11 102.82 Martin Graf
- 12 101.28 Steven Schatzow
- 13 100.18 Michael Richey
- 14 97.93 Ronald Zucker
- 15 94.84 Noble Shore
- 16 92.74 Lloyd Rawley
- 17 88.11 Lynn Jones
- 18 87.85 William Cole
- 19 86.40 Clyde Kruskal
- 20 86.13 Michael Gill
- 21 85.73 David Ruderman
- 22 81.99 James Geist
- 23 80.93 John Adams
- 24 79.24 Arnie Frankel
- 25 75.76 Robin Taylor

Izzy Cohen

- 1 100.18 Michael Richey
- 2 97.93 Ronald Zucker
- 3 92.74 Lloyd Rawley
- 4 86.13 Michael Gill
- 5 75.76 Robin Taylor
- 6 71.35 Linda Marshall
- 7 53.92 Katherine Rabenstein
- 8 53.31 Daniel Koch
- 9 50.73 Joel Miller
- 10 49.91 Howard Tash
- 11 48.77 Arun Guha
- 12 46.76 Mark Rosen
- 13 45.02 Kiyomi Shiba
- 14 44.94 William Goldman
- 15 44.70 Shawn Stringer

Tubbs

- 1 48.77 Arun Guha
- 2 45.02 Kiyomi Shiba
- 3 44.94 William Goldman
- 4 42.38 James Wisman
- 5 39.59 Mirsad Mujezinovic
- 6 39.59 Namik Haveric
- 7 38.85 Shyamalendu Pal
- 8 32.64 Kay Miller
- 9 32.16 Calvin Konner
- 10 31.52 Jose Porres

Woolridge

- 1 30.88 Bernadette Merceron
- 2 28.49 Edmund Gehan
- 3 16.08 Stanley Katzman
- 4 16.03 Joseph Pregosin
- 5 15.22 Douglas Woods
- 6 12.20 Jim Metzger
- 7 10.96 Patricia Mitchell
- 8 10.60 Martha Stout
- 9 9.38 Herbert Rubinstein
- 10 8.98 Phyllis Cohen

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 **Online Carpool Notices** at: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

**0-20
LESSON
& GAME**

**GUARANTEED
PARTNERS!**

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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 Bryan or Lois Geer at 301-236-0014 or by email at bgeer@verizon.net or lgeer@verizon.net.

~ ♦ SCHEDULE ♥ ~

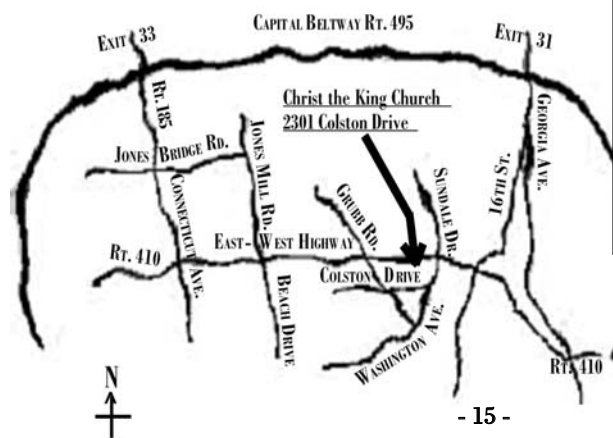
All Games held at Christ the King Church

- 12/11/2008Holiday Party StrataFlighted Charity Game
- 12/18/2008Stratified STaC Pairs
- 12/25/2008Closed Christmas
- 01/01/2009StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 01/08/2009WBL Sectional
- 01/15/2009StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 01/22/2009StrataFlighted GNT Swiss Teams
- 01/29/2009StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 02/05/2009NVBA Sectional
- 02/12/2009StrataFlighted GNT Swiss Teams
- 02/19/2009StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 02/26/2009WBL Sectional
- 03/05/2009StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 03/12/2009StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 03/19/2009StrataFlighted District 6 Charity Pairs
- 04/02/2009StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 04/09/2009Closed Maundy Thursday
- 04/16/2009StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- 04/23/2009NVBA Sectional
- 04/30/2009StrataFlighted Club Championship
- 05/07/2009Annual Meeting/DC NABC Fund Game

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.

THE UNIT GAME

by guest author, Linda Marshall

This column answers 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

O-300 MENTOR PROGRAM UPDATE

The **WBL Mentor Program** is well underway, with 53 mentees assigned (some separately, some in pairs) to 42 mentors. If you have a mentor, ask questions. If you think about it, there's always something else you'll want to know: how you could have bid or defended a particular hand better, which books you should read, how a convention works, which conventions you should consider adding, etc. If you are a mentor, be on the alert for advice your mentee can use and pass it along. If you want a mentor, it's not too late to sign up. Likewise, new mentors are welcome. Mentor and mentee applications are available on our website (www.washingtonbridgeleague.org) at the mentor link at the bottom of the home page, and are also available at the information table at the unit game. We are planning a mentor-mentee game early next year. We also plan to post FAQs on the mentor page, so if you have any advice you've given to your mentees that you think others could use, such as advice on books, explanations of conventions, or advice on strategy at different forms of scoring, please pass it along by email to don.berman@verizon.net so it can be posted. We welcome input from both mentors and mentees about the program.

Questions: **Gene Fisher**, genefi@comcast.net; evening: 301-983-1911, or **Linda Marshall**, Ldajmarshall@msn.com, 301-320-6057.

UPCOMING SECTIONALS

♠	♥
<u>January 8-11, 2009</u>	<u>April 23-26, 2009</u>
Silver Spring, MD	Fairfax, VA
♣	♦
<u>February 5-8, 2009</u>	<u>May 14-17, 2009</u>
Fairfax, VA	Silver Spring, MD
♦	♥
<u>Feb. 26-March 1, 2009</u>	<u>September 10-13, 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,

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

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

<i>Open Leaders</i>	
<u>Player</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 Steve Robinson	.94.48
2 Leo LaSota	.92.49
3 Mark Shaw	.78.79
4 Barry Falgout	.77.21
5 Rusty Krauss	.62.31
6 Peter Boyd	.61.45
7 William Cole	.61.17
8 Fred King	.57.81
9 Noble Shore	.53.45
10 Kenneth Davis	.47.84
11 Linda Marshall	.47.78
12 Brad Theurer	.45.73
13 Leon Letwin	.44.59
14 Michael Gill	.41.38
15 Andrew Gofreed	.40.81
16 Helene Bauman	.38.60
17 Diane Walker	.37.91
18 Ann Lindley	.37.10
19 Francesco Parisi-Presicce	.35.22
20 Lyle Poe Jr	.34.19

<i>NonLM Leaders</i>	
<u>Player</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 Francesco Parisi-Presicce	.35.22
2 James Beller	.31.37
3 Alan Walter	.23.68
4 Kiyomi Shiba	.23.31
5 Albert Lauber	.22.38
6 Amanda Carter	.19.58
7 Srinivas Kachibhatla	.18.94
8 Joe Hertz	.18.29
9 Marco Latini	.17.22
10 Jim Anschutz	.16.97
11 Patti Anschutz	.16.97
12 Abdul Etemadi	.16.79
13 Beverly Geurin	.16.12
14 Richard Wedgewood	.14.64
15 Eleanor Schwartz	.13.98
16 Clifford Feldman	.13.65
17 Ronnie Sweed	.12.97
18 Norman Sweed	.12.97
19 Joseph Pregosin	.12.83
20 Lawrence Heinen	.12.55

SAD NEWS

We regret to inform you that WBL member, **Sam Westgate**, passed away on Monday, October 13. Sam was very concerned about the recent disasters and the shortage of funds and wanted any memorials to be directed to the American Red Cross.

BRIDGE IN SCHOOLS UPDATE

by Ellen Rosenthal

The WBL **Bridge in Schools** program is designed to help build future generations of bridge players. Currently, 9 schools in Montgomery County are participating in the program with approximately 90 students attending after school classes.

We extend a big thank you to all of our volunteer teachers. Classes are being held in the following schools:

Middle Schools:

Argyle — **Donna Hankey-Woods**; Cabin John — **Ron Starr**; Honey Rosen (sub); William H. Farquhar — **Carol Elfant**, **Mike Watts**; Thomas W. Pyle — **Bonnie Cohen**, **Ann Shields**; Tilden — **Mark Rosen**

High School:

Bethesda-Chevy Chase — **Ron Starr**

Private Schools:

St. Andrews Episcopal — **David Brown**; The Washington Episcopal — **Barry Bragin**, **Jerry Pruzan**; The Bullis School — **Beta Nahapetian**

We are continually contacting more schools and it's important to have teachers available before a school joins the program. Volunteer teachers are needed as we approach 2009. A teaching background is not needed, just a desire to instill your love for the game to students. Teaching takes place after school for approximately 1-1/4 hours. You may check out the ACBL website acbl.org – click on ACBL For Juniors for more information.

Shawn Stringer is continuing to coordinate volunteers with the schools. If you want to add your name to the volunteer list and/or

...continued on p.19

♣ **Fairfax, VA ♦ FEBRUARY 5-8, 2009 ♥**

**NVBA WILLIAM POISSANT
MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT**

The Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge #2188
8421 Arlington Boulevard, Fairfax, VA ♦ 703-560-2213

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

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, Chevy Chase, 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, FEBRUARY 6

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750) 2 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100; 2 single sessions) 2 & 7:30 p.m.
49ER PAIRS (50/20/5) 2 p.m.
TRIPLE NICKEL SWISS (STRATIFIED 2000+/2000/750) 7:30 p.m.
—5 rounds, 5 boards, 5 minutes a board

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750) 9:30 a.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100) and 49ER PAIRS (50/20) 9:30 a.m.
0-5 PAIRS 9:30 a.m.
TROPHY EVENT: **WILLIAM POISSANT MEMORIAL PAIRS**
(2 SESSIONS – Qualifying And Final) 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750; Single session) ... 2 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100; 2 single sessions) 2 & 7:30 p.m.
49ER PAIRS (50/20/5) 2 p.m.
STRATIFIED OPEN CONSOLATION (2000+/2000/750) 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Novice/Intermediate Lecture (Jeff Roman) 10:15 a.m.
FLIGHT A/X (3000+/3000) BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS 11:00 a.m. & TBA
FLIGHT B/C (2000/750) SWISS TEAMS 11:00 a.m. & TBA
BAM & Swiss: both 2-session events. Box lunch sandwiches available on-site
during the break.
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 (300/200/100/50; Single session) 3:15 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.

Plenty of free parking! On-site snack bar plus lots of free treats! Many great restaurants nearby!

Championship Events and a Full Schedule of 299er Events for Novice and Intermediate Players! Players with 0-5 Masterpoints play **FREE** in **ALL** games!

Mid-Chart Conventions permitted in A/X 6-board+ team events only

Tournament Chairs
Margot Hennings,
703-560-0245

Partnership Chair
Mary Ann Kral,
703-437-0342 or
NVBA cell: 703-869-0852
...or check out our
On-line Partnership "Desk"
at www.nvba.org

Next NVBA Sectional
Apr. 23-26 '09 at Arlington/
Fairfax Elks Lodge
(Thurs at Beth El)

Bits & Pieces, continued from p. 17...

learn more about the program, contact Shawn at shstringer@aol.com or Ellen Rosenthal at nealandellen@cs.com

The success of the program is largely due to marketing the program to schools. This year, **Suzanne Floyd** has joined **Elaine Conway** and myself in contacting schools and sending out ACBL Bridge in Schools materials. Also, **Bridge In Schools** had a boost this year with the efforts of **Barbara Summers** who had two videos put on a DVD for marketing our program to school principals. One video is the CBS show having interviews with **Bill Gates** and **Warren Buffett** talking about the merits of bridge. The second video is Garfield Elementary School students (**Suzanne Abram's** Fairfax school) playing and talking about bridge. We thank **Ted Ying** for duplicating the DVDs.

**OCTOBER 1-DAY BRIDGE
CLASS DRAWS A CROWD**

We had a wonderful day on Sunday of the

78th Annual D.C. Championships with the **1-Day Bridge Class**. We had 45 people registered for our classes - 18 in the beginner class and 27 in the advanced beginner. They were all eager to learn and improve their bridge knowledge and skills. The beginners learned basics such as the order of the suits, how to count points, and what you need for an opening hand. They also learned about taking tricks and taking finesses to get more tricks. Instructor, **Lois Geer**, taught the students some basic bidding concepts, and had them playing hands by the end of the day.

In the advanced beginner class, the students learned about bidding in competition and then focussed on the play of the hand in No Trump contracts. The class covered some important strategies in keeping the danger hand off lead. Hands were chosen so that every direction got a chance to play a few hands.

...continued on p.27

Do you get along with
your computer?

Help is here!

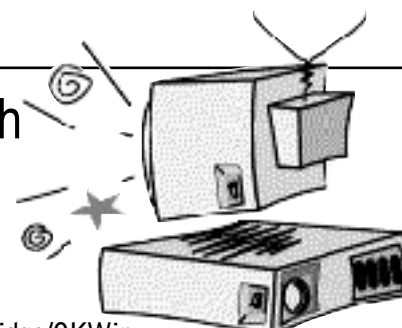
- Get on the internet
- Computer purchase
- Computer setup
- Email setup
- Software installations
- Programming

- OKBridge/OKWin
- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Excel/Access
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10 day round trip **ALASKA**
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78TH ANNUAL D.C. CHAMPIONSHIPS

October 2-5, 2008

Results

TOP TEN CUMULATIVE POINT WINNERS

Congratulations to the 2008 D.C. Championships winners! Awards will be presented in January to the winners in each category for all of the 2008 sectionals.

All Players

1	25.15	.....	<i>Fred King</i>
2	22.25	.....	Brad Theurer
3	20.81	.....	Michael Gill
	20.81	.....	Noble Shore
5	19.44	.....	David Ruderman
6	18.84	.....	Steve Robinson
7	17.13	.....	Barry Falgout
8	16.86	.....	Diane Walker
9	15.85	.....	Alfred Steinberg
10	15.33	.....	Lyle Poe Jr

Players with fewer than 1500 masterpoints

1	20.81	.....	<i>Michael Gill</i>
2	14.93	.....	Linda Marshall
3	14.55	.....	Katherine Rabenstein
4	12.46	.....	James Beller
5	11.75	.....	Lloyd Rawley
6	9.24	.....	Michael Richey
7	9.19	.....	Kiyomi Shiba
8	8.17	.....	Lawrence Heinen
9	8.00	.....	Suzanne Abrams
10	7.47	.....	Jerome Ostrov

Players with fewer than 500 masterpoints

1	12.46	.....	<i>James Beller</i>
2	9.19	.....	Kiyomi Shiba
3	8.17	.....	Lawrence Heinen
4	7.47	.....	Jerome Ostrov
5	6.85	.....	Marco Latini
6	6.61	.....	Albert Lauber
7	6.31	.....	Shirley Kwiatkowski
	6.31	.....	Mel Walger
9	5.99	.....	Richard Wedgewood
10	5.96	.....	Francesco Parisi-Preisce

Players with fewer than 100 masterpoints

1	6.85	.....	<i>Marco Latini</i>
2	6.31	.....	Shirley Kwiatkowski
3	5.88	.....	Patti Anschutz
	5.88	.....	Jim Anschutz
5	5.68	.....	Alan Walter
6	5.52	.....	Bruce Kasold
	5.52	.....	Gary Hinson
8	5.48	.....	Joseph Pregosin
9	4.91	.....	Steve Graves
10	4.84	.....	Brenda Thomas
	4.84	.....	Steven Nesselcer



Jim Geist (left) received the 2008 Machlin Sportsmanship Award from WBL President Fred King

THURSDAY FLIGHT A/X PAIRS



Stratum A, 32.0 Tables / Based on 69

1	Michael Gill - Noble Shore	.....	.65.82
2	Katherine Rabenstein - Linda Marshall		63.35
3	Debnarayan Dhar - Dharendra Ghosh		63.26
4	Hank Meyer - Martin Graf	.....	.63.19
5	Brad Theurer - Barry Bragin	.....	.63.01
6	Sarah Anne Cressy - Cecily Kohler	.....	.62.12
7	Earl Glickstein - Robert Bell	.....	.61.33

Stratum X, 14.0 Tables

1	Noble Shore - Michael Gill	.....	.65.82
2	Katherine Rabenstein - Linda Marshall		63.35
3	Debnarayan Dhar - Dharendra Ghosh		63.26
4	Hank Meyer - Martin Graf	.....	.63.19
5	Charles Young Jr - Marlys Moholt	.....	.56.74
6	Mark Rosen - Eugene Fisher	.....	.55.49

THURSDAY FLIGHT B/C/D PAIRS



Stratum B, 17.0 Tables

1/2	Guillaume Dedecker - Michelle Zygielbaum	.....	.58.93
1/2	Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz	.....	.58.93
3	Susan L'Heureux - Barbara DiCicco	.....	.58.04
4	Frank Shull III - Robert Claypool	.....	.57.74
5/7	Ellen Rosenthal - Neal Rosenthal	.....	.57.14
5/7	Clifford Feldman - Alan Gordon	.....	.57.14
5/7	Jim Dick - Linda Dick	.....	.57.14

Stratum C, 13.5 Tables

1/2	Michelle Zygielbaum - Guillaume Dedecker	.....	.58.93
1/2	Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz	.....	.58.93

- 3 Susan L'Heureux - Barbara DiCicco .58.04
- 4 Frank Shull III - Robert Claypool . . .57.74
- 5/6 Ellen Rosenthal - Neal Rosenthal . . .57.14
- 5/6 Clifford Feldman - Alan Gordon . . .57.14

Stratum D, 6.0 Tables

- 1 Michelle Zygielbaum - Guillaume Dedecker58.93
- 2 Clifford Feldman - Alan Gordon . . .57.14
- 3 Peter Lo - Ellinor Legg56.85
- 4 Beth Wisinski - Kay Miller52.68

THURSDAY NONLM PAIRS @ WBL



Stratum A, 12.0 Tables

- 1 Gail Morgenweck - Joan Fitzpatrick .60.79
- 2 Alfred Caponiti - John Ryan60.08
- 3 Alan Walter - Joseph Pregonin59.27
- 4 Louis Coccodrilli - Stephen Weiner . .55.06
- 5 Frank Hatten - Ernie Schuler55.00
- 6 Julie Connor - Eugene Massey54.92

Stratum B, 8.5 Tables

- 1 Alan Walter - Joseph Pregonin59.27
- 2 Louis Coccodrilli - Stephen Weiner . .55.06
- 3 Frank Hatten - Ernie Schuler55.00
- 4 Julie Connor - Eugene Massey54.92
- 5 Douglas Woods - Donna Hankey-Woods 52.29

Stratum C, 4.0 Tables

- 1 Julie Connor - Eugene Massey54.92
- 2 Douglas Woods - Donna Hankey-Woods 52.29
- 3 Edmund Gehan - Stanley Katzman . .47.94

THURSDAY 199ER PAIRS @ NVBA

Stratum A, 7.5 Tables

- 1 Larry Taylor - Albert Stolpe63.89
- 2 Bruce Kasold - Gary Hinson59.72
- 3 Phyllis Dean - John Eldridge59.03
- 4 Marco Latini - Amanda Carter55.56
- 5 Robert Dorosin - Peter Pecori52.08

Stratum B, 4.5 Tables

- 1 Larry Taylor - Albert Stolpe63.89
- 2 Bruce Kasold - Gary Hinson59.72
- 3 Walt Pumo - Janice Pumo51.59
- 4 Deanna Shuman - Lawrence Shuman 48.41

Stratum C, 2.5 Tables

- 1 Walt Pumo - Janice Pumo51.59
- 2 Deanna Shuman - Lawrence Shuman 48.41

FRIDAY MORNING OPEN PAIRS



Stratum A, 27.0 Tables / Based on 39

- 1 James Beller (pic) - Lawrence Heinen 66.86
- 2 Robert Levey - Jimmy Ritzenberg . . .66.67

- 3 Arnie Frankel - Alfred Steinberg . . .66.03
- 4 Kenneth Davis - Herbert Fallin Jr . .64.77
- 5 Barry Depristo - Jerome Ostrov . . .62.69
- 6 Thomas Reckford - Behnaz Fardshisheh 60.61

Stratum B, 21.5 Tables

- 1 James Beller - Lawrence Heinen . . .66.86
- 2 Robert Levey - Jimmy Ritzenberg . . .66.67
- 3 Barry Depristo - Jerome Ostrov . . .62.69
- 4 Thomas Reckford - Behnaz Fardshisheh 60.61
- 5 Abdul Masood - Sally Garfinkel . . .60.04
- 6 Beth Wisinski - Kay Miller56.82

Stratum C, 7.5 Tables

- 1 James Beller - Lawrence Heinen . . .66.86
- 2 Beth Wisinski - Kay Miller56.82
- 3 Jon Ranhand - Irwin Yanus51.60
- 4 Douglas Fox - Larry Moran51.33
- 5 Diane Keiper - Palma Seeger50.95

FRIDAY MORNING NONLM PAIRS



Stratum A, 12.0 Tables

- 1 Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz62.72
- 2 Mel Walger - Shirley Kwiatkowski . .58.58
- 3 Steven Nessler - Brenda Thomas . .58.50
- 4 Sybil Cantor - Barbara Ranhand . . .57.50
- 5 Roger Laumark - Arun Guha57.08
- 6 Frank Hatten - Ernie Schuler56.30

Stratum B, 8.5 Tables

- 1 Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz62.72
- 2 Mel Walger - Shirley Kwiatkowski . .58.58
- 3 Steven Nessler - Brenda Thomas . .58.50
- 4 Sybil Cantor - Barbara Ranhand . . .57.50
- 5 Frank Hatten - Ernie Schuler56.30

Stratum C, 2.5 Tables

- 1 Steven Nessler - Brenda Thomas . .58.50
- 2 Sybil Cantor - Barbara Ranhand . . .57.50

FRIDAY AFTERNOON A/X PAIRS



Stratum A, 15.0 Tables / Based on 42

- 1 David Milton - Margot Hennings . . .67.59
- 2 James Geist - William Cole64.52
- 3 Barry Depristo - Jerome Ostrov . . .60.59
- 4 Ron Geagley - Nadine Wood60.23
- 5 Jim Allen, Jr - Steve Robinson . . .57.08
- 6 Barry Falgout - Earl Glickstein . . .55.11

Stratum X, 4.5 Tables

- 1 Barry Depristo - Jerome Ostrov . . .60.59
- 2 Benjamin Stauss - John Glynn51.79
- 3 Mark Rosen - Eugene Fisher50.00
- 4 Timothy Smith - Joe Hertz49.55

FRIDAY AFTERNOON B/C/D PAIRS



Stratum B, 13.0 Tables

- 1 Douglas Fox - Larry Moran61.74
- 2 Craig Olson - Michael Lawrence . . .59.47
- 3 Richard Bryan - Elaine Conway . . .57.77
- 4 Gerald Marcovsky - Steven Dunn . .57.20
- 5/6 Malvern Sheffield, Jr - Martha Mangano 54.92
- 5/6 Jon Ranhand - Irwin Yanus54.92

Stratum C, 11.5 Tables

- 1 Douglas Fox - Larry Moran61.74
- 2 Craig Olson - Michael Lawrence . . .59.47
- 3 Richard Bryan - Elaine Conway . . .57.77
- 4 Gerald Marcovsky - Steven Dunn . .57.20
- 5/6 Malvern Sheffield, Jr - Martha Mangano 54.92
- 5/6 Jon Ranhand - Irwin Yanus54.92

Stratum D, 6.0 Tables

- 1 Douglas Fox - Larry Moran61.74
- 2 Richard Bryan - Elaine Conway . . .57.77
- 3 Jon Ranhand - Irwin Yanus54.92
- 4 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed . . .53.03

FRIDAY AFTERNOON NLM PAIRS

Stratum A, 13.5 Tables

- 1 Roger Laumark - Arun Guha66.15
- 2 Edmund Gehan - Suzanne Kilczewski 62.53
- 3 Shirley Kwiatkowski - Mel Walger . .59.33
- 4 Howard Friedel - Bill Murphy57.93
- 5 Marilyn Rubinstein - Herbert Rubinstein 57.74
- 6 Steven Nessler - Brenda Thomas . .55.91

Stratum B, 9.5 Tables

- 1 Edmund Gehan - Suzanne Kilczewski 62.53
- 2 Shirley Kwiatkowski - Mel Walger . .59.33
- 3 Marilyn Rubinstein - Herbert Rubinstein 57.74
- 4 Steven Nessler - Brenda Thomas . .55.91
- 5 Bernice Felix - Susan Weiss55.52
- 6 Alan Walter - Joseph Pregonin53.06

Stratum C, 5.5 Tables

- 1 Edmund Gehan - Suzanne Kilczewski 62.53
- 2 Steven Nessler - Brenda Thomas . .55.91
- 3 Alan Walter - Joseph Pregonin . . .53.06
- 4 A. Carol Davis - Patricia Mitchell . .52.95

FRIDAY EVENING OPEN PAIRS



Stratum A, 20.0 Tables / Based on 25

- 1 Steve Robinson - John Adams67.82
- 2 Diane Walker - Benjamin Brill60.42
- 3 Kitty Gottfried - M Cassandra Smith .59.95
- 4 Leo LaSota - Glenn Lublin58.80
- 5 Mark Rosen - Steven Schatzow . . .58.33
- 6 Katherine Rabenstein - Suzanne Abrams 57.87

Stratum B, 11.5 Tables

- 1 Katherine Rabenstein - Suzanne Abrams 57.87

- 2 Ned Griffith - Albert Lauber57.64
- 3 Michael Richey - Ronald Zucker . . .56.48
- 4 Roma Chandra - Lynda Flanger54.63
- 5 Gregg Mullins - Francesco Parisi-Presicce 54.17
- 6 Irv Kipnis - Terry Jones53.94

Stratum C, 6.5 Tables

- 1 Ned Griffith - Albert Lauber57.64
- 2 Irv Kipnis - Terry Jones53.94
- 3 Shirley Wilson - Barbara Childs . . .48.61
- 4 Calvin Konner - Richard Wedgewood 48.38
- 5 Murat Berk - John Mattioli48.15

FRIDAY EVENING NLM PAIRS

Stratum A, 5.0 Tables



- 1 Joseph Pregonin - Alan Walter55.33
- 2 Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz55.20
- 3 Gerald O'Dell - Marco Latini54.17
- 4 Erika Emery - Jerome Gumbiner . . .54.08

Stratum B, 2.5 Tables

- 1 Alan Walter - Joseph Pregonin55.33
- 2 Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz55.20

SATURDAY MORNING A/X PAIRS

Stratum A, 20.0 Tables / Based on 66



- 1 Barry Falgout - Rusty Krauss67.98
- 2 Fred King - Robert Bell62.50
- 3 David Ruderman - Richard Wegman .61.84
- 4 Shou-Ling Wang - Eileen Theimer . .59.76
- 5 David Rodney - Leon Letwin57.35
- 6 Peter Boyd - Steve Robinson56.69
- 7 Ellen Klosson - Brad Theurer56.47

Stratum X, 9.5 Tables

- 1 James Geist - Kiyomi Shiba56.14
- 2 Jane Shaw - Hope Watts55.04
- 3 Lloyd Rawley - Michael Richey . . .52.52
- 4 Elliot Grant - James Davenport, Jr .51.32
- 5 Jean Arret - Alfred Liepold50.88
- 6 Mark Rosen - James Gamher49.78

SATURDAY MORNING B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum B, 27.0 Tables



- 1/2 Franz Delahan - Madeline Delahan .64.39
- 1/2 Raymond Gallucci - Sym Gallucci . .64.39

- 3 Steve Graves - Jose Porres62.69
- 4 Sorina Negulescu - Teri Harrison . . .60.98
- 5 Abigail Nichols - Jay Cherlow . . .59.85
- 6 Nelson Waks - Robert Claypool . . .59.66

Stratum C, 22.5 Tables

- 1 Franz Delahan - Madeline Delahan .64.39
- 2 Steve Graves - Jose Porres62.69
- 3 Sorina Negulescu - Teri Harrison . .60.98
- 4 Jean Marx - Nancy Hoye58.90
- 5 William Kingery Jr - Amy Bloom . . .58.52
- 6 Barbara Israel - Jean Buchsbaum . .58.33

Stratum D, 13.5 Tables

- 1 Steve Graves - Jose Porres62.69
- 2 Sorina Negulescu - Teri Harrison . .60.98
- 3 William Kingery Jr - Amy Bloom . . .58.52
- 4 Maribel Newby - Nancy Cartwright . .58.14
- 5 Clifford Feldman - Alan Gordon . . .57.01
- 6 Francesco Parisi-Prsicce - Eric Poskanzer56.06

SATURDAY MORNING NLM PAIRS



Stratum A, 18.5 Tables

- 1 Terry Mitchell - Albert Dimillio66.96
- 2 Garry Grossman - Calvin Konner . . .62.50
- 3 Richard Wedgewood - Patricia Mitchell 59.92
- 4 Shirley Kwiatkowski - Mel Walger . .59.23
- 5 Gerald O'Dell - Marco Latini57.44
- 6 Lynne Beresford - Eleanor Schwartz .57.29

Stratum B, 15.5 Tables

- 1 Terry Mitchell - Albert Dimillio66.96
- 2 Richard Wedgewood - Patricia Mitchell 59.92
- 3 Shirley Kwiatkowski - Mel Walger . .59.23
- 4 Gerald O'Dell - Marco Latini57.44
- 5 Lynne Beresford - Eleanor Schwartz .57.29
- 6 Catharine Fisher - John Fisher55.65

Stratum C, 7.0 Tables

- 1 Catharine Fisher - John Fisher55.65
- 2 Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz54.76
- 3 Steven Nessler - Brenda Thomas . . .54.36
- 4 Thomas Conley - James Metzger . . .53.97
- 5 Phyllis Isler - Morton Isler51.49

SATURDAY AFTERNOON A/X PAIRS



Stratum A, 19.0 Tables / Based on 55

- 1 Diane Walker - Kenton Schoen64.14
- 2 Leo LaSota - William Hacker62.11
- 3 Rodney Severson - Daniel Feldman .60.92
- 4 Michael Richey - Lloyd Rawley . . .60.27
- 5 Kitty Gottfried - M Cassandra Smith .59.51
- 6 Stephen Czecha - Irwin Aisenberg . .58.29

Stratum X, 9.0 Tables

- 1 Rodney Severson - Daniel Feldman .60.92

- 2 Michael Richey - Lloyd Rawley60.27
- 3 Kitty Gottfried - M Cassandra Smith .59.51
- 4 Barry Depristo - Mark Lavine55.80
- 5 Robert Krueger - Priscilla Krueger . .55.56

SATURDAY AFTERNOON B/C/D PAIRS



Stratum B, 22.0 Tables

- 1 Jim Dick - Linda Dick68.75
- 2 William Goldman - Stanley Fineman .66.07
- 3 Eric Poskanzer - Francesco Parisi-Prsicce64.58
- 4 Amy Bloom - William Kingery Jr . . .63.10
- 5 Barbara Israel - Jean Buchsbaum . .61.01
- 6/7 Teri Harrison - Sorina Negulescu . .58.93
- 6/7 Chuck Adelman - Jennifer Nisenoff .58.93

Stratum C, 17.5 Tables

- 1 William Goldman - Stanley Fineman .66.07
- 2 Eric Poskanzer - Francesco Parisi-Prsicce64.58
- 3 Amy Bloom - William Kingery Jr . . .63.10
- 4 Barbara Israel - Jean Buchsbaum . .61.01
- 5/6 Teri Harrison - Sorina Negulescu . .58.93
- 5/6 Chuck Adelman - Jennifer Nisenoff .58.93

Stratum D, 13.0 Tables

- 1 William Goldman - Stanley Fineman .66.07
- 2 Eric Poskanzer - Francesco Parisi-Prsicce64.58
- 3 Amy Bloom - William Kingery Jr . . .63.10
- 4 Teri Harrison - Sorina Negulescu . .58.93
- 5 Alan Gordon - Clifford Feldman . . .58.04
- 6/7 Richard Wedgewood - Patricia Mitchell56.85
- 6/7 William Gurley - Mary Ann Kral . . .56.85

SATURDAY AFTERNOON NOLM PAIRS



Stratum A, 14.0 Tables

- 1 Terry Mitchell - Albert Dimillio67.59
- 2 Shirley Kwiatkowski - Mel Walger . .65.36
- 3 Steven Nessler - Brenda Thomas . .64.44
- 4 Adam Winsler - Ronald Ozarka . . .60.42
- 5 Amelia Montjoy - Cynthia Harrison .60.38
- 6 Albert Stolpe - Amanda Carter59.28

Stratum B, 11.5 Tables

- 1 Terry Mitchell - Albert Dimillio67.59
- 2 Shirley Kwiatkowski - Mel Walger . .65.36
- 3 Steven Nessler - Brenda Thomas . .64.44
- 4 Adam Winsler - Ronald Ozarka . . .60.42
- 5 Amelia Montjoy - Cynthia Harrison .60.38
- 6 Albert Stolpe - Amanda Carter59.28

Stratum C, 5.5 Tables

- 1 Steven Nessler - Brenda Thomas . . .64.44
- 2 Amelia Montjoy - Cynthia Harrison .60.38
- 3 Stanley Katzman - Edmund Gehan . .55.03
- 4 Phyllis Isler - Morton Isler50.72

SUNDAY FLIGHT A/X SWISS TEAMS



Stratum A, 17 Tables / Based on 50

- 1 Fred King - Bryan Coleman - Brad Theurer - Lyle Poe Jr91.00
- 2 Alan Tenenbaum - Alfred Steinberg - David Ruderman - Andrew Gofreed .90.00
- 3 Michael Gill - Noble Shore - Hal Hindman - Mark Chen88.00
- 4/5 Steve Robinson - Peter Boyd - William Cole - Mark Shaw85.00
- 4/5 Paul Benedict - Joseph Trapani - Lynn Jones - Tom Cogan85.00

Stratum X, 7 Tables

- 1 Michael Gill - Noble Shore - Hal Hindman - Mark Chen88.00
- 2 Leon Letwin - David Rodney - Avril Rodney - Donald Berman68.00
- 3 Jason Meyer - Lloyd Rawley - Ellen Cherniavsky - Robin Taylor62.00

SUNDAY FLIGHT B/C/D SWISS TEAMS



Stratum B, 21 Tables

- 1 Robert Stearns - Ronald Susi - Benjamin Stauss - Charles Young Jr98.00
- 2 David Grabiner - Robert Padgett - Linda Padgett - Suzanne Abrams93.00
- 3 Paul Leopold - Gail Singer - Minako Komura - Kiyomi Shiba92.00
- 4 Linda Marshall - Merrill Hirsh - Albert Lauber - James Beller89.00
- 5 John S. Jr. Mason - Katherine Rabenstein - Dennis Schwanz - Susan Miskura . .86.00
- 6 Amy Bloom - Steve Reed - Margie Coccodrilli - William Kingery Jr . . .85.00

Stratum C, 13 Tables

- 1 Linda Marshall - Merrill Hirsh - Albert Lauber - James Beller89.00
- 2 Chuck Adelman - Jennifer Nisenoff - Gloria Halstead - Thomas Din82.00
- 3 Jerry Nolte - Elizabeth Nolte - Paul Stygar - Willis Paley Hume75.00
- 4 Paul Chassy - Ruma Chassy - Michelle Zugielbaum - Reni Malloy71.00
- 5 Hanita Schreiber - Allen Ginsberg - Rena Rutstein - Roberta Feldman65.00

Stratum D, 5 Tables

- 1 Hanita Schreiber - Allen Ginsberg - Rena Rutstein - Roberta Feldman65.00

- 2 Calvin Konner - Richard Wedgewood - Jose Porres - Steve Graves63.00

SUNDAY MORNING NLM SWISS TEAMS



Stratum A, 12 Tables

- 1 Marco Latini - Amanda Carter - Gary Hinson - Bruce Kasold66.00
- 2 David Fitzwilliam - Lorraine Tyler - Anne Vaeth - Ed Krest53.00
- 3 Norman Sweed - Ronnie Sweed - Rena Brewrink - Eric Beard48.00
- 4/5 Sheila Odell - Fernando Lecaros - Spencer Berg - Phyllis Berg43.00
- 4/5 Stephen Salitrik - Phyllis Cohen - Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz43.00

Stratum B, 7 Tables

- 1 Amanda Carter - Marco Latini - Bruce Kasold - Gary Hinson66.00
- 2 Stephen Salitrik - Phyllis Cohen - Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz43.00
- 3 Marilyn Rubinstein - Herbert Rubinstein - Albert Shayne - Florence Shayne . .42.00

Stratum C, 3 Tables

- 1 Stephen Salitrik - Phyllis Cohen - Jim Anschutz - Patti Anschutz43.00

SUNDAY AFTERNOON NLM SWISS TEAMS



Stratum A, 10 Tables

- 1 Bruce Kasold - Gary Hinson - Amanda Carter - Marco Latini60.00
- 2 David Fitzwilliam - Lorraine Tyler - Anne Vaeth - Ed Krest52.00
- 3/5 Lynne Beresford - Eleanor Schwartz - Robert Dorosin - Joan White41.00
- 3/5 William Hughes - Barbara Hodges - Charles Shank - John Donohue . . .41.00
- 3/5 Nabil Ahmed - Dan Emmons - Alan Walter - Joseph Pregosin41.00

Stratum B, 7 Tables

- 1 Amanda Carter - Marco Latini - Bruce Kasold - Gary Hinson60.00
- 2/3 William Hughes - Barbara Hodges - Charles Shank - John Donohue . . .41.00
- 2/3 Nabil Ahmed - Dan Emmons - Alan Walter - Joseph Pregosin41.00

Stratum C, 3 Tables

- 1 Nabil Ahmed - Dan Emmons - Alan Walter - Joseph Pregosin41.00



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Bits & Pieces, cont. from p. 19...

We had a number of volunteers who graciously gave up playing Swiss to help us, and we were grateful for every one of them. They were patient and genuinely interested in helping new players.

The students were excited about learning the game and many are planning to continue their bridge educations by attending the lessons taught before the 0-20 game every Thursday night at the Unit Game.

We're looking forward to the **next 1-Day Bridge Class on May 17** during the *64th Annual Potomac Valley Tournament*. Watch for updates!

—Shawn Stringer

BRIDGE AND BOWLING

Yes, it's time for that Superbowl Saturday tradition, *Bridge and Bowling*. On **January 31st**, we will go bowling at Laurel Lanes, have dinner at Sullivan's, and then play bridge at the Laurel Bridge Club. Play with old friends and meet new ones. We will meet at 1:30 at Laurel Lanes and play a 3-game tournament with balanced teams. Then, we will have dinner at Sullivan's Steak and Ale

at 5:00. After that, we will head over to the Laurel Bridge Club for a GNT qualifier at 7:30. We will play bridge with balanced bridge teams and rotating partnerships (or you can bring your own team). If you can't come for the whole event, you can join us for any part of it. Preregistration (with payment) is required for both bridge and bowling to enable us to form teams ahead of time. The fee is \$15 for bowling (shoes extra, payable at the bowling alley), and \$9 for bridge.

SATURDAY 0-NLM GAME & MINI-LESSON

Every Saturday, the **Rockville Duplicate Bridge Club** holds a 0 - Non Life Master game with a mini-lesson.

Mini-Lesson: Saturdays, 12:30 pm

0-NLM Game: 1:00 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

Open Games: Sat.: 1pm, Mon & Fri: 11:15 am

Tue: 7pm (Tues. only at Rockville Senior Center—see www.rockvilledbc.com for directions.)

BRIDGE AND BOWLING REGISTRATION 1/31/09

I, _____, will attend:

Bowling (\$15) Handicap (or average score) _____

Bridge (\$9) Masterpoints _____

Dinner

Please send your registration to Linda Marshall, 6303 Redwing Road, Bethesda, MD 20817. Make checks payable to: Washington Bridge League.



NLM MASTER POINTERS

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

CURSES, FOILED AGAIN!

I know that when you're the declarer, you always stop and make a plan before playing to the first trick! But what about when you're defending? Defenders should also be thinking about declarer's plan...and what they can do to stop it! How do you know what declarer's plan is? You don't have to be a mind reader: you just have to be a detective and pay attention to the clues.

Clues in the Auction

Never go to sleep during the auction just because you and partner aren't bidding. Pay attention, the opponents are telling you about their points and distribution! Does their auction suggest anything about how declarer might play the hand?

1) <u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
P	1NT	P	1♠
P	P	P	2♣
2) <u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
P	1NT	P	1♠
P	2♠	P	2♣
P			P

These are called "pass-or-correct" auctions: South is asking North to choose one of his two suits. In both auctions, South has shown at least nine cards in the black suits, and North has shown a preference for one of South's suits, either by passing or "correcting" the contract back to the first suit South bid. North is likely to be short in the suit she didn't choose: spades in Auction #1, clubs in Auction #2. A short side suit in the dummy means that declarer might be planning to ruff some losers! On this kind of auc-

tion, you might want to lead trump to cut down on dummy's ruffing potential.

On Auction #1, the deal might look like this:

<u>North</u>	
♠ 6	
♥ A8543	
♦ T75	
♣ KT84	
<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>
♠ AQT8	♠ 932
♥ J72	♥ KQT6
♦ KQ9	♦ 8632
♣ 962	♣ A5
<u>South</u>	
♠ KJ754	
♥ 9	
♦ AJ4	
♣ QJ73	

West should look at his spade strength and know that South will want to ruff some spades! West must start with a club lead. On this layout, East wins her ace and returns a club which South will win. When West gets in with his ♠ A, he leads another club, leaving only one trump in the dummy for South to use for ruffs. If West had led anything other than a club on the opening lead, South could ruff two spades and make his contract!

Another auction clue might be when they've stretched to get to game, or when they've "sacrificed" by bidding over you after you and partner have freely bid game. If they don't have many high card points, they'll need to ruff to get extra tricks.

Clues in the Dummy

Sometimes you have to wait until you see the dummy to look for clues. In the example above, the spade shortness in the dummy was

a clue that declarer might want to get some ruffs before pulling trump. Another big clue is a solid side suit in dummy. When dummy has a good side suit, you can guess that declarer might be planning to use it to discard her losers, which means that you need to grab your tricks as quickly as you can!

<u>North</u>	
♠ KJ7	
♥ 54	
♦ AKQJ	
♣ QT82	
<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>
♠ A83	♠ 9
♥ J97	♥
KQT862	
♦ 964	♦ 832
♣ AK97	♣ 643
<u>South</u>	
♠ QT6542	
♥ A3	
♦ T75	
♣ J5	

South opens a weak 2♠ and North raises to game. West starts with the ♣ A and gets a discouraging signal from partner. What should she do now? She can see that cashing the ♣ K would just set up the queen in dummy, plus declarer is probably planning to dump some losers on dummy's beautiful diamonds. If the defense is going to take any heart tricks, West needs to switch now!

West must lead a heart at Trick 2. South wins the ace, but now he can't escape! When West gets in with the ♠ A, the defenders can cash their heart trick and their second club before declarer has a chance to throw a loser on the fourth diamond. South will be saying, "Curses, foiled again!"

Clues in the Play

If you still don't have a clue, watch what partner is doing: maybe he has more information

than you do. And watch what declarer is doing: if she's not pulling trump right away, for instance, you might want to lead trump if you get in. If she's trying to set up a side suit in the dummy, you probably don't want to lead that suit. If you just do whatever declarer isn't doing, that's a good start. What's good for declarer is generally bad for the defenders, and vice versa!

Not every contract can be set, but if you pay attention to the clues, you and partner can get the tricks that are coming to you. You can foil declarer's evil plan!

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS:

As of November 1, 2008

Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

Ms Renee K Barnow
Ms Julie G Connor
Dr Gail B Delente
Reina Lerner
Edith Mueller
Ms Susan K Myers
Ted S Proxmire
Charles W Terry
Mrs Madeline O Weinstock
Mr Michael S Berens
Mary Ann Goldenson
Mrs Elizabeth A Majane
Ms Roseann R Rafferty
Mrs Sharona Sapoznikow
Mrs Julie B Slavik

Club Masters (20 MPs)

Ms Shelby W Herman
Ms Lynn Johns
Patricia E Mitchell
Mr Joseph R Pregosin
Mr Mike Sutton
Ms Susan L Holbeck
Ms Stephanie R Hoover
Mr James R Key
Mrs Char Letchford
Mr James Metzger
Ernie Schuler
Ann Seeboth
Mr Henry L Tate
Mr Gerald Tolpin
Shirley B Wilson

Sectional Masters (50 MPs)

Steve J Graves
Mr Walter B Laessig
Ms Bernadette M Merceron
Ms Elizabeth Nash
Ms Josephine M Caldwell
Mrs Jeanne E Ferraro
Margot Howar
Mr Stanley H Katzman
Ms Suzanne K Kilczewski
Mr Marco Latini
Mr Elliott S Turley

Regional Masters (100 MPs)

Ms Jean A Agenbroad
Arun K Guha
Jerry Z Pruzan
Mr Terry Vann
Mr Marc Weiner
Ms Ronnie H Loeser
Catherine McHugh
Ms Amelia L Montjoy
Mr Jason R Stewart

NABC Masters (200 MPs)

Mr David H Brown
Ms Carol elfant
E-Mail: elfant@yahoo.com
Jose Porres
Dr Ron M Starr
Norman H Sweed
Mrs Ronnie K Sweed
Mrs Marilyn Udell
Mr James L Beller
Mr Alfred W Caponiti
Mr Lawrence R Heinen
David B Loken

1) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠ AQ7♦ K10532♣ QJ1054

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
3♦	Dbl	Pass	2♠
????			Pass

2) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠ 107♥ AJ2♦ AQJ10876♣4

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♦	2♦ *	Dbl	2♥
????			

*5-5 or better in the majors

3) IMPs, Both Vulnerable

♠ J107♥ 10876♦ 54♣ KQ43

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♥	Dbl	3♣	Pass
????			Pass

4) Matchpoints, Both Vulnerable

♠ 4♥ 65♦ Q543♣ AJ7654

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
		1♦	Pass

????*

*2♦ is inverted (10+ with diamond support)

*3♦ is preemptive

♠ AJ10854♥ 105♦ 43♣ K54

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
????*		1♥	4♣

*Double is negative

Return answers by November 6 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.