



# ACBL Director's Report

by Georgia Heth, Morton IL

District 8 Representative on the ACBL Board of Directors

**Board of Governors:** I want to thank all of you who responded to my request for volunteers for the Board of Governors. I have forwarded your names to the President of the District 8 Board of Directors, Tom Oppenheimer, who will be filling the vacancies.

**ACBL President's visit:** The President of the ACBL, Bruce Reeve, will be coming to the St. Louis Regional. Bruce has volunteered to give his novice lecture and will enjoy meeting as many of you as possible. Feel free to introduce yourself to him and say hi.

**Grand National Teams:** All of our District 8 teams made at least one cut in their respective flights of the Grand National Teams finals in New York City. Our flight A team -- Mike Halvorsen, Richard Blumenthal, Larry Rabideau, Kris Maillacheruvu and Madhu Viswanathan -- not only made it to the semifinals, but they received a large write-up in the *Daily Bulletin*. Turns out they had scored their quarter-final match in error and had left the site thinking they had been eliminated, only to find out the next day they had really won.

**New opportunities for club charity games:** The Board meeting was productive. The Special Games committee presented a comprehensive report and a new series of special games was approved. The biggest change is the creation of Charity and International Fund months, to go along with the already existing Junior Month. It is now possible for a club to offer sectional rating and greatly enhanced masterpoint awards every session of the year for an additional \$1.00 per person per session, and the donations can be used to benefit something other than the Junior Fund. These games can now benefit the ACBL Charity Foundation, a local charity, the International Fund or the Junior Fund. Masterpoint awards and fees charged were standardized. Please check the ACBL website for full details.

**Dues increases:** The Board voted to increase membership dues. Patron membership dues were increased to \$250 per year, \$350 for household memberships. Most members will pay an additional \$3 per year. This matches the increase in the cost of living since dues were last increased.

**Director fees:** Another proposed increase for next year was the category of National Tournament Director with a significant per-session fee increase. There are about 12 tournament directors at this level. It is feared that local tournaments will no longer want to use these directors if their full cost is charged. This would affect us as well -- Chris Patrias frequently works in District 8 and would be subject to the new fee. I will let you know how this turns out.

**Bylaws:** I had my first big politics lesson this meeting. The proposed new bylaws were presented to the Board for the first reading. There was a particular section that created a division in the Board. A motion to amend was defeated, but we could not muster enough votes for the supermajority needed to approve the bylaws. So, another member of the Bylaws committee voted to reconsider the motion to amend, and she and I (and maybe others) voted for the amendment just so we could get the votes to approve the entire bylaws. You wouldn't think that whether the Treasurer was a voting or non-voting member of the Executive Committee would create such drama, but it did. Anyway, the proposed bylaws, as amended, were approved unanimously and will receive their second reading in Orlando.

You know the Board had to do many more things than I tell you or we couldn't meet for so many days. I only list the items I find most interesting or think you will. You can read the minutes from each meeting as well as the agenda before the meetings on the ACBL website. In addition, Jonathan Steinberg, the District 2 director from Canada, posts a longer summary at his website after each meeting. The address of his home page is:  
<http://www3.sympatico.ca/jonathan.st/steinberg.html>

It is only nine months until the 2005 Grand National Teams District Final -- April 30 and May 1 in Springfield IL. It is never too early to be planning your team.

If you have questions or suggestions about ACBL Board actions or other bridge matters, please contact me at [gkheth@hotmail.com](mailto:gkheth@hotmail.com) or 917 S. Main St., Morton, IL 61550-2419.

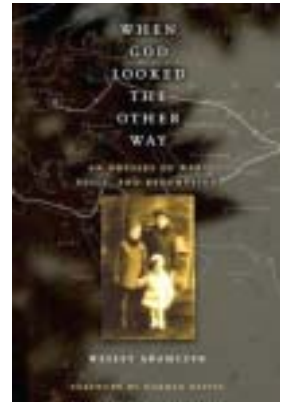
## When God Looked the Other Way by Wesley Adamczyk

During the 1980s and 1990s, Wes Adamczyk was one of District 8's most active and successful players. Wes hasn't played in many tournaments in recent years, and we've recently learned how he's been spending his time. Wes has just published a new book titled *When God Looked the Other Way*, a non-fiction work that is receiving widespread praise from reviewers.

Subtitled "An Odyssey of War, Exile and Redemption", the book is Wes' personal account of his family's ordeal during a little-known episode of World War II -- the forced exile of Poles by the Soviet government. Wes' father was one of 25,000 Polish Army officers who were executed by the Red Army, and the rest of his family was taken at gunpoint to a labor camp in Siberia. His memoir covers the horrors of life in Stalin's USSR, the family's escape to Iran and the children's eventual rescue to the U.S., where they settled in the "Little Warsaw" neighborhood of Chicago.

Told through a child's eyes, the narrative offers unforgettable characters and an uplifting message about the power of hope, written with the emotion that could come only from one who had lived the story.

The book was published in April 2004 by the University of Chicago Press. An excerpt from Chapter 3 is [here](#). You can read more reviews and buy the book at a discounted price (31 percent off) from [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com).



# District 8 Solvers Forum -- August 2004

by Scott Merritt, Arlington VA

I am highly caffienated, and living with some very amusing sunburn lines, but here comes my column anyways. I just spent the last few weeks involved in the presidential campaign and we are in the midst of the national conventions, so I was certain that I could spin out a theme from that. Unfortunately, all attempts at bringing light and witty banter to my little corner of the bridge world fell flat. So here we are -- just you, me and seven intriguing bridge hands. Most of you bid only six of them, but with the bidding on one problem hand, I swear that there must have been two different hands, as the panel appeared to be looking at a totally different problem than the solvers. But we'll get there later.

## 1. Matchpoints, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1C	1H	DBL *
Pass	1S	Pass	???

\* Negative

What is your call as South holding: ♠QJ54 ♥AQ86 ♦J932 ♣9 ?

Judging from the ten (!) different responses that the Solvers put forth, I would have thought this problem would have given our panel more pause. Yet, this was the most unanimous panel of the set. Let the "obvious" bidders speak:

**Nelson:** "3S. With possible duplication in the club suit, I only bid 3S. However, the queen of hearts is upgraded. Slow points I tend to devalue."

**Kessler:** "3S. If it wasn't matchpoints, I'd bid 4S. I don't think you can bid less than 3S at matchpoints because the field will bid at least that much. If you need to 'shoot' for a good result this is an ideal hand to bid only 2S."

**Hartsman:** "3S. Atimps, I might be a little more aggressive and bid game since we're red, but here, this is a perfect invite."

**Heins:** "3S. While it looks like game might be probable, I don't like the singleton club as much as I would like a single diamond."

I have to admit that I like what these panelists are saying a lot more than I thought I would. They make good points, but they don't discuss the key issue on this deal, which is partner's choice of exactly 1S. What is he showing with this minimum bid? With as little as a moderate 14 count and 4 spades, he would likely have jumped to 2S over the double. Thus, his choice of only 1S seems to make him a favorite for either a really drecky hand, or only 3 spades.

Even if partner's cheap 1S doesn't deny a hand good enough to make game opposite this hand, only one panelist discussed the option of trying "only" 2S". Am I just old fashioned, or wouldn't this be a freebid that shows some values? There clearly could be a case for using the 2S bid here as "just noise," but without a discussion about this, I would imagine that an off-the-shelf partner would treat 2S as a mild invite.

It's true that you do have 10 HCPs, a singleton and a well-placed heart queen of hearts, but this *is* only 10 points opposite a clearly minimal partner. Also, you have only one card higher than a queen, your singleton is in partner's suit, and the heart length -- added to the lack of noise from lefty -- mean you may even have a heart loser to deal with. I really said a mouthful there; my apologies. Let's see if the swing voters agree with me.

**FEILER:** "2NT. Since I have all the outstanding heart honors, I'm a little worried that partner doesn't have four spades. If he corrects back to 3S, I'll go on to four."

Our other notrump bidders were thinking along the same lines, but they judged that 1NT was enough:

**Engel:** "1NT. I've already shown my four spades, and partner may very well have been stuck for a bid with something like S-KTx H-xxx D-KQx C-KJxx. I bid only 1NT rather than 2NT because of the misfit."

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
3S	100	10	29
1NT	90	3	10
2NT	80	1	6
2S	80	1	18
3NT	70	0	2
Pass	70	0	2
2D	60	0	2
2H	60	0	16
4S	50	1	14
3H	40	0	2

**Walker:** "1NT. Give partner a choice of contracts. I'm guaranteeing four spades, so if partner has four (and he might not), he'll go back to 2S. There's no reason to catapult the auction to 2NT or 3S, as my rebid here already implies I have more than a minimum (else I would have passed 1S). Plus, if partner had enough for a spade game opposite this soft stuff, he would have jumped to 2S on the last round."

Woohoo! A man and a woman after my own heart. I am just a little envious that they stated what I stated a lot less vocabulariously (eloquently). And from our self-admitted madman:

**Dodd:** "4S. Losing trick count says this should be a lock. My only worry is that partner has only three spades (which he could easily hold)."

At least he's one of the few panelists who recognized that partner might have just three spades! As for the Losing Trick Count, it's usually based on trump fits of 8 or 9 cards, not on 7-card trump misfits. And I won't even remind you that partner could have the 8-loser dog that his bidding suggests.

## 2. IMPs, none vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1D	DBL	1H
3C	Pass	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding: ♠A1063 ♥AQ1054 ♦3 ♣754 ?

Here was another place where I had a "really great" political joke. Unfortunately, I was busy watching the monologue on The Tonight Show, and I realized that there aren't any "really great" political jokes. So, I yanked it, realizing that it wouldn't be prudent at this juncture to throw in a dumb joke for cheap laughs.

Now on to the actual meat of this problem. For those who have read this far, and paid any attention at all to what I am saying, the thought, "Hey! He said that problem #1 was the most unanimous problem with 10 panelists choosing the 'obvious' 3S call" should be fitting in and out of your conscience. I will defend myself by saying that the panel is clearly more ambivalent about this choice than they were about their 3S call earlier.

**Kessler:** "Double. I do not know what else to bid [*See! Ambivalence! -- Ed.*]. Double gives partner all the room he needs to describe his hand further. If your partner opens light and rebids 3D, you have a chance to get out."

**Hartsman:** "Double. If partner passes, that's great. If he bids 3D, I guess ... [*See! Ellipses are oozing with ambivalence. -- Ed.*] that's where we're playing. But, I'm not selling to 3C with all that I have."

**Heins:** "Double. The takeout double makes it less likely [*If I commented here, I would be gloating. -- Ed.*] we are being jobbed out of a spade fit. I think this hand is a misfit, and we have the balance of the high cards."

**Paulo:** "Double. There is no obvious game for our side, as partner holds a weak opening and we have no known fit."

I think they pretty much sum up the doubling position. We have values, they have values, it is only three lousy clubs, and we must have a resting spot somewhere, as it is outside the realm of possibility that 3C is indeed par. So really, this is a question of how risk-averse a bidder you are. I will get to the risk-averse after this slight digression:

**Dodd:** "Double. My original thought was to abstain as this is a "book" redouble. Now I'm in a real mess, but this action wouldn't be any easier had I made that 'book' call."

**Strite:** "Double. So pard, how do we play a redouble of 1D-Dbl? I guess I gotta double now."

We received several other similar comments, and to be honest, I don't know what I think. I will take a quite a sailor to navigate his swift boat through these murky waters. Had we redoubled, the whole tenor of the auction would be different. Now 3C would be preemptive. Partner would be more likely to bid 3D if he had a suitable hand. And we would be basically endplayed into bidding 3H here. Problem solved? I have a feeling that those of you who complained about not redoubling on the first round have evoked the ire of our editor, and we will all see her wrath come next set of problems. Okay, back from my digression and onto those of weak stomachs:

**Walker:** "Pass. I'd make a speculative double at matchpoints, but I'm too chicken at IMPs, so I guess I'll just let them run right over me. Raspberries to those who complain that the problem would have been 'solved' by redoubling instead of bidding 1H. You'd be in the same boat you're in now, but without the knowledge that partner lacks a good heart fit."

See what I mean about that ire? Is game out of the picture on this hand? Partner's lack of a call over 3C seems awfully dubious to me, but in the end, I guess this is a bidders' game. No one ever got rich at 50 a trick.

### 3. Matchpoints, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	1C	1S	DBL *
Pass	2S	Pass	3D
Pass	3NT	Pass	???

\* Negative

What is your call as South holding: ♠Q ♥AK74 ♦KQ983 ♣1054 ?

I had a cute line here about how the responders to this problem must live in John Edwards' "Two Americas", but in the end, I decided that I couldn't plug those guys in this highly valuable space for free. So again, I yanked the line and maintained a small sphere of the universe that truly is apolitical.

But in case you remember all the way back to my intro, which I clearly doubt you do, this was the one problem that somehow must have changed between when 55 percent of the Solvers chose to Pass, and when all of the panel headed off to at least a small slam. Since none of the panel passed, I don't have anyone to lecture to, so I'll just have to explain why Pass must be the wrong call.

There are two principles that are fundamental to all bidding systems everywhere: they are "slow/fast arrival" and the "small box" principle. Both come into play on this hand. First, slow arrival appeared when partner cuebid 2S and then bid 3NT. He had the option of bidding a direct (fast) 3NT over your negative double, but he chose the slower way. Slow/fast arrival says that when you're already in a game-forcing auction (or manufacturing one yourself, as your partner did here), the less you got, the more you bid. In this case, partner is showing that he has more than a 3NT bid, or else he would have gotten to 3NT faster.

More frequently, the slow/fast-arrival principle applies to high-card strength, but in this case, partner is trying to show a distributional asset (most likely long clubs and diamond shortness). In other cases, it can also apply to hand purity -- for example, you would "go slow" to show extra values when you hold good quick tricks and high cards in your long suits.

The key reason why you cannot pass here is where the **small-box principle** comes in. It states that on every round of bidding, you need to compare the hand that you hold to the ever-shrinking set of hands (the box) that you could possibly have for this bidding. You then bid strongly if you have a maximum for the box you're in; you bid weakly if you have a minimum for the box you're in.

In this auction, you haven't yet limited your strength, so your box of possible hands is quite large (from 6 points up), and you're way past the bottom of it. You have an absolute monster for your bidding so far. You started out with a negative double that could show as little as S-xx H-KJxx D-Qxxxx C-xx (a hand that would be at the minimum end of the box). Partner then cuebid to force you to bid again, and for all he knows so far, you could still have that same 6-point hand.

This is why you **must** bid at this point, and all of the panelists understand this. Mission accomplished. Now that you've learned all of our secrets, I expect to see all of you passers on the panel in the near future.

Now, on with the discussion. Since we know that we **cannot** Pass, what should we do? I'll start with the 4C bidders, and will hint to all that this bid is **not** Gerber.

**Kessler:** "4C. Partner has described a very good hand, probably with solid clubs. Up to this point, we have shown only the minimum for a negative double, and we have lots more -- diamond and heart controls, a working singleton and a club fit. If partner has AKQxxx of clubs and two aces, we are virtually cold for a grand."

**Paulo:** "4C. While making a mild slam trial, I describe my distribution: the first call shows four hearts, and the last bid is

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
4C	100	10	18
5NT	80	1	0
4S	80	1	0
4NT	80	2	14
6NT	70	0	6
4H	60	0	8
6C	60	2	0
P	40	0	55

like a canape. Now, this raise points out the spade singleton. With a solid club suit and aces, partner may trot along slam. For instance, 7C is cold opposite S-Ax H-xxx D-Ax C-AKQxxx."

**Walker:** "4C. Partner cuebid and forced to game, and I have at least 6 pts. more than I've promised, so I have to do something. Partner should have a mountain with a big club suit and a spade stopper or two (with a big balanced hand, he wouldn't have cuebid before bidding 3NT). It's tempting to just bid 6NT, but we could have a grand, so maybe the 'slow' show of support will allow partner to Blackwood and bid it."

**Strite:** "4C, forcing, which patterns me out. I expect at least 6C to be cold, but if partner cuebids 4D, we may reach a grand opposite solid clubs and the pointy aces."

**Marshall:** "4C. Partner, without the Spade Queen, is prepared to charge on to 3NT, with likely three heart cards and a singleton diamond. Surely his clubs are solid."

**Nelson:** "4S. I think opposite a cuebid we have a possible club slam or more notrumps. My 3D bid could be weak, so I must show I have more values. A bid of 4C could be misinterpreted, so a cuebid should show this hand. If partner bids 4NT, I pass."

Kessler and Paulo both believe that partner is likely to have exactly the same hand. I think that I agree with the simple 4C call. The problem does arise though, about what the ensuing auction will mean. If partner comes back with 4D, what would our 4NT mean? I would have liked Bev's "throw-it-back-to-partner cuebid" approach a lot better if she hadn't said she would then pass 4NT. In my role as capricious ruler of District 8 Bridge Column-dom, I've gotta conclude that 4NT would be Blackwood here.

There is clearly confusion, but the bid-what-you-think-you-can-make crowd isn't really chiming my bells on this hand:

**Hartsman:** "5NT. I think this should be pick a slam (out of the three possible strains)? Hopefully, this isn't just diamonds or hearts. I clearly have a slam hand, though, with partner game-forcing over my negative double."

**Feiler:** "6C. I don't see any way to use Blackwood here. If I bid 4C, the ensuing auctions are likely to be pretty murky. This way partner will have a **very** exact picture of my distribution and HCPs. I just have to keep my fingers crossed about the controls."

**Williams:** "6C. So far, I've bid this hand like I have a 6-count. I bid what I think we can make. I have a huge hand and partner should have no idea I'm this good. 3NT must be based on a long and good club suit."

I don't like these choices for two reasons: they're taking a grand slam out of the picture, and they're taking notrump out of the picture. That just reeks of fuzzy math to me. If we lose track of the auction after 4C, 6C or 6NT will always be an option later. Finally, we have the quantitative notrumpers. Or pansies if you prefer the technical term:

**Dodd:** "4NT. Again, the book call is a firm 6NT, but I prefer to give North some leeway, as he may have a 'light' game-force opposite my (hardly standard) negative double. (I would have chosen 2D first time around and followed with 3H over any minimum rebid)."

I'm beginning to think that Mr. Dodd should stick with his "book" instead of making these bids of mass destruction. Anyone who believes that partner has less than something like AJx, Qxx, x, AKQxxx is deluding themselves.

### 4. Matchpoints, none vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	1S	2H
3S *	DBL **	Pass	???

\* Preemptive \*\* Responsive (clubs & diam.)

What is your call as South holding: ♠83 ♥AQJ85 ♦AQ4 ♣1092 ?

All of you readers following my political non-theme will clearly expect me to throw in a Law quip here, but I have to say that I only follow the Law according to Mr. Cohen. This hand is clearly one of those Law hands. I will put the panelists out there, and for those of you following along, let's see how many of them come up

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
Pass	100	8	24
4C	80	2	16
4D	80	4	53
4H	70	0	2
4NT	70	0	2
4S	70	1	2

with some version of "According to The Law ... " or "preempts work".

5D	60	0	2
3NT	50	1	0

The good news is that at least these are the best two of the four most popular bidding-problem clichés. They're much more enjoyable than the other two, which are the way overused "most flexible bid" and the even worse "Hamman's Rule". Were Mr. Hamman dead, I am sure he would roll over in his grave at the abominations that are perpetrated in his name. As an aside, does anyone know the still-breathing equivalent of rolling over in one's grave?

I will start with those who go for the throat:

**Heins:** "Pass. Lead a trump. Where are their tricks coming from?"

**Hartsman:** "Pass. It's matchpoints and they have no tricks. Time to sit this one out."

**Walker:** "Pass. There's no reason to jump to the pessimistic (and Law-obsessive) conclusion that they're in the perfect spot just because they have 9, or even 10, trumps. It's matchpoints, they're trying to play at the 3-level, we have at least half the deck, I have great defense (3 quick tricks) and I have doubts that we can make 10 tricks in our 8-trick minor-suit fit (there's the Law again for you). All of that makes the penalty proposition look pretty good. If these are the same opponents who pushed me around on Problem #2, maybe I'll get some revenge here :)"

**Paulo:** "Pass. The opponents should have a 9-card spade fit, and we have an 8-card one, in diamonds and/or clubs; according to the Law, there should be 17 total tricks. Considering that my honors seem well placed, I bet that we win more tricks than East/West."

**Engel:** "Pass. This one's easy. I can't believe we're making 5 of a minor, and this will usually get 300."

**Feiler:** "Pass. I'm leading a trump. I have high hopes -- well, some hopes anyway -- of achieving a plus score."

I also chose to pass. This is matchpoints, and being wrong isn't the end of the world. If Engel and Feiler could get together, maybe that cowardice would be mixed with an appropriate amount of trepidation. Could those who pull the double offer a better argument?

**Nelson:** "4D. I am bidding where my values are in case they bid 4S."

**Kessler:** "4C. The only other option is to pass -- too rich for me. Also, partner is an unpassed hand and we could be cold for a game while 3S is also cold."

**Lambert:** "4D. Can we get +300 if I pass? Could +130 or +150 be a good score? Do we have game in a minor (which one)? Is 4H the miracle spot? My guess is that +300 is too optimistic, and bidding 4D keeps the other options open. I don't think +100 will get us many matchpoints on this deal."

Plus 100 doesn't sound like a gold mine, but it sure beats minus 50. Were I playing across from myself, I'm sure the 4C and 4D bidders would be making the right choice, although minus 150 surely won't be that wonderful of a score either. I guess this just comes down to your faith in the long arm of the Law. The passers have the faith, but interestingly enough, our lawyers (DODD and WILLIAMS) don't!

I also want to commend the panel for a surprisingly paltry smattering of clichés in their analyses. Another big props to you panel!

## 5. Matchpoints, EW vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1D	Pass	1H
Pass	1S	Pass	1NT
Pass	2C	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding: ♠A5 ♥KJ972 ♦J9 ♣8763 ?

I felt like this was a nothing problem, but I have been told that I need to blather on about it for a couple column inches. That sure seems apropos with my political

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
Pass	100	8	35
2NT	90	1	18
3C	80	5	33
2D	60	1	6
3NT	50	1	2

themelessness. We have a normal hand. We have a normal auction. Here is the normal blah blah blahs.

2H	40	0	6
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**Walker:** "2NT. Partner is guaranteeing 4-0-5-4, but doesn't promise any extra values (else I'd bid 3NT). He knocked himself out trying to find our 8-card fit, and although I'm sure 2C is a fine contract, this hand is so perfect for notrump that I'm going to be a matchpoint hog and overrule him."

**Dodd:** "Pass. Did anyone really think of raising with this load of junk? Do you really think we can make game or a higher score in notrump? I'll settle for the plus 110 or 130 and beat all the advancers who try game or 2NT and go set. If North has anything but a 4-0-5-4 (or maybe 4-0-4-5) mini, I'll be heading to the partnership desk."

**Nelson:** "3C. Clearcut rebid in my opinion, since a pass would show less."

**Williams:** "3C. I have close to a maximum 1NT response, but I'm still not quite sure what partner's count is. 3C gives him a chance to bid 3NT with something extra."

**Paulo:** "3C. Partner's distribution is 4-0-5-4 or 4-1-4-4, and his opening is not quite bare. I am not afraid of putting our side down, as partner, with, for example S-QJxx H-x D-KQTx C-AJxx, should pass 1NT. On the other hand, I hope that partner, with extra values, can bid game."

**Kessler:** "Pass. It sounds like half of my hand is wasted, and plus scores are usually good at matchpoints. Points are right for 3C, but the KJ of hearts are probably useless."

**Heins:** "Pass. Let the opponents balance."

**Engel:** "Pass. Opposite some matchpoint Rule-of-20 openers, this may be high enough."

**Strite:** "Pass. Not a real good hand in the context. I'd expect partner to have bid 3C with the extra king we need for game."

As usual, a lot of words, very little substance. I leave this problem in a discussion lockbox; I just won't touch it. If my opinion is worth anything, which I would never suggest, I think that Strite and Engel are on the right track here. Real problem, no real solution, not even a suggestion of a solution, but lots of words. Maybe this is a political column after all.

## 6. IMPs, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1S	Pass	1NT*
Pass	2C	Pass	???
* Forcing 1NT			

What is your call as South holding: ♠64 ♥AQ5 ♦874 ♣AJ763 ?

The general populace didn't find this hand to be much of a problem. The majority's typical comment was along the lines of:

**LAMBERT:** "3C. I can't think of an alternative here. What did I miss?"

You missed the fringe voters who understand the value of supporting third-party bids. Luckily, these panelists understand the independent options that are often overlooked by the media and typical Solvers.

Half the panel refused to accept politics as usual and headed down a road less traveled, just like half of the voting population refuses to vote. I say, bring on the third-party bids. So in the spirit of upstarts, spoilers and egomaniacs just looking to have their bids heard, I intend to give all the third-party bidders a forum for sharing their platforms. We had five alternative candidates, the most popular being:

**Walker:** "2NT. Second choice is a blast to 3NT. So I don't have a diamond stopper; that's a small flaw compared to the misrepresentations of the alternative bids. Two-and-a-half quick tricks and 5-card support is just way too much

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
3C	100	8	82
2NT	80	4	10
3NT	70	1	4
4C	60	1	2
3H	60	1	0
5C	50	1	0
2H	40	0	2

for a wimpy raise to 3C. 4C is about right on values, but that takes us past 3NT."

**Strite:** "2NT. Didn't someone invent a system for this hand?"

**Kessler:** "2NT. Too good for 3C and I do not know what else would be a great club raise."

Sure, there's a flaw with 2NT. The 874 of diamonds doesn't usually stop the suit, but look back to Problem #5 and look at what people want to raise to 3C on. If you would raise on those soft values, then surely you must do more with this hand.

As an aside, had partner opened 1H and your majors were interchanged, how many of you would have bid 2S with this hand? This little-mentioned "impossible raise" would clearly be the correct choice in that case. I am sure that the impossible raise was brought to light by a third-party candidate. As we continue with the little appreciated bids, we come to the bid that Karen flirted with. I guess being all the way out on a limb is too scary for some.

**Engel:** "3NT. I can't bid only 2NT with this much and the clubs."

Your hand *is* pretty darn good. He brings up a good point, and I'm glad his voice hasn't been drowned out by the overwhelming majority of oppressive 3C bidders. For those who don't believe in the system that overwhelmingly supports the rich Notrumpers over the poorer Minors, here is your champion:

**Feiler:** "4C. I don't have a clue as to what to do with this one. I think we *should* play 3H as showing this kind of hand, but most partners would take it as a long suit and just under a 2-over-1. So, I'll bid my values and hope 3NT isn't the right spot."

Way to stand up and bid like a man, Kent! It is brash, unapologetic and probably irrationally past the best game, but hey, at least he was heard in the big debate. Freedom of speech, the ability to overstate your position and look like a madman is what makes these bidding quizzes so exhilarating. People should have the right to hear why you want to make the wrong bid in the great debates, and no one could make me believe differently. If you want even less tact, I give you one brash lawyer:

**Williams:** "5C. Once again, I box myself with a poor bid on the first round. I have 2 1/2 quick tricks and I bid 1NT forcing? Sheesh. 3C will not describe this hand. I don't have a diamond stopper, so 3NT is out of the question."

If 4C was an overshoot, I'm a bit stumped as to what to call the leap to 5C. Maybe there was a hanging chad and Hugh meant to pull out the 4C card? Since we didn't overbid before, we must do it now? Since we don't have every suit stopped, we can't play 3NT? I don't agree with your contentions, but in this democracy, you get to have your say. And since some people are more equal than you, I scored your brashness poorly. At least you were given the opportunity to be wrong in an open society, instead of being sued off the ballot for your anti-system views by the boring 3C police.

Well, at least everyone has been on the right track so far. Now in the spirit of fairness, I will even present those who missed the boat. Mr. Dodd may have even fallen out of the boat and missed the water, but dammit, his opinion counts too.

**Dodd:** "3H, which is the 'book' call in my partnerships. A jump here shows a super fit, a max 1NT and values in the bid suit (then again, my 1S-2H-2S-3H isn't forcing, so perhaps this isn't going to be 'book' ... Oh, well.)"

Your regular partner might understand this, but for all the rest of us, 3H is hearts. Admittedly, it would be a strange call after your previous 1NT rebid, but we see a lot of those here. Since you're supposed to be playing with an unknown but expert player in these quizzes, I can't find it in my heart to give 3H a primo score, but you do get your say. That is, after all, what the column democracy is all about. And you'll get your chance at me in the October column :)

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Thanks to all who sent in answers for this set. Congratulations to the top scorers in this issue's Solvers contest -- **Matthew Haag**, **Lisa Bievenue** and **Paul Soper**. They're all invited to join the panel for October.

I hope you'll all try the six new problems for the next issue (see below). Please submit your answers by **September 21** on the [web form](#) or by email to our October moderator:

**Tom Dodd** -- [fieldtrailer@yahoo.com](mailto:fieldtrailer@yahoo.com)

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## How the Panel voted (Panel/Staff Avg. -- 537):

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score
Will Engel, Freeport IL	1NT	Pass	4C	Pass	Pass	3NT	540
Kent Feiler, Harvard IL	2NT	DBL	6C	Pass	3NT	4C	450
Jenni Hartsman, Atlanta GA	3S	DBL	5NT	Pass	2D	3C	540
Mike Heins, Brookville IN	3S	DBL	4NT	Pass	Pass	3C	580
Mark Kessler, Springfield IL	3S	DBL	4C	4C	Pass	2NT	560
Robert Lambert, Warsaw IN	3S	DBL	4C	4D	3C	3C	560
Finlay Marshall, Edinburgh UK	2S	DBL	4C	4S	Pass	3C	540
Larry Matheny, Loveland CO	3S	DBL	4C	4D	Pass	3C	580
Bev Nelson, Ft. Myers FL	3S	DBL	4S	4D	Pass	3C	570
Manuel Paulo, Lisbon, Portugal	3S	DBL	4C	Pass	3C	3C	580
Toby Strite, Warsaw, Poland	3S	DBL	4C	4D	Pass	2NT	560
Hugh Williams, Carbondale IL	3S	DBL	6C	Pass	3C	5C	490

## How the Staff voted

Tom Dodd, Boerne TX	4S	DBL	4NT	3NT	Pass	3H	440
Tom Kniest, University City MO	3S	3S	4C	4D	3C	3C	530
Scott Merritt, Arlington VA	1NT	Pass	4C	Pass	Pass	2NT	550
Karen Walker, Champaign IL	1NT	Pass	4C	Pass	2NT	2NT	540

## Solvers Honor Roll (Average Solver score: 483)

<b>Matthew Haag</b> , Coventry, England	590	<b>Chris Grande</b> , South Bend IN	540
<b>Lisa Bievenue</b> , Champaign IL	560	<b>Len Vishnevsky</b> , San Francisco CA	540
<b>Paul Soper</b> , Sierra Vista AZ	560	<b>Arbha Vongsvivut</b> , Godfrey IL	540
<b>George Klemic</b> , Bensenville IL	550	<b>Milt Zlatic</b> , St. Louis MO	530
<b>Mike Giacaman</b> , St. Louis MO	540	<b>Glenn Smith</b> , Creve Coeur MO	530
		<b>Michael Spurgeon</b> , Muncie IN	530

*Tied with 520:* **Warren Bosch**, Elgin IL; **Fei Dong**, Peoria IL; **Thomas Reece**, Louisville KY; **Allan Sheppard**, St. Louis; **Dave Wetzel**, Rantoul IL; **Larry Wilcox**, Springfield IL

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## Solvers Forum -- October 2004 Problems

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**1.** IMPs, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
2H	Pass	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:  
S-J4 H-963 D-AQJ5 C-AKQ10?

**2.** Matchpoints, none vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	Pass	Pass	1S
2D	3D*	4D	???

\* Spade raise, 11+ support pts.

What is your call as South holding:  
S-AQ8654 H-A6 D-5 C-AJ52 ?

**3.** Matchpoints, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1H
1S	2D	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:  
S-KQ92 H-K10874 D-AJ95 C-Void ?

**4.** Matchpoints, none vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1C
Pass	1D	1S	???

What is your call as South holding:  
S-J73 H-A965 D-AQ4 C-AK10 ?

**5.** IMPs, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	2H	Pass
Pass	3H	Pass	3S
Pass	4D	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:  
S-Q1032 H-65 D-J92 C-KQ106 ?

**6.** IMPs, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:  
S-874 H-Q975 D-AK10976 C-Void ?



# Pair Fare

News from Northwestern Illinois Unit 239

Editor: Dennis Ryan, 118 Glenview Court, Janesville WI 53545 [drchezmoi@aol.com](mailto:drchezmoi@aol.com)

## Tom Hardy, Life Master



"Bridge has been a part of my life for a long time," asserts Tom Hardy, one of Unit 239's newest Life Masters. "My interest sparked from watching my parents play. But in the last four or five years, I have made a concentrated effort to become a Life Master. When I won 21 points at the Reno tournament, I could see the light at the end of the tunnel."

During the Rockford regional, in which Tom won two lower-bracket knockouts, he finally succeeded in going over 300 points. "This was very special to me," he adds, "because at the last session, my partner was Frank Greenwald with whom I have won the majority of my points." It's always special to make LM on one's "home turf," especially playing with a favorite partner. But fate hadn't finished playing "mind games" with Tom: he had a seemingly interminable wait before his LM status was official, since several of the points he'd previously earned had not yet been sent to

ACBL.

Tom and his wife Jan live in Huntley. He has owned his own small business since 1980. He has two sons and one daughter, and seven grandchildren.

Watch out for Tom! He lives *up* to his last name in tough competition at the bridge table.

## Susan MacKinney, Life Master



One common pattern in the bridge careers of many of our members is a "hiatus" in mid-bridge career, during which players raise families, establish businesses, or pursue competing interests. A perfect example is Susan MacKinney of Elgin, another recent Life Master in our Unit.

Susan started playing duplicate in the 1970s, but quit for 18 years. "I was too busy," she recalls. "But I took it up again when I had enough time to devote to learning to play the game *well*."

Susan is also a player brought to bridge by a "youth program," but one quite different from current ACBL marketing efforts. "In high school, we were overcrowded, so they had to drop physical education for senior girls," she remembers. "They *had* to do something with us, so there we were in the boiler room, all learning to play bridge."

Susan made life master at the Lake Geneva regional in April, playing in the senior pairs event with Darrell Rotter. She is the Treasurer of our Unit, and a member of the

Unit Board. She plays about twice a week.

Now an accountant who owns her own firm in Elgin, where she was born and raised and now works out of her home, Susan once was a teacher. "But now I don't have to get up at 4:45 am anymore," she giggles. She has one son, Thomas, of Sebastopol CA.

Humor seeks out those who have a sense of it. So it follows Susan with considerable determination. She fondly remembers playing once with Elgin's beloved Frieda Thomas, whose stature will never allow her to play for the L.A. Lakers. "Her seat was such that she couldn't see the cards that her partner tabled as dummy. So I volunteered to get her a booster chair."

She also remembers playing bridge on the second floor of the Elgin YWCA. In one game, her opponent had her back to an open window. "In a frustrating moment, she throw up her hands in despair. Her cards sailed out of her hand and out the window. I went down to retrieve them, all the while trying *not* to look at my opponent's cards."

Making LM has been a long, uphill road, she declares. "But it's always fun to have a new goal to set."

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## Rockford Classic Sectional -- September 10-12

The annual Rockford Classic Sectional is scheduled for September 10-12 at Loves Park City Hall gymnasium, its traditional location. Friday's schedule includes a charity open pairs at 1:30, a 99er charity pairs at 1:30, a chalk-talk at 6:30, and a stratified open pairs at 7:30. On Saturday, events include a bracketed knockout team event at 9 a.m., a flighted open pairs at 1:30, and a stratified open pairs at 7:30. A bracketed Swiss team event at 11:00 a.m. is the highlight on Sunday. This is a "brown bag" event: no food will be served. Come enjoy Rockford's famous hospitality.

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## The Changing Scene . . .

New Junior Masters: Mary Ellen Miller, Lena.

New Club Masters: Beverly Anderson, Somonaum; Elizabeth Gale, Rockford; Paul Grossenbacher, Roscoe; Robert Lightbody, Rockford; Bernice Nesheim, Rockford; Dr. Richard Wehrle, Rockford

New Sectional Masters: Linda Washburn, Rockford

New Regional Masters: Joyce Gibson, Dixon; Vi Grisham, Algonquin; Caralee Hopman, Huntley; Arlone Kellogg, Rockford

New NABC Masters: Karen Golden, Davis; Elinor E. Patrick, Oregon

New Life Masters: Susan MacKinney, Elgin; Arlene Snap, Loves Park

New Silver Life Masters: Dr. Greg Berry, Dundee

## Congratulations . . .

To **Jan Condon** (Rockford) on making Gold Life Master.

To **Will Engel** (Freeport), who is currently ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in the nation in the mini-McKenny race for Silver Life Masters.



# CIBA Digest

News from Central Illinois Unit 208

Editor: Karen Walker, 2121 Lynwood Drive, Champaign IL 61821  
(217) 359-0042 [kwalker@insightbb.com](mailto:kwalker@insightbb.com)

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## "Last-chance" North American Pair club-qualifying games

**Champaign** -- Bridge at Ginger Creek ( [www.prairienet.org/bridge/games.htm](http://www.prairienet.org/bridge/games.htm) )

Wednesday, August 11 (12:30) -- Open  
Thursday, August 12 (12:30) -- Open  
Thursday, August 26 (7:00) -- Non-LM  
Friday, August 27 (7:00) -- Open

**Bloomington** -- Mike's Bridge Club ( <http://www.ilstu.edu/~mjtomia/mbc.htm> )

Tuesday, August 10 (6:15 pm) -- Open  
Monday, August 24 (11:45 am) -- Open  
Thursday, August 26 (11:45 am) -- Open  
Saturday, August 28 (11:45 am) -- Open

**Springfield** -- Bridge Center of Springfield ( <http://playbridge.home.insightbb.com> )

Friday, August 6 (12:30) -- Open  
Wednesday, August 11 (7:00) -- Open  
Sunday, August 28 (1:00) -- Open

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## CIBA Board of Directors

We're seeing some new faces on the Central Illinois Board of Directors, the elected body that plans tournaments and oversees other bridge activities in our ACBL Unit 208.

**Officers:** Board officers began their two-year terms on July 1. New president of the Board is [Mike Tomlianovich](#) of Bloomington and the new vice-president is [Chuck Zalar](#) of Springfield. [Janis Swanton](#) of Bloomington continues as Secretary/Treasurer.

**Area Representatives:** Longtime directors Chuck Zalar, Larry Rabideau and Mike Halvorsen recently stepped down from their positions to give others in their areas the opportunity to get involved on the Board. Larry and Mike continue to serve as alternates, and Chuck is the newly elected vice-president. The current list of area directors and alternates is below, with links to their email addresses (just click the name) and a list of the counties each represents.

[Bernie Riley](#). Alternate, [Phyllis Rahn](#). **Area 1:** Peoria & Tazewell Counties

[Caryl Harrison](#). Alt., [Carol Umbach](#). **Area 3:** Henderson, Henry, Knox, Mercer, Stark, Warren, Adams, Brown, Fulton, Hancock, McDonough, Pike & Schuyler Cos.

[Leah Newell](#). Alt., [Liz Zalar](#). **Area 4:** Cass, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott Cos.

[Donn Miller](#). Alt., [Jay Poling](#). **Area 5:** Christian, Dewitt, Logan & Macon Cos.

[Jim Moon](#). Alt., [Floyd Sherry](#). **Area 6:** McLean & Woodford Cos.

[Dennis Fitton](#). Alt., [Mike Halvorsen](#). **Area 7:** Champaign, Ford, Piatt & Vermilion Cos.

[Leo Comerford](#). Alt., [Kay Giberson](#). **Area 8:** Coles, Cumberland, Clark, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby Cos.

[Marilyn Stickel](#). Alt. [Larry Rabideau](#). **Area 9:** Bureau, Grundy, Iroquois, Kankakee, LaSalle, Livingston, Marshall & Putnam Cos.

Note that there is no Area 2. Click [here](#) for a map of all counties in CIBA Unit 208.

## Illinois Senior Olympics Bridge Championship

Wednesday, September 15 -- 1:00 p.m. -- Bridge Club of Springfield, 1305 W. Wabash

Win ACBL masterpoints and Senior Olympic medals in this special event hosted by the Springfield Park District and the Central Illinois Bridge Association. The game will be a one-session duplicate pairs (26 hands). Medals will be awarded based on ACBL rank and the age of the younger member of the partnership.

Entry fee is \$16 per pair and registration deadline is August 15. Entry forms are available at the Bridge Club of Springfield or from Ron Sholes ([srathlete@aol.com](mailto:srathlete@aol.com)). You can also enter by sending a check for \$16 and your pair's information (name, address, phone, ACBL numbers and masterpoint holdings) to Springfield Park District, IL Sr. Olympics, 2500 S. 7th St., Springfield IL 62703.

## 2004 Grand National Teams

Congratulations to our Unit teams who represented District 8 in the finals of the Grand National Teams in New York City in July. All of our teams qualified for the second level, with the best showing by the Flight A team, who reached the national semifinals. Congratulations to:

**Championship Flight** -- Dick Benson, Leroy & Gary Kessler, Springfield

**Flight A** (0-5000 pts.) -- Mike Halvorsen & Madhu Viswanathan, Champaign; Richard Blumenthal, Bloomington; Larry Rabideau, St. Anne; Kris Maillacheruvu, Peoria

**Flight B** (0-2000) -- Bob Sievers & Lisa Bievenue, Champaign; Georgia Heth, Morton; Will Engel, Freeport

**Flight C** (0-500, non-LM) -- Ross & Daniel Richardson & Jim Melville, Springfield; Jim Heller, Petersburg

## Movin' Up

Congratulations to these Unit members who recently advanced in rank:

### New Junior Masters (5 pts.)

Emma Heitzman, Urbana  
Anne Kramer, Springfield  
Wilbert Law, Urbana  
Roger Paul, Bloomington  
Nat Seiz, Pawnee  
Ralph Vinson, Oneida

### NABC Masters (200 pts.)

Carole Bardwell, Normal  
Zach Freehill, Bloomington  
Aaron Hanford, Champaign  
Stephen Hawthorne, Bloomington  
Julie Hubbard, Springfield  
Marilee Martin, Urbana  
Gene Wheeler, Chatham

### Club Masters (20 pts.)

Dee Boch, Springfield  
Gary Huffman, Springfield  
Marjorie McIntyre, Springfield  
Alice Pierce, Urbana  
Fred Roese, Springfield  
Buddy Shuler, Dewey  
Maggie Stephens, Champaign  
Chuck Wehmhoff, Chatham

### Bronze Life Master (500 pts.)

Beverly Fast, Dunlap  
Adrian Hutber, Champaign  
Pete Petillo, Arlington MA  
Daniel Taylor, Manteno  
Madhu Viswanathan, Champaign

### Sectional Masters (50 pts.)

Gene & Linda Albrecht, Mt. Zion  
Gail Chesnut, Springfield  
Susan Donnelly, Springfield  
Eric Gettleman, Normal

### Silver Life Master (1000 pts.)

Mark Daily, Charleston  
Carroll Drablos, Champaign  
Jason Feldman, Champaign  
Janice Franz, Champaign



# Greater St. Louis Bridge News

News from Greater St. Louis Unit 143

Editor: Julie Behrens, 662 Kirkshire Drive, St. Louis MO 63122 [jbehrens@yahoo.com](mailto:jbehrens@yahoo.com)

## MEET US IN ST. LOUIS

Come one, come all, to the St. Louis Regional in August! Spend a lovely time in scenic, hot St. Louis, playing bridge indoors and staying cool. Visit our website -- [unit143.org](http://unit143.org) -- or see the ad in this issue of the Adocate for more information. See you there.

## Meet Our Director in Charge, Chris Patrias

Chris Patrias lives in the St. Louis area and is the Director in Charge for the St. Louis Regional held in August every year. We recently interviewed Chris and here is the scoop.



### How did you learn to play bridge and how long have you been playing?

When I was a freshman at Michigan State, I was asked to be a "fourth for bridge" in the dorm. The other players gave me some basic instruction using common words with meanings that were totally foreign to me: bid, dummy, contract, tricks etc. I picked up the basics fairly quickly and read a bridge book over Spring break. When I came back to school, I won the Michigan State championship and went to Ohio for the ACBL Inter-Collegiate Championship. We were totally outmatched, but losing only made me want to get better. I joined the ACBL in Minnesota in 1971 and made Life Master in 1973 at the Denver Nationals by winning the Senior/Advanced Senior Master pairs (now called the Non-Life Master pairs). It was a two-day event and about 100 tables entered. My partner and I were very consistent with four 60-percent games in a row: 186, 186.5 with a 156 average and 404, 404.5 on a 325 average.

### How often do you get to play bridge now?

Charlotte (my wife) and I play occasionally at local games, but I very seldom get a chance to play at tournaments. However, in 1992, we were able to play in six regional events, finishing second four times and third twice. After the last of these, Charlotte's daughter, Kate, asked how we did and when I told her we finished second, her response was "Don't you guys ever win?"

### What do you like best about your job?

The travel -- which is also the answer to what I like least about my job.

### What changes would you like to see made at the tournaments that you direct? The events, logistics, things the Units control?

I would like to see us all put more emphasis on the social nature of the game. People play bridge for enjoyment and even though we all want to do well, winning is not the most important part of the game.

### What made you decide to become a director?

I was playing quite a bit in Minnesota and two Tournament Directors, Dale Egholm and Bobbie Shipley, asked if I was interested in learning how to direct. I learned how to matchpoint by getting my own scores looking over the shoulders of the director doing the scoring. My first session on the floor was somewhat traumatic since I had never actually read the lawbook. After I bought and read one, I made myself a complete nuisance by asking questions until I knew enough to learn on my own.



**What has been your career progression with ACBL?**

I started directing in 1977 and moved through the junior ranks fairly quickly until I was made Associate National in 1984 – the year I moved to St Louis. I was the first TD to be hired as an ACBL field representative and given responsibility for tournaments and directors in the middle part of the country. In 1992, I was put in charge of the Tournament Department at ACBL Headquarters in Memphis and drove home to St Louis each weekend. My first time in charge of an NABC was the 1999 Vancouver Tournament and I have since run Cincinnati, Kansas City, Houston, Philadelphia and Reno.

**What did you do before you worked for ACBL?**

I graduated from the University of Minnesota with a BS in Math and a minor in English. I had expected to go into teaching but found I didn't have the patience required for the job. I worked for four years at an engineering/surveying company in Minnesota translating the field data from surveyors into plats filed with the State. I also managed night clubs in Stillwater and Minneapolis until I no longer enjoyed going to bed at 3:00 am and sleeping during the day. I took a job as a bookkeeper for a solar-powered heating company and ran a duplicate/money club in Minneapolis until I started directing tournaments on a regular basis. In the early years of directing, I played professionally at clubs and tournaments.

**Pro-Am Tournament**

A great time was had by all who participated in the first (and hopefully, annual) St. Louis Pro-Am Tournament held on June 2. This one-session event boasted 33 pairs. Congrats to winners **Lee Hastings & Jay Shah**, first overall with a 58.57% game. Winning Flight B were **En Xie & Frank Rassieur**. Flight C winners were **Jennifer Luner & Mary Jarrells**. Director Donna Coker runs a novice game on Thursday mornings and wanted her players to experience playing with more experienced players in a tournament setting. Hands were pre-dealt and hand records were available.

**St. Louis Knockout Winners**

Congrats to these teams who won the St. Louis KO on June 25 and 26. They earned the right to represent our Unit in the annual St. Louis vs. Kansas City "Braggin' Rights" matches on August 21 at the St. Louis Regional.

Flight A (photo, right): Lee Hastings, Marvin Shapiro, Mark Ehret & Larry Kolker (Our Men in Black).

Flight B: Sasanka Ramanadham, Jason Clevenger, Wojciech Kaniewski & Wojciech Golik.

Flight C: Gayle & Don McLean and Gale & Gene Fluri



*Congrats* to new Silver

Life Master – **Ronda O'Farrell** (left)

**Unit 143 members on the tournament trail:**



## Fort Wayne Fall Festival Regional

### September 27–October 3, 2004



**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:** Open & Senior Stratification 500 nlm/1250 /unlimited  
**LIMITED STRATIFICATION:** 0–100/100–200/200–300 (all limited games single sessions)

<p><b>MONDAY SEPTEMBER 27</b>                      Bracketed Knockout Teams (Random Draw) – 1st ..... 8 PM                      Open Stratified Charity Pairs ..... 8 PM</p> <p><b>TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 28</b>                      Earlybird Side Series Pairs – 1st ..... 9 AM                      Bracketed Knockout Teams – 2nd, 3rd &amp; 4th ... 9 AM, 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM                      Open Stratified Pairs ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM                      Primetime Side Series Pairs – 1st ..... 7:30 PM                      Limited Stratified Pairs ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 29</b>                      Earlybird Side Series Pairs – 2nd ..... 9 AM                      Morning Compact KO Teams – 1st &amp; 2nd ..... 9 AM                      Primetime Bracketed KO Teams – 1st &amp; 2nd ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM                      Open Stratified Pairs ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM                      Primetime Side Series Pairs – 2nd ..... 7:30 PM                      Limited Stratified Pairs ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM</p> <p><b>THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 30</b>                      Earlybird Side Series Pairs – 3rd ..... 9 AM                      Morning Compact KO Teams – 3rd &amp; 4th ..... 9 AM                      Primetime Bracketed KO Teams – 3rd &amp; 4th ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM                      Stratiflighted Swiss Teams (8 Matches)* ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM</p>	<p>Primetime Side Series Pairs – 3rd &amp; 4th ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM                      Limited Stratified Pairs ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM</p> <p><b>FRIDAY OCTOBER 1</b>                      Earlybird Side Series Pairs – 4th ..... 9 AM                      Morning Compact Swiss Teams – 1st &amp; 2nd ..... 9 AM                      Weekend Bracketed KO Teams – 1st &amp; 2nd ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM                      Open Stratified Pairs ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM                      Primetime Side Series Pairs – 5th ..... 7:30 PM                      Limited Stratified Pairs ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM</p> <p><b>SATURDAY OCTOBER 2</b>                      Morning Compact Swiss Teams – 3rd &amp; 4th ..... 9 AM                      Morning Open Stratified Charity Pairs ..... 9 AM                      Weekend Bracketed KO Teams – 3rd &amp; 4th ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM                      Open Stratified Pairs ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM                      Senior Stratified Pairs (55+ yrs) ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM                      Primetime Side Series Pairs – 6th ..... 7:30 PM                      Limited <b>Ruth McConnell</b> Stratified Pairs ..... 1:30 &amp; 7:30 PM</p> <p><b>SUNDAY OCTOBER 3</b>                      Stratiflighted Swiss Teams (7 Matches)* ..... 10 AM Playthru</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: x-small;">* <b>Flight A and AX played separately:</b> AX: 2500+; A: 0–2500                      B/C/D: 1250, 500, Non-LM</p>
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**HOTEL INFORMATION**

**The Fort Wayne Hilton** – connected to the Grand Wayne Center (260) 420–1100. **Special Bridge Rate** – \$79 + tax (single or double) if reserved by September 17, 2004.

**The Holiday Inn** – two short blocks to the Grand Wayne Center (260) 422–5511. **Special Bridge Rate** – \$69 + tax (single or double) if reserved by September 17, 2004.

**GREAT INTERMEDIATE / NEWCOMER PROGRAM!**  
 Partners Guaranteed for all 0–200 MP & under events – 1 hour before game time.  
 Outstanding Bridge Speakers Tues.–Sat. at 6:45 PM.

**Tournament Chairperson/Partnerships**  
 Jim Pelletier (260) 672–3488

**Tournament Co-Chairperson**  
 Bob Carteaux (260) 436–6510

**FORT WAYNE FALL FESTIVAL REGIONAL**  
 The **Grand Wayne Convention Center** is a spacious, well ventilated facility with state-of-the-art lighting ideally suited for tournament bridge.  
 This year we will be on the second floor.

• **Daily Bulletin!** • **Section Top Awards!**  
 • **Hoosier Hospitality!** • **Plenty of parking!**  
 • **Enclosed skywalk to multi-level parking garage.**

## Irvin Cobb Sectional

**Labor Day weekend: September 3-5**

**Cherry Civic Center, Paducah KY**

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### Friday, September 3

1:30 & 7:30 pm -- Single-session Stratified Open Pairs

7:30 -- Bracketed KO Teams (continues at 1:30 & 7:30 Saturday)

### Saturday, September 4

1:30 & 7:30 pm -- Two-session Stratified Open Pairs

1:30 & 7:30 pm -- Single-session Future Master Pairs (stratified 0-300)

### Sunday, September 5

10:00 am & tba -- 2-session Stratified Swiss Teams (includes dinner)

**Strata:** A = 1000+; B = 300-1000; C = 0 - 300

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**Host hotel:** Days Inn, I-24 & US 60. Local reservations: 270-442-7501.

**Entry fees:** \$8 per player per session for pair events. \$80 per team on Sunday (includes meal).

**Chairman:** Jim Kallaher -- (270-444-6882) [jkallaher@aol.com](mailto:jkallaher@aol.com)

**Partnerships:** Maxine Wynn -- (270-554-5719) [t\\_wynn@bellsouth.net](mailto:t_wynn@bellsouth.net)

## End O' Summer Sectional

**September 17-19, 2004**

**Hult Health Center, Peoria IL**

### Friday

1:00 pm -- Stratified Open Pairs

7:00 pm -- Stratified Open Pairs

### Saturday

1:00 & 7:00 pm -- Two-session Stratified Pairs (single-session entries welcome)

### Sunday

10:30 am playthrough -- Stratified Swiss Teams

- **Complimentary coffee, tea, soft drinks and homemade snacks.**

**Entry fees:** \$8 per person per session.

**Strata:** A: Open; B: <1250; C: <Non-LM under 500

**Directions:** From I-74, take Knoxville exit (Highway 88) north. Turn on entrance road to Proctor Hospital, 5215 N. Knoxville.

**Tournament chairman:** Bernie Riley [briley@grics.net](mailto:briley@grics.net)



## Rockford Classic Sectional

September 10-12

City Hall Gymnasium, Loves Park IL

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### Friday, September 10

1:30 p.m. -- Stratified Open & 99er Charity Pairs  
6:30 p.m. -- 199er "Chalktalk" Seminar  
7:30 p.m. -- Stratified Open Pairs

### Saturday, September 11

9:00 a.m. -- Bracketed Knockout Teams (continues at 1:30 & 7:30)  
1:30 p.m. -- Flighted Open Pairs (Unlimited & 0-500)  
7:30 p.m. -- Stratified Pairs

### Sunday, September 12

11:00 a.m. -- Brownbag Bracketed Swiss Teams (Six 9-board matches)

**Strata:** 0-300, 300-750, 750-unlimited)

**Sunday Swiss Teams** may be handicapped depending on the masterpoint differential among teams within each bracket. No food except coffee will be available for sale on Sunday.

**Hospitality:** Free homemade goodies Friday and Saturday.

**Directions:** From I-90, take Riverside exit west (the northernmost of three Rockford exits). Go west 4.0 miles and turn left onto Heart Blvd. (ninth stop light). The street deadends at the entrance to the playing site (Loves Park City Hall, 100 Heart Blvd.).

**Chairman:** [Craig Bontjes](#) -- (815) 234-8707

**Partners:** Gene & Jan Condon -- (815) 633-4979



## See the Leaves Sectional

October 8-10

IL Dept. of Transportation (IDOT) Building,  
Springfield IL

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### Friday, October 8

1:00 & 7:00 -- Stratified Open Pairs (single sessions)  
1:00 & 7:00 -- Stratified 199er Pairs (single sessions)

**NOTE:** Friday events will be held at the Illinois Education Association Professional Development Center (IEAPDC), 3440 Liberty Drive. [Directions to IEAPDC](#)

### Saturday, October 9

1:00 & 7:00 -- 2-session Stratified Open Pairs (single-session entries available)  
1:00 & 7:00 -- Single-session Stratified 199er Pairs

11:00 pm -- Pizza party

### Sunday, October 10

10:30 -- Strataflighted Swiss Teams -- playthrough with break for dinner from Panera Bread

**Strata:** 0-500 (non-LM) / 500-1500 / 1500+

**Entry fees:** \$8 per player per session on Friday & Saturday; \$20 per player for two sessions on Sunday (includes dinner).

**Directions to IDOT Building (Saturday & Sunday events):** From I-55, take South Grand or Stevenson Drive exit. IDOT is at 2300 South Dirksen Parkway. Take escalator down to the playing area.

Click [here](#) for information on Springfield hotels.

**Chairmen:** Liz & Chuck Zalar -- (217) 793-8066 [zalar@insightbb.com](mailto:zalar@insightbb.com)

**Partners:** Sue Budz Richardson -- (217) 725-7355 [SueBudz@ReMax.net](mailto:SueBudz@ReMax.net)



## St. Louis Fall Sectional

Blanchette Park Memorial Hall, St Charles  
MO

### Friday, October 15

1:30 pm -- Stratified Open Pairs (NLM-500, 500-1500, 1500+)  
Stratified Intermediate/Novice Pairs

7:30 pm -- Flight A/X open Pairs (0-3000, 3000+)  
Stratified BCD Pairs (0-200, 200-750, 750-1500)

### Saturday, October 16

9:00 am -- Knockout Teams (continues at 1:30 & 7:30)

1:30 & 7:30 pm -- Two-session Stratified Open Pairs (NLM-500, 500-1500, 1500+)  
Single-session Stratified Intermediate/Novice Pairs  
Single-session Side Games

### Sunday, October 17

10:00 am & TBA -- Stratified Swiss Teams (NLM-500, 500-1500, 1500+)

- Terrific hospitality after all evening sessions.
- Guest speakers -- Friday and Saturday at 12:45 and 6:45 pm
- Continental breakfast -- Sunday 9:00 am
- Meal between sessions of Swiss Teams

**Directions:** From I-70, take 5th Street North 1.8 miles to Randolph, turn left, then 0.5 miles to park entrance on the right.

**Tournament Chairman:** Mike Carmen -- 314-872-8439 [macarmen@mail.com](mailto:macarmen@mail.com)

**Partnerships:** Mary Hruby -- 314-739-1574



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## MIDWEST TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

**August 1-31 North American Pair qualifying games at local clubs**

9-15 **GRAND RAPIDS MI Regional**

16-22 **MISSISSIPPI VALLEY REGIONAL** -- Renaissance Hotel, St. Louis MO ([Mike Carmen](#))

27-29 Terre Haute IN Sectional

**Sep. 3-5 Irvin Cobb Sectional** -- Cherry Civic Center, Paducah KY ([Jim Kallaher](#))

3-5 Columbia MO Sectional -- Quality Inn ([Ad](#))

10-12 Loves Park IL Sectional

15 Senior Olympics -- Bridge Center of Springfield, Springfield IL ([Ron Sholes](#))

17-19 Peoria IL Sectional -- Hutt Health Center

27-03 **FORT WAYNE REGIONAL** -- Grand Wayne Center, Ft. Wayne IN ([Jim Pelletier](#))

**Oct. 8-10 See the Leaves Sectional**, IDOT Building, Springfield IL ([Chuck & Liz Zalar](#))

15-17 St. Louis Fall Sectional, Blanchette Park, St. Charles MO ([Mike Carmen](#))

18-24 **CENTRAL STATES REGIONAL**, Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva WI ([Ad](#))


23-24 Robinson IL Sectional

25-31 **TRICKS & TREATS REGIONAL**, Executive Inn, Evansville IN ([Ad](#))

**Complete schedule of ACBL tournaments:** <http://www.acbl.org>

**District 8 Tournament Coordinator:** [Chris Patrias](#)

515 Chesapeake Court, St. Charles MO 63303 **Phone:** 636-928-8610

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