

In this issue

[ACBL Director's report](#)

[Sometimes, pessimism pays off](#)

[Fall bridge weekend](#)

Solvers Forum

[New column](#)

[New problems](#)

[Previous columns](#)

Unit News

[Northwest IL](#)

[Central IL](#)

[So. IL-Paducah](#)

Tournament winners

[Rockford IL REG.](#)

[Metropolis IL REG.](#)

[Kokomo IN](#)

[Bloomington IL](#)

[Edwardsville IL](#)

Tournament ads

[St. Louis REG.](#)

[Ft. Wayne REG.](#)

[Paducah KY](#)

[Peoria IL](#)

[Springfield IL](#)

[St. Charles MO](#)

[Back to page 1](#)

(Tournament calendar)

[Welcome](#)

[Printing tips](#)

[Printable version](#)

(condensed content in Acrobat format)

[Download a free Acrobat reader](#)



August 2007

Published bi-monthly by District 8
of the American Contract Bridge League

Editor: [Karen Walker](#), Champaign IL



ACBL Director's Report

by Georgia Heth, Morton IL

District 8 Representative on the ACBL Board of Directors

Hello, Everyone:

Grand National Teams: It has been a busy time since I last wrote a newsletter. We had the Grand National Teams District Final in Springfield in May and only 29 teams showed up. After last year's 45 teams, that was disappointing, but we still had a good time. If anyone has any ideas on how to increase participation next year, please let me know. And start thinking about your teams for next year. The 2008 finals are in Las Vegas, which is always a fun place to visit.

Champaign Regional: The Champaign Regional was in its new home at the Hilton Gardens and Homewood Suites. The new hotels are lovely and the playing site has been renovated as well. The Homewood Suites includes breakfast each day and dinner Sunday through Thursday, which makes it very reasonably priced.

Rockford & Metropolis IL Split Regional: I wasn't able to attend the Metropolis regional and see their new site at the casino, but everyone seemed to enjoy it. I was at the Rockford regional, which had the honor of having the ACBL President, Sharon Fairchild, attend. Attendance was up more than 45 percent over last year. Sharon had a good time visiting with everyone and there was a "Breakfast with the President" Sunday morning before the game that was very enjoyable. She and I both appreciated all the effort the volunteers put into making her trip a pleasant one.

District 8 Charity Week: District 8 is having a Charity Week this fall. All clubs are invited to participate and help raise money for charity. Hand records are available for clubs with internet access. The sanction fee is an additional \$1.00 per person, all of which goes to charity. Karl Dencker is organizing this for the district and can answer any questions. We are hoping each club will have at least one session. The games will be sectionally-rated.

Nashville Board meetings: After a series of relatively easy board meetings, the one at the Nashville NABC was not. The ACBL is in the process of re-determining pay policies for its employees based on changes in the law. The process is a difficult one in trying to balance the needs of all parties involved. Management has been hard at work and progress is ongoing.

Other major topics at the meeting included the first reading of the new masterpoint revisions. The main change is that masterpoints for knockout events will be based on the average masterpoint

holdings of the teams entered in a bracket, not on the number of brackets entered. That means that a bracket with a specific masterpoint holding will pay the same whether it happens to be the top bracket or a lower one. The Masterpoint Committee used the new formula on all regionally- rated knockouts held last year and found that it did not decrease the number of masterpoints awarded. The motion is reported in full in the minutes of the meeting. Other changes include increasing the match awards for flight A and X Swiss teams and increasing the maximum allowable overall award at regular open club games to 2.5 masterpoints. Special games can award up to six masterpoints.

Other Board actions included:

- Bylaws were prepared for the North American Contract Bridge Hall of Fame and a \$50,000 loan was authorized for start-up costs once the Hall is incorporated. The loan will bear interest and must be paid back by December 31, 2010.
- The Board Operations committee gathered many scattered pieces of legislation and organized them. The first two topics were Board of Director expenses and meeting procedures. The purpose of this was not to make substantive changes, but just to get everything organized. They had to comb through years of the Codification to find all of the relevant sections. This was an amazing amount of work on the part of a small group of people.
- There were two attempts to limit the number of special games a club may hold and they both failed. The Education Foundation was added as another beneficiary of the special games, joining the Charity Foundation, the Junior Fund and the International Fund. We will be discussing the limit again in San Francisco as the Board of Governors once again asked us to reconsider the issue.
- A request to allow handicapped matchpoint pair games was defeated. ACBLScore can do this in club games, but it was not believed to be manageable at tournaments.
- An attempt to eliminate Consolation Compact Knockout team events was defeated. New rules were passed for the overall awards of regular KOs.
- Management was authorized to establish procedures and guidelines for suspending or rescinding a club-game sanction or a club director's accreditation for cause. The guidelines are to be presented at our next meeting at the San Francisco NABC in November.
- The format of the NABC final for the Grand National Teams was modified. It will now be the same in all flights: a one-day Swiss event to qualify into a seeded KO bracket. Sixteen teams will qualify for the KOs. The knock-out matches will be 64 boards in the Championship flight, 56 boards in the other flights.
- An attempt to make English the official language of the ACBL was deferred to the fall meeting to give us a chance to seek advice from a Canadian lawyer on the consequences of Canadian laws requiring the use of French in several provinces.
- If there is a district-wide STAC, all clubs within the district must be allowed to participate. If a unit outside the sponsoring district chooses to participate, all clubs in that Unit must be invited to participate.
- The Spring 49er Pairs and the Fall Non-Life Master Pairs were eliminated from the Nationals,

due to a lack of participation.

- An additional regional was authorized for Quebec City for April 10-13, 2008 to commemorate Quebec City's 400th anniversary.
- A Youth North American Bridge Championship was authorized. The first one will be held in Atlanta in 2008 or 2009.
- An attempt to remove the ACBL from the World Bridge Federation was defeated.
- It was reported that ACBL memberships are up, average table counts for tournaments are up, and our year-to-date financial performance is ahead of budget.
- We think we have sold the ACBL headquarters building on Airways Drive in Memphis, and management was asked to provide us with plans for a new site.
- The IRS has instituted new reporting requirements for all not-for-profit organizations. The ACBL will be distributing information to all units and districts soon. Every not-for-profit organization must have an EIN, so if your group does not have one, please apply for one soon. The eventual penalty for failure to report will be loss of the not-for-profit status, but the reporting requirements are not onerous for small organizations.

I hope to see many of you at our upcoming regionals in St. Louis and Fort Wayne. Good luck at the table.

-- Georgia Heth

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



Sometimes, pessimism pays off

Jacob Morgan, Madison WI, brings home a tough contract against a powerhouse team.

The Harris team (Marty Harris, Jacob Morgan, Dan Gerstman and Tom Carmichael) was an underdog at the U.S. Bridge Federation Trials, held in Chicago in June 2007. The event drew 25 expert teams, all vying for a trip to the Bermuda Bowl world championships, but the relatively young Harris foursome made it all the way to the quarter-finals. In this deal from their final match against the powerful Ekeblad team, 30-year-old Jacob Morgan, who runs the bridge bookstore at many of our District 8 regionals, showed the declarer-play technique that helped his team do so well in this event.

♠ QJ8
♥ 1083
♦ AK
♣ AKQ87

♠ 73
♥ AKJ62
♦ 1098
♣ 653

♠ 10952
♥ Q7
♦ Q652
♣ J42

♠ AK64
♥ 954
♦ J743
♣ 109

IMPs, none vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Moss	Harris	Gitelman	Morgan
2H*	DBL	Pass	2S
Pass	3H	Pass	4D
Pass	4S	<i>All Pass</i>	

* Weak 2-bid

North, Marty Harris of Chicago, cuebid 3H to try for a notrump game, but settled on the Moysian (4-3) spade fit after Jacob bid 4D to deny a heart stopper. West, Brad Moss, got off to the best defense by cashing three top hearts, then leading a fourth heart for the unhelpful ruff-sluff.

That put Jacob at a crossroads. If spades were 3-3, he could ruff in dummy with an honor, pull trump and claim ten "easy" tricks. If spades were 4-2, he must ruff with dummy's ♠8 and maneuver from there.

His only clues were West's 2H opening on a five-card suit (more attractive with a doubleton spade than with xxx?) and East's pitch of the ♣4 on the third heart. Neither provided much help, so Jacob

had to trust his instincts.

On a day when little else had been easy, perhaps Jacob had the feeling that this layout would be just as challenging, so he went with the line that catered to 4-2 spades. He ruffed the fourth heart with dummy's ♠8. Fred Gitelman, East, refused the over-ruff, pitching the ♣2, and Jacob carefully pitched the ♣9 from his hand. He cashed dummy's ♠Q and ♠J, then ran dummy's good clubs. East, who still had two trumps, could ruff in whenever he liked, but Jacob could over-ruff with the ♠K, draw the last trump with his ♣A and claim with good tricks in dummy.

Note that Jacob's line of play succeeds when spades are 4-2 *and* when spades and clubs are 3-3. When the hand was played at his team-mates' table, their opponents -- world champions Lew Stansby and Chip Martel -- had a similar auction with the North-South cards and arrived at the same 4S contract. The defense was the same to the first four tricks, but Stansby guessed for spades to be 3-3 and ruffed the fourth heart with dummy's queen. That created a trump trick for East and resulted in down one, which was a 10-IMP win for Jacob's team.



Fall Bridge Weekend



November 3 & 4, 2007

**Bridge at Ginger Creek,
Champaign IL**

***Advance your game to the
next level:***

**A full weekend of workshops and duplicate games
to help you improve communication with partner,
brush up your play skills and think like an expert.**

Program

Saturday, November 3

10 am -- Bidding Workshop: *The seven deadly sins of partnership bidding*

Noon -- Lunch on your own

1:00 pm -- Duplicate pair game -- sectional rating with hand records (part of District 8's Sectional-at-Clubs tournament)

4:00 -- Discussion of hands

7:00 -- (optional) Informal group dinner and discussion (bridge, politics, football, whatever!) at Biaggi's Restaurant

Sunday, November 4

10:00 am -- Continental breakfast

10:30 -- Declare and Defend Workshop: *Techniques you can use every time you play*

12:30 pm -- Sandwich lunch from Jimmy John's

1:00 -- Duplicate pair game -- sectional rating with hand records (part of District 8's Sectional-at-Clubs tournament)

4:00 -- Discussion of hands

Questions?

Contact the instructors:



Karen Walker



Mike Halvorsen

Tips and techniques for advanced -- and advancing -- players.

Lessons will be presented by Karen Walker. The focus will be on developing advanced bidding and play skills, but the workshops and discussions will feature ideas that can benefit a wide range of experience levels, from bright beginners to long-time Life Masters.

Phone: 217-359-0042

Email:

kwalker@insightbb.com

Sign up with your partner or join as a single.

Partners will be available.

Fee: \$75 per person (\$50 for students age 25 and under), which includes:

- ♠ Two days of lessons
- ♠ Two duplicate games with sectional-rated masterpoint awards
- ♠ Lesson packet, workshop materials and game hand records
- ♠ Coffee and refreshments
- ♠ Sunday continental breakfast
- ♠ Sunday lunch

One-day registrations are also available: \$40 for Saturday or \$50 for Sunday.

Bridge at Ginger Creek is in the Ginger Creek Shops at 2901 West Springfield (Springfield Avenue & Duncan Road), Champaign. [MAP](#)

To sign up: Fill out this form (or a facsimile) and send with your check to Karen Walker, 2121 Lynwood Drive, Champaign IL 61821. *Please reserve by October 20.*

Registration -- Fall Bridge Weekend -- November 3 & 4, Champaign IL

Name _____ No. of masterpoints: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Enclosed: ___ \$75 for the full weekend *or* ___ \$40 for Saturday *or* ___ \$50 for Sunday

District 8 Solvers Forum -- August 2007

by Kent Feiler, Harvard IL



This is a picture of me at the ACME New Products Conference. The ACME "Desert Summer" line looks promising, just wait until that beeping featherbrain takes a peck at the new ACME Exploding Birdseed. And if that doesn't work, I'll flatten him with my ACME Spring Loaded Giant Boulder Gun or catch him on my ACME Rocket Powered Skateboard. Nope, no more long falls to the desert floor for yours truly.

Now, on to ACME's newest venture, the Rocket-Powered, Exploding Bridge Hand. We'll see whose still beep-beeping at the end of these.

1. IMPs, Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
3C	Pass	Pass	?

What is your call as South holding: ♠QJT3
♥AQJ87 ♦8 ♣KQT

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
3NT	100	14	16
DBL	75	5	49
3H	50	1	24
4C	30	0	5
Pass	20	0	5



Our hand certainly has some good features: we have good high-card points and we have both majors, so a major-suit game looks promising. We even have their suit double stopped for 3NT. Let's start with a vote from our guest CyberPanelist.

BRIDGE BARON: "3H."

BB may or may not be a good bidder, but he's too taciturn to be a good panelist. I picture him sitting there humming and grinding his teeth for an hour over the simulation for one of our problems and then spitting out a single bid with no explanation of how the decision was made. Our human panelists certainly don't have that problem. Some of them were after the majors.

KLEMIC: "Double. Intending to bid hearts over diamonds at the 3 or 4 level. This action is

not binding and partner should feel able to remove to spades."

VONGSVIVUT: "DBL. If North responds with 3D, I will bid 3H."

No doubt partner will take 3D-3H or 4D-4H as being both majors, but the suit lengths are a bit murky. They sound more like 4-6 or even a weak 5-5. We'll probably end up in 3H or 4H or -- oops -- maybe even 4D.

Another doubler had a different rebid in mind.

MATHENY: "Double. Will bid 3NT over 3D. May lose a 5-3 heart fit."

Larry didn't mention what he'd bid over 4D by partner, but I doubt if it's 4NT. And, I dunno, 3D-3NT may show either a better hand or better diamonds than we have.

Maybe we don't want to play in a major suit fit even if we have one, and one bid that's hard to criticise in the world of bridge is...

MAYNE: "3NT. A double will fetch a diamond bid too often, and even when partner bids a major on [K984 K84 QJ43 32]...hey look, 3NT has much better play than 4S."

MERRITT: "3NT. If we have game, I would be highly doubtful that 3NT will not make while 4 of a major will, barring the feared diamond lead."

Things are ruff all over in major-suit land.

LEONARD: "3NT. Even if partner bids a major in response to a double (which is NOT assured), a club to the ace and a ruff is extremely likely."

KESSLER: "3NT. This may be the only game that makes, even if we have a major-suit fit. Major suit games also run the risk of ruffs and/or bad splits."

PAVLICEK: "3NT. Feels right. Odds are good that West will speculate with a major lead; who leads the unbid minor? On a good day, partner will have ♠xx ♥Kxxxx ♦KQ10x ♣xx, and I'll score it up with 4H down two."

Pavlicek is playing the hand during the bidding, something people don't do nearly often enough. He also mentions the ruff possibility, although you may need your ACME Microscope to find it.

Scoring



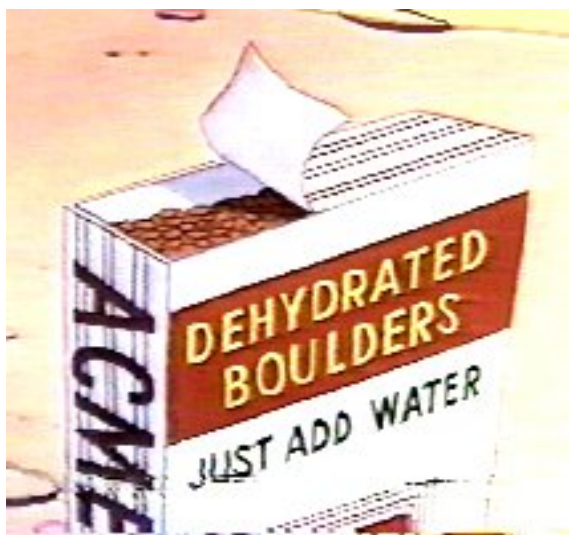
The panel wasn't led astray by those queeny-jacky major suits. 3NT was the big favorite.

2. Matchpoints, both vulnerable

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

What is your call as South holding: ♠76
 ♥AKQT76 ♦A97 ♣A8

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
3NT	100	11	27
3H	80	4	50
3D	70	3	1
4H	50	2	1
2NT	40	0	1
2H	10	0	1



Let's see: AKQTxx of hearts isn't too shabby a suit. It seems like we should be able to rebid it, but should we bid 3 or 4?

NELSON: "4H. Seems standard to this ol' gal."

KESSLER: "3H. This must be a trick question -- seems too obvious. Partner can still bid 3NT with balanced soft cards."

VONGSVIVUT: "3H. Need 2 tricks from partner to make game in a suit contract."

KNIEST: "3H. Happy to hear 3NT from pard."

The question is, will you be happy if pard passes or bids 4H? If partner just barely choked out his initial 1S response, Pass may be better than 4H. We might have only 9 tricks in heart contracts. But wait a minute, 9 tricks? That rings a bell. How about:

KLEMIC: "3NT. This suggests stoppers in the other suits and a strong 6-card heart suit...just like what I have."

WALKER: "3NT. This doesn't come up all that often with majors, but the auction ought to show the same type of hand as if you'd opened a minor -- long and solid suit, outside stoppers and enough high-card strength to expect to make your contract."

PAULO: "3NT. Jumping to 3NT shows that I have at least six hearts in a solid or nearly solid suit, stoppers in the minor suits, and denies interest in spades."

And from our newest national champion (first in the Master Mixed Teams at the Nashville

NABC):

SPEAR: "3NT. Shows long running major with minors stopped, possible singleton spade. (I am making this up!)"

Yup, that's pretty much what the BWS documentation has to say about it.

Scoring

Again, 3NT was the clear winner, but the next two bids: a strong jump shift to 3D and an invitational jump rebid to 3H, are totally different. I wonder whether some of the 3H bidders play it as forcing.

3. IMPs, Both Vulnerable

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

* 4-card majors, may have a longer minor.

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
4H	100	6	19
4S	100	6	16
5D	80	3	11
4D	70	2	14
3NT	60	3	41

What is your call as South holding: ♠Q98654 ♥A3 ♦K52 ♣65 ?



Is partner asking for a spade stopper for 3NT, asking for a club stopper for 3NT, cuebidding to look for a diamond slam, or even suggesting that we play in spades in spite of the 1S opening bid?

Usually, if the opponents have bid one suit, a cuebid asks for a stopper in that suit. If they've bid two suits, a cuebid shows a stopper in that suit and asks for one in the other suit. But is this an unusual situation?

VONGSVIVUT: "3NT. Should have adequate stopper to play in notrump."

NELSON: "3NT. I am planning on partner having clubs stopped. After all, it would be difficult for partner to show me that by bypassing 3NT."

Pavlicek and Matheny thought about club stoppers as well but reached a different conclusion.

PAVLICEK: "5D. Partner probably has no club stopper, or perhaps has just the club ace in a

hand like ♠Void ♥QJ10x ♦AQJ10xx ♣Axx, else he'd bid 3NT, as we certainly must have a good spade stopper."

MATHENY: "4D. I don't have the club stopper partner is looking for. A 4H cue may be overstating this hand."

Maybe partner doesn't care about club stoppers at all. Maybe he's sniffing around for a diamond slam.

KESSLER: "4H I think partner is void in spades and trying for slam. I have two key cards and not as much wasted in spades as I might have, so let's cooperate."

WALKER: "4H. Even if partner has a strong doubleton spade, we rate to have at least two losers in that trump suit, so the diamond game looks more attractive. I've already limited my hand with the simple 3D raise, so it can't hurt to show a control on the way to 5D, just in case he has slam aspirations."

SPEAR: "4H. Not an everyday auction, but I will act confident that my bid shows this hand. Pard can rebid his 2-card spade suit if 4S is best, or bid 5D or 6D, whichever is right."

Let's see: 4H is then a cuebid in support of either spades or diamonds? Or is it more of a waiting bid? Waiting to find out why partner is torturing us with these nebulous cuebids.

Jack mentions the last of the possibilities -- that partner is investigating a spade contract. After all, opener only has a 4-card suit and we could have an 8- or even a 9-card fit our way.

DODD: "4S. It's been at least 20 years since I've played against Blue Clubbers -- only hope North doesn't figure me for quality spades when he made his 3S call."

HEMENWAY: "4S. I hope I'm interpreting partner's last bid correctly. If not, surely he'll correct to 5D."

KLEMIC: "4S. Partner saw the auction, offering with perhaps KTx of spades? If it is a void cuebid, then we will play 5D."

KNIEST: "4S. Brilliant bid by pard. If it's a cuebid, my hand is fine for diamonds. I suspect it's an offer to play."

SMITH: "4S. I wouldn't be surprised if 4S is the only game that makes. If partner doesn't have a spade fragment, he can retreat to 5D."

There's a "safety play" aspect to this bid, as it should get us to some reasonable contract -- certainly a good thing when we're not sure what partner is doing.

Scoring

4D and 3NT are out of order regards votes, but the panel seems to be saying loud and clear that 3NT is out of the question on this one. All the other votes can be regarded as diamond bids.

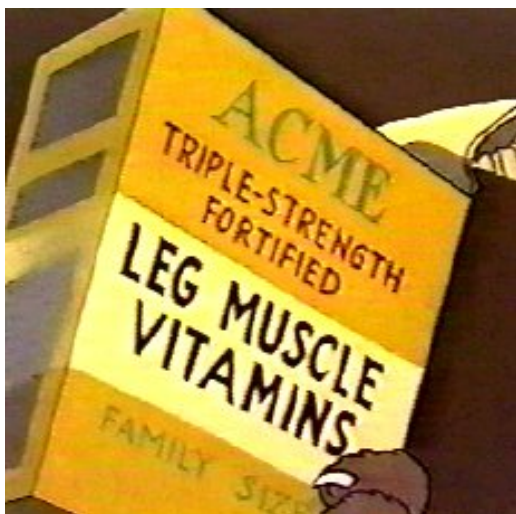
4. Matchpoints, NS Vulnerable

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

*Negative

What is your call as South holding: ♠AQJ5 ♥52
♦K ♣AQJ1072

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
3NT	100	11	39
3C	80	5	19
2NT	70	4	22
2S	60	0	8
Pass	50	0	6
2C	30	0	8
1NT	10	0	6



This sounds a lot like Problem 2. We have stoppers and we have a good source of tricks. But does the overcall and negative double change things?

PAVLICEK: "3NT. Torn between 2NT and 3NT, and the club 10 suggests going high. Surely, I needn't worry about hearts, and the diamond king alone may be enough steal the game. Opposite an ideal minimum like ♠xx ♥xxxx ♦Axxx ♣Kxx, 3NT rolls, and I don't think partner is supposed to bid over 2NT, which implies an offshape 16-17."

WALKER: "3NT. Very tempting to pass 1S doubled at matchpoints, but the strong clubs argue for declaring."

If we're not ready to take a swing at game, what are the alternatives?

STRITE: "2NT. Gets the playing strength about right"

MERRITT: "2NT. Hiding the Kingleton and having the lead come up to it should offer extra value. The clubs and spades are strong enough that I should be able to start clubs from the top and have good play."

Kingleton? I like it! But on the other hand, I hate 2NT contracts with unbalanced hands. I never seem to make exactly 8 tricks. If things go well, it's 9 or 10, and if they go badly, it's 6 or 7. I'd say if you're not going to bid a game, then try...

DODD: "3C. In my youth. I'd have gone for the throat -- the 'wisdom' of middle age has taught me to be a bit more cautious, although not too much!"

LEONARD: "3C. No need to jump in notrump yet. Let's show the primary feature of our hand and let partner describe hers. A premature notrump bid could preclude a cold club game or slam."

I think Mark is talking about a jump to 2NT. That shows clubs too, but maybe not as good a suit.

Scoring

No big surprise, 3NT wins again. The two invitational bids: 2NT and 3C are just a matter of personal preference.

5. Matchpoints, NS Vulnerable

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

* Positive response, two queens or better.

What is your call as South holding: ♠A62
♥A9754 ♦J32 ♣AQJ

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
4S	100	10	46
4NT	90	5	8
5NT	80	2	5
7NT	80	2	3
5H	50	1	0
6NT	60	0	8
6H	30	0	8
Pass	10	0	5
4H	5	0	8
3NT	7	0	5



What does partner's double mean? Is it a penalty? Is it a true takeout double? What would he do with a flat hand without a spade stopper (which would be a whopping big 22-23 HCP)? What should we do now? Why am I asking all these questions when we have a panel?

Most of the panel cuebid 4S, but none of them seemed happy about it.

HEMENWAY: "4S. Is partner three-suited? If so he must be *really* good! I suppose a balanced or semi-balanced hand with a doubleton spade honor (something like Qx) is not out of the question. I'm sorely tempted to bid 7H but I think I'll stall for awhile to see what he has to say next. Not sure the auction will clear things up much."

KESSLER: "4S Talk about being boxed. I'm going to attempt to show a spade control and then jump in hearts. I think seven will be hard to bid with the preempt, but this is the best I can come up with."

MAYNE: "4S. No number of hearts is right, and we've clearly got enough to drive to slam. I'm hoping to get to the right strain and at least sniff at the grand with this."

PAULO: "4S. This cuebid promises more than the minimum that I have shown with my first call. Partner wears the captain's hat. I hope he will lead our auction to a good port."

I don't agree about the captain's hat. True, the 2C opener is often the captain, but in another part of the forest, it's the partner of the takeout doubler who's the captain, i.e. us. Whatever happens, I understand that there's a lot of "good port" to be found in Lisbon!

But if we're on our way to at least six of something -- and maybe seven -- aren't there other ways?

DODD: "4NT. Assuming North has some balanced hand of 22+, I have no idea how to find a playable suit. If North has the remaining two aces and all four kings, we'll play 7NT and pray for a heart fit. Who knows? Perhaps North can take over after I bid 5NT."

SPEAR: "4NT. It might be fun to jump to seven notrump, but as long as 4NT is Blackwood, I will go through the motions of asking for aces and kings, then bid seven notrump. I don't see how pard can know what to do on other sequences."

SMITH: "5NT. I know the majority will cuebid 4S, but after that they'll have trouble bidding the grand with confidence. 5NT forces the six-level and invites seven."

KNIEST: "5NT. Pick a slam. The reopening double is usually the big balanced hand, good 21 or more, and system is on as if pard opened 2NT."

Two panelists must play a little Texas Hold-em on the side. They went "all in!"

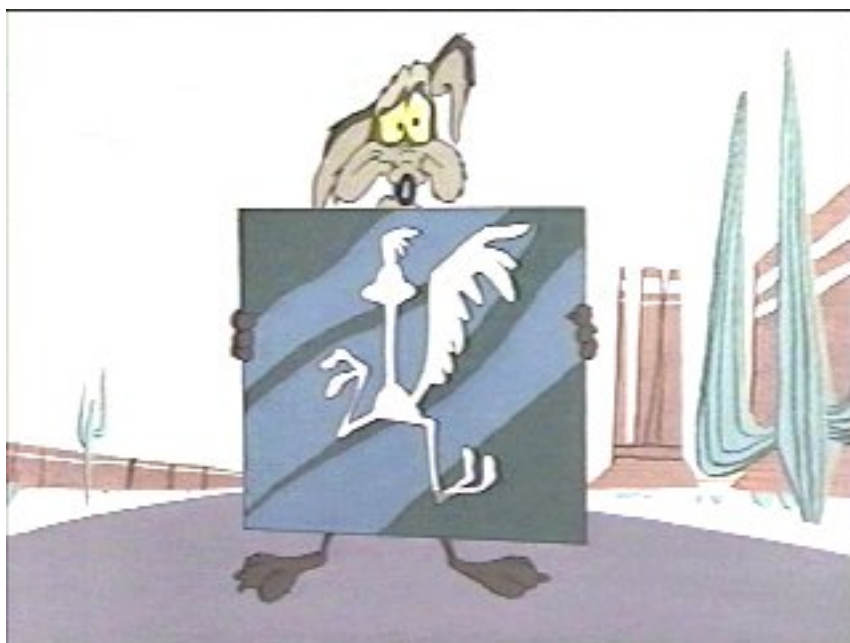
PAVLICEK: "7NT. This auction couldn't happen as I play, as East would run like a rabbit if he psyched, which is the only logical explanation for partner's penalty double. As it is, my interplanetary travel seems to have found a partner who plays this as takeout. I can't imagine partner with less than ♠xx ♥KQJx ♦AKQx ♣AKx or ♠x ♥KQJx ♦AKQx ♣AKxx, so I'll get this over with."

We all use high-card points for hand evaluation, but maybe we don't do enough work with the number 40, the total HCP in the deck.

Interplanetary Richard looks like he has 40 programmed into his spaceship computer. If we have 12 HCP and the opponents have 6 in spades, the remaining 22 have to all be in partner's hand and must be

exactly the honors in Richard's two examples. Can't partner have some spade honors? Well, he probably doesn't have a stopper (Kx, QJx, or even Qxx) or he'd have bid 3NT

instead of doubling. If he has Jx, the heart jack may vanish, but that's okay. The worst spade holding he could have is the one Marilyn Hemenway mentioned, Qx, but even there we might have some decent play, so we may as well put our money down on 7NT. As the bottle of ACME Earthquake Pills says, "Why wait?"



The other panelist who bid 7NT doesn't use a computer, he is a computer! At least a computer program.

BRIDGE BARON: "7NT."

Doggone cybernetic "Silent Bob". We'll never know for sure how he came up with 7NT, but I'll bet there were hands in the simulation that looked a lot like Pavlicek's example hands.

Scoring

I gave 7NT a higher score than the panelist votes might indicate because some of the 4S, 4NT and 5NT bids might end up being 7NT bids in the end.

6. Matchpoints, EW Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	1H	Pass
2C	Pass	2H	Pass
4H	Pass	Pass	Pass

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
Spade Ace	100	10	37
Diamond Ace	80	3	8
Heart	80	4	53
Spade 2	60	2	0
Club Queen	60	1	2

What is your **opening lead** as South holding: ♠A432 ♥8732 ♦AQ5 ♣Q6



The question here is whether to be active or passive. Both sides are based on fear. The active leaders are afraid that if they don't take their tricks right away they'll evaporate like the dew on a hot summer day. The passive leaders are afraid that if they start throwing out aces and underleading kings they'll give a happy declarer tricks he never could get for himself. This looks like a good hand to talk about that. We'll see what scares the panel. First, the passive leaders.

STRITE: "2 of Hearts. Opps could still be in a 5-3 fit, dummy could only have four clubs. They might run the first 11-12 tricks, but I don't rate any better than -650 if I start an ace anyway."

HEMENWAY: Two of hearts. It could certainly be right to cash these Aces but it's just not my nature to give up that easily. Partner should have a card and hopefully it's in clubs to slow down dummy's suit.

KNIEST: "Trump. Maybe they'll take the first 11 or so, but if pard has clubs locked up, a trump's the best lead."

Yeah, Jxx, Jxxx, or even Txxx in partner's hand might be enough to put a crimp in the club suit, but most panelists thought it was now or never!

MATHENY: "Ace of spades. It sounds like cash out time."

SMITH: "Ace of spades. Let's grab what we can while it's still out there."

LEONARD: "Spade Ace. Hearts are running, clubs are likely running. Looks like a 'take our tricks' situation. Trying to see if partner has a pointed king."

NELSON: Ace of Spades. Gosh, holding Qx of clubs I should be aggressive with my lead, but I hate leading either of the Aces I hold. I wanna lead a trump, but it's wrong.

The ace of spades was the most popular lead, but if you're going to lead an ace, how about...

SPEAR: "Ace of diamonds, then probably ace of spades, so pard can signal either king. ace of spades first might get an encouraging signal without the king. Total number of aces shut out=zero."

MERRITT: "Ace of diamonds. If I lead a passive heart, I am worried that the clubs and

trumps will come to 11 tricks before we get to play another card. Starting with the DA will elicit a clear signal from partner and I should know what to do from here. I accept that I may have already blown the contract. "

What we lead from AKx is important here. If it's the ace, partner will encourage the spade ace lead with Qxx or even a doubleton. The most amusing situation occurs when partner does have the spade king but tries to give us a ruff instead of switching to diamonds! If the ace of diamonds finds declarer with the king all is not lost, who will declarer play for the queen?

Finally, it's time to present the award, a set of ACME Giant Brass Cannonballs, for the **most** active of the active leaders.

KLEMIC: "Spade 2. This is a danger hand, looking at bad hearts, Qx clubs, and most of the side's defensive values. The best chance may be to catch partner with Qx spades and the SK in dummy."

KESSLER: "2 of spades. An attempt to get partner in to lead a diamond through."

That takes care of the passive leaders and the active leaders. Does anyone else have anything to say?

BRIDGE BARON: "Club Queen."

What's going on in BB's little silicon noggin on this one? Maybe it's something about breaking communications. Yikes, that's possible -- a singleton club in declarer's hand might make it impossible for him to take even three club tricks! And with a doubleton, declarer might need two entries after drawing trump. These bridge programs are playing better and better. You'll have to excuse me for a few months. I think I'm going to go check out the rules for Canasta!

Scoring

The heart leaders led "trump" or various heart spots, all combined under the heading "Heart." The club queen may be the best lead, but since it only got one vote (likely none of the carbon-based panelists even considered it), we can't give it a better score. I hope we haven't broken BB's little transistor heart-component!

Here's a link to the excellent site for the ACME pictures, authored by GP Markham:

[The ORIGINAL Illustrated Catalog Of ACME Products](#)

Accept No Imitations

Thanks to all for sending in solutions to this set. Top Solvers were **Dean Pokorny** of Zagreb, Croatia and **Bob Bernhard** of New Smyrna Beach FL. They're invited to join us on the

October panel.

The six new problems for October are below. Please submit your solutions by **September 23** on the [web form](#) or by email to our October moderator: **Scott Merritt**
merritt604@gmail.com

How the Panel voted (Panel/Staff Avg. --):	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score
Bridge Baron , Core Memory	3H	4H	4D	3C	7NT	Club Queen	390
Marilyn Hemenway , Omaha NB	3NT	3NT	4S	3NT	4S	Heart 2	570
Mark Kessler , Springfield IL	3NT	3H	4H	3NT	4S	Spade 2	580
George Klemic , Bensonville IL	DBL	3NT	4S	3C	5H	Spade 2	505
Thomas Kniest , University City MO	3NT	3H	4S	3NT	5NT	Heart	530
Mark Leonard , Ypsilanti MI	3NT	3NT	4H	3C	4S	Spade Ace	580
Larry Matheny , Loveland CO	DBL	3D	4D	3NT	4S	Spade Ace	515
John R. Mayne , Riverbank CA	3NT	3NT	5D	3NT	4S	Spade Ace	580
Bev Nelson , Fort Myers FL	3NT	4H	3NT	3NT	4S	Spade Ace	510
Manuel Paulo , Lisbon, Portugal	3NT	3NT	4H	3NT	4S	Spade Ace	600
Richard Pavlicek , Fort Lauderdale FL	3NT	3NT	5D	3NT	7NT	Spade Ace	560
Larry Rabideau , St. Anne IL	DBL	3D	4H	2NT	4S	Spade Ace	485
Dave Smith , Memphis TN	3NT	3NT	4S	2NT	5NT	Spade Ace	550
Jack Spear , Kansas City, KS	3NT	3NT	4H	3C	4NT	Diamond Ace	550
Toby Strite , San Jose CA	DBL	3H	5D	2NT	4S	Heart 2	475
Arbha Vongsvivut , Godfrey, IL	DBL	3H	3NT	3NT	4NT	Spade Ace	545
How the Staff voted							
Tom Dodd , Branchburg NJ	3NT	3NT	4S	3C	4NT	Diamond Ace	550
Kent Feiler , Harvard IL	3NT	3NT	4S	3NT	4S	Heart 2	570
Scott Merritt , Abuja, Nigeria	3NT	3D	3NT	2NT	4NT	Diamond Ace	510
Karen Walker , Champaign IL	3NT	3NT	4H	3NT	4NT	Spade Ace	590

Solvers Honor Roll							
Dean Pokorny, Zagreb, Croatia	3NT	3NT	4H	2S	4S	Spade Ace	560
Bob Bernhard, New Smyrna Beach	DBL	3H	4S	3NT	4S	Spade Ace	545
Robert Lambert, Warsaw IN	DBL	3NT	4H	2NT	4S	Spade Ace	545
Don Mathis, Bland MO	540		Bruce Kretchmer, Boyton Beach FL				510
Larry Wilcox, Springfield IL	540		Zoran Bohacek, Zagreb, Croatia				505
David McNitt, Elkhart IN	530		Tom Rossow, South Bend IN				505
Asher Axelrod, Jerusalem, Israel	515		Rich Pestien, Peoria IL				500
J. C. Clement, Paris, France	515		Chuck Ettleson, St. Louis MO				495

Solvers Forum -- October 2007 Problems

1. Matchpoints, EW vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1D	Pass	1H
Pass	3NT	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:
 ♠J ♥AK10965 ♦74 ♣AQJ6 ?

2. Matchpoints, both vulnerable

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

* (Forcing NT) ** May be a 3-card suit

What is your call as South holding:
 ♠AKJ10 ♥Q96 ♦A9754 ♣J ?

4. IMPs, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1S	2S *	Pass	???

* (Michaels -- hearts and a minor)

What is your call as South holding:
 ♠AJ107 ♥4 ♦64 ♣A109854 ?

5. Board-a-match, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	--	1D
1H	2H*	3H	???

* (Diamond support, limit-raise or better)

What is your call as South holding:
 ♠A1085 ♥74 ♦A953 ♣AQ7 ?

6. Board-a-match, both vulnerable

3. IMPs, both vulnerable

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

* (Negative)

What is your call as South holding:

♠A9532 ♥Void ♦KQ10954 ♣AQ ?

West	North	East	South
1S	Pass	2S	???

What is your call as South holding:

♠Void ♥Q1032 ♦AQ4 ♣QJ10876 ?

Thanks for the problems above to
Mike Halvorsen (#2), Bob Bainter (#3)
and Mark Kessler (#4).



Pair Fare

News from Northwestern Illinois Unit 239

Editor: Roger Dieringer, 5 Lockman Circle, Elgin IL 60123
mrdir@wideopenwest.com

A Few Words from the Editor

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Karl Dencker for volunteering me for this job. Karl used the old Army technique for enlisting someone to do an assignment. He asked his company for a volunteer "to step forward". The next thing I knew, the rest of the company took one step back and I was the volunteer. With that in mind, please give me a little latitude if I misspell a name or forget a comma. It will be a hard act to follow, since Dennis Ryan did an outstanding job being our past editor.

I would also like to thank Dennis for twisting my arm so I would assume his assignment. Then, after disjuncting my socket, taking some time to inform me as to what my duties would entail. Anyway, I hope I can continue to follow in the big foot steps as set down by Mr. Ryan.

Edward B. Cohen: Life Master

Edward has been playing bridge since 1946, but took a 25-year hiatus starting in 1971 to work and support a family, and didn't start playing for masterpoints until 1996. Since then, Edward has earned the necessary, gold, silver, red and black points to qualify as a Life Master.

The evening I called Edward, his wife Venette answered the phone. She asked who was calling and I proceeded to explain that I was a fellow bridge player. At that point, she interjected a question: "Do I like bridge as much as her husband does?" Before I could response, she answered her own question: "Maybe not". At this juncture, I knew I was talking to a very supportive wife and I was going to interview an avid bridge player.

The Cohen family includes Edward, Venette, two sons, one daughter, and five grandchildren. The eldest son met his wife by playing bridge, but, like his father before, he's now too busy making a living to enjoy the game.

Edward is a 1950 graduate of the University of Illinois, and has raised his family in Geneva IL. Being retired from real-estate investments since 1996, Edward now has more time to play with his partners John Diehl of Elgin and Dick Greenberg of Hinsdale. You can often see Edward playing at the St. Charles, Aurora or Hinsdale bridge clubs.

Edward related that he added 4,000 miles to his car this past year by traveling to many regional and sectional tournaments. Being in the "sage" period of his life, Edward observed that the popularity of bridge is growing, and that the quality of play has greatly improved. His advice to us is "be kind to your partner".

Words well spoken and advice we should all adhere to. Only having talked to Edward on the phone to get the information for this article, I hope our paths one day cross at the gaming table. I found Edward to be a pleasant soul, who truly enjoys the game.

The Changing Scene...

New Junior Masters: Patricia Olafson, Rockford; Cynthia M Guttridge, Rockford; Robert Larson, Roscoe

New Club Masters: Marilyn J. Clark, Batavia; Barbara J Bremer, Rockford; Betty Ralston, Rockford

New Sectional Master: Sylvia Conde, Rockford; George G. Wallace, Dixon; Stephan D. Cart, Rockford

New NABC Masters: Farlin Caufield, Woodstock; Ann Witt, Aurora

New Life Master: Edward Cohen, Geneva

New Bronze Life Master: Susan P. Mackinney, Lake in the Hills

Upcoming Area Tournaments

August 3-5 -- Elgin IL 299er Sectional

August 13-19 -- St Louis MO Regional

August 31 - September 3 -- Skokie IL Sectional

September 7-9 -- Rockford IL Sectional

September 14-16 -- Peoria IL Sectional

September 24-30 -- Fort Wayne IN Regional

October 12-14 -- Springfield IL Sectional

October 22-28 -- Lake Geneva WI Regional

October 26-28 -- Robinson IL Sectional



CIBA Digest

News from Central Illinois Unit 208

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

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

Bloomington -- Gayl West Club & Mike's Bridge Club (<http://home.insightbb.com/~m.tomlianovich/mbc.htm>)

Saturday, August 25 (11:45 am, Westminster Village) -- Open Stratified

Monday, August 27 (11:45 am, First Christian Church) -- Open Stratified

Thursday, August 30 (11:45 am, Crossroads Center) -- Open Stratified

Champaign -- Bridge at Ginger Creek (www.illinibridge.com)

Thursday, August 9 (12:30) -- Open Stratified

Monday, August 27 (7:00) -- Open Stratified

Friday, August 31 (7:00) -- Open Stratified

Peoria and Pekin

Tuesday, August 7 (6:30 pm, Knights of Columbus, Peoria) -- Open Stratified

Friday, August 17 (11:00 am, Knights of Columbus, Peoria) -- Open Stratified

Wednesday, August 22 (6:30 pm, Miller Center, Pekin) -- Open Stratified

Tuesday, August 28 (11:00 am, Knights of Columbus, Peoria) -- Open Stratified

Springfield -- Bridge Center of Springfield (<http://www.spibridge.org>)

Monday, August 6 (6:30 pm) -- Open Stratified

Thursday, August 23 (6:30 pm) -- Open Stratified and Flight C (non-LMs with under 500 mps)

Saturday, August 25 (9:30 am) -- Flight C

Sunday, August 26 (1:00 pm) -- Open Stratified

Wednesday, August 29 (12:30) -- Open Stratified

Friday, August 31 (12:30 p.m.) -- Open Stratified

Fall Bridge Weekend -- November 3 & 4, Champaign IL



Champaign's Bridge at Ginger Creek club is hosting a special two-day workshop featuring advanced lessons and sectional-rated games. The instruction will be geared toward advanced players, but the workshops and discussions will feature ideas that can benefit a wide range of experience levels, from bright beginners to long-time Life Masters. Instructor is Karen Walker (kwalker@insightbb.com).

For more information, see the [Fall Bridge Weekend](#) page in this issue of the *Advocate*.

More winners from the Champaign Regional, May 22-28



Thursday aft. side pairs:
Judi Sulzbach & Donna
Giertz



Monday Flt. B Swiss Team:
Randall Motchan, Carole Bardwell,
Dan Bunde & Praveen Jayachandran



Monday Flt. A Swiss Team:
Colby Vernay, Hugh Williams,
Jim O'Neil (not in photo: Karen Walker)

Coming up on the Central Illinois Calendar:

August -- North American Pair qualifying games, Local clubs

Wednesday, September 19 -- ACBLwide Instant Matchpoint Game, Local clubs

September 14-16 -- [End o' Summer Sectional](#), Hult Health Center, Peoria

October -- Club Appreciation Month club championships, Local clubs

October 12-14 -- [See the Leaves Sectional](#), IL Education Association Building, Springfield

October 29 - November 4 -- District 8 Sectional at Clubs, Local clubs

November 3 & 4 -- [Fall Bridge Weekend](#), Bridge at Ginger Creek, Champaign

November 10 & 11 -- District 8 North American Pair finals, IL Education Association Building, Springfield IL



Movin' Up: Congratulations to these Unit members who recently advanced in rank:

Junior Master (5 pts.)

Connie Houston, Paris
Jean Motsinger, Savoy
Robert Nichols, Urbana
Laura Plummer, Champaign
Freida Witters, Paris

Club Master (20 pts.)

Michael Bowers, Springfield
Jeff Ehrlich, Springfield
Bo Goersch, Tolono
Barbara Gossrow, Springfield
Kevin Powell, Urbana
Jane Welch, Geneseo

Sectional Master (50 pts.)

Doug Steele, Mahomet
Pamela White, Springfield

Regional Master (100 pts.)

Rhonda Berberet, Springfield
Dee Boch, Champaign
Praveen Jayachandran, Champaign

NABC Master (200 pts.)

Dan Bunde, Urbana
Harriett Maxwell, Champaign
Peggy Olds, Springfield
Bret Van Fleet, Bloomington

Bronze Life Master (500 pts.)

Gary Schechter, Springfield
RoseEllen Scott, Rantoul

Silver Life Master (1000 pts.)

Marjorie Loewenstein, Springfield
Jay Poling, Decatur
Jeanette Sgro, Springfield

Gold Life Master (2500 pts.)

Laura Addison, Bloomington

And welcome to new members:

Christine Harshbarger, Macomb
Kyle Harshbarger, Macomb
Nancy Sommer, Peoria

End O' Summer Sectional

September 14-16, 2007

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 (includes lunch)

- *99er Pair games if attendance warrants.*
- *Daily hospitality and snacks.*

Entry fees: \$8 per person per session. Additional fee on Sunday to cover lunch.

Strata: A: Open; B: <1500; 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 309-685-3911 briley@grics.net

SEE THE LEAVES FALL SECTIONAL

Springfield IL

OCTOBER 12-13-14, 2007

Illinois Education Association (IEA) 3440 Liberty Springfield, IL

Fri. Oct. 12 1:30 and 7 pm Single Session Stratified Pairs
199'er Game Friday afternoon

Sat. Oct. 13 9:00 Single Session 99'er game

Sat. Oct 13 1 and 7 pm Two Session Stratified Pairs

Sun. Oct 14 10:30am Stratified Swiss Team (MP Averaging
Approach)

C O-500(NLM)

B 500(LM)-1500

A 1500+

99'er and 199'er games available, as stated, if attendance warrants

Tournament Chairs: Liz and Chuck Zalar zalar@insightbb.com 217-793-8066

Web Site: Springfieldbridge.org

Hospitality: Betty Primm (home baked cookies by Betty)

Dinner on Sunday from Panera Bread Co. Email or call to place your team's order to insure meal of choice for each team member.

Choice of:

Turkey Sandwich

Ham Sandwich

Chicken Salad Sandwich

Tuna Salad Sandwich

Greek Salad

Caesar Salad

Directions to playing site: I-55 to I-72W. exit at Rt. 4 towards Spfld. Going north. Turn left onto Lindbergh (first stoplight Hucks gas station and Walgreens) follow Lindbergh as it winds to left past Sam's Appliance where it turns into Liberty. IEA building is on the left.

Hotels: Fairfield Inn, Comfort Inn and Sleep Inn on Freedom Drive; Hampton Inn and Staybridge Inn on Chuckwagon Drive are all near playing site.

Please abstain from wearing colognes and or perfumes due to sensitivity of many players..



Unit 223 Reporter

News from Southern Illinois-Paducah Unit 223

Editor: Karen Coe, 12761 Webb Hill Rd., Ewing IL 62836 (618-435-4200) finesse002002@yahoo.com

Unit Board Elections

The first week in June, Elections were held in clubs throughout the Unit. Results of the Elections are:

Area 1: **Doug Edwards** was re-elected for another term. Doug also serves as the Unit's Business Manager, handling financial matters.

Area 2: **Monika Plumb** was elected, replacing Dr. Wal Wallis who retires from the Board.

Area 3: **Joan Musgrave** from Oblong, IL was re-elected to the Board. Joan serves as Unit Recorder.

Area 4: **Mike Ritchie** was elected to another term. Mike has been nominated to be our next Unit Vice-President, and currently serves also as Disciplinary Chair.

Area 5: **Bob Cundall** was elected, replacing Ray Sigler who is retiring from the Board after serving as Unit President.

Members continuing on the Board who were not up for re-election are Dalton Darnell, Dean Stow (Area 1), Karen Coe (Area 2), Jay Coleman (Area 3), Pat Rezabeck (Area 4), and Ruby Nelson (Area 5).

Some Regional winners of Gold in Metropolis

Congratulations to **Kate Dickens** of Effingham, who picked up enough gold points to make Life Master at our Metropolis IL Regional, playing with her friend, Joan Musgrave of Oblong. Kate, who manages club games in her hometown and chairs the Effingham Sectional, is a well-known and popular player in Unit 223. Many of the attendees at the regional greeted the news that she had won her 25th gold point with delight.

A tip of the hat, too, to my friend, **Jim Baumeister** of Marion, who also picked up his 25th gold point at the regional, playing with Ann Smith, Jill Woolf and Bud Hawkins, all of Southern Illinois. Jim still has a few more points (of any color!) to go to make LM. It seems like just a couple of years ago that Jim was still an enthusiastic bridge novice just starting to play at our local club games.

Congratulations, Jim!

Annual Membership Meeting

Unit 223's Annual Membership Meeting will be held during the Cobb Sectional, located at the Robert Cherry Center, Paducah, KY on Saturday (between the afternoon & evening sessions), Sept. 1st. Reports on the Unit's activities during the past year and a Financial Report will be presented to the Members present. Please plan to attend both the tournament and the Membership Meeting.

Please welcome the following new members to our Unit

Dr. Catherine Hammersley, Simpson IL and Ms. Barbara J. Walker, Metropolis IL.

On July 1st, Unit 223 had a total of 383 members -- 46 Rookies, 20 Jr. Masters, 34 Club Masters, 39 Sectional Masters, 50 Regional Masters, 35 NABC Masters and 168 members who had achieved the rank of Life Master.

McCord Trophy Mid-year Standings

As of June 30, the leaders in the race for the McCord Trophy are

1. Dalton Darnell, Murray, KY – 27.56
- 2/3. Sandra Lemon, Mayfield, KY – 26.58
- 2/3. Larry Lemon, Mayfield, KY – 26.58
- 4/5. Doug Edwards, Hardin, KY – 26.31
- 4/5. Gayle Edwards, Hardin, KY – 26.31
- 6/7. Judy Eaton, Carbondale, IL – 26.16
- 6/7. Glafkos Galanos, Carbondale, IL – 26.16
8. Evelyn Pruitt, Paducah, KY – 25.67
9. Ron Brockman, Paducah, KY – 18.84
10. Marcia Darnell, Murray, KY – 16.75
11. Chris Shaw, Jr., Carlinville, IL – 16.63
12. Maxine Wynn, Paducah, KY – 16.17
13. Bob Giles, Marion, IL – 15.17
- 14/15. Paul Hartke, Effingham, IL – 14
- 14/15. Lois Hartke, Effingham, IL – 14
16. Larry Thompson, Paducah, KY – 13.86
17. Eric Bizzell, Altamont, IL – 12.74
18. Dennis Bristol, Ledbetter, KY – 12.28
19. Villa Aschenbrenner, Ledbetter, KY – 12.01
20. Pat Rezabeck, Effingham, IL – 11.86
21. Tom Wynn, Paducah, KY – 11.47
22. Karen Coe, Ewing, IL – 11.16
23. Ray Sigler, Trenton, IL – 10.27
- 24/25. Roger Chitty, Carbondale, IL – 10.26
- 24/25. Margaret Chitty, Carbondale, IL – 10.26

As you can see, it is a close and exciting race this year. Also, take note, fellow Illinois players. The top 10 spaces on the list are heavily weighted with Kentucky players. Let's get busy, attend the upcoming sectionals, and see if we can't win a few more of the top ten slots!

Unit Masterpoint Races

Have you visited www.acbl.org lately to see how you are doing in the Unit 223's two ACBL-sponsored masterpoint races (Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney)? Check it out. It's kind of fun to see who is leading the pack and to congratulate your bridge buddies, and it's always a nice surprise to find your own name on the Leader List.

Congratulations to the Unit 223 members who have advanced in rank:

New Club Master: Joan McDaniel, Mt Vernon

New Regional Master: James Lyon, Paducah KY

New NABC Masters: Charles Clark, Edwardsville & George Walker, Metropolis

New Silver Life Master: Ron Brotherson, Paducah KY

Our next Sectional will be the Cobb, Aug. 31st thru Sept. 2nd, at the Robert Cherry Center in Paducah KY. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. Kentucky tournaments are unsurpassed for friendliness and hospitality. A tournament flyer is available in this edition of the Advocate. See you there.

Saint Louis Regional

August 13–19, 2007

Outstanding Hospitality Every Evening! Team Games Every Day!



Renissance Hotel (One mile from Airport)
9801 Natural Bridge Road • St. Louis MO 63134
Free Parking • Shuttle Available

**Special bridge rate
guaranteed through July 23
Call toll free 888-340-2594**

Director in Charge: Chris Patrias
Tournament Chair: Mike Carmen 314-872-8439
Partnerships: Mary Hruby 314-739-1574

Stratified throughout:
Strat A 1500+, Strat B 500–1500, Strat C 0–500
Intermediate/Newcomer: 0–20, 20–100, 100–200

Monday, August 13

Bracketed KO Teams #1..... 7:30 pm
 KO #1 continues Tue 9 am
Win-an-Entry Pairs 7:30 pm

Tuesday, August 14

Bracketed KO Teams #1..... 9 am, 1 & 7:30 pm
Side Game Series Pairs I 9 am, 1 & 7:30 pm
Compact KO Teams #1 1 & 7:30 pm
Stratified Open Pairs #1 1 & 7:30 pm
Intermediate-Newcomer Pairs 1 & 7:30 pm
One Session Board-a-Match Teams..... 7:30 pm

Wednesday, August 15

Bracketed KO Teams #2..... 9 am
 KO #2 continues Thurs 9 am
Charity Side Game Series AM Pairs..... 9 am
 Continues thru Sat
Stratified Open Swiss Teams #1.... 1 & 7:30 pm
Intermediate-Newcomer Pairs 1 & 7:30 pm
Side Game Series Pairs II 1 & 7:30 pm

Visit our Web site www.unit143.org for more information

Thursday, August 16

Charity Side Game Series AM Pairs..... 9 am
Bracketed KO Teams # 2..... 9 am, 1 & 7:30 pm
Stratified Open Pairs #2 1 & 7:30 pm
Compact KO Teams #2 1 & 7:30 pm
Intermediate-Newcomer Pairs 1 & 7:30 pm
Side Game Series Pairs II 1 & 7:30 pm
One Session Swiss Teams 7:30 pm

Friday, August 17

Bracketed KO Teams # 3..... 9 am
 KO #3 continues Sat 9 am
Charity Side Game Series AM Pairs..... 9 am
Side Game Series Pairs III 1 & 7:30 pm
Stratified Open Swiss Teams #2.... 1 & 7:30 pm
Intermediate-Newcomer Pairs 1 & 7:30 pm
Zip KO Teams 11:30 pm

Saturday, August 18

Bracketed KO Teams # 3..... 9 am, 1 & 7:30 pm
Charity Side Game Series AM Pairs..... 9 am
Strati-Flighted Open Pairs 1 & 7:30 pm
 Flight A Unlimited
 Qualifying with Barometer Final
 Strat B/C/D – Stratified 300/750/1500
Side Game Series Pairs III 1 & 7:30 pm
Intermediate-Newcomer Pairs 1 & 7:30 pm

Sunday, August 19

Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams ... 10:30 am & TBA
 Flight A/X – Stratified 3000/3000+
 Strat B/C/D – Stratified 300/750/1500
Stratified Fast Pairs 10:30 am & TBA
Sunday events will finish by 6 pm



1020 So. Calhoun St.

Ft Wayne Fall Festival Regional

September 24 - 30, 2007

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Open Stratification 750 / 2000 / Unlimited
 Limited Stratification 0-100 / 100-200 / 200-300
 Swiss Team Stratification by Team Average of MP
 (All Limited Games Single Session)



Grand Wayne Convention Center
 120 West Jefferson Blvd.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 24

Bracketed Knockout Teams (Random Draw) - 1st 8:00 PM
 Open Stratified Charity Pairs 8:00 PM

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 25

Early Bird Side Series Pairs - 1st 9:00 AM
 Bracketed Knockout Teams - 2nd, 3rd, 4th 9:00 AM 1:30 PM 7:30 PM
 Stratified Swiss Teams 1:30 PM & 7:30 PM
 Primetime Side Series Pairs - 1st & 2nd 1:30 PM 7:30 PM
 Limited Stratified Pairs 1:30 PM 7:30 PM

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 26

Early Bird Side Series Pairs - 2nd 9:00 AM
 Midweek Compact Knockout Teams 1st & 2nd 9:00 AM
 Primetime Bracketed Knockout Teams - 1st & 2nd 1:30 PM 7:30 PM
 Open Stratified Pairs 1:30 PM & 7:30 PM
 Stratified Swiss Teams (1 session) 7:30 PM
 Limited Stratified Pairs 1:30 PM 7:30 PM

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 27

Early Bird Side Series Pairs - 3rd 9:00 AM
 Midweek Compact Knockout Teams 3rd & 4th 9:00 AM
 Primetime Bracketed Knockout Teams - 3rd & 4th 1:30 PM 7:30PM
 Compact Knockout Teams 1 and 2 & 3 and 4 1:30 PM & 7:30 PM
 Primetime Side Series Pairs - 3rd & 4th 1:30 PM 7:30 PM
 Stratified Swiss Teams (1 session) 7:30 PM
 Limited Stratified Pairs 1:30 PM 7:30 PM

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 28

Early Bird Side Series Pairs - 4th 9:00 AM
 Weekend Compact Knockout Teams- 1st & 2nd 9:00 AM
 Weekend Bracketed Knockout Teams - 1st & 2nd 1:30 PM 7:30 PM
 Open Stratified Pairs 1:30 PM & 7:30 PM
 Stratified Board-a-Match Teams 7:30 PM
 Limited Stratified Pairs 1:30 PM 7:30 PM

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 29

Weekend Compact Knockout Teams 3rd & 4th 9:00 AM
 Morning Open Stratified Charity Pairs 9:00 AM
 Weekend Bracketed Knockout Teams -3rd & 4th 1:30 PM 7:30 PM
 Open Stratified Pairs 1:30 PM & 7:30 PM
 Primetime Side Series Pairs - 5th 7:30 PM
 Limited **Ruth McConnell** Stratified Pairs 1:30 PM 7:30 PM

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 30

Stratified Swiss Teams (7 Rounds) 10:00 AM Play-thru

--- HOTEL INFORMATION ---

The Hilton Fort Wayne Hilton

-- at the Grand Wayne Center (260) 420-1100

Special Bridge Rate - \$82 + tax (single or double)

**Based upon availability. Reservation must be made by
 September 10, 2007**

The **Holiday Inn** -- two short blocks to
 Grand Wayne Center (260) 422-5511

**Special Bridge Rate - \$69 + tax (single or double)
 if reserved by September 10, 2007**

Great Intermediate / Novice Program!

- **Partners Guaranteed** for all 0-299 MP & under events - 1 hour before game time.
- **Outstanding Bridge Speakers**
 Tuesday thru Saturday 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 spectacular brand new spacious, well ventilated facility with state-of-the-art lighting ideally suited for tournament bridge.

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



Irvin Cobb Sectional

Labor Day weekend: August 31 -
September 2

Madison Hall, 919 Madison St., Paducah KY

Friday, August 31

1:30 & 7:00 pm -- Single-session Stratified Open Pairs

7:00 -- Bracketed KO Teams (continues at 1:00 & 7:00 Saturday)

Saturday, September 1

1:00 & 7:00 pm -- Two-session Stratified Open Pairs
-- Bracketed KO Teams (2nd & 3rd sessions)

Sunday, September 2

9:30 am -- Two-session Stratified Swiss Teams (includes dinner)

Strata for all events: A=1500+ B=300-1500 C=0-300

Entry fees: \$8 per player per session on Friday and Saturday. \$80 per team on Sunday (includes meal).

Bridge rate (\$50 for 1 to 4 people per room) at the **Days Inn** (I-24, Exit 4). Phone: 270-442-7501

Chairman: Jim Kallaher -- (270-444-6882) jkallaher@bellsouth.net

Partnerships: Maxine Wynn -- (270-554-5719) t_wynn@bellsouth.net



St. Louis Fall Sectional

October 19-21, 2007

Blanchette Park Memorial Hall, St.

Charles MO

Friday, October 19

1:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs 0-500, 500-1500, 1500+
Stratified Intermediate/Novice Pairs** 0-199

7:30 pm Flight A/X Open Pairs 0-3000, 3000+
Stratified B, C Pairs 0-500, 500-1500
Stratified Intermediate/Novice Pairs** 0-199

Saturday, October 20

9:30 am Bracketed Knockout Teams Round 1 (Lunch provided)

1:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs 1st Session 0-500, 500-1500, 1500+
Stratified Intermediate/Novice Pairs 0-199
Bracketed Knockout Teams Round 2
Side Game

7:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs 2nd Session
Stratified Intermediate/Novice Pairs 0-199
Bracketed Knockout Teams Round 3
Side Game

Sunday, October 21

10:00 am & TBA -- Stratified Swiss Teams 0-500, 500-1500, 1500+

**** Separate Intermediate/Novice Games with a dedicated director.** You compete only against players with fewer than 199 masterpoints!

- Terrific Hospitality after ALL Evening Sessions.
- Beverages, popcorn, baked goods & fruit at all sessions
- Lunch provided for participants in the Saturday KOs

- Continental breakfast Sunday at 9:00 AM
- Hot buffet meal between sessions on Sunday

Guest speakers Friday at 12:45 & 6:45 pm, and Saturday at 12:45 pm.

Unit membership meeting on Saturday at 7:00 pm

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 macarmen1@sbcglobal.net

Partnerships: Mary Hruby -- 314-739-1574

MIDWEST TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

June, July & August North American Pair qualifying games, Local clubs

August 06-12 NEBRASKA REGIONAL, Council Bluffs IA
06-12 GRAND RAPIDS REGIONAL, Grand Rapids MI
13-19 [MISSISSIPPI VALLEY REGIONAL](#), Renaissance Hotel, St. Louis MO ([Mike Carmen](#))
24-26 Terre Haute IN Sectional
31-02 [Irvin Cobb Sectional](#), Madison Hall, Paducah KY
31-02 [Mid-Missouri Labor Day Sectional](#), Columbia MO
31-03 [Labor Day Sectional](#), Skokie IL

Sept. 7-9 Rockford IL Sectional, Clocktower Resort ([Mary Jo Sargent](#))
19 ACBLwide Instant Matchpoint Game, Local clubs (Wednesday evening)
14-16 [Peoria IL Sectional](#), Hult Health Center ([Bernie Riley](#))
24-30 [FALL FESTIVAL REGIONAL](#), Grand Wayne Center, Ft. Wayne IN

Oct. 12-14 [Springfield IL Sectional](#), IL Education Assn. Building ([Liz Zalar](#))
19-21 [St. Charles MO Sectional](#), Blanchette Park ([Mike Carmen](#))
22-28 [CENTRAL STATES REGIONAL](#), Grand Geneva Resort, Geneva WI
26-28 Robinson IL Sectional, Robinson Community Center ([Jay Coleman](#))
29-Nov. 4 Districtwide Sectional-Tournament-at-Clubs, Local clubs

District 8 North American Pair finals will be **November 10 & 11** at the Illinois Education Association Building, 3440 Liberty Drive, Springfield IL

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

District 8 web site: <http://district8acbl.com/>

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

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