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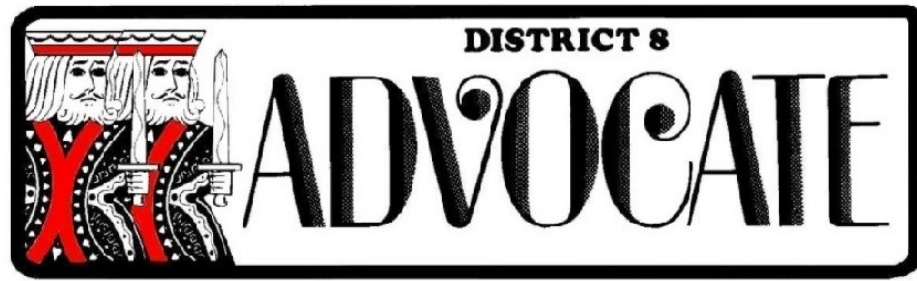
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June  
2006

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

## MIDWEST TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

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

**June** 16-18 Kokomo IN Sectional, Johanning Civic Center ([Dick Ellis](#))

19-25 **DISTRICT 8 SPLIT REGIONAL:**

Executive Inn, Paducah KY & Clock Tower Resort, Rockford

IL

24 ACBL-ABA Unity Game, Local clubs

27-02 IOWA CITY REGIONAL

**July** 07-09 Bloomington IL Sectional, Interstate Center

13-23 **SUMMER NABC**, Chicago IL

28-30 Edwardsville IL Sectional, Knights of Columbus Hall

28-30 South Bend IN Sectional, Indiana University at SB

28-30 Evansville IN Sectional

31-06 COUNCIL BLUFFS IA REGIONAL

**Aug.** 01-06 DAYTON OH REGIONAL

04-06 Elgin 299er Sectional

07-13 GRAND RAPIDS MI REGIONAL

14-20 **MISSISSIPPI VALLEY REGIONAL**, Renaissance Hotel, St. Louis

25-27 Terre Haute IN Sectional

25-27 Columbia MO Sectional

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

**District 8 web site:** <http://home.insightbb.com/~m.tomliyanovich/d8.htm>

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

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



# ACBL Director's Report

by Georgia Heth, Morton IL

District 8 representative on the ACBL Board of Directors

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**News from the Spring Championships in Dallas:** Hello, everyone. When I read the April issue of the *Advocate*, I looked eagerly for the story about District 8's newest national champions, only to find no mention of them. I guess this is what happens when you have a modest editor. Karen Walker of Champaign IL, our esteemed *Advocate* editor for as long as I have been playing bridge, and her partner, Tom Kniest of St. Louis, won the two-day Rockwell Mixed Pairs at the Dallas NABC in April. There is a very nice article about their win in the June ACBL *Bridge Bulletin*, so I won't embarrass Karen any further. But: Way to go, guys!

**Grand National Teams:** Speaking of successes, we had 43 teams at the Grand National Teams District Finals, held on May 5 & 6 in Springfield. That's up from 31 teams last year, and Flight A alone increased from one team to nine. We had new winners in Flights A, B and C. We will be moving the NAP and GNT finals to a different building in Springfield starting with the NAP event this November. Check future issues of the *Advocate* for details. I have already started forming my team for next year. You know it's never too early to start planning. I hope to see everyone back in 2007. And good luck to our teams in Chicago!

**Dues reminder:** Please remember: you must have paid your dues or Life Master service fee to be eligible to play past the club level in either the Grand National Teams or North American Pairs. If you are not paid up, you will be ineligible to enter the District or national finals, you will forfeit any masterpoints you won, and you may make the rest of your team ineligible to move on.

**ACBL Board representatives:** Tom Oppenheimer and Bob Carteaux have been re-elected as our first and second alternates to the ACBL Board of Directors. Liz Zalar was appointed to fill our remaining vacancy on the Board of Governors. I would like to thank them for agreeing to serve.

**Upcoming regionals:** I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming District 8 tournaments. Champaign was fun last month and the new site at the Hawthorn Suites was a success. Paducah and Rockford are hosting a split regional later this month (I am going to Rockford to check out their new site at the Clock Tower Inn). In August, St. Louis hosts its popular tournament at the Renaissance Hotel near the airport. Our final regional is in Fort Wayne IN in September.

**Calling all bridge teachers:** ACBL president Harriette Buckman of Chicago is planning on attending the St. Louis Regional, where she'll be hosting a special event for bridge teachers. If you teach bridge classes, I hope you can join Harriette and your fellow teachers in St. Louis.



# District 8 Grand National Teams



## May 6 & 7, 2006 -- Springfield, IL

Congratulations to the winners and runners-up in District 8's annual Grand National Team finals, held at the IDOT Building in Springfield IL. The winning team in each flight won a travel award from the District Board to represent District 8 in the national finals in Chicago in July.



### Championship Flight

1 - **Ken Bland** - **Jacquie Sincoff** - **Jack Bryant** - **Roger Lord**, St. Louis



### Flight A (0-5000)

1 - **Jim Hudson**, DeKalb IL; **Mike Abarbanel**, Belvidere IL; **John Startzel**, Cherry Valley IL; **Jack Snyder**, Rockford IL

2 - **Susan Perez**, Maryland Hts MO; **John Samsel**, Chesterfield MO; **Arbha Vongsvivut**, Godfrey IL; **Mike Giacaman**, St Louis

3/4 - **Madhu Viswanathan** - **Mike Halvorsen**, Champaign IL; **Kris Maillacheruvu**, Peoria IL; **Richard Blumenthal**, Lincoln IL

3/4 - **Joseph Shull**, New Haven IN; **Jim Pelletier**, Fort Wayne IN; **Dick Ellis**, Kokomo IN; **John Chmielowiec**, Michigan City IN



### Flight B (0-2000)

1 - **Fei Dong** - **Patrick Moos** - **Charles Young**, Peoria IL; **Stephen Hawthorne**,

### Flight C (Non-Life Masters under 500 pts.)

Bloomington IL

2 - Sasanka Ramanadham - Mark Gilje,  
St. Louis; Krzysztof Jarosz - Andrew  
Carver, Edwardsville IL

3/4 - Dennis Fitton - Melissa Fitton,  
Sidney IL; Adrian Hutber, Champaign  
IL; Tom Shedlock, Danville IL

3/4 - Richard Whitsitt - David Jenkins -  
L, Jenkins, Rockford IL; Douglas  
Gugger, Freeport IL

1 - **Anne Thiede**, Danville IL; **Elizabeth  
Wilson - Irene Wen**, Urbana IL; **Janice  
Thompson**, Newman IL

2 - Bill Lindemann, Sr. - Bill  
Lindemann, Jr. - Gary Dell, Champaign  
IL; Dan Faulkner, Monticello IL

3/4 - Randall Motchan - Ray Dostal,  
Bloomington IL; Carole Bardwell -  
Steve Wulfers, Normal IL

3/4 - Chuck Avery - Dan Bunde - Josh  
Kueker, Champaign IL; Wilbert Law,  
Urbana IL

### **Sunday side game**

1 - (66.67%) Howard Schmid,  
Merrillville IN - Steve Watson, Munster  
IN

2 - (62.50%) Liz & Chuck Zalar,  
Springfield IL

3 - (59.52%) Georgia Heth, Morton IL -  
Mike Tomlianovich, Bloomington IL

# Cheer for the Fighting Illini in Chicago

Congratulations to our four District 8 members who will be representing the University of Illinois in the national finals in the 2006 North American College Bridge Championships.



Team members are:

**Ben Englert** (left), sophomore in psychology from Edwardsville IL

**Andrew Carver** (center), junior in history from Edwardsville IL

**Wilbert Law** (right), senior in psychology and finance from Urbana

**Yui Hei Alfred Au** (no photo), freshman in actuarial science from Urbana

A record 30 teams entered the intercollegiate qualifying rounds held on Bridgebase Online in February. The UI team was one of eight finalists that won free trips to the finals to be held during the Summer NABC in Chicago in July.

The UI team's official name in the event is the University of Illinois Fighting Illini. Look for them to be wearing orange in Chicago. ACBL has not issued a statement about whether or not they'll be disqualified if a chief shows up on a t-shirt.

Other finalists in the event are the Caltech Beavers, MIT Engineers, Princeton Tigers, University of California-Berkeley Golden Bears, UCLA Bruins, University of Chicago Maroons and University of Michigan Wolverines.

Congratulations, guys, and good luck!

# Director, please

by David Stevenson, Liverpool, England

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**Question** (from the U.S.): I'm a relatively new player, with about 2 1/2 years of experience. I try to count and figure out distributions, and I need time to pause and think (frequently) during the hand. What was the significance of pard's signals? The spot card played? Etc.

At this point in my bridge experience, I'm not able to count and think quickly. For someone to say, "Too bad. I want to win, and I'll call the Director if you pause," means that one cannot improve because one is not given the chance to think during the game.

I'm not trying to mislead anyone. I just need to think about what's going on as the play unfolds. I'm wondering if it's permissible for me to do the following: Detach my card and play it, but tell declarer I want time to think. I would leave the card face down until I was ready to go on to the next trick. Alternatively, I could just take 9 seconds to play every single card, so as not to be accused of playing out of tempo. This may be annoying, but players need time to think and improve.

For someone to tell me, "You must play within a couple of seconds at all times" seems like saying "New players should not bother playing bridge because the directors will just penalize them, to the benefit of the established players".

**Stevenson:** Detaching your card and putting it face down on the table is a very good method because it will not mislead declarer. You can do it anytime you are certain to play that card. You must, of course, not change your card then. After all, you are announcing that you are not thinking about that trick. Alternatively, you can say, "I am not thinking about this trick" or something similar.

Sadly, you will get one or two complaints about the procedure. Some players, regrettably, complain about anything that is not done exactly as they do it. Just tell them that you have been advised to do this.

I think that you are not understanding the problem for the better players with your comments about wanting to win. Certainly there are a few players out there who have an unfortunate lack of manners or ethics, but the majority just want a fair game -- and if you mislead them, then they have not got a fair game and they have every reason to complain.

Your alternative suggestion of nine seconds for every card is not acceptable either. It is just too long, so you are delaying the game unnecessarily, which is both discourteous and illegal.

What you want to do is to play your own game, without being unnecessarily rushed, but without misleading opponents. Your first idea of a disclaimer, or putting the card face down, is far better.

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# District 8 Solvers Forum -- June 2006

by Tom Dodd, Branchburg NJ

## 1. Matchpoints, none vulnerable

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

What is your call as South holding: ♠K8 ♥K93 ♦KJ8754 ♣Q10 ?

Despite the many arguments in their favor, I have always hated "omnibus" redoubles -- the blind counting of high-card points only rarely enables a partnership to accurately assess prospects. Here, at least we got "lucky" in that the opponents didn't jam the bidding to a higher level and make our next call a complete guess. Bad enough as it stands -- a real Hobson's choice -- my least favorite call is:

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
3D	100	8	48
2NT	90	1	14
2S	80	2	14
3NT	70	2	11
3H	70	1	4
DBL	60	2	9

NELSON: "Double. I like a double as opposed to a 2S bid, and certainly not a 3D bid since that would be a one-round force."

The biggest problem with the double is that's it is penalty, so it's almost certain to end the bidding. While we rate to have most of the high cards, EW almost certainly have an 8- or 9-card fit and some ruffing values. Even a one-trick set seems destined for a low score. If EW were red, the merits of the double would climb significantly.

Fully half the panel and solvers thought it wise to eat up an entire level of space so they could show their long suit:

STRITE: "3D. Double or 2NT could work, but 3D keeps three strains in play. I would expect 3H from partner with a diamond fit, over which I can try 3NT with more confidence. If hearts are 4-4, I even make opposite two black aces and the diamond queen. I'll pass 3S, assuming a misfit."

PAOLO: "3D. Partner's pass looks positive. With a weak or freak hand he would have bid. The penalty doesn't compensate for the game bonus."

The trouble with this reasoning is that nobody seemed to consider what North would reply to this holding a balanced minimum? Imagine North's pain sitting there with something like ♠AJxxx ♥xx ♦Ax ♣Kxxx, which is a control-rich minimum. There are worse hands by far that would justify an opening bid at this vulnerability. True, you may still back your way into 3NT, but with what level of confidence? Isn't the primary objective with marginal hands at matchpoints to first secure a plus score?

The primary reason I liked the "timid" 2S is that it defines my hand pretty darn accurately: a semi-fit (either xxx or honor-x, since I would have perpetrated a limit-or-better 2NT with the same values and an extra spade or two) and a minimum for the redouble. 2S also saves room -- if North has a few extras and wants to move forward, great. If not, I'll take my +140 or thereabouts. Besides, opposite one of my own opening bids, game is a distant possibility!

A few panelists, including my fellow editors, seemed to have their rose-colored glasses on at the prospects:

KESSLER: "3D. I think bidding any number of notrump is masterminding this hand. Over 3D, partner can bid 3H if he has interest in notrump, 3S with a 6-card or good 5-card suit, or cuebid with a good hand and diamond support. Partner's hand is only limited by the fact he did not open 1NT, 2C, or bid immediately to show a weak distributional hand. I would certainly want to be in 6D if partner held ♠AQxxx ♥x ♦AQxx ♣Axx. Also there are several hands where 5D makes and 3NT goes down."

WALKER: "3NT. Partner's pass of 2H suggests he has a good opening bid and/or a balanced hand that will cooperate with a double of 2H. If so, all roads lead to 3NT. A 3D bid here is a stall. If partner bids 3H or 3S, you're going to bid 3NT anyway, and if he bids anything else, you're going to wish you could go back to 3NT. A full 12 pts with a six-card suit is too much for 2NT, and double is for penalty."

KNIEST: "3H. 3NT will be best by his side. If he rebids 3S, I'll bid 3NT. Since my cuebid will have shown doubt, he can correct to 4S, although his failure to rebid 2S over 2H suggests a somewhat balanced hand. The Ax of diamonds should be enough to bring home 3NT."

By far my favorite for this month was the Jekyll and Hyde approach taken by one of my favorite partners when we both lived in the Midwest:

BERNHARD (Jekyll): "3D. Stuck because of that lousy redouble. Partner will at least know that I have 10+ pts and a diamond suit."

BERNHARD (Hyde): "2NT. Oh how I hate the redouble, especially when I cannot double the other major."

Oh, if only you could hedge your bets this way at the table!

## 2. IMPs, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	4H	???

What is your call as South holding: ♠AKQJ976 ♥Void ♦A5 ♣AQ93 ?

Anyone who bids with any level of confidence here is deluded. As with all high-level preempts, a certain amount of guessing/hoping/praying is always involved. Note that the timid 4S was demoted because the general flavor of the panel's actions indicated that aggressive action is warranted. I agree.

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
6S	100	7	20
5H	90	2	10
5S	80	2	23
4NT	80	1	2
4S	60	3	34
DBL	50	1	11

KNIEST: "6S. It's all a guess, so I go for the big reward."

WALKER: "6S. Way too much for just 4S and way too risky to double. There's no scientific way to find out if partner has the cards you need, so I'll make the guess that offers the biggest payoff. 5S here would ask for a heart control."

I wouldn't assume this unless previously discussed. The "It's Your Call" column in the June ACBL *Bulletin* poses this same problem, but from the other side of the table, after partner overcalls 5S. Not quite half of the expert panel thought 5S asked for a heart control, a little more than half thought it was some other type of strong hand, and almost everyone said they were guessing

TAFJORD: "5S. Who knows? I'm hoping this sends the message that if partner has a useful card (say, a minor-suit king), bid 6."

Maybe, but the problem I have with 5S is that if you end up there (likely) you've gained nothing, except perhaps beating those who go down 2 in slam.

MERRITT: "6S. I have been forced to guess at matchpoints. The saving grace is that I may induce West to try 7H, which I am happy enough to defend. I don't think that any more delicate option works. I would like to bid 4NT to which partner will surely bid 5C and then I could bid 5S, but will partner know that two minor suit kings are golden? Then again, what if he doesn't bid 5C?"

NELSON: "4NT. I think I'm too big to just bid 4S, so I will use the takeout bid first, then bid 5S to show my power. Partner will realize I have a barnburner."

Only trouble is that 4NT here is defined as minors. There is little risk, though, since all roads lead to 6S anyway. Who knows, maybe this approach will endplay us into a cold grand slam?

Yes, I know I talked about plus scores being important, but the 4S bidders struck me as overly timid. And 4S will end the auction, so the 4S bidders will either be getting all of the matchpoints or none of them.

MILLER: "4S. I would take 5S to be asking for a heart control with a hand like ♠AKQJxxxx ♥xx ♦AKx ♣Void. I think we're helped by the vulnerability here. Partner knows I have a real hand and he can go forward if he likes. It's not inconceivable that we could even be down here."

MATHENY: "4S. I hope we make it."

Last but not certainly not least:

BERNHARD (Hyde): "4S. FIXED!"

BERNHARD (Jekyll): "5H. Converting 6C and 6D to 6S, only danger is 6NT by partner."

### 3. IMPs, both vulnerable

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

\* Forcing 1NT (2-over-1 game force system)

What is your call as South holding: ♠A ♥K72 ♦KJ7652 ♣943 ?

A "modern" problem because of the forcing NT, but even old-fashioned 2-over-1 bidding has a tough time handling hands like this -- moderate values, a relatively long and weak minor, no guaranteed 8-card major suit fit ... all part of a recipe for disaster. The form of scoring influences me to be aggressive here. Unless the hand is a big misfit and/or North has opened a real bowwow (both very real possibilities!), we should have at least some play for a red game at teams.

3D was dropped considerably in the scoring for two big reasons. This bid advertises a misfit; and you have way too much strength and possibilities to send that message. I'd call 3D here with a king less and most, if not all, of the high cards in diamonds -- something along weak-jump shift lines, like ♠x ♥xx ♦AQJxxx ♣xxx. The current South hand has too much crossover potential and strength to justify what is essentially is an auction-ending call.

My decision was surely influenced by the fact that teammates tend to be more forgiving of overaggressive bids that cost IMPs than they are of teammates who miss vulnerable games.

BERNHARD (Jekyll): "3H. Yes, I would have bid 2D instead of 1NT. Now I have unsolvable problem that I will solve by lying about my hearts."

BERNHARD (Hyde): "4H. 3H hearts is too little, notrump lets us watch EW run five clubs, 3D shows nothing, so ... "

MATHENY: "3H. I *never* raise a second suit without four."

Never Say Never Again. Wasn't that a remake of "Thunderball"? I am having too much fun with this. OK, on to seriousness (?):

WALKER: "3H. Vul at IMPs, you have to make a move toward game with this hand. If we land in a 4-3 fit, this won't be an awful dummy. I might have stretched to make a 2-over-1 response, but I'd end up with the same problem, except that we'd have no chance to stop when partner has a dead minimum."

KESSLER: "2NT. An excellent problem. This is not a perfect bid, but least of the evils. It comes closest to describing our hand. Partner realizes we are red at IMPs and will be pushy with a decent hand."

MERRITT similarly defended his choice, adding that 2NT gives North a chance to bid out his hand pattern. Of course, that is assuming he has an extra heart or a minor-suit singleton. Me, I'm a little nervous about angling for notrump and watching EW run off the first five or six club tricks. Don't get me wrong; I'm a little anxious about North taking a swing at 4H, too, just not quite so much. And at least I can table my hand at that contract and watch North sweat.

Finally, a call that would have garnered a few more votes at matchpoints (or opposite one of my typical opening bids)"

TAFJORD: "Pass. These problems are hard. Partner has at most four minor-suit cards, so 3NT could be tough or laydown. I'll be conservative and pass."

Pass could even be the right call. Who knows? Oyvind is right that these are tough problems. Then again, we don't see too many gimmees in this forum, or it wouldn't be

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
3H	100	7	22
2NT	90	4	10
4H	70	2	4
3D	60	1	55
Pass	50	2	2
3NT	50	0	7



a very lively discussion.

#### 4. IMPs, none vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	3D	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding: ♠92 ♥K765 ♦AK42 ♣K93?

An interesting exercise. EW have not yet acted, yet they're surely favorites to make a game given North's advertised weakness and the apparent positioning of South's kings. But how likely are EW to get there? Surely, we can't pass and hope West lets us play 3D, but it is probably the only contract where we have a chance to go plus.

But what if West can't scrape up a takeout double with say, a 10-count and something like 4-3-1-5 distribution? I submit that my answer to this problem might change dramatically if I knew the tendencies of my opponents.

STRITE: "3NT. The opponents don't rate to have a slam and might not even have a game, so there isn't much profit in a 5D sacrifice. Throw a little smoke. 3NT might even buy a double game swing opposite the right side Ace and a favorable opening lead, while I can jack-rabbit, none the poorer, to 4D if doubled."

MERRITT (and similarly WALKER): "3NT. This surely has two ways to win. It may make (doubtful) or it may end the auction (more likely). Us playing 3NT with seven peelers when we get in must be safer than them playing a partial or game in a major."

PAOLO: "3NT. This bid is like a preempt, as I'll run to 4D if doubled."

KNIEST: "3NT. In tempo. There's no damage until they double, in which case 4D seems right. No need to give them more than their game by bidding 5D."

Minority views:

TAFJORD: "Pass. I don't see prospects for game, and my defense against 4S is minimal. I could interfere with 4D, but I doubt they'll get there, so I pass."

KESSLER: "3S. I'm sure this will not win a bidding contest, but this just looks like the right hand to make the opponents work to find their spade game."

I have a sneaking admiration for Mark's call. In fact, at the table, 3S would probably be my first choice. I love watching opponents squirm.

#### 5. Matchpoints, none vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1C	1D	2D*
2H	DBL	Pass	???

\* Limit-raise or better for clubs

What is your call as South holding: ♠A4 ♥3 ♦AQJ2 ♣A86432 ?

Predictably, this problem drew the largest number of different responses. I would have preferred a direct splinter raise, but the auction as it has transpired thus far has actually saved us some room to maneuver.

Which is why I fail to understand the bashers trotting out Blackwood even in the face of known wasted values. If North has zero key cards (unlikely but possible), you are going to wish the hand had played in 3NT, and if he has one, you are endplayed into bidding a slam with no idea if there is a play for it. If North's hearts match your diamonds, he could have both key cards -- say something like ♠Qxxx ♥AQJx ♦xx ♣Kxx, or my favorite nightmare hand of ♠KQ10x ♥AQJx ♦xx ♣xxx -- and you still need some good breaks to make a slam.

I'm not advocating pessimism here, but while you have the room, why not investigate? I was somewhat dismayed by the lack of comments from the panel here, as this problem has plenty of meat on the bone for discussion. Some views:

NELSON: "3D. I can smell a slam. I may be wrong, but I am taking action trying. If partner now bids 3H, I will bid 3S. I don't need much for 6Cs, but I do need top clubs and the heart ace, preferably along with two diamonds or the spade king and not the heart ace. I can always sign off in 4NT if partner puts on the brakes."

MERRITT: "3H. I plan to follow the expected 3NT with 4C. If partner gives up with 4NT, I rest in peace. Otherwise, I bid 6C."

The bashers at least have simplicity on their side:

KESSLER: "4NT. Key card for clubs. If partner has two controls and the club queen, I bid 6NT. With less, I bid 6C."

STRITE: "4NT. On a bad day, we've lost 3NT, but this hand boils down to the heart ace and two top trump honors. With a regular partner, 4C or 4D would be ace-asking, leaving 4NT as a possible contract opposite a negative response."

WALKER: "4NT. Make the opponents pay for telling you where the red kings are. If partner shows two keycards with the club queen, I'll bid 7C, playing the odds that both finesses are onside if I need them. Any other bid here will set up a Tortured Cuebid Auction that will waste more of partner's brain cells and may make it impossible to find out about trump honors."

I killed enough brain cells in college and law school, thank you, but I'd rather kill off the rest in a tortured auction that gets to a decent contract, then racking what's left of them trying to figure out how to make the grand you're dragging me into.

The minority views:

KNIEST: "6C. We could have a grand, but what auction leads to it if it's cold? Yes, I could splinter, perhaps talking them into a spade lead. I think 6C gets to the right contract with minimal info for the opponents and the best possible chance of success. I'll leave other bids to the scientists."

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
3NT	100	8	32
5D	80	3	22
Pass	80	4	19
3H, 3S	70	1	9
Other	60	0	18

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
4NT	100	4	22
3D	90	4	14
3H	90	3	16
4D	80	0	2
3NT	70	1	14
Pass	60	2	19
6C	60	1	7
5C	50	1	4

BERNHARD: "3NT. There might be a slam, but very doubtful with partner having stuff in hearts."

The call I do not understand is this (talk about torture):

BERNHARD (Hyde): "Pass. Close between this and 3NT."

## 6. Matchpoints, NS vulnerable

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
--	2NT *	Pass	3C
3D	3S	4D	???

\* (20-22 HCPs -- may be a strong 19)

What is your call as South holding: ♠A83 ♥9874 ♦6 ♣K10976 ?

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
4S	100	13	70
Pass	80	1	13
5C	60	1	6
DBL	50	0	11

I must confess that in 30 years of playing bridge, this situation (partner opens 2NT and the opponents bid up to the four-level) has occurred exactly twice, and both times, the correct action was clear, as it seems to be here. Note that I said "seems". North will not always have the perfect fitter to allow you to sneak by in 4S. But what else is better?

KNIEST: "4S. Looks like we have a club fit for our source of tricks, and I have diamonds controlled, and the lead is coming up to partner, so I'll go for the 10 trick game, especially at matchpoints. The auction suggests a lack of diamond power and chunky spades, so I hope this works. Interesting question: if 3C was puppet Stayman, how is the diamond interference handled?"

WALKER: "4S. This is a pretty good dummy for a 4-3 fit. Unless our opponents are crazy, we won't get rich defending 4D."

STRITE: "4S. The Moysian should play reasonably well, though I'd make a forcing pass opposite a trusted partner. I get a sneaky feeling 5C is our best spot."

MERRITT: "4S. This must be fine. And the bid must be made confidently. I will almost surely get another bite at this at 5D."

I wouldn't bet on EW bidding any more here, even at this vulnerability, unless they are crazy.

BERNHARD (Jekyll): "4S. Ruffing in the short trump hand. Partner may have five spades."

Unfortunately, Mr. Hyde didn't comment on his choice of 5C, denying me one last shot. Finally, we have:

MATHENY: "4S. I never raise without four."

Somebody is going to have to call Webster's and revise the definition on "never" in their next publishing.

MILLER: "Pass. What's the hurry when I will be pulling if partner doubles anyway."

Pass actually could work out better. It will almost surely guarantee that EW won't bid 5D, which they may trot out if you bid 4S *too* confidently. Bid this way (pass and pull) sounds weaker, and we are anything but weak here. As STRITE pointed out, our best spot may be in clubs, but I'm thinking higher than 5C. Lots of North hands would give us a good play for slam, so long as there are minimal wasted diamond values.

But enough for now. Everyone, enjoy your summer and I'll see you all again for the Christmas issue.

Thanks to all who sent in answers this month, and congratulations to **George Klemic** and **John Seng**, who topped all Solvers for this set. They're invited to join the August panel.

The six new problems for August are below. There's still time to join in the 2006 Solvers Contest, which is based on your best three scores for the year, so I hope you'll all give them a try. Ideas for new problems are always welcome, too. Please submit your solutions by **July 22** on the [web form](#) or by email to our August moderator:

**Tom Kniest** -- [kniest@swbell.net](mailto:kniest@swbell.net)

How the Panel voted (Panel/Staff Avg. -- 529):	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score
<b>Bob Bernhard</b> , New Smyrna Beach FL	2NT	5H	3H	Pass	Pass	4S	500
<b>Bob Bernhard</b> , New Smyrna Beach FL	3D	4S	4H	5D	3NT	5C	440
<b>Gary Dell</b> , Champaign IL	Dbl	5S	3H	5D	3D	4S	510
<b>Mark Kessler</b> , Springfield IL	3D	5H	2NT	3S	4NT	4S	550
<b>Larry Matheny</b> , Loveland CO	3D	4S	3H	5D	3H	4S	530
<b>Hugh Metzger</b> , South Bend IN	2S	Dbl	Pass	Pass	5C	4S	410
<b>Adam Miller</b> , Chicago	3D	4S	3H	3NT	3H	Pass	530
<b>Bev Nelson</b> , Fort Myers FL	Dbl	4NT	2NT	3NT	3D	4S	520
<b>Manuel Paulo</b> , Lisboa PT	3D	6S	3H	3NT	4NT	4S	600
<b>Larry Rabideau</b> , St. Anne ON	3D	6S	2NT	Pass	Pass	4S	530
<b>Toby Strite</b> , San Jose CA	3D	6S	3D	3NT	4NT	4S	560
<b>Oyvind Tajford</b> , Eugene OR	3NT	5S	Pass	Pass	3D	4S	500

**How the Staff voted**

<b>Tom Dodd</b> , Branchburg NJ	2S	6S	3H	3NT	3D	4S	560
<b>Tom Kniest</b> , University City MO	3H	6S	4H	3NT	6C	4S	510
<b>Scott Merritt</b> , Abuja, Nigeria	3D	6S	2NT	3NT	3H	4S	560
<b>Karen Walker</b> , Champaign IL	3NT	6S	3H	3NT	4NT	4S	570

**Solvers Honor Roll** (Average Solver score: 484)

<b>George Klemic</b> , Bensenville IL	570	<b>John R. Mayne</b> , Riverbank CA	540
<b>John Seng</b> , Champaign IL	560	<b>Robert Lambert</b> , Warsaw IN	540
<b>Micah Fogel</b> , Aurora IL	550	<b>Cliff Pleatman</b> , Cincinnati OH	530
<b>Steve White</b> , Broomall PA	550	<b>Asher Axelrod</b> , Jerusalem, Israel	530
<b>Arbha Vongsvivut</b> , Godfrey IL	540	<b>Rich Pestien</b> , Peoria IL	520
<b>David Wetzell</b> , Rantoul IL	540	<b>Paul Soper</b> , Sierra Vista AZ	520

**Solvers Forum -- August 2006 Problems****1.** Matchpoints, both vulnerable

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

\* Responsive (minors)

What is your call as South holding:  
♠Q ♥AK10982 ♦A2 ♣AK42 ?**2.** Matchpoints, NS vulnerable

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

What is your call as South holding:  
♠10 ♥AJ63 ♦AQ1032 ♣AJ7 ?**3.** IMPs, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1C	1S	DBL
2S	3C	3S	???

What is your call as South holding:  
♠A762 ♥A1097 ♦KQ65 ♣8 ?**4.** Matchpoints, none vulnerable

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

What is your call as South holding:  
♠K10876 ♥A ♦J742 ♣KJ5 ?**5.** IMPs, both vulnerable

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

What is your call as South holding:  
♠KQ987 ♥A1096 ♦A ♣KQ7 ?**6.** IMPs, none vulnerable

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

What is your call as South holding:  
♠Q10763 ♥J54 ♦102 ♣A63 ?



# Pair Fare

## ***News from Northwestern Illinois Unit 239***

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

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### **Cecilia LeTourneau: Life Master**



Listen up, all you bridge teachers out there: Offering lessons pays; in this case, it just struck gold. And listen up all you beginners out there who fancy you might like to “really learn bridge”: Taking bridge lessons prepares one for many long years of friendship and enjoyment.

That’s the moral of the “LeTourneau Story.” Cecilia LeTourneau, that is, one of Unit 239’s most recent Life Masters, who won her gold card at a Lake Geneva regional last April playing with Becky Shephard (Bartlett) in a knockout with Jim and Millie Wing. She started taking lessons from Betty Wade, director of the regular Wednesday club game in Aurora, 15 years ago. Her other regular partners are Jo Lindemann (Geneva) and Mary Comstock (Batavia). And Cecilia wouldn’t have missed a minute of those years or even one the friendships bridge has afforded her.

Cecilia was born and raised in the Chicago area and attended McCormick Business College there. During her career as an executive secretary for the Illinois Central Railroad in Chicago, she met her husband Ernest, who worked in the Chicago office of a steamship company. He is now retired as president of the Ocean Freight Agent Association. The couple moved to Batavia 35 years ago.

The LeTourneaus have four children: John, of St Louis, a buyer for a grocery chain; David, of Batavia, part owner in a communications company; Scott, who is now looking for employment in Batavia after a stint in the Marine Corps; and Lisa, a Batavia homemaker. They have eight grandchildren.

“Through bridge, I have met a lot of wonderful people over the years,” Cecilia asserts. “Some of them have become just like family. So I do not see making Life Master as a particular goal, or as an end in itself. It’s just one of those wonderful milestones, like a birthday or a graduation, that a family shares together.”

### **Donald Cisek: Life Master**



The bridge sojourn of Donald Cisek (St. Charles) typifies the card-table career of many of our Unit's latest Life Masters: he began social bridge 30 years ago, only to take up competitive duplicate later in life. He began a serious quest for his gold card in 1998, and attained it at the Rockin' Rockford Regional last June. He played in a knockout event with John Kinst (Batavia). Their team-mates were John Pree (St. Charles) and Glenn DeVries (Aurora).

Born in Oak Park and raised in Bellwood, Donald attended the University of Illinois in Chicago and later in Champaign, majoring in business. Later, he received a law degree from Loyola University in Chicago. He spent most of his career in Lisle, working in labor relations for Ceco Corporation, a manufacturing and construction company. He lived in Kansas City from 1989 until 1998.

But then came retirement. And then came St. Charles. "I'm the only person I know who ever retired to the Chicago area," Donald laughs. "But when I visited here, I found this appealing community in Kane County along the river, so that's what happened." And along with both retirement and St. Charles, of course, came bridge.

Donald and his wife Carol Ann have two children: Christa, a homemaker in Naperville and Jori, a condo manager in Chicago.

"I owe making Life Master to John Kinst," Donald confesses. "As one grows older, one needs something to keep one challenged. John is a friend; John is patient; John is a good teacher. But most of all, John is a superb challenger."

## **Karl Dencker: Life Master**



Since January, our Unit has been unusual in the ACBL—in fact, it's probably been unique. During that time, our Unit President has been a 299er.

But Karl Dencker rectified all that in Lake Geneva in April when he made LM. He was playing in a knockout event with his wife Rajahneen, with Barry and Sue Eckman as team mates.

Karl played social bridge with friends in the 60s, but only took up duplicate seriously in the 80s. Even at that, Karl has made Life Master the hard way -- and many "old timers" in the bridge community will sympathize. Remember those little green slips of paper which club directors used to issue with fractional "rating" points? One stuffed them in a drawer until they became so ratty and dog-eared that no one could read them. Then one paid \$5 in postage to send them all in to the ACBL. Well, Karl didn't know what those slips were back in the 80s. He threw all his away. "But look what I saved in postage," he boasts proudly.

He grew up in Ft. Dodge, IA -- in fact, both he and his wife graduated from high school there. He attended State University in Brooklyn NY, where he majored in business and hotel management.

(He hadn't done much with the hotel-management side of his training until he became Unit president, when he undertook some "interesting" negotiations with various Unit tournament venues.) But Karl got married, moved to Colorado ("Three families of us all sold our homes and moved out there; I took a temporary job and ended up sticking with it") where he worked for Collier's Encyclopedia. He eventually worked his way up to the head office in New York City, but was also "stationed" in Davenport IA, Atlanta GA, and in New Jersey. He traveled extensively during those years, when he was with administrative operations and in sales. Then he got tired of traveling and took a job with a real-estate firm. He was inspired to move to Lake in the Hills when he retired and when his daughter moved there, and has been there for seven years now.

Karl and Raj have two children: Brock, who is in retail sales in St. Charles; and Karla, a former teacher who is now a homemaker in Lake in the Hills.

Karl has been Unit President since January. He and Raj are both representatives of Unit 239 to the District 8 Board of Directors and often play together at regional tournaments where the District Board meets. "We've been together for 53 years," Karl reflects happily. "We both enjoy theatre -- we have five different theatre subscriptions -- and we like to travel. But now bridge competes with theatre, travel and, of course, grandchildren, for our time."

## Upcoming Tournaments in Unit 239

Year	Rockin' Rockford Regional	Elgin Spring Sectional	Elgin 299er Sectional	Rockford Classic Sectional	Aurora Turkey Bowl
2006	June 19-25	Already held	Aug. 4-6	Sept. 8-10	Nov. 24-26
2007	June 18-24	Mar. 2-4	Aug. 3-5	Sept. 7-9	Nov. 23-25
2008	June 16-22	Mar. 7-9	Aug. 1-3	Sept. 5-7	Nov. 28-30
2009	June 22-28	Mar. 20-22	Aug. 7-9	Sept. 11-13	Nov. 27-29
2010	June 21-27	Mar. 19-21	Aug. 6-8	Sept. 10-13	Nov. 26-28

Rockford Regionals & Rockford Classic Sectionals will all be held at Clock Tower Resort, 7801 E. State, Rockford.

Elgin Spring Sectionals will all be held at Elgin Community College, 1700 Spartan Dr., Elgin.

299er Sectionals will all be held at Elgin Community Center, 123 Symphony Rd., Elgin.

Turkey Bowl Sectionals will all be held at Prisco Community Center, southeast corner of Rt. 31 & Illinois Ave., Aurora.

## The Changing Scene . . .

**New Junior Masters:** Renee McNitt, Roscoe; Steve Sealin, Cherry Valley.

**New Club Masters:** Amnon Harel, Batavia; Dr. Charles Laurx, Aurora; Nelson Turner, Aurora;

Peggy Wallace, Dixon.

**New Sectional Masters:** William Demlow, Sandwich; Frank Nester, Mt. Carroll.

**New Regional Masters:** Richard Frier, Crystal Lake; Jean Larsen, Rockford.

**New Life Masters:** Thomas Burke, Aurora; Karl D. Dencker, Lake-in-the-Hills; Cecilia LeTourneau, Batavia.

**New Bronze Life Masters:** David Jenkins, Rockford; Susan Mougalian, Algonquin.

**New Silver Life Masters:** Brij Kalra, Algonquin.

**New Diamond Life Masters:** Jack Snyder, Rockford.



# The RECAP SHEET

## *News from Northern Indiana Unit 154*

**Editor: Jim Pelletier, 11115 Bittersweet Dells, Ft. Wayne IN  
46814 [jimpelletier@comcast.net](mailto:jimpelletier@comcast.net)**

## In Memory

The Fort Wayne Duplicate Bridge Club lost many good friends and players in March of this year. We lost six outstanding and long-time club and tournament players. Here is a little bit about each you may or may not have known.

**Dick Sullivan** was a Gold Life Master who frequented club games several times a week and was a regular at sectionals and regionals. Dick was also a sports trivia expert and a retired lawyer. He attained the rank of Gold LM in 2005 and was a Board member of the Fort Wayne Duplicate Bridge Club Board and acted as the club Historian.

**Rich Willis** was a Silver Life Master and a former Fort Wayne club director. Rich was also a retired lawyer. He was involved in the Fort Wayne tournament for years as the editor of the tournament's Daily Bulletin.

**Dick Garab** was a Silver Life Master and former Fort Wayne branch manager for the 3M Company. Dick and his wife Carol were regulars at the Monday and Thursday night club games for over 40 years. He was an avid golfer and big Notre Dame sports fan, not necessarily in that order. Dick also served on the Fort Wayne Duplicate Bridge Club Board for several years and was the Board president for three terms.

**Maxine Kingsbury** was also a Silver Life Master. She was also regularly found at the table during the Monday and Thursday night games as well as Tuesday afternoons and evenings.

**Chuck Feustel** was also a Silver Life Master and a retired professor of mathematics. Chuck frequented all of our local tournaments as well as being a regular at most all of our club games.

**Rosemary Long** was a very friendly and long-time bridge player. She had an outstanding sense of humor both at and away from the table. Rosemary never attained the rank of Life Master, but she was an avid and devoted player who will be missed by her many friends at the bridge club.





# 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)

## Illini Regional -- May 23-29, Champaign IL

Thanks to everyone who traveled to Champaign during Memorial Day week to play in our Unit's annual regional, held at the Hawthorn Suites. We hope you'll all be able to return for our next regional -- **May 22-28, 2007**.

Special thanks to the many hard-working volunteers from Champaign's Bridge at Ginger Creek club who made the tournament a success:

- John Brandeberry & Maggie Stephens** -- Hospitality suite
- Pete Petillo & Bob Shair** -- Daily Bulletin
- Debbie Avery** -- Caddies
- Dot Roemelt** -- Registration
- John Seng** -- Prizes
- Hugh Williams & Madhu Viswanathan** - Partnerships
- Karen Walker** -- Chairman
- Mike Halvorsen** -- Toting, gofering and multiple-event winning

**Congratulations** to these three players who made Life Master at the regional:



**Grace Hoffman,**  
Danville



**Dave Short,**  
Champaign



**Aaron Hanford,**  
Rockford

The regional's big winner from Central Illinois was **Mike Halvorsen**, who won three events. Unit players on the list of top point winners for the week were:

- 69.06 -- Michael Halvorsen, Champaign
- 60.45 -- Madhu Viswanathan, Champaign
- 55.32 -- Kris Maillacheruvu, Peoria
- 48.13 -- John Seng, Champaign
- 47.84 -- Richard Blumenthal, Lincoln
- 47.06 -- James Melville, Springfield
- 41.60 -- Shirley Judy, Urbana
- 38.03 -- Bill Lindemann Jr., Champaign

## Regional Winners



Wednesday Open Pairs:  
**Hugh Williams & Lenny Gross**



Thursday Swiss Teams (Flight A/X):  
**Bob Steigmann, Marty Moltz, Sherry Steigmann, M. Miller**



Thursday Swiss Teams (Flt. A):  
**Dick & Chris Benson, Ginny & Jeff Schuett, Dan Gerstman**

- 38.03 -- Gary Dell, Champaign
- 38.03 -- Dan Faulkner, Monticello
- 37.74 -- James Ward, Champaign
- 33.69 -- Bob Shair, Champaign
- 32.67 -- Dan Requard, Springfield
- 31.82 -- Josh Kueker, Champaign
- 31.47 -- Debbie Avery, Champaign
- 31.27 -- Gary Kessler, Springfield
- 26.73 -- Carroll Drablos, Champaign
- 25.89 -- Ron Sholes, Springfield
- 25.65 -- Arlene Drablos, Champaign

The full list of event winners and points won by all players is [here](#).



Orange & Blue KO, Br. 2:  
**Steve Brauss, Madhu Viswanathan, Mike Halvorsen, John Seng, Richard Blumenthal, Kris Maillacheruvu**

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## 2006 Grand National Teams

Congratulations to all our Unit players who entered the District 8 Grand National Team finals in Springfield on May 6 & 7. Two of our Central Illinois teams won their flights and will be representing District 8 in the national finals in Chicago in July. Good luck to:

**Flight B (0-2000):** Fei Dong - Patrick Moos - Charles Young, Peoria; Stephen Hawthorne, Bloomington

**Flight C (0-500 non-LM):** Anne Thiede, Danville; Janice Thompson, Allerton; Irene Wen & Elizabeth Wilson, Urbana.



Flt. A Barometer Pairs & Chief Illiniwek KO:  
**Howard Stern & Mike Halvorsen**

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## In Memory

We were saddened by the May 23 death of **Donn Miller**, 76, of Decatur.

A Silver Life Master, Donn loved the game of bridge and was a tireless volunteer for its players. For many years, he served as chairman of the Decatur Sectionals and as a Unit Board member and officer, most recently as treasurer. He was also co-owner of the Commodore Bridge Club in Decatur.

Donn, who was retired from a career of more than 40 years with Illinois Power, was also an avid golfer and bowler. He and Edith, his wife of 52 years, had four children, ten grandchildren and many great grandchildren.

Donn was an accomplished player, a true gentleman and a valued friend in our Central Illinois bridge community. We'll all miss him.



**Exhibit 1:** Evidence that you can never be the worst-dressed person at a bridge tournament. In his defense, Marty Moltz was on his way to a rollercoaster convention, a venue where, he assured us, his would be one of the more conservative outfits.

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

**Junior Master (5 pts.)**

Mary Lou Gold, Bloomington  
David Lawrence, Savoy

**NABC Master (200 pts.)**

Paul Holmes, Champaign

**Sectional Master (50 pts.)**

Ann Schuyler, Bloomington

**Silver Life Master (1000 pts.)**

Bobbie Straker, Pekin  
George Veenstra, Springfield

**Regional Master (100 pts.)**

Duane Broline, Charleston



# Greater St. Louis Bridge News

## News from Greater St. Louis Unit 143

*Editor:* Marie Sander, St. Louis MO [hatlady@prodigy.net](mailto:hatlady@prodigy.net)

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### May Sectional

We have been so fortunate in St. Louis these last few weeks. Usually, we are satisfied if spring actually falls on a weekend, and consider it a bonus if we don't actually have to turn the furnace off and the air conditioner on at the same time. But we have had weeks and weeks of balmy spring weather. We forget we live in the allergy capital of the world and contently pull weeds and trim hedges until our eyes swell shut.

Which is why I was so pleasantly surprised at our May sectional at the big turnout. Due to a family emergency, I was unable to play on Saturday, but sent Emily out to earn a few shekels as a caddy. And Sunday, despite the chirping birds and gentle breezes, we packed ourselves into Memorial Hall like sardines. I looked for the results, and to save y'all the surprisingly painful process of ferreting them out, here's the direct [link](#) to the ACBL site with all the tournament winners.

Congratulations to the top five point winners at the sectional:

Glenn Smith, Chesterfield

Nancy Popkin, St. Louis

Norman Athy, St. Louis

John Dicks, St. Charles

Larry Kolker, St. Louis

My name is somewhere along the bottom of the list, proving I was there. Which makes the point that no matter what is going on in your life, you can put on a hat (or not), and go toss cards. Those at the top of the list and those of us on the bottom all got some enjoyment, companionship and challenge by playing bridge. Not to mention a lovely dinner and enough popcorn, muffins and soda to sink a battleship.

### News from the Dallas Championships

The other big news for St. Louis comes from the Dallas NABC in April, where several local players did very well. The big winner was Tom Kniest, together with our dear editor Karen Walker, who won the Rockwell Mixed pairs for a whopping 100 master points. Think about how long it took to earn your first 100 points, and imagine getting it all at one time. That is a big win.

Also scoring well in the Mixed Pairs was Nancy Popkin, who finished 7th overall with Don Stack

of Kansas City. Congratulations to you and to all those St. Louisans who got to go and score big in Dallas. Ferreting out those results was even more mind bending, so to spare you the agony, here's the [link](#) to the masterpoints won by all 4000+ people who played in Dallas. To read the *Daily Bulletin* covering the Mixed Pairs event, google Tom Kniest, Karen Walker, Mixed pairs, and voilà.

Well, I'm going to go enjoy the final days of tolerable weather here at Humidity Central and hope to see y'all in the air conditioning soon. Until then, y'all play nice now, -- Marie



# 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](mailto:finesse002002@yahoo.com)**

## Tournament Travels

My husband, John, and I headed down to Gatlinburg again this year with four good friends. We all shared a spanking new cabin, ate out a lot, had a major good time, played lots of bridge, and even won some points. All in all, a thoroughly satisfactory tournament and trip!

Sitting out on the deck of that cabin one evening, drinking wine, enjoying a view of the Smokies, and shooting the breeze until we took off for the evening session, the conversation turned to how each of us had started playing bridge. Almost every one of us had gotten hooked on the game young and had learned bridge as children from our mothers and grandmothers. The long road to that tournament had started at assorted kitchen tables, playing cards with adult relatives.

I remember being a fascinated onlooker when my mother had foursomes in to play on hot summer afternoons. My mother and her friends were fairly ferocious rubber players. There were little bowls of bridge mints on the corners of the table but not much chit-chat when they played, although I do remember a discussion about their friend, Lou, becoming a “Life Master”. What that was I hadn’t a clue, but I knew it had to be something exotically wonderful and difficult, and I was struck by how impressed my mother and her friends were at Lou’s mysterious achievement.

My mother continued to play bridge, and play well, until her death at age 92. After my father died, she moved into what was billed as a “luxury” apartment complex for senior citizens, and a major portion of the social life there seemed to center around the game of bridge. She played in foursomes several times a week. Mom’s gone now, but the lasting legacy that she left me is my love of the game. It was a source of infinite pride to her when, like her friend Lou, I made Life Master, too.

I would really like to pass my mother’s love of the game on, too. I haven’t however been successful in getting my own children hooked. Lord knows, I’ve tried. One of my children is a civil engineer and the other soon will be, so they both have the brains to play bridge, but so far, neither has shown any inclination. A pity. However, I still have hopes that lightning may strike my grandchildren, when they eventually all arrive and get tall enough to see over the edge of a card table.

So I intend to hang on to those double decks of playing cards. Some of them belonged to my mother. I keep them in a drawer in a little table in the living room – just like she did. And every chance I get, I intend to get those playing cards out, invite a child to play, and try to teach another

generation of my family's children to maybe even love the game a little, too. I may even sit out little bowls of bridge mints on the corners of the table.

Maybe you have some impressionable children or grandchildren, too? Go for it.

## Advancements in rank

Congratulations to the following Unit 223 Players who have advanced in rank.

New Junior Masters: **Debbie Garnier**, Centralia & **Carol Windland**, Glen Carbon

New Club Master: **Wanda Culpepper**, Cahokia

New Sectional Masters: **Maynette Alcorn & Rebecca Groff**, Grayville; **Dan Evers**, Mt. Vernon; **Daniel Hauk**, Effingham ; **Robert Holdeman**, Pocahontas; **James Pirkle**, Glen Carbon.

New Regional Masters: **Mary Parker**, Eddyville KY & **Wayne Sprehe**, Centralia

New NABC Masters: **Bill Petrie**, Mayfield KY

*And welcome* to Unit 223 New Members: Elizabeth Savage, Mt. Carmel; Bob & Linda Biarkis, Glen Carbon; Eric Bizzell, Altamont .

## 2006 McCord Trophy Race

Congratulations to Judy Eaton, Carbondale, who is currently leading the McCord Race for most points won in Unit 223 sectionals this year. Following closely in second place is Glafkos Galanos, also of Carbondale.

## New club

Another opportunity for Western Kentucky players to play bridge, and to support a new club!

Hickman Duplicate Bridge Club, 100 Church Street, Hickman KY

Club manager: Georgianna Scarborough

Open pairs every Tuesday at 7:00 P.M.

## Upcoming tournaments

**Paducah Regional** : The Executive Inn in Paducah KY will be the site of the Champagne Regional. Make plans to attend the tournament, which will be in action June 19 through 25. The schedule is in this issue of the Advocate, at [www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org) (click on Tournaments on the homepage), and in the April issue of the ACBL *Bridge Bulletin*.

Tournament Chair: Doug Edwards (270) 437-4977 [gay310@apex.net](mailto:gay310@apex.net)

Partnerships: Maxine Wynn (270) 554-5719

Novice Partnerships: Karen Coe (618) 435-4200 [finesse002002@yahoo.com](mailto:finesse002002@yahoo.com)

Tournament Contacts: Tom Wynn (270) 554-5719 & Dalton Darnell (270) 753-5992

**Edwardsville Sectional** -- July 28-30, Knights of Columbus Hall

Tournament Chair: Ruby Nelson (618) 659-9716

Partnerships: Ray Sigler (618) 656-4900



# Paducah Champagne Regional

## June 19-25, 2006 – Paducah KY

### Executive Inn, overlooking the Ohio River

*Split with Rockford IL*

#### *Memorable Paducah Hospitality*

- ♣ Hospitality rooms with an open bar
- ♣ Unique Champagne Party
- ♣ Buffet soup and salad between sessions on Sunday
- ♣ Free Coffee

SIX BRACKETED KO TEAMS: One starts each day, Mon. – Sat.

FIVE REGIONAL PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS: One each day, Tue. – Sat.

*Note:* In a Stratified Open Choice Pairs, a pair must play in two and only two of the three available sessions.

299er GAMES on Thursday & Saturday

NOVICE LECTURES on Thursday, Friday, & Saturday between sessions

SINGLE SESSION PAIRS: Available each session, Mon. – Sat.

- Side Game Series #1-- 2:00 & 7:00, Tue-Wed-Thu.
- Side Game Series #2 – 2:00 & 7:00, Fri. & Sat.

*Note:* A player must play at least 2 sessions of the same series to win GOLD POINTS or place overall.

*Strata & flights:* C = 0-500 B = 500-1500 A = 1500+

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#### *Events Other Than Side Games*

### **MONDAY—JUNE 19**

CHARITY PAIRS 7:00 PM (ONE SESSION)

BRACKETED K.O. #1 7:00, CONTINUES TUE 9:30, 2 & 7

### **TUESDAY—JUNE 20**

STRATIFIED OPEN CHOICE PAIRS #1 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM. (PLAY IN TWO AND ONLY TWO OF THE THREE SESSIONS)

BRACKETED K.O. #2 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM CONTINUES WEDNESDAY 9:30 AM & 2:00 PM



## **WEDNESDAY—JUNE 21**

STRATIFIED OPEN CHOICE PAIRS #2 -- 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM, & 7:00 PM. (PLAY IN TWO AND ONLY TWO OF THE THREE SESSIONS)

STRATIFIED SWISS TEAMS -- 9:30 AM & 2:00 PM

BRACKETED K.O. #3 7:00 PM, CONTINUES THURSDAY 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

## **THURSDAY—JUNE 22**

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS -- 9:30 AM & 2:00 PM

BRACKETED K.O. #4 7:00 PM, CONTINUES FRIDAY -- 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

SINGLE SESSION 0-299 PAIRS -- 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

## **FRIDAY—JUNE 23**

STRATIFIED OPEN CHOICE PAIRS #3 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM (PLAY IN TWO AND ONLY TWO OF THE THREE SESSIONS)

BRACKETED K.O. #5 7:00 PM, CONTINUES SATURDAY 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

## **SATURDAY—JUNE 24**

STRATIFIED OPEN CHOICE PAIRS #4 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM (PLAY IN TWO AND ONLY TWO OF THE THREE SESSIONS)

COMPACT BRACKETED K.O. 9:30 AM & 2:00 PM

SINGLE SESSION 0—299ERS PAIRS 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM.

## **SUNDAY—JUNE 25**

STRATIFIED SWISS TEAMS 10:00 AM & TBA

### ***Tournament site:***

Executive Inn, One Executive Blvd., Paducah KY

1-800-866-3636 or 1-270-443-8000

Be sure to ask for the bridge rate: \$57 – 1 or 2 people; \$62 – 3 or 4 people

### ***Tournament Contacts:***

Tom Wynn – (270) 554-5719

Doug Edwards – (270) 437- 4977

Dalton Darnell – (270) 753-5992

Partnerships: Maxine Wynn -- (270) 554-5719 t\_wynn@bellsouth.net

Novice Chairman: Karen Coe -- (618) 435-4200



# Unit 239's ROCKIN' ROCKFORD REGIONAL

*Split with Paducah KY*

## June 19-25, 2006

### Clock Tower Resort, Rockford IL

7801 East State Street -- off Interstate 90; exit at State Street/Business  
Route 20

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#### **MONDAY – June 19**

Charity Pairs Game -- 7 PM

KO "A" – 1st session -- 7 PM

#### **TUESDAY – June 20**

\*Open Choice Pairs (3 sessions) -- 9:30 AM, 2 PM & 7 PM

KO "A" -- 3 sessions -- 9:30 AM, 2 PM & 7 PM

KO "B" -- 1st & 2nd of 4 sessions -- 2 PM & 7 PM

Stratified Open Pairs -- 7 PM

Stratified Side Game #1 – 1st round -- 9:30 AM

Stratified Side Game #2 – 1st round -- 2 PM

299er Pairs (single sessions) -- 9:30 AM, 2 PM & 7 PM

#### **WEDNESDAY – June 21**

\*Open Choice Pairs (3 sessions) -- 9:30 AM, 2 PM & 7 PM

Compact KO "E" – 1st of 2 sessions -- 9:30 AM

KO "B" – 3rd & final session -- 7 PM

Stratified Swiss Team Game (2 session) -- 2 PM & 7 PM

#### **FRIDAY – June 23**

\*Open Choice Pairs(3 session ) -- 9:30 AM, 2 PM & 7 PM

Compact KO "F" – 1st of 2 sessions -- 9:30 AM

KO "C" – 3rd& final session -- 2 PM & 7 PM

KO "D" – 1st& 2nd of 4 sessions -- 2 PM & 7 PM

Stratified Open Pairs -- 7 PM

Stratified Side Game # 1– 4th round -- 9:30 AM

Stratified Side Game #2 – 4th round -- 2 PM

299er Pairs (single sessions) -- 9:30 AM, 2 PM & 7 PM

#### **SATURDAY – June 24**

\*Open Choice Pairs (3 sessions) -- 9:30, 2 PM & 7 PM

Compact KO "F" – final session -- 9:30 AM

Stratified Open Pairs -- 7 PM

KO "D" – 3rd& final session -- 2 PM & 7 PM

299er Pairs (single sessions) -- 9:30 AM, 2 PM & 7 PM

Stratified Side Game #1 – 2nd round -- 9:30 AM

Stratified Side Game #2 – 2nd round -- 2 PM

299er Pairs (single sessions) -- 9:30 AM, 2 PM & 7 PM

### **THURSDAY – June 22**

Stratified Open Pairs (2 sessions) -- 9:30 AM, 2 PM

Compact KO “E” - final session -- 9:30 AM

KO “C” – 1st & 2nd of 4 sessions -- 2 PM & 7 PM

Stratified Open Pairs -- 7 PM

Stratified Side Game #1 – 3rd round -- 9:30 AM

Stratified Side Game #2 – 3rd round -- 2 PM

299er Pairs (single sessions) -- 9:30 AM, 2 PM & 7 PM

### **SUNDAY – June 25**

Stratified Swiss Teams (playthru) -- 10 AM (free sandwich lunch)

**Strata:** A = 1500+ B = 500-1500 C = Non-LM (0-500)

**299er Strata:** A = 200-300 B = 100-200 C = 0-100

\* “Open Choice Pairs” -- play in two of the three sessions offered on the same day. Stratified event.

**Bridge rate** (\$65 double) at the Clock Tower Resort. To reserve, call 815-398-6000 or 800-358-7666 and refer to ACBL Unit 239 Bridge. Please reserve by May 19.

**Chairmen:** Karl Dencker – 847-458-8089 [karldencker@aol.com](mailto:karldencker@aol.com)

Douglas Gugger – 815-235-7566 [douglbuggy@aol.com](mailto:douglbuggy@aol.com)

**Partnerships:** Dennis Ryan – 608-756-0060 [drchezmoi@aol.com](mailto:drchezmoi@aol.com)

# Saint Louis

*A Taste of the 2007 NABC*

# Regional

**August 14–20, 2006**

**Outstanding Hospitality Every Evening! Team Games Every Day!**



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

**Special bridge rate  
guaranteed through July 24  
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 14

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

## Tuesday, August 15

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 16

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](http://www.unit143.org) for more information

## Thursday, August 17

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 18

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 19

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  
    Flight 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 20

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

# Twin Cities Summer Sectional July 7-9, 2006

**Interstate Center, Bloomington IL**  
(west of I-74 & I-55 -- exit 160B, IL Route 9)

## Friday, July 7

1:00 pm & 7:00 p.m. -- Single-session Stratified Pairs  
7:00 pm -- 199er pairs

## Saturday, July 8

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

Single-session 199er Pairs

## Sunday, July 9

10:30 am playthrough -- Stratified Swiss Teams

- *Complimentary coffee and snacks all sessions.*
- *Guaranteed sections for 199er games on Friday night and Saturday afternoon.*
- *Dinner served on Sunday*

**Entry fees:** \$8 per person per session on Friday & Saturday.  
\$84 per team on Sunday (includes dinner).

**Strata:** A: Open; B: <1500; C: <Non-LM under 500

**Tournament manager:** Jim Moon (309) 661-8993 [jemoon99@hotmail.com](mailto:jemoon99@hotmail.com)

**Partners:** Mike Tomlianovich (309) 662-5832 [m@mt.org](mailto:m@mt.org)



# Kokomo Sectional

## June 16, 17 & 18, 2006

Johanning Civic Center - on US 31  
1500 N. Reed Rd.

<b>SCHEDULE OF EVENTS</b>	
<b>FRIDAY JUNE 16</b>	
Stratified Open Pairs Single Sessions <b>1:00 PM 7:00 PM</b>	<b>Intermediate/Novices</b> Partners Guaranteed for all 0-200 MP and under events -1 hour before game time
*Limited (199/99/49/ 0-20 & 0-5 MP's) Pairs Single Sessions <b>1:00 PM 7:00 PM</b>	
<b>SATURDAY JUNE 17</b>	
<b>FREE - Continental Breakfast at 8:45 AM!</b>	
Bracketed Knockout Teams (Random Draw) <b>9:00 AM 1:00 PM 7:00 PM</b>	<b>Tournament Chairman</b> Dorothy Harrell (765) 457-7709 <b>Partnerships</b> Chris Egberts (574) 699-0594
Stratified Open Pairs Single Session <b>9:00 AM 1:00 PM 7:00 PM</b>	
*Limited (199/99/49/ 0-20 & 0-5 MP's) Pairs Single Sessions <b>1:00 PM 7:00 PM</b>	
<b>SUNDAY JUNE 18</b>	
Bracketed Swiss Teams (Play-thru) <b>10:00 AM</b>	<b><u>SPECIAL PROMOTION!</u></b> Play a minimum of four (4) sessions at the Kokomo Sectional on the 16th & 17th and your entry for the Sunday Team is <b>FREE</b> .
Stratified Open Pairs: A = 1250 +, B = 500-1250, C=0-500	The ACBL <i>Zero Tolerance</i> policy for bad behavior will be in effect.
* Stratification possible	<b>SMOKING POLICY:</b> This is a NON-SMOKING tournament with frequent breaks.
	<b>Hotel Information:</b> Fairfield Inn US 31 at Lincoln Rd. (765) 453-8822



# Edwardsville Sectional July 28-30, 2006

**Knights of Columbus Hall,**

**7132 Marine Rd. (Hwy. 143), Edwardsville IL**

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## **Friday, July 28**

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

## **Saturday, July 29**

9:00, 1:30 & 7:30 -- Bracketed KO Teams

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

## **Sunday, July 30**

10:00 -- Bracketed Swiss Teams (dinner included)

**Strata:** 0-500 / 500-1500 / 1500+

**Bridge rates** at the Maryville EconoLodge (618-345-5720) and the Edwardsville Comfort Inn (618-656-4900).

**Directions:** From I-55, take Hwy 143 exit (3 miles north of the I-55 & I-270 interchange). Travel west on Hwy. 143 approximately 2 miles.

**Info:** Ruby Nelson (618-659-9716) (cell: 618-514-2293)

**Partnerships:** Ray Sigler (618-224-9606)

# South Bend Sectional

July 28, 29, 30, 2006

Indiana University South Bend  
1700 Mishawaka Ave.



*Unit 154 Individual Championship - Trophy Awarded*

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, July 28

Stratified Open Pairs  
Single Sessions                      1:00 PM    7:00 PM

99er Pairs  
Single Sessions                      1:00 PM    7:00 PM

Bracketed Knockout  
Teams (Random Draw)              7:00 PM

Saturday, July 29

**Individual Game**                      9:00 AM (Trophy awarded)

Bracketed K.O.  
Teams -cont'd    1:00 PM    7:00 PM

Stratified Open Pairs  
Single Sessions                      1:00 PM    7:00 PM

99er Pairs  
Single Session                        1:00 PM

Sunday, July 30

Open Stratified Swiss  
Teams (Play Thru)                      10:00 AM

(Box lunch is included with entry)

## Tournament Chairman

Raj Kohli 574-277-7827  
rkohli@iusb.edu

## Partnerships

Elaine Delaney  
574-291-3521  
Jo Ann Steigmeyer  
574-243-1355

The ACBL *Zero Tolerance* policy for bad behavior will be in effect.

## SMOKING POLICY

This is a NON-SMOKING tournament with frequent breaks.

Stratified Open Pairs:

A = 1250+  
B = 500-1250  
C = 0 - 500

## Directions:

- 1) Coming from the West or East on IN Toll Road: Take exit 77. Turn right (South) on route 933 to Angela Boulevard. Turn left (East) and take Angela/Edison to Ironwood. Right (South) on Ironwood Dr. to Mishawaka Ave. Go right (West) to 1700 Mishawaka Ave.
- 2) Coming from the north: Take route 933 to Angela Blvd. Turn left (East) and take Angela/Edison to Ironwood. Right (South) on Ironwood Dr. to Mishawaka Ave. Go right (West) to 1700 Mishawaka Ave.
- 3) Coming from the south on US 31: Take right (East) on Ireland road to Ironwood Dr. Go left (North) to Mishawaka Ave. Turn left (West) to 1700 Mishawaka Ave.