

44th Annual Presidential Tournament JANUARY 5-8, 2006

IT'S THE FIRST OF THE NEW YEAR...

1st TIME TO **BE FIRST!**

*SPECIAL SUR'PRIZES"
FOR SPECIAL FIRSTS throughout
the tournament*

WBL 75th
Anniversary



New! Get **FRIDAY, JANUARY 6**
*Punchy! Try the Triple Nickel Swiss &
Sherbet Punch*

**SATURDAY,
JANUARY 7**

♥ **Panel Show
& Party** ♥



*to Honor
New Life*



SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

*WBL Trophy Race Winners'
Presentation between sessions*

Masters between sessions

see p.3 for the full tournament schedule

Come out for feasting, bridge & fun at the
Annual Holiday Party
December 15, 2006
(at the Unit
Game)

SEE PAGE 29 FOR MORE DETAILS ON THESE ACTIVITIES

**It's
Time to Renew**

Are you a non-member who subscribes
to the WBL Bulletin? Please use the renewal form.

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SUGGESTION BOX

Do you have a suggestion that might help to increase membership or otherwise improve the Washington Bridge League? Give any and all ideas to Don Berman, 301-776-3581, don.berman@verizon.net, 13707 Engleman Dr., Laurel, MD 20708, or www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

WBL OMBUDSMAN

Any player with helpful director issues including criticism or praise of the directing staff may contact the Ombudsman, Ann Lindley and be assured that the source of the information will remain confidential. Information should be provided in writing and may be handed to her at any game, or mailed to her at 3100 N Leisure World Blvd, Apt. 606, Silver Spring, MD 20906.

♣♦♥♠ ~~~~~ ♣♦♥♠

DEADLINE: JANUARY 16, 2006

TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2006 ISSUE

Washington Bridge League BULLETIN (usps #861-240)

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The opinions expressed by our columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the ACBL, the WBL, or even the editors of this publication. The WBL is not responsible for the claims of its advertisers.

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Barbara Ames — *Tournament Partnerships* (202-439-5667)

Kitty Gottfried — *Unit Game and Sectional Hospitality* (301-587-3981)

WBL WEBSITE:
www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

DISTRICT 6 SITE:
www.districtsix.org

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~ ♣♦♥♠ ~

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Dick Wegman

The year 2006 will mark the **75th (diamond) anniversary** of the Washington Bridge League. According to research by former WBL president Jim Wood, the first bridge tournament held in the Washington area was sponsored by *The Washington Post*. The competition took place in May 1931, and the opening events attracted more than 600 bridge players. Following on the success of that tournament, the Washington Bridge League was founded in the fall of 1931. The WBL's founding approximately coincided with the famous Culbertson-Lenz bridge match, which was widely reported on the front pages of many newspapers and which greatly increased the popularity of the game. The WBL's founding predates the formation of the ACBL by six years (the ACBL was not created until late in 1937), and thus the WBL is one of the oldest and longest-standing bridge organizations in the United States.

The WBL conducted its first tournament at the Shoreham Hotel in December 1931. The tournament was known then (and is still known today) as the DC Championships. The first tournament introduced a brand-new silver trophy to be awarded to the winner of the team-of-four event. The trophy was named for Eddie Eynon, the founding president of the WBL. Over the years some of the greatest names in bridge have succeeded in winning the **Eynon Bowl**. In 1936, the winners of the WBL Team Championship included Charles Goren and B.J. Becker; in 1937 and again in 1938, the legendary Louis Watson was on the winning team (Watson wrote what probably is the most famous book ever published on the play of the hand). Other leading players whose names appear on the trophy include Waldemar von Zedtwitz (1941), S. Garton Churchill (1941), Al Roth (1945 and 1953), and Mike Michaels. Michaels, who developed the convention to show two-suited hands, played with Goren and Terry Michaels in 1953, and with Bob Bierly in 1956 (Bob is still active in the WBL, and was one of the original donors of the Lovenberg trophy). The Eynon trophy was retired in 1968, after 37 years of competition, and has been out of circulation since then.

Until next year, that is. At our last Board meeting, the Board voted to celebrate the WBL's diamond anniversary by reopening the competition for the Eynon Bowl. The Bowl will be on display during next year's sectional tournaments, and it will be awarded to the winner of the team event at next year's **75th anniversary DC Championships** (scheduled for October 19th-22nd). It seems entirely fitting to start a new round of competition for the Bowl next year, since the trophy has now been out of circulation for the same number of years (37) that it was originally contested. The event promises to be an exciting one: who wouldn't want to see his or her name engraved alongside those of Charles Goren, Louis Watson, and Al Roth? Be sure to mark the event on your calendars.

On the subject of trophies, we will have two other innovations next year. Our Board has just voted to institute a new annual **WBL Award for Outstanding Sportsmanship**. As you may know, the ACBL began awarding the Lazard sportsmanship prize at the national level several years ago. We would like to recognize one of our own players each year in a similar fashion, and will institute the award as soon as some of the details can be worked out (nominations process, criteria, etc.). We plan to name the award after Jerry Machlin, who served for decades as the chief director for tournaments in our area, and who was an outstanding ambassador for the game of bridge. We are proud to recognize Jerry's tremendous contributions to the game by establishing the WBL sportsmanship award in his name. I will let you know just as soon as we have developed suitable criteria for the Machlin prize and a process for nominating candidates.

The other innovation will begin with our first sectional tournament of the year in January. Throughout the tournament we will keep track of individual leaders (in total points won) in each flight. A leader board will be posted at the tournament, and a daily flyer will notify all players of the leaders in each flight (interesting hands may also be

...continued on page 5



SILVER SPRING, MD: JANUARY 5-8, 2006

44th Annual Presidential Tournament

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

♣ Stratified Open Pairs (unlim/3000/1500/1000/500) 10:30am

CANCELLED

(Morning session cancelled due to the Washington Bridge Center closing.)

♦ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X unlim/3000, B/C/D Separate 1500/1000/500) (both sites); Stratified NLM Pairs (NLM/100/50) & 0-20 Pairs (Christ the King Church only); Stratified 199er Pairs (Beth El only)

Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria 7:00pm

Christ the King Church, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring 7:30pm

Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right on Grubb Rd. 1st left on Colston. Church is on the left before the next intersection.

IT'S THE
FIRST OF THE
NEW YEAR...

TIME TO
**BE
FIRST!**

SPECIAL SURPRIZES
FOR SPECIAL FIRSTS
throughout
the tournament**

Friday—at Christ the King Church Only

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

♥ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) (single sess.s) .. 10:00am, 2:00pm

♣ **NEW! Get Punchy! Triple Nickel Swiss & Sherbert Punch:** Friday nights are your chance to try a different form of the game. This tournament will introduce Triple Nickel Swiss: 5 rounds of Swiss teams, 5 boards each round, & 5 minutes a board...

Triple Nickel Swiss Teams—A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D (1500/1000/500) 7:30pm

♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions) 10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

♦ **SAT. & SUN. ONLY** at the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center ♥

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

♥ **Panel
Show**



& Party.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

to Honor New Life Masters between sessions

♣ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) (single sessions) .. 11:00am, 3:30pm

♦ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:30pm

♥ Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:30pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

WBL Trophy Race Winners' Presentation between sessions

♣ A/X Board-A-Match Teams, (unlim /3000, 2 session playthru w/short break) 11:00am & TBA

♣ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (2000/1000/500, 7 round playthru w/short break) 11:00am & TBA

♦ 300/100/50 Swiss Teams, VPs (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:00pm

♣ **Full Schedule of Intermediate and Novice Events ♥**

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



Famous Washington Hospitality includes snacks, drinks and **Friday, Saturday and Sunday lunch** free of charge. Chair: **Nadine Wood**, 301-565-9555, woodthere@comcast.net.

Volunteer Coordinator: **Barbara Summers**, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com **Hospitality:** **Kitty Gottfried**, 301-587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com **Partnerships:** **Barbara Ames**, 202-439-5667, barbara@fbacpa.com or try the easy **Online Partnership Bulletin Board:** www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Annual City of Washington Tournament

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

Pairs (A/X unlim/3000, B/C/D Separate 1500/1000/500)
 1 NLM Pairs (NLM/100/50) & 0-20 Pairs (Christ the King
 ed 199er Pairs (Beth El only)
 ion, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria 7:00pm
 rch, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring 7:30pm
 Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right on
 on Colston. Church is on the left before the next intersection.



FRIDAY, MARCH 3

urch Only
 rs (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) (single sess.) ... 10:00am, 2:00pm
 omputer assigned Board-A-Match Teams 7:30pm
it: 2 chances to win! Friday nights are your chance to try a different form of the
 nt will introduce Bracketed Pairs and computer assigned Board-A-Match Teams. You
 l play in a pair game. The computer will assign you teammates to compare your
 l with them (after the whole pair game) as a win (1 point), loss (no points), or tie
 p your points to see if your team placed in the team event for extra masterpoints.
 pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions) 10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

ONLY at the Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center ♥

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

Get ready for Spring...

Enjoy Luau Hospitality & the 2:30pm Saturday Workshop!

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

ashington Bridge League Trophy Pairs 11:00am, 3:30pm
 pairs, qualifying and final. Single session entries available.)
 Pairs (1500/1000/500) (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:30pm
 ilim/3000) 3:30pm
 pairs (300/200/100) (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:30pm
 /20/5) (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:30pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

ilim /3000, 7 round playthru w/short break) 11:00am & TBA
 /Ps (2000/1000/500, 7 round playthru w/short break) 11:00am & TBA
 ums, VPs (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:00pm

! Schedule of Intermediate and Novice Events ♥

0-5, 20, 50, 100, 200, 300; Stratification at Director's Discretion.

Washington Hospitality includes snacks, drinks and Friday, Saturday and Sunday
 ee of charge. Chair: **Nadine Wood**, 301-565-9555, woodthere@comcast.net. Volunteer
 ra **Summers**, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com Hospitality: **Kitty**
 , kgottfried@hotmail.com Partnerships: **Barbara Summers**, 301-598-5838, Sectional
 ry the easy Online Partnership Bulletin Board: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

BITS AND PIECES

WELCOME TO THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

The WBL welcomes the following new
 ACBL members: **Mr Elliot Bernold, Mrs
 Sarah G Callaghan, Connie Craig, Mr Ken M
 Dintzer, Mr Kolude O Doherty, Dr Cynthia E
 Harrison, Ms Barbara C Levine, Dr Sonya A
 Michel, Ms Susan E Krimer, Ms Drena T
 Lieberman, Mr Paul J Ostrye, Maxine L Penn,
 Mr James A Summers Jr, Ms Diane A
 Wattenberg, and Dr Richard B Wedgewood.**

In addition, we welcome the following trans-
 fers from other units: **Mr Randall J Rubinstein,
 Mrs Leah B Chernov, Mr P David Chernov, Mr
 Sinisa N Dragic, Mr Elliot T Grant, Mr Lewis
 Grossman, Everette B Jones Sr, Eunsun Kil, Ms
 Mickie N Kivel, Ms Billie Sandler, Mrs Lorraine N
 Tyler, Mr Wayne Tyler, and Sharon Villines.**

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

UNIT DOUBLE KO FINAL RESULTS

Flight A

- 1 **Bill Cole - Peter Boyd - Steve Robinson
 - Ellen Cherniavsky - Ellen Klosson**
- 2 **Robbie Hopkins - Joan Lewis -**

President's Letter continued...

included). At the conclusion of the tourna-
 ment, prizes will be awarded to the winners
 of each flight, and leaders will be recognized
 in future issues of our *Bulletin*.

Last month's sectional tournament was a
 great success. On Saturday, we hosted a joint
 game with our friends from the Washington
 Bridge Unit of the ABA, reciprocating the
 WBU's hospitality from the joint WBL-WBU
 game in April. Nearly 250 players competed
 in this event, with players from all three
 units (WBL, WBU and NVBA) represented
 among the leaders. Our thanks to Winston
 Edwards and Cassandra Smith for helping to
 organize this event, and for arranging part-
 nerships for everyone who wanted to play.
 We very much hope that these joint WBL-

William Pettis - Kent Goulding -
 Rusty Krauss - Barry Falgout

- 3 Lyle Poe - Arnie Frankel - Les Bart -
 Gloria Silverman
- 4/5 James Geist - Jason Meyer - Sven Pride -
 Lloyd Rawley - Brad Theurer - Ted Ying
- 4/5 Fred Steinberg - Barbara Shaw -
 David Ruderman - Alan Tenenbaum

Flight B

- 1 **Steven Fox - Albert Lauber - Jonathan
 Siegel - Malcolm Stewart**
- 2 James Geist - Carole Banks - Michelle
 Cantave - Eugene Fisher - Mark
 Rosen - Khaled Mostafa

OUR CONDOLENCES

Our regrets go to Mary Dresser whose hus-
 band, Frank died after a long illness. Mary is
 one of the old time owners and founders of the
 Laurel Bridge Club.

SAD NEWS

Terry Michaels died at her home on
 Saturday, August 6 from lung cancer. A
 memorial service was held on August 18 in
 Prairie Village Kansas where she lived for
 many years. Prior to that, she lived in
 Washington, D.C. where she was a leading
 player, club owner, director, and teacher.

...continued on p. 18

WBU events will become a regular feature of
 our future tournaments.

Our new location for sectional tourna-
 ments at the Schweinhaut Center has been
 very well received. We held four sectional
 tournaments in 2005, and the total table
 count of 1477 tables is the highest we have
 had in the past five years. The attendance for
 our October sectional alone was up by more
 than 20% from the last year. We are delight-
 ed with our increased attendance, and con-
 tinue to welcome your suggestions for any-
 thing we can do to improve our tournaments.
 I very much hope you will call or send me an
 e-mail if you have any ideas or suggestions
 you would like us to consider.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.
 Dick Wegman

♠ **Arlington, VA** ♣ **FEBRUARY 23-26, 2006** ♦

NVBA WILLIAM POISSANT MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

Knights of Columbus Hall (KOCH)
5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA ♦ 703-536-9656

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Knights of Columbus Hall (KOCH), Arlington, VA (NVBA)
Christ the King Church, one block south of East-West Highway on
Colston between Washington and Grubb, Chevy Chase, MD (WBL)

****Novice/Intermediate Lecture** 6:30 p.m.**
STRATAFLIGHTED PAIRS (A/X=3000+/3000; B/C=2000/750) 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.
NVBA 199ER PAIRS (200/100/50/20); WBL NLM PAIRS (NLM/100/50) . 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.
FREE NEWCOMER PAIRS (0-5) 7:00 p.m.

...REST OF TOURNAMENT AT KOCH...

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

STRATAFLIGHTED PAIRS (A/X=3000+/3000; B/C=2000/750) ..2 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100)2 p.m.
49ER PAIRS (50/20/5)2 p.m.
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)7:30 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100)7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)9:30 a.m.
STRATIFIED SENIOR PAIRS (2000+/2000/750)9:30 a.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100)9:30 a.m.
49ER PAIRS (50/20/5)9:30 a.m.
NEWCOMER PAIRS (0-5)9:30 a.m.
TROPHY EVENT: **WILLIAM POISSANT MEMORIAL PAIRS**
(2 SESSIONS – Qualifying And Final)2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Combines Senior pair & Open side games into one for more Masterpoints!
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100)2 p.m.
49ER PAIRS (50/20/5)2 p.m.
STRATIFIED OPEN CONSOLATION (2000+/2000/750)7:30 p.m.
299ER PAIRS (300/200/100)7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

****Novice/Intermediate Lecture (Jeff Roman)**10:15 a.m.**
FLIGHT A/X (3000+/3000) BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS11:00 a.m.
FLIGHT B/C (2000/750) SWISS TEAMS11:00 a.m.
BAM & Swiss: both 2-session events, w/one 30-minute break—box lunch available
299ER SWISS TEAMS (300/200/100; Single session)11:00 a.m.
49ER SWISS TEAMS (50/20/5; Single session)11:00 a.m.
299ER SWISS TEAMS (300/200/100/50; Single session)3:15 p.m.

DIRECTIONS: From Rte. 495 (the Beltway) or points West of the Beltway, take Rte. 66 East to the Washington Boulevard/Lee Highway exit. At the light at the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Lee Highway. Go approximately 1.5 miles and turn left onto Harrison Street. Go 5 miles and turn right onto Little Falls Road. The KOCH is on your left. 2 of a mile down Little Falls. From D.C. or Arlington, take Rte. 66 West to the Sycamore Street exit. At the end of the exit ramp, turn right onto Sycamore. At the second light, turn right onto Lee Highway and go a little over 1 mile and turn left onto Harrison Street. Follow the above directions from that point. OR from D.C., go straight across Chain Bridge and then keep left to stay on Glebe Road. From the light at the end of Chain Bridge, proceed 1.8 miles and turn right onto Little Falls Road (the second right past the light at Williamsburg Blvd.). Cross Old Dominion (.3 miles) at the stop sign and proceed on Little Falls another .3 miles to the KOCH on your right. From all directions, turn up the drive and circle past the stone lodge. Follow signs for visitor parking. The tournament will be held in the brick building marked "KOCH 2473" down the hill to your right.

**NOTE: ALL VIRGINIA
EVENTS ARE AT KOCH**

NVBA (KOCH) WBL
6:30 p.m.**
7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

*Championship
Events and a Full Schedule
of 299er Events for Novice
and Intermediate Players!*

**Mid-Chart Conventions
permitted in all Flt A, B,
& Open Stratified Events**

*Free Winter treats
including hot chocolate
and marshmallows;
Presidential cakes;
Valentine candy,
and more!!*

Tournament Chairs

Margot Hennings,
703-560-0245
Kathryn Kiley,
703-758-0366

Partnership Chair

Dale Dallaire
703-327-5915

..or check out our
On-line Partnership "Desk"
at www.nvba.org

**Next NVBA Sectional:
April 27-30,
2006**

WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to **Mark Steele** and **John Miller** who tied for first with a score of 490. They win a free entry to the Unit Game and will be invited to be on a future panel. Tied for third were **Richard Ferrin, Steve Bunning, Elliot Grant, Tom Musso, Noble Shore, Larry Kahn, Robert Stone, Brad Theurer, Ashok Dhareshwar** and **Ken Kaufman** with a score of 480. Tied for thirteenth were **Wes Goldberg** and **Don Berman** with a score of 470. Fifteenth was **John Lawrence** and with a score of 460. Tied for sixteenth were **Natalie Aronsohn, Lloyd Rawley, Ben Stauss** and **Jean Franke** with a score of 450. Tied for twentieth were **Elliot Itkin, Bruce Kretchmer, Pete Hughes, Clyde Kruskal, David Chechelashvili, Marshall Kushner** and **Fred Steinberg** with a score of 440. Tied for twenty-seventh were **Zbych Bednarek, Steve Carton, Fred Wagner, Walter Kerns, Ellen Cherniavski, Mike Berard** and **Jim Murphy** with a score of 430. The average score of the 184 solvers was 368. The average score of the experts was 424.

Addenda—Zbych Bednarek 430 on my last contest.

All readers are encouraged to send answers and/or new problems to Steve Robinson, 2891 S. Abingdon St. #A2 Arlington, VA, 22206-1329. In addition to the winner receiving a free play at the WBL Unit Game, Steve will play with anyone who gets a perfect score or who exactly matches all five of his answers. If you send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the above address along with your answers, I will send you a copy of the new problems to ensure that you can meet his next deadline. You can pick up a copy of the problems at the WBL Unit Game in Maryland, and can send answers or requests for problems to robinswr@erols.com. You can also see and answer the problems at the WBL web site. WBL Solvers Club uses Washington Standard as published July 1996.

I personally score all the problems. If a majority of the solvers vote for an answer, and the answer is reasonable I will give that

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

The book *Washington Standard* second edition is out. If you are a serious bridge player, this book is a must. You can purchase a copy from Steve for \$25.00 at the Unit Game, at tournaments or can send him a check for \$28.85 that includes \$3.85 for priority mail.

1) IMPs You're Vulnerable

♠ 3♥ KQ104♦ AKQJ4♣ 1032

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♦	3♣	3♠	Pass
????			
Action	Score	Votes	Solvers
4♥	100	8	83
3NT	60	2	23
4♦	60	2	47
4♣	20	0	11
Pass	20	0	5
4♠	20	0	9
5♦	20	0	2

LHO preempted and you have to find a bid over partner's forcing 3♠-bid. Two obvious choices are to rebid your solid five-card diamond suit or bid your good four-card heart suit. Then there's the old standby. There is a saying that 3NT is the bid which works most often when an opponent preempts. Do we bid what we have or do we bid 3NT?

One expert agrees with me and bids 3NT. I admit that 10xx is not a club stopper but sometimes the 3NT bid becomes the stopper. West is on lead holding AQJ10xx of clubs.

He knows that the king of clubs is on his right so he leads another suit hoping partner has an entry in order to lead thru your king.

Parker: “3NT—I have five tricks, partner can help with the other four. He can also bid 4♠ with long spades. No other bid makes any sense. Anything can happen with the club suit, partner has a stopper, they block or don’t get led.”

Ten experts bypass 3NT. Hope they will find a resting place.

Eight experts bid 4♥. What will partner do over 4♥ holding ♠ KQxxx♥ AJx♦ xx♣ Kx?

Landen: “4♥—What else? Partner may think I have five, but he won’t pass with fewer than three and this hand should play well in a Moysian fit. I rate to have five diamonds as I would raise spades with a decent doubleton and bid notrump with a club stopper.”

Adams: “4♥—Seems like a decent description of my hand. At the table I might try 3NT, because defenders frequently go wrong over 3NT (bidding or leading). Opponents always get these right in solvers panels though.”

Hopkins: “4♥—I believe this should be natural and partner can pass perhaps with something like ♠ AQxxx♥ AJx♦ xx♣ Qx, if partner has only three hearts. Spade raises should either be a direct 4♠ call, a 4♣ cuebid, or Blackwood. Bidding 4♥ implicitly shows a Diamond suit, so partner can choose between 4♥, 4♠, or 5♦ with minimum hands.”

Schwartz: “4♥—My good suits make up for slight lack of HCPs for showing reverse strength. 4♥ in a 4-3 fit might be our best spot once 3NT is bypassed if partner is light in HCPs.”

At this level, there are no reverses. Partner’s 3♠ -call promises another bid over a non-game bid. This means that 4♦ is forcing in theory.

Lublin: “4♥—Natural and can play the 4-3.”

King: “4♥—We are in a game forcing auction, so why not show my hand?”

Woolsey: “4♥—If my hand weren’t this strong I might just bid 3NT and gamble on the club situation. But my hand is strong enough that even if we get to the wrong strain we might make on sheer power, and we could have a slam. So I’ll just bid out my shape as best as possible and hope partner gets it right.”

Mallory: “4♥—Pass is tempting, but impossible - partners bid forcing. 3NT, 4♦

and 4♠ seem mis-descriptive or mad. Lets tell him what I have.”

Two experts bid 4♦. You won’t have any chance of getting to 4♥ if partner is 6313.

Cappelletti: “4♦—Clearly the safest bid (in view of spade misfit) and might get us to best game or slam. Partner should “follow through” with 6-4 distribution (else he would have made negative double).”

Roman: “4♦—While 4♣ would be a choice-of-games choice of games cuebid here, it should show a doubleton spade. Partner will bid hearts if he has them, so emphasize the diamond suit and wait to see what happens.”

Major-suit game bids are non-forcing unless they’re conventional. 4♥ is natural and non-forcing in this auction and even non-forcing after 1♠ - 3♣ (overcall) - 3♠ (spade raise) - Pass - 4♥ (maybe hearts will play better than spades).

2) Matchpoints None Vulnerable

♠ A54♥ A6543♦ A4♣ K87

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♥	Pass	2♥	3♣
???			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
Double	100	11	61
3♦	50	1	29
4♥	40	0	11
Pass	20	0	32
3♥	30	0	48
4NT	20	0	1
3NT	20	0	1

We have overcalled with 15 HCPs in a position where we could have only eight. Further action is warranted and the obvious choices are to jump to game, make a game try or just compete. Since there is only one bid between 3♦ and 3♥ that bid, 3♦, must be an artificial game try. 3♥ says that I don’t card how good your 2♥ -bid was, I just want to play in 3♥. ♠ Axx♥ KQxxx♦ xx♣ xx for example. Holding six hearts, there are only about 5% of hands where it wouldn’t be right to bid 3♥. Over 3♣ there are two ways to make a game try, double and 3♦. Over the double, which shows some club values, partner passes with minor suit cards or pulls with major suit cards. He pulls if he has a singleton or void in clubs. If he pulls, he bids 3♥ with a minimum or 4♥ with a maximum.

Nine experts agree with me and double. As long as partner knows that this is a pull if right double then doubling should work out. One of the reasons why doubling might not work is you don’t have a clear opening lead.

Parker: “Double—Shows a good hand with no good bid and a game try. Partner can pass or correct. I put it at 90% that west bids 3♦ and then we have a new problem. Partner will pass 3♦ with a bad hand and do something with a good hand.”

Landen: “Double—Close decision, it would be nice to know the characters involved. I’ll try for 300 here. I don’t think this hand will make 4♥ and it might even go down in three. If partner pulls to 3♥ I will pass. With a very offensive hand partner should bid 3♦. Over that, I’d bid 4♥.”

Cappelletti: “Double—Turn the cube and see what partner does.”

Adams: “Double—They are probably going down, maybe two or three. Leading Diamonds. Looks like a 1NT overcall to me.”

Roman: “Double—Second choice is pass, but when partner asks me about our -470 on this board, I’ll use a phrase like “trying to protect our equity of 110 or 140 in the hand” which will impress him sufficiently that he will forget that I doubled with Kxx of trumps. Game try 3♦ is out, 3♥ is out.”

Hopkins: “Double—If the Club Ace is on my right, I hope to find partner with one entry to get a Diamond ruff and collect +300. And, there are many hands where we have six+ tricks just off the top, so I think it is reasonable to go for a good matchpoint score.”

Schwartz: “Double—The LAW and my poor Heart spots strongly argue for defending.”

King: “Double—I don’t know that we have nine trumps and I do hope partner can contribute at least one trick.”

Woolsey: “Double—I have plenty of extras, and the distribution says to defend. The problem is that if East isn’t kidding we might take only my four winners against 3♦. By doubling I send the message to partner that I think this is our hand, and give him maximum encouragement to double 3♦. If he doesn’t do so — well, I admit I haven’t made up my mind about that yet.”

Mallory: “Double—3♥ is against The LAW, and my hearts are horrible. I should have four tricks, and all I need for 300 is a K in partner’s hand. If he has one, I should

be able to find it.”

One lone wolf. Doesn’t double say the same thing? Do something intelligent.

Lublin: “3♦—Game try. Tells partner to do the intelligent thing.”

A low-level double after a fit has been found is cooperative.

3) Matchpoints You’re Vulnerable

♠ A♥ A6♦ AQ107654♣ A87

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
???			3♣

*4♦ is not a legal bid and will be given 10 points.

<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
5♦	100	2	24
3NT	90	4	60
Double	80	4	63
3♦	40	2	20
6♦	40	0	4
Pass	20	0	2
4♣	20	0	10
4NT	20	0	1

A jump to 4♦ would be the perfect bid for this problem. Why is 4♦ not a legal bid in this contest? A lot of players, including myself, play that jumping to 4♦ shows five or more diamonds plus a five-card or longer major. Leaping Michaels. Over 4♦, advancer bids 4♥ if he wants to play in the major. Leaping Michaels comes more often then a good hand with just diamonds. You give up playing in 2♣ over partner’s INT-opener and you give up the natural 4♦ -jump over 3♣. Since 4♦ shows diamonds and a major, you have to find another way of describing this hand.

Three experts join me in bidding diamonds. The four take-out doublers are bidding diamonds also. Seems reasonable to bid diamonds when you have diamonds. One expert agrees with me and jumps to 5♦. Jumps to game over opening bids are pre-empts. On the other hand, jumps to game over preempts are strong.

Partner won’t be confused about what suit the 5♦ -bidder has.

Parker: “5♦—Why torture partner with any other bid. I hate partners that double with this type of hand and then expect you to figure out they do not have a major. Once again no other bid makes sense.”

Two experts bid 3♦. You have so much strength that it could go all pass. This is different from overcalling at the one-level. At the one-level, the opening bidder will probably reopen. Here, the 3♣-bidder will pass automatically.

Hopkins: “3♦ —Seems automatic. I can try 3NT if partner bids a major and partner will suspect I need a little something since I didn’t just up and bid 3NT originally.”

Mallory: “3♦ —With intent of bidding 4♦ on next round (if I get a chance). Don’t think auction is going to die — a lot of major cards in the unbid hands. 5♦ is unilateral and may be silly. If I double, partner will not understand when I put down three major suit cards in five or six of a major.”

Four experts double. Doubling 3♣ with 1-2 in the majors is against my religion.

Landen: “Double—Intending to rebid 4♦ showing a hand stronger than a direct jump to 4♦.”

Cappelletti: “Double—Plan to bid 3NT over three-of-a-major.”

Double followed by 3NT says that you’re not sure that you belong in 3NT. It says - partner you can rebid your five-card major.

Adams: “Double—Sorry for not having majors, but when I rebid Diamonds twice, partner should get the idea. Slam seems too likely for 3NT or 5♦ to make sense. We can have a slam opposite a hand that would pass a 3♦ overcall.”

So when you double and bid 4♦ and then bid 5♦, is that any difference from an immediate 5♦?

Roman: “Double—The normal response to a preempt is to bid 3NT, but it really feels like we belong in diamonds, so I’ll double and bid diamonds until partner gets the idea. 5♦ is reasonable, and shows a powerful hand, but is partner really going to play us to have THIS much?”

Four experts bid the old standby 3NT. Not only is 3NT an underbid it could go down a lot if partner doesn’t have the king of diamonds. Give partner ♠ KJxxx♥xxx♦xxx♣x. 5♦ makes at least six, 3NT goes down bunches. Or give partner ♠ xxx♥Kxxx♦Kxxx♣x. 7♦ makes.

Schwartz: “3NT—With the likely-hood of a six-card preempt the odds don’t favor a stiff club in partner’s hand.”

Lublin: “3NT—May be the only game that makes. Partner cannot pull it.”

True. If partner has ♠ xxx♥xxxx♦Kxx♣xxx,

3NT is the only game that makes.

King: “3NT—I think this is our most likely game, so I will bid it now.”

Woolsey: “3NT—A reasonable guess. Anything else would be a ridiculous guess.”

A jump to game after preempts shows a good hand.

4) IMPs None Vulnerable

♠ J83♥ 1082♦ AJ65♣ A52

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
—	Pass	1♣	2♠
????			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
Pass	100	6	88
3♣	50	3	20
2NT	50	1	15
Double	40	2	34
3♦	30	0	14
5♦	20	0	2
3♠	20	0	11

We have a good hand but don’t have a clear bid available. We have only three hearts so negative double is flawed. We have only three clubs so raising clubs is flawed. We have only four diamonds with ten HCPs so 3♦ is flawed. Passing is flawed since partner would pass 2♠ on hands where 3NT is good. ♠ Kxx♥Kx♦Kx♣QJ10xxx just needs a club finesse and partner would probably pass out 2♠. So which direction does our expert go?

Three experts raise clubs. While it is very unlikely that opener has only three clubs, there is a possibility that he has four clubs.

Parker: “3♣ —I do not double with three hearts and a balanced hand. I have had this type of hand 100s of times and partner always has at least five clubs when they are long in a side suit. He knows I am under pressure and will bid again with a good hand, hopefully 3NT.”

Landen: “3♣ —This best expresses the strength of the hand. Even though I have only three clubs, partner rates to have at least four. I’m not going down the slippery negative double path. That will only turn out ok if partner bids notrump or rebids his clubs.”

King: “3♣ —I had a couple of spades in with my clubs.”

Five experts agree with me and pass. I hope it goes all pass. If partner reopens with a double we will have a problem but we won’t have to deal with that here.

Cappelletti: “Pass—It would be wrong to double or bid 3♣ which tend to show distribution.”

Adams: “Pass—I do not have a bid, and my hand is not so good that I care. Ten-loser hand.”

Roman: “Pass—If partner passes with a weak notrump, I’ll be happy I didn’t get involved. I’ll bid 3♠ next if I can.”

Hopkins: “Double—Oh, please, please let partner bid Notrump (or Clubs or Diamonds)! I would rather show some values now rather than have to guess what to do if partner reopens with a double. All the IMPs will go to a Pass here that catches partner with three Spades and you get to defend.”

Schwartz: “Pass—If partner can’t reopen game is unlikely and we rate to beat them. Bidding is more likely to result in a minus, and there is no clear bid anyway. Now what is the best bid if partner reopens with a double?”

Woolsey: “Pass—If partner can’t reopen he has a minimal balanced hand with at least two and probably three spades, so I will have certainly done the right thing. If he does reopen I will have to guess — probably guess with 3S — but I don’t think I will be any worse off than if I had found some distortion now like 3♣ or a negative double.”

If I were forced to bid, I would bid 2NT. Shows a balanced hand with a spade honor.

Mallory: “2NT—Don’t like it much. But seems right on values. Partner won’t take me for this if I pass and then bid 2NT over partner’s reopener. Of course, it would be nice if I had a spade stopper. Other option is to pass and decide what to do over partner’s reopener - but 2♠ doubled does not look promising if declarer is very short in clubs, and 2NT then will show much less than I have.”

Only one expert makes a negative double. A negative double shows four hearts and the last time I looked at my hand, I only saw three hearts. Maybe my eyesight is going.

Lublin: “Double—Negative but I have values for the bid.”

When you are long in the opponent’s suit be conservative.

5) IMPs Both Vulnerable

♠ K96♥ AKJ762♦ K65♣ J

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♥	Dbl	1♠	2♣
Dbl*	3♣	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
????*	*Dbl=3-card spade support		

<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
4♥	100	1	5
Pass	90	10	148
4♠	60	1	31

WE’RE VULNERABLE AT IMPs. We have a good hand and partner has made a free bid. Not only has he made a free bid, he bid the suit promised by the takeout doubler. He might raise hearts on a frivolous hand but to bid 1♠ vulnerable he needs sound values. Game could make opposite as little as ♠ AJ10xx♥xx♦xxx♣xxx and be practically cold opposite ♠ AJ10xx♥xx♦Q10x♣xxx. With either hand he would not bid game and with the first hand he might not have bid 1♠. Game is practically cold opposite ♠ AQ10xx♥10x♦Jxx♣xxx.

Actually the 3♥-balance is not a game try. If you had the same hand without the king of diamonds, would you really sell out to 3♣? It would not be winning bridge to allow the opponents to play in their nine-card fit at the three-level when you probably have two eight-card fits. Bidding only 3♥ is a gross error. This hand belongs in game. South should have jumped to 4♥ showing a good hand with six hearts and three spades.

I thought the problem would be which game to bid not whether or not to bid game. This hand was played in a team match and both sides were in game. 4♥ made while 4♠ went down. Playing in hearts protects your diamond king from initial attack. Playing in hearts also wins when responder has ♠ A10xxx♥xx♦QJ10x♣xx and spades are 4-1. Is it really that bad being in game needing the heart finesse to work?

Let’s hear what our ten wimpy experts have to say.

Parker: “Pass—He has no more than one heart and a weak hand, otherwise he would have bid last time over 3♣. We are high enough and in the proper strain.”

If he has three clubs, he’s supposed to pass 3♣ even if he has values. ♠ AJxxx♥xx♦Axx♣xxx is a pass of 3♣.

Landen: “Pass—I implied extra values when I bid 3♥. I have nothing further to say.”

You implied extra distribution, not extra values.

Cappelletti: “Pass—Try for plus score on hand where: a) spades might be 4-1 or even “stacked” b) hearts misfit – proba-

bly not splitting c) Ace of diamonds is over the king.”

Adams: “Pass—Spades are breaking badly, partner is short in hearts and does not have extra values, and I have no late entry for my Hearts unless partner has ♦ A. Not going to hang partner for responding 1♠. If partner had competed directly to 3♠, I’d have raised.”

Roman: “Pass—This isn’t close. 3♥ isn’t forcing, and partner just corrected to 3♠. Bidding here would be a blunder.”

You’re right. I don’t think its close. It’s a blunder not to bid game.

Hopkins: “Pass—Well, partner should expect me to be 3-6 in the Majors. I am going to presume this is a correction with a poor hand with five Spades and Heart shortness. I have already shown some extras by bidding again and I don’t have to repeat.”

Schwartz: “Pass—With likely 4-1 spades and partner having diamond length, game is unlikely and might get doubled.”

How could you get doubled? Only if West made a takeout double with Q10xx of hearts and a stiff spade and East has QJxx of spades. Impossible! The opponents have all their strength in clubs. West has the spades and East has the hearts.

King: “Pass—Let’s see. I showed three spades, six hearts and some extra values. I think I have told my story fully.”

Let’s see. Partner showed five spades

with approximately seven or eight HCPs with little wasted strength in clubs. Maybe we can make a game.

Woolsey: “Pass—I’ve described my hand perfectly, and partner has placed the contract. If he has five spades and a decent hand he probably wouldn’t have passed 3♣. 3♠ is surely the limit of the hand — probably more than the limit in fact. Bidding anything now is asking to go for a number.”

Nine tricks the limit? If hearts are 3-2 with the queen onside, you could easily take 11 tricks opposite AJ10xx of spades and out.

Mallory: “Pass—I’ve told partner I have three spades, six hearts and a good hand. He bid 3♠. What else can I say? Certainly don’t want to play 4-3 spades with a trump lead.”

One expert agrees with me and makes an IMP bid. If you play in spades, they can make dummy ruff clubs, and you will probably lose the heart suit. This hand will probably take more tricks in hearts than spades.

Lublin: “4♠—May make or they may take the dive. Either way I’m in a good position at IMPs not to miss a vulnerable game. Partner is not bidding 3♠ on a four-card suit.”

When you’re vulnerable at IMPs you look for excuses to bid game, you don’t look for excuses to stay out of game. While you’re not supposed to put perfect cards in partner’s hand, placing partner with good spades is not unreasonable. I must admit that I’m disappointed in the responses to this problem.

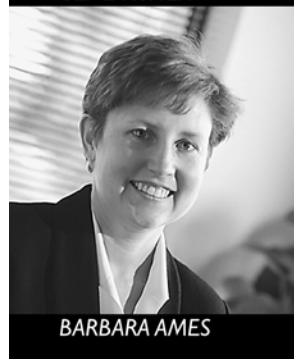
SOLVERS’ SCORES

John Adams	4♥	Dbl	Dbl	Pass	Pass	470
Mike Cappelletti	4♦	Dbl	Dbl	Pass	Pass	430
Robbie Hopkins	4♥	Dbl	3♦	Dbl	Pass	370
Steve Landen	4♥	Dbl	Dbl	3♣	Pass	420
Glenn Lublin	4♥	3♦	3NT	Dbl	4♠	340
Fred King	4♥	Dbl	3NT	3♣	Pass	430
Matthew Mallory	4♥	Dbl	3♦	2NT	Pass	380
Steve Parker	3NT	Dbl	5♦	3♣	Pass	400
Steve Robinson	3NT	Dbl	5♦	Pass	4♥	460
Jeff Roman	4♦	Dbl	Dbl	Pass	Pass	430
Alan Schwartz	4♥	Dbl	3NT	Pass	Pass	480
Kit Woolsey	4♥	Dbl	3NT	Pass	Pass	480

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2005 TROPHY RACE STANDINGSwww.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Updated by our Webmaster, Don Berman

The Lovenberg Race is open to all WBL members; the Izzy Cohen Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 1500 masterpoints; the Tubbs Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year as a Non-Life Master; the Woolridge Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 20 masterpoints.

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

This list is up to date through November 17, 2005 including the Unit KO, but not the Fidelity and Trust Round Robin. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

Lovenberg

1	184.92	Steve Robinson
2	147.51	David Ruderman
3	141.35	Alfred Steinberg
4	138.45	John Adams
5	137.23	William Cole
6	117.61	Mark Shaw
7	111.60	James Geist
8	92.55	Benjamin Brill
9	88.21	William Hacker
10	87.33	Michael Gill
11	86.93	Peter Boyd
12	80.17	Robert Bell
13	75.39	Noble Shore
14	73.55	Diane Walker
15	69.63	Ellen Cherniavsky
16	68.04	Earl Glickstein
17	66.36	Ellen Klosson
18	65.89	Mark Rosen
19	62.43	Leon Letwin
20	62.03	Barbara Shaw
21	61.97	Dalia Kende
22	61.93	Lloyd Rawley
23	60.85	Eugene Fisher
24	60.80	Hailong Ao
25	60.41	Jason Rosenfeld

Izzy Cohen

1	111.60	James Geist
2	88.21	William Hacker
3	87.33	Michael Gill
4	75.39	Noble Shore
5	65.89	Mark Rosen
6	61.93	Lloyd Rawley
7	60.85	Eugene Fisher
8	60.80	Hailong Ao
9	60.41	Jason Rosenfeld
10	59.98	Robert Ellis
11	57.56	Charity Sack
12	44.11	Ronald Zucker
13	43.14	Barry Bragin
14	42.64	Bill Gainer
15	40.13	John Lowe III

Tubbs

1	60.41	Jason Rosenfeld
2	38.40	Mirsad Mujezinovic
3	34.09	Neal Rosenthal
4	33.79	Steven Schatzow
5	32.11	Ellen Rosenthal
6	29.27	Hadi Abushakra
7	28.94	Herbert Behre III
8	28.50	Prem Garg
9	28.50	Katherine Rabenstein
10	28.37	Jian-Jian Wang

Woolridge

1	17.44	Joav Steinbach
2	11.77	Brian Julius
3	5.30	Ronnie Sweed
4	5.30	Norman Sweed
5	5.09	William Goldman
6	4.87	Susan Rosenau
7	4.31	Christopher Miller
8	3.87	Michael Watts
9	3.24	Stanley Fineman
10	3.21	Barbara Brisentine

UNIT GAME CARPOOL AVAILABLE

To arrange a carpool, contact Don Berman, Carpool Coordinator, at 301-776-3581 or don.berman@verizon.net.Or log on to the WBL's new **Online Carpool Notices** at: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

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~ ♦ ♦ ♥ ♠ ~

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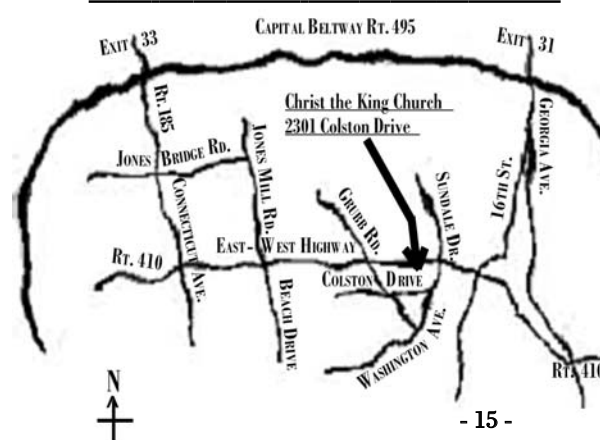
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12/22/2005Grand National Teams Qualifying
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01/12/2006StrataFlighted Club Championship
01/19/2006StrataFlighted Charity Pairs
01/26/2006StrataFlighted GNT Swiss Teams
02/02/2006StrataFlighted Unit Championship
02/09/2006StrataFlighted GNT Swiss Teams
02/16/2006Stratified STaC Pairs
02/23/2006NVBA Sectional
03/02/2006WBL Sectional
03/09/2006StrataFlighted Unit Championship
03/16/2006Stratified District-Wide Charity Pairs
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Barbara Summers, Volunteer Coordinator, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com,

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COMITTEE ACTION #50

Part 2

by **Rich Colker**, rcolker@worldnet.att.net

This column concludes the discussion of the slam auction described in the last issue. Did you decide what bid you would make after partner's hesitation? What type of hand might partner hold for this auction? You know he has a good hand with self-sufficient spades, but he had a lot of room between 3♠ and 4♠ to make a slam try if he had any interest. So his 4♠ bid suggests he does not have good enough controls for slam opposite most hands you might hold, especially since you're unlikely to hold more than one ace for your 0-8 HCP 1♦ response. In fact, he could even have been gambling a bit with his 4♠ bid holding something like ♠AJ1098xx ♥Q♦K♣KQJ10 and you could be off three cashing aces at the five level! Indeed, you should be wary of bidding on with no aces. Wouldn't you be embarrassed to cue-bid 5♥ over 4♠ and have partner bid a slam, only to find him with something like ♠AJ1098xx ♥Q♦K♣AKQJ and that you are off two cashing aces? (He was hoping to find you with the ♥A for your "cue-bid" and either the king-third or queen third of spades, making slam no worse than on a finesse for the missing spade honor.

And what do you think his break in tempo means? Maybe in some alternate universe he was thinking about passing 3♠ (yeah, right), but in this one he must have been considering a stronger action, and will have a hand that is very near a minimum slam try (with enough controls to be safe at the five level if he catches you with, say, just a king and a couple of queens and a three-card trump fit or the equivalent—something too good for a second negative). Could he have been thinking about bidding 3NT instead of 4♠? Hardly. He has a big hole in his trump suit and your raise could have been based on a doubleton (remember, he did jump in the suit after opening a strong club), so he can't be sure of running a lot of spade tricks in notrump and he can't be balanced enough to have stopper help in all the side suits. So his hesitation tells you that he was considering slam and with your two top trumps and ♥K you should at least be safe at the five level.

But you're not entitled to that information. Yes, it is true that without partner's hesitation

you would be perfectly within your rights to bid on over 4♠ and gamble on finding partner with a magic hand for slam. But once partner huddles, the Laws make it clear that you must avoid taking any action that might benefit from the unauthorized information. Law 73C (Player Receives Unauthorized Information from Partner) puts it this way: "When a player has available to him unauthorized information from his partner, as from a remark, question, haste or hesitation, he must carefully avoid taking any advantage that might accrue to his side" (Italics added). Thus, if partner's tempo suggests that bidding on is more likely to be the winning action and it is even remotely possible that you (or one of your peers) might have passed in the absence of that information, you must pass (i.e., you must do the opposite of what the unauthorized information suggests will be the winning action). So you should pass 4♠.

At the table, after North bid on and the auction was over, but before the opening lead was made, E/W noted the break in tempo to their opponents and received an acknowledgment. At the end of the play, after the slam made, E/W called the Director (as well they should, nor does it matter that they waited since, had the slam gone down, there would have been no damage and no need of a Director) and informed him of the irregularity. The Director adjusted the result on the board for both sides to 4♠ made six, +480 for N/S. Of course N/S appealed that ruling.

On appeal the Committee, in a bizarre twist of fate, unaccountably reversed the Director's ruling and allowed the 6♠ bid (yes Virginia there is a Santa Claus). The Committee's rationale for their decision reads a bit like Lewis Carroll's Through the Looking Glass, but one Committee member wrote a cogent dissenting opinion and most of the expert panel that reviewed the case (see the Fall 2004 Orlando appeal casebook at www.acbl.org/play/case-books.html and read the report for yourself) thought E/W here were "robbed" at the hearing.

So much for justice. You should do better the next time you find yourself in a similar situation—either at the table or as a member of an appeal committee.

—CLUB NEWS—

LAUREL BRIDGE CLUB'S ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Pot Luck Dinner at 7:00 PM

Take a chance and have a great meal
Food by the great cooks of Laurel
Unlimited beer, wine and sodas

Bridge Game at 8:00 PM

Share the evening with friends

Champagne and Bells at Midnight
Everyone welcome

For more info: call 301-776-5992 or
301-490-1383 during game times.

Cost: \$10.00 per person

COLUMBIA, MD

Barb Israel runs a game in Columbia, Md. which borders our unit. She says, "I'd like to extend an open invitation to all bridge players who enjoy the game in a friendly atmosphere. That's what you'll find in Columbia, Md on Monday evenings, 7:15 game time. It is a stratified, open game. Cost is \$5.00 per person, with occasional surcharges for special games (i.e. STAC's, NAP qualifiers, etc.) Our schedule for 3 months at a time is posted on our website, along with recaps from prior games, directions to our club and other miscellaneous information. We play downstairs in the Long & Foster Real Estate building, across from Princeton Sports, at 10741 Little Patuxent Parkway, near the Columbia Mall. Don't have a partner? No worry; we'll provide one. Any Q's, call Barb Israel (H)410-381-9445, (W)410-590-7612, email: barbisgold@netzero.net"

BEGINNING BRIDGE PLAYERS BLOOM AT WBL SECTIONAL!

Who were those people on the stage on Sunday at the October sectional? They were your future partners and opponents!

On Sunday, October 2nd, 58 students attended the most recent **Instant Bridge Player** one-day lesson during the sectional at the Margaret Schweinhaut Center. The students were divided into two groups: absolute beginners were on the stage, with their teacher **Roz Dixon**, while those who already knew a few basics met in a classroom around the corner, under the guidance of **Steve Forsythe**. The classes were taught from Steve

Forsythe's *Instant Bridge Player* and *Advanced Instant Bridge Player* booklets. By offering two different classes at once, we were better able to accommodate players of different skill levels.

In both classes, the students enjoyed the basic level of instruction and the chance to play and ask questions. Wrote one student, "Liked the small group and the individualized instruction. Also liked that I could ask questions in an environment where everyone appreciated hearing the answer. Thanks." Wrote another, "I liked the step-by-step instructions and the chance to practice the different aspects of the game throughout the session."

Steve and Roz were assisted by several excellent volunteer helpers: **Ann Fenton, Garry Grossman, Ron Kral, John Mattioli, Aaron Navarro, Mike Watts** and **Sandy Forsythe**. The helpers were invaluable! Commented one student: "I also liked having the helpers who circulated around the room. There were too many people for the instructor to get to, but with the helpers you all were able to talk to everyone and answer individual questions."

Thanks are due to the teachers, the helpers, and to you if you told a friend, family member or acquaintance about the lesson! We expect to hold our next Instant Bridge Player lesson during the March WBL sectional. We also welcome beginners and social bridge players any Thursday night at our 0-20 game (a separate section in the Unit Game), whether they just need a refresher or they've never played bridge before. So keep telling your friends!

2005-2006 WBL/NVBA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

To be eligible, a player:

Must be a member of either the Northern Virginia Bridge Association or the Washington Bridge League or have membership pending and subsequently confirmed for either organization at the time the points are won.

Must attend at least three NVBA and three WBL sectionals during the contest period (August, 2005 through May, 2006), where "attendance" requires that a member plays in at least one session of the sectional other than the Thursday night game. Points won on Tournament Thursday evenings are included in the totals, but do not count towards eligibility.

Must be a member in good standing of the ACBL and a local affiliate throughout the contest period and remain in good standing through the time the award is presented.

Must have attained the relevant status of the award for which he or she is competing (i.e., NLM, LM) at the beginning of the contest period even if at some time during the contest year a higher ACBL rank is achieved.

Awards: Two trophies will be awarded.

Standings: Here are the final standings after three of eight Sectionals.

<u>Player</u>	<u>Open Leaders</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 William Cole		65.88
2 Steve Robinson		57.66
3 Janet Gookin		51.56
4 James Geist		49.98
5 Peter Boyd		49.71
6 Mark Shaw		45.86
7 Robert Gookin		44.28
8 John Adams		41.33
9 Helene Bauman		39.47
10 Charles Yapple		36.39
11 Noble Shore		34.88
12 Michael Gill		34.88
13 Ai-Tai Lo		33.74
14 Robert Bell		33.09
15 Charity Sack		31.75
16 Kenton Schoen		31.21
17 Fred King		27.94
18 Jim Wakefield		25.35
19 Margot Hennings		25.25
20 Eugene Schuyler		25.20

NonLM Leaders

<u>Player</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 Katherine Rabenstein	18.23
2 Martha Bley	17.29
3 Ross Bley	15.27
4 Lily Andre	14.31
5 Thomas Reckford	11.40
6 Elizabeth Traylor	10.76
7 Kevin O'Brien	10.69
8 Kathrine Loh	9.87
9 Elizabeth Parker	9.79
10 Doreen Colket	9.71
11 William Colket	9.71
12 Margaret Brown	9.57
13 Brian Sims	9.14
14 Hadi Abushakra	8.78
15 Marlene Stone	8.74
16 Marilyn Smebakken	8.51
17 Gretchen Handwerker	8.49
18 Frank Okasaki Jr	8.36
19 Mary O'Shea	8.27
20 Jeff Youngen	8.27

LOOK FOR UPCOMING SECTIONALS

January 5-8Silver Spring, MD
February 23-26Arlington, VA
March 2-5Silver Spring, MD
April 27-30Arlington, VA
August 3-6Silver Spring, MD
September 7-10Arlington, VA

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We can help you make other arrangements as well – whether for cruising, airfare, car rental, or traveling to the other Hawaiian Islands.

For further information, please contact:

Wendy Epstein
301 571-0400
info@allwaystvl.com

75TH ANNUAL WBL D.C. CHAMPIONSHIPS

September 29 - October 2, 2005

Results

TOP TEN CUMULATIVE POINT WINNERS

All Players

1	24.17	William Cole
2	22.63	Steve Robinson
3	22.43	James Geist
4	20.08	Helene Bauman
5	19.73	Charles Yapple
6	18.96	Mark Shaw
7	18.83	Charity Sack
8	17.59	Donna Rogall
9	16.30	Jim Wakefield
10	15.80	Peter Boyd

Players with fewer than 1500 masterpoints

1	22.43	James Geist
2	18.83	Charity Sack
3	11.79	Katherine Rabenstein
4	8.98	Robert Ellis
5	8.76	Jackie Beecher
	8.76	Juanita Fernandez
7	8.23	Michael Gill
8	8.22	John Lowe III
9	7.63	Jimmy Ritzenberg
	7.63	Jim Gaarder

Players with fewer than 500 masterpoints

1	11.79	Katherine Rabenstein
2	8.76	Juanita Fernandez
3	7.17	James Andre
	7.17	Lily Andre
	7.17	Hadi Abushakra
6	7.16	Tsung Lee
7	6.41	Albert Phillips
8	6.33	William Gill
9	5.90	Steven Schatzow
10	5.24	Douglas Fox

~~~~

### THURSDAY EVENING A/X PAIRS Stratum A, 77 Pairs



|   |                                    |        |
|---|------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | James Geist - Brad Theurer         | .66.89 |
| 2 | Janet Gookin - Robert Gookin       | .62.42 |
| 3 | Sarah Anne Cressy - Charles Yapple | .58.84 |
| 4 | Rae Dethlefsen - Rammohan Sarangan | 58.13  |
| 5 | Leon Letwin - Terry Feetham        | .58.11 |

|   |                                   |        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 6 | John Adams - Steve Robinson       | .58.01 |
| 7 | Robert Zier - James Witting       | .56.95 |
| 8 | Steven Schatzow - Richard Wieland | .56.92 |

#### Stratum X, 47 Pairs

|   |                                    |        |
|---|------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Brad Theurer - James Geist         | .66.89 |
| 2 | Rae Dethlefsen - Rammohan Sarangan | 58.13  |
| 3 | Leon Letwin - Terry Feetham        | .58.11 |
| 4 | Robert Zier - James Witting        | .56.95 |
| 5 | Steven Schatzow - Richard Wieland  | .56.92 |
| 6 | Harold Minus Sr - Daniel Feldman   | .56.09 |

### THURSDAY EVENING B/C/D PRS

#### Stratum B, 50 Pairs



|   |                                     |        |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Narda Ehrlich - Leonid Fastovsky    | .66.67 |
| 2 | Jean Marx - Jerry Falconett         | .61.90 |
| 3 | Jane Friend - Marie Nylen           | .61.82 |
| 4 | Madison Schepps - Elizabeth Schepps | 61.67  |
| 5 | Ellen Rosenthal - Kathy Litvak      | .60.24 |
| 6 | Julaine Toridis - Theodore Toridis  | .59.52 |

#### Stratum C, 39 Pairs

|   |                                     |        |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Leonid Fastovsky - Narda Ehrlich    | .66.67 |
| 2 | Jean Marx - Jerry Falconett         | .61.90 |
| 3 | Jane Friend - Marie Nylen           | .61.82 |
| 4 | Madison Schepps - Elizabeth Schepps | 61.67  |
| 5 | Ellen Rosenthal - Kathy Litvak      | .60.24 |
| 6 | Jackie Beecher - Juanita Fernandez  | .58.63 |

#### Stratum D, 28 Pairs

|   |                                     |        |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Leonid Fastovsky - Narda Ehrlich    | .66.67 |
| 2 | Madison Schepps - Elizabeth Schepps | 61.67  |
| 3 | Ellen Rosenthal - Kathy Litvak      | .60.24 |
| 4 | Kim Ashenden - John Miles           | .57.92 |
| 5 | Philip Kopala - William White       | .57.08 |
| 6 | Daniel Koch - Shyam Giridharadas    | .56.93 |

### THURSDAY NON-LM PAIRS AT WBL

#### Stratum A, 16 Pairs



|   |                                   |        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Kenneth Rosenau - Susan Rosenau   | .67.56 |
| 2 | Terry Coates - Barbara Brisentine | .64.29 |
| 3 | Michael Berard - Marie Berard     | .63.10 |
| 4 | Helen Fillion - Betty Palmer      | .61.31 |
| 5 | Bryan Geer - Lois Geer            | .60.12 |

### Stratum B, 14 Pairs

|   |                                   |        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Kenneth Rosenau - Susan Rosenau   | .67.56 |
| 2 | Terry Coates - Barbara Brisentine | .64.29 |
| 3 | Michael Berard - Marie Berard     | .63.10 |
| 4 | Helen Fillion - Betty Palmer      | .61.31 |
| 5 | Bryan Geer - Lois Geer            | .60.12 |

### Stratum C, 8 Pairs

|   |                                   |        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Terry Coates - Barbara Brisentine | .64.29 |
| 2 | Michael Berard - Marie Berard     | .63.10 |
| 3 | Stephen Weiner - Louis Cocodrilli | .49.40 |

### THURSDAY 1999 PAIRS AT NVBA

#### Stratum A, 16 Pairs

|   |                                   |        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Stella Perry - David Dove         | .62.50 |
| 2 | Nancy Odend'Hal - David Garrett   | .60.00 |
| 3 | Larry Gebbie - Murat Berk         | .58.33 |
| 4 | Mary Ann Kral - Elizabeth Huffman | .56.67 |
| 5 | Patrick Brown - Elizabeth Parker  | .56.25 |

### Stratum B, 9 Pairs

|     |                                      |        |
|-----|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 1   | Larry Gebbie - Murat Berk            | .58.33 |
| 2   | Marvin Raines - Ruth Woods           | .55.00 |
| 3/4 | Linda Burton - Sidney Graves         | .47.50 |
| 3/4 | Hannelore Suffridge - Eric Poskanzer | 47.50  |

### FRIDAY MORNING A/X PAIRS

#### Stratum A, 20 Pairs



|     |                                   |        |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 1/2 | Steven Forsythe - Sandra Forsythe | .59.82 |
| 1/2 | Jim Gaarder - Jimmy Ritzenberg    | .59.82 |
| 3   | David Vendittis - Benjamin Stauss | .59.23 |
| 4   | Richard Wieland - Steven Schatzow | .58.93 |
| 5   | Audrey Stern - Leila Whiting      | .56.85 |
| 6   | Hanna Schepps - Marlys Moholt     | .54.76 |

### Stratum X, 13 Pairs

|     |                                   |        |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 1/2 | Jimmy Ritzenberg - Jim Gaarder    | .59.82 |
| 1/2 | Steven Forsythe - Sandra Forsythe | .59.82 |
| 3   | David Vendittis - Benjamin Stauss | .59.23 |
| 4   | Richard Wieland - Steven Schatzow | .58.93 |
| 5   | Audrey Stern - Leila Whiting      | .56.85 |

### FRIDAY MORNING B/C/D PAIRS

#### Stratum B, 30 Pairs



|   |                                      |        |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Carol Netchvolodoff - Linda Logan    | .62.69 |
| 2 | Winnie Yonkers - Lorraine Davis      | .61.74 |
| 3 | Samuel Keiter - Richard Robinson     | .61.17 |
| 4 | Douglas Fox - Larry Moran            | .58.33 |
| 5 | Richard Allison - John Lowe III      | .57.58 |
| 6 | Malvern Sheffield Jr - Marlene Stone | 57.39  |

### Stratum C, 27 Pairs

|   |                                   |        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Carol Netchvolodoff - Linda Logan | .62.69 |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------|

|   |                                      |        |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 2 | Winnie Yonkers - Lorraine Davis      | .61.74 |
| 3 | Samuel Keiter - Richard Robinson     | .61.17 |
| 4 | Douglas Fox - Larry Moran            | .58.33 |
| 5 | Malvern Sheffield Jr - Marlene Stone | 57.39  |
| 6 | Margaret Hurley - Marie Nylen        | .56.63 |

### Stratum D, 16 Pairs

|   |                                      |        |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Winnie Yonkers - Lorraine Davis      | .61.74 |
| 2 | Douglas Fox - Larry Moran            | .58.33 |
| 3 | Malvern Sheffield Jr - Marlene Stone | 57.39  |
| 4 | Robert Von Moss - Mary Lou Mayer     | .56.44 |
| 5 | Peter Salmon-Cox - Steven Dunn       | .50.76 |

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON A/X PAIRS

#### Stratum A, 32 Pairs



|   |                                   |        |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | William Cole - Mark Shaw          | .62.36 |
| 2 | Eileen Theimer - Dara Khambata    | .58.89 |
| 3 | Steve Robinson - Alfred Steinberg | .58.06 |
| 4 | James Geist - Charity Sack        | .57.78 |
| 5 | Dalia Kende - Audrey Marbach      | .57.64 |
| 6 | Barry Bragin - Earl Clickstein    | .57.36 |

### Stratum X, 14 Pairs

|   |                                      |        |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | James Geist - Charity Sack           | .57.78 |
| 2 | Jimmy Ritzenberg - Jim Gaarder       | .56.81 |
| 3 | Benjamin Stauss - Hy Chansky         | .52.64 |
| 4 | Wonjoo Goldstein - Marlys Moholt     | .52.08 |
| 5 | Jack Goodykoontz - Vicki Goodykoontz | 51.11  |

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON B/C/D PAIRS

#### Stratum B, 28 Pairs



|   |                                    |        |
|---|------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Douglas Fox - Larry Moran          | .62.69 |
| 2 | Peter Salmon-Cox - Steven Dunn     | .61.17 |
| 3 | Beta Nahapetian - Diane Jaworowsky | .60.61 |
| 4 | Janet Berman - Shirley Coll        | .57.77 |
| 5 | Jackie Beecher - Juanita Fernandez | .57.01 |
| 6 | Georgia Lyhus - Arlan Lyhus        | .56.44 |

### Stratum C, 22 Pairs

|   |                                    |        |
|---|------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Douglas Fox - Larry Moran          | .62.69 |
| 2 | Peter Salmon-Cox - Steven Dunn     | .61.17 |
| 3 | Janet Berman - Shirley Coll        | .57.77 |
| 4 | Jackie Beecher - Juanita Fernandez | .57.01 |
| 5 | Georgia Lyhus - Arlan Lyhus        | .56.44 |
| 6 | Minal Shah - Roma Chandra          | .55.30 |

### Stratum D, 16 Pairs

|   |                                |        |
|---|--------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Douglas Fox - Larry Moran      | .62.69 |
| 2 | Peter Salmon-Cox - Steven Dunn | .61.17 |
| 3 | Janet Berman - Shirley Coll    | .57.77 |
| 4 | Minal Shah - Roma Chandra      | .55.30 |
| 5 | Kathrine Loh - Thomas Din      | .54.73 |

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON 299ER PAIRS****Stratum A, 8 Pairs**

- 1 Maida Crocicchia - Marilyn Udell . . .58.33
- 2 Michael Berard - Marie Berard . . . .55.56
- 3 Lorraine Davis - Winnie Yonkers . . .54.17

**Stratum B, 7 Pairs**

- 1 Michael Berard - Marie Berard . . . .55.56
- 2 Lorraine Davis - Winnie Yonkers . . .54.17
- 3 Ednae Trevey - Ellie Clark . . . .52.78

**Stratum C, 6 Pairs**

- 1 Michael Berard - Marie Berard . . . .55.56
- 2 Lorraine Davis - Winnie Yonkers . . .54.17

**FRIDAY EVENING A/X IMP PAIRS****Stratum A, 28 Pairs**

- 1 Donna Rogall - Vincent Wilmot Jr . .48.31
- 2 William Cole - Robert Bell . . . . .43.00
- 3 Martin Graf - Charity Sack . . . . .35.77
- 4 Helene Bauman - Arnie Frankel . . .23.46
- 5 Glenn Lublin - Mark Shaw . . . . .18.31
- 6 Andrew Gofreed - Alfred Steinberg .17.62

**Stratum X, 12 Pairs**

- 1 Martin Graf - Charity Sack . . . . .35.77
- 2 Noble Shore - Michael Gill . . . . .11.69
- 3 Sandra Schwalb - Clyde Kruskal . . .10.31
- 4 Jane Sturgis - Hope Watts . . . . .3.62

**FRIDAY EVENING B/C/D IMP PAIRS****Stratum B, 16 Pairs**

- 1 Susie Eisinger - Clayton Eisinger . .52.29
- 2 Patrice Gordon - Ruth Schrider . . .34.57
- 3 Roma Chandra - Ajaz Rahman . . . .31.00
- 4 Carole Banks - Nettie Banks . . . . .18.43
- 5 Stephen Mac Arthur - Shawn Stringer 12.29

**Stratum C, 13 Pairs**

- 1 Patrice Gordon - Ruth Schrider . . .34.57
- 2 Roma Chandra - Ajaz Rahman . . . .31.00
- 3 Carole Banks - Nettie Banks . . . . .18.43
- 4 Stephen Mac Arthur - Shawn Stringer 12.29
- 5 Thomas Din - Barry Lieberman . . . .9.71

**Stratum D, 8 Pairs**

- 1 Roma Chandra - Ajaz Rahman . . . .31.00
- 2 Stephen Mac Arthur - Shawn Stringer 12.29
- 3 Thomas Din - Barry Lieberman . . . .9.71

**FRIDAY EVENING 299ER PAIRS****Stratum A, 8 Pairs**

- 1 John Graham - Susan Graham . . . .65.27
- 2 Donald Bush Jr - Mike Frosch . . . .61.38
- 3 Ednae Trevey - Ellie Clark . . . .56.12

**Stratum B, 7 Pairs**

- 1 John Graham - Susan Graham . . . .65.27
- 2 Donald Bush Jr - Mike Frosch . . . .61.38
- 3 Ednae Trevey - Ellie Clark . . . .56.12

**Stratum C, 6 Pairs**

- 1 John Graham - Susan Graham . . . .65.27
- 2 Ednae Trevey - Ellie Clark . . . .56.12

**SATURDAY MORNING A/X PAIRS****Stratum A, 48 Pairs**

- 1 Kenton Schoen - Charles Yaple . . . .62.95
- 2 Helene Bauman - Jim Wakefield . . .62.05
- 3 Mary Dresser - Alice Yoke . . . . .61.96
- 4 Kenneth Berg - Robert Ellis . . . .60.24
- 5 William Cole - Robert Bell . . . . .59.96
- 6 Charleen Brand - Eileen Theimer . .59.69
- 7 Steve Robinson - Peter Boyd . . . .58.42

**Stratum X, 28 Pairs**

- 1 Mary Dresser - Alice Yoke . . . . .61.96
- 2 Kenneth Berg - Robert Ellis . . . .60.24
- 3 Jason Meyer - Lloyd Rawley . . . .55.34
- 4 Sandra Schwalb - Clyde Kruskal . .53.62
- 5 Brad Theurer - James Geist . . . .53.35
- 6 Ann Lindley - Alfred Duncker . . .53.08

**SATURDAY MORNING B/C/D PAIRS****Stratum B, 54 Pairs**

- 1 Katherine Rabenstein - Albert Phillips 74.12
- 2 Howard Bender - Aaron Navarro . . .65.53
- 3 Barbara Israel - Frederick Mueller .63.95

- 4 Bruce Bromberg - Allan Cohen . . . .63.69
- 5 Beta Nahapetian - Edwin Fuller Jr .61.81
- 6 Peter Salmon-Cox - Steven Dunn . .60.98

**Stratum C, 40 Pairs**

- 1 Katherine Rabenstein - Albert Phillips 74.12
- 2 Howard Bender - Aaron Navarro . . .65.53
- 3 Barbara Israel - Frederick Mueller .63.95
- 4 Bruce Bromberg - Allan Cohen . . .63.69
- 5 Peter Salmon-Cox - Steven Dunn . .60.98
- 6 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal .60.61

**Stratum D, 22 Pairs**

- 1 Katherine Rabenstein - Albert Phillips 74.12
- 2 Bruce Bromberg - Allan Cohen . . .63.69
- 3 Peter Salmon-Cox - Steven Dunn . .60.98
- 4 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal .60.61
- 5 Anthony Hawks - John Hawks . . .55.99
- 6 James Andre - Lily Andre . . . . .55.87

**SATURDAY MORNING 299ER PAIRS****Stratum A, 22 Pairs**

- 1 Edward Anania - Joan Anania . . . .63.10
- 2 Paul Chassy - Reina Chassy . . . .61.18
- 3 Sharon Stewart - Anne Vaeth . . . .60.20
- 4 Bryan Geer - Lois Geer . . . . .59.57
- 5 Barbara Brisentine - Terry Coates .53.79
- 6 Kenneth Rosenau - Susan Rosenau .53.49

**Stratum B, 19 Pairs**

- 1 Paul Chassy - Reina Chassy . . . .61.18
- 2 Sharon Stewart - Anne Vaeth . . . .60.20
- 3 Bryan Geer - Lois Geer . . . . .59.57
- 4 Barbara Brisentine - Terry Coates .53.79
- 5 Kenneth Rosenau - Susan Rosenau .53.49
- 6 Shlomit Rind - Joav Steinbach . . .53.06

**Stratum C, 6 Pairs**

- 1 Paul Chassy - Reina Chassy . . . .61.18
- 2 Sharon Stewart - Anne Vaeth . . . .60.20

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON A/X PAIRS****Stratum A, 45 Pairs**

- 1 Lowell Sawyer - Don Probst . . . .62.00
- 2 Helene Bauman - Jim Wakefield . . .61.01
- 3 Bryan Coleman - Fred King . . . .60.42
- 4 Ruth Potter - Stephen Czecha . . .57.97
- 5 Rose Berman - Leila Whiting . . .57.44
- 6 Robert Hartmann - Kenneth Davis .56.68

**Stratum X, 22 Pairs**

- 1 Rose Berman - Leila Whiting . . . .57.44
- 2 David Vendittis - Benjamin Stauss .55.59
- 3 Robert Ellis - Kenneth Berg . . . .55.22
- 4 Mike Frosch - Rodney Severson . .53.21
- 5 Kim Smith - Doris Riley . . . . .51.59
- 6 Nora Millhouser - Jane Sturgis . . .51.56

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON B/C/D PAIRS****Stratum B, 32 Pairs**

- 1 Jackie Beecher - Juanita Fernandez .73.11
- 2 James Andre - Lily Andre . . . . .68.56
- 3 Leslie Shafer - Ralph Williams Jr . .66.10
- 4 John Lowe III - Tsung Lee . . . . .57.95
- 5 Edward Rodrigues - Emerita Hayward 57.01
- 6 Nelson Waks - Irving Lessin . . . .55.68

**Stratum C, 23 Pairs**

- 1 Jackie Beecher - Juanita Fernandez .73.11
- 2 James Andre - Lily Andre . . . . .68.56
- 3 Edward Rodrigues - Emerita Hayward 57.01
- 4 Thomas Din - Barry Lieberman . . .53.79
- 5 Katherine Rabenstein - Albert Phillips 53.60
- 6/7 Robert Schwab - Anne Derbes . . .53.22
- 6/7 Sonny Adelson - Shirley Light . . .53.22

**Stratum D, 11 Pairs**

- 1 James Andre - Lily Andre . . . . .68.56
- 2 Thomas Din - Barry Lieberman . . .53.79
- 3 Katherine Rabenstein - Albert Phillips 53.60
- 4 Robert Schwab - Anne Derbes . . .53.22

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON 299ER PAIRS****Stratum A, 20 Pairs**

- 1 John Graham - Susan Graham . . . .62.80
- 2 Bryan Geer - Lois Geer . . . . .57.44
- 3 Patricia Drummond - Laura Garvey .57.14
- 4/5 Jennifer Elliott - Leslie Jessell . .56.55
- 4/5 Ednae Trevey - George Green . . .56.55
- 6 Larry Gebbie - Elizabeth Huffman .55.95

**Stratum B, 12 Pairs**

- 1 John Graham - Susan Graham . . . .62.80
- 2/3 Jennifer Elliott - Leslie Jessell . . .56.55
- 2/3 Ednae Trevey - George Green . . .56.55
- 4 Sharon Stewart - Anne Vaeth . . . .53.57

**Stratum C, 8 Pairs**

- 1 Jennifer Elliott - Leslie Jessell . . .56.55
- 2 Sharon Stewart - Anne Vaeth . . . .53.57
- 3 Ronnie Loeser - Michael Watts . . .52.98

**SUNDAY A/X SWISS****Stratum A, 17 Teams**

- 1 Steve Robinson - Stephen Landen - Peter Boyd - William Pettis - Mark Shaw - William Cole . . . . .109.00
- 2 Prahald Rajkumar - Donna Rogall - Charity Sack - John Adams . . . . .89.00
- 3 Lawrence Lau - Robert Hopkins Jr - Joan Lewis - John Klayman . . . . .87.00

- 4 Alan Kleist - Noble Shore - Michael Gill - William Gill .....80.00
- 5 Paul Benedict - Lynn Jones - Suellen Poland - Tom Cogan .....78.00

#### Stratum X, 3 Teams

- 1 Jason Meyer - James Geist - Rae Dethlefsen - Thomas Musso .....77.00

#### SUNDAY B/C/D SWISS

##### Stratum B, 24 Teams



- 1 H John Edmonds - Larry Kahn - Hadi Abushakra - James Adams .....100.00
- 2 Robert Gunnell Jr - Katherine Rabenstein - John Lowe III - Tsung Lee .....93.00
- 3 Margie Coccodrilli - Jerry Miller - Gail Singer - Mark Lavine .....91.00
- 4/5 Thomas Reckford - Gretchen Handwerker - Mohsen Esfandiary - Pari Khoshkish .....84.00
- 4/5 James Andre - Lily Andre - Edward Molnar - Kathrine Loh .....84.00
- 6 Steven Schatzow - Eugene Fisher - Adrienne Fisher - Sarah Goodstein .....83.00

##### Stratum C, 14 Teams

- 1/2 Thomas Reckford - Gretchen Handwerker - Mohsen Esfandiary - Pari Khoshkish .....84.00
- 1/2 James Andre - Lily Andre - Edward Molnar - Kathrine Loh .....84.00
- 3 Lewis Gold - Ellen Lux - Jackie Beecher - Juanita Fernandez .....80.00
- 4/5 Bryan Geer - Lois Geer - Sherrie Schrama - Mary Ellen Lyon .....79.00
- 4/5 Leo Cardillo - Richard Cassell - Mitchell Karlick - Suzanne Abrams .....79.00

##### Stratum D, 9 Teams

- 1 James Andre - Lily Andre - Edward Molnar - Kathrine Loh .....84.00
- 2 Marshall Kramer - Stephen Mac Arthur - Raymond Hays - Shawn Stringer .....65.00
- 3 H Phillip Davis - Veronica Flynn - Anne Vaeth - Sharon Stewart .....64.00
- 4/5 Roberta Weiss - Reni Malloy - Franz Delahan - Madeline Delahan .....61.00
- 4/5 Juan Pardo - Winnie Yonkers - Mike Frosch - Donald Bush Jr .....61.00

#### SUNDAY MORNING 299ER SWISS

##### Stratum A, 10 Teams

- 1 Jerry Nolte - Elizabeth Nolte - Edward Harvey Jr - Meredith Harvey .....56.00
- 2 Margaret Brown - Patrick Brown - Donald Brown - Elizabeth Parker .....55.00
- 3 Shlomit Rind - Joav Steinbach - Roma Chandra - Ajaz Rahman .....51.00
- 4 Helene Cooper - Holly Wills - Elizabeth Traylor - Marilyn Smebakken .....46.00

#### Stratum B, 7 Teams

- 1 Jerry Nolte - Elizabeth Nolte - Edward Harvey Jr - Meredith Harvey .....56.00
- 2 Shlomit Rind - Joav Steinbach - Roma Chandra - Ajaz Rahman .....51.00
- 3 Martha Bley - Ross Bley - Nancy Detweiler - Marshall Fite .....40.00

#### Stratum C, 3 Teams

- 1 Jerry Nolte - Elizabeth Nolte - Edward Harvey Jr - Meredith Harvey .....56.00

#### SUNDAY AFTERNOON 299ER SWISS

##### Stratum A, 6 Teams



- 1 Elizabeth Traylor - Marilyn Smebakken - Holly Wills - Helene Cooper (not pic.) 61.00
- 2 David Mead - Kathleen O'Toole - John Graham - Susan Graham .....54.00

##### Stratum B, 5 Teams

- 1 David Mead - Kathleen O'Toole - John Graham - Susan Graham .....54.00
- 2 Edna Mae Trevey - George Green - Charles Clements - Ellie Clark .....45.00

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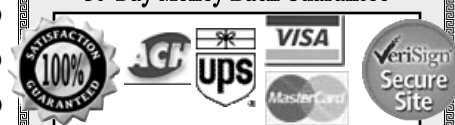
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## AREA BRIDGE CLASS OFFERINGS

### LESLIE SHAFER'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

**Questions:** Call **Leslie Shafer** at 301-593-6828 or email (preferred) [slamhand@verizon.net](mailto:slamhand@verizon.net).  
**NOTE:** Due to date of the WBL submission deadline, all of the January dates and times are estimates. Please check with Leslie before January for confirmations of all starting dates.

December 5, 12 and 19th (2005); Two sites!!  
**More Magic Hands For Advanced Players!**  
Each hand has a trick to it. We'll teach you to develop the judgment to figure out these problems. Once you've learned the logic of solving these problems, your bridge skills will skyrocket! Costs: Same at both sites - \$15 per class on a pay as you go basis. The two locations are:

Monday 10 a.m. - Noon at **Potomac Community Center** (an MCRD class); and  
Monday 7:30-9:30 pm. **Suit Yourself Bridge Club** (Steve and Sandy Forsythe's house in Silver Spring, Maryland).

#### Winter 2006 Bridge Classes (January)

**Brand New Beginners:** Although lacking final confirmation as of the press deadline, there are plans to run an absolute beginner bridge course at **Congressional Country Club** in Potomac, Maryland. Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m., beginning January 11th.

#### Advanced Beginners:

Mondays, 7:15-9:15 p.m., starting January 9th. **Coffield Community Center** (an MCRD class), "Introduction to Play of the Hand." Now that you have a decent grasp on the bidding, let's see how to make these contracts. Focus is on distribution, how to count your winners or losers and making a plan, finessing, how to get rid of losers, and establishing long suits.

Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - Noon, starting January 18th. **Kenwood Country Club** (open to the public). "Beginner Bridge, Part B." This course is great for those that have taken at least one semester of beginning bridge, or haven't played in a few years. Focuses on shortness points, takeout doubles, preempts and overcalls.

#### Intermediates:

Tuesdays, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., starting January 10th. **Potomac Community Center** (an MCRD class). "Leslie Sez" goes over the "jingles and rhymes"; why they exist, and lots of hands to play that emphasize the lesson. Focuses on "8 ever, 9 never," "cover an honor with an honor," "second hand low," "third hand high" and much more.

Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m., starting January 18th. "Common Bidding Dilemmas." **Kenwood Country Club** (open to the public). Here are more of the most common bidding, play and defense problems that our students continue to get wrong. Let's get scientific instead of bidding by the seat of our pants.

Fridays, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (**OASIS Learning Center** near Friendship Heights) **Polishing Your Basics Part 2.** For those who wish to fine tune their grasp of the basics, we show some of the most common mistakes made and why they're wrong. Lots of hands to play! There are two five-week courses, the first beginning January 20th.

**The Washington Hebrew Congregation** is offering an intermediate course on Tuesdays 12:30-2:30 p.m., beginning January 10th. However, you must be a member there to join the class.

**Columbia Country Club** is offering an intermediate class on Thursdays 10 a.m. - noon; begins January 12th; however, you must be a member to join the class.

#### Advanced:

Mondays, 10 a.m. - Noon, starting January 9th: **Potomac Community Center** (an MCRD class). **Magic Hands Part 3.** Learn how to "think" out the solution to tricky problems in bidding, play and defense. This fantastic course has been getting rave reviews from intermediates up through Life Masters!!

### STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS

As of November 1, 2005

#### Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Paul Chassy    | Reina Chassy   |
| Terry Coates   | Camille Cook   |
| Charles Haynes | Alfred Liepold |
| Nadim Makdisi  | Joy Rodman     |
| Susan Rosenau  |                |

#### Club Masters (20 Masterpoints)

|                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Jeannette Brophy   | Ronald Bush    |
| Louisa Duemling    | Leslie Jessell |
| Marilyn Rubinstein | Eric SeEVERS   |

#### Sectional Masters (50 Masterpoints)

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| Michael Berard | A. Edwin Johnson |
|----------------|------------------|

#### Regional Masters (100 Masterpoints)

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Florence Drake | Robert Drake   |
| Mike Frosch    | John Graham    |
| Joan Kinikin   | David Loken    |
| Ellen Lux      | Winnie Yonkers |

#### National Masters (200 Masterpoints)

|              |                      |
|--------------|----------------------|
| Bryan Geer   | Patrice Gordon       |
| Mark Graber  | Katherine Rabenstein |
| Shlomit Rind |                      |





# NLM MASTERPOINTERS

by I/N Columnist, Sandy Forsythe, [majslf@aol.com](mailto:majslf@aol.com)

## BRIDGE AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

What's that "X" on the bidding card mean? What's a crossruff? What's a masterpoint? What's a matchpoint? Oh, what's the point?

Don't despair...you, too, can learn to speak bridge! No one was born knowing this language. Here are some terms that you might find confusing:

**Opener.** Who is the opener? The first person in the auction to make a call other than "pass" is the opener. There's only one opener in any auction. If South opens and West then makes a bid, he is the **overcaller**.

**Responder.** When South opens the bidding and then North bids, North is the responder. There is also only one responder in any auction. If West overcalls and then East bids, East is called the **advancer**. (Yes, we have names for everybody and everything in bridge! How many words do the Eskimos have for snow?)

**RHO, LHO.** Right-hand opponent, left-hand opponent.

**Those X's.** The "X" card in your bidding box stands for **Double**. You can use it when an opponent was the last person to make a bid other than pass. It doubles the plus score for them if they make their contract, and doubles (and then some!) the penalties if they go down. The "XX" card stands for **Redouble**. Redouble doubles the rewards and penalties yet again.

There are many kinds of doubles, but the two most common are the **takeout double** and the **penalty double**. The takeout double shows support for all the unbid suits and is meant to be "taken out" by your partner. You make a penalty double when you expect to set the opponents a bunch for a juicy plus score. (Also known as "a telephone number.") How can partner tell the difference? That's a topic for another column!

**Vulnerable, Nonvulnerable.** (Or "red vs. white.") Vulnerability affects scoring: when you're vulnerable, you get a bigger bonus for making a game or slam, but if you fail to make your contract, the opponents score 100 points for each undertrick instead of 50. In duplicate bridge there are no "legs" (ask your mother), so we assign the vulnerability to each board.

If you are vulnerable, it will say "vul" next to the pocket where you pull your cards from, and the pocket may be red. When you aren't vulnerable but the opponents are ("favorable" vulnerability), you can bid more aggressively than when you are vulnerable and the opponents aren't ("unfavorable" vulnerability).

**Cue-bid.** An artificial bid of an opponent's suit (1C by RHO, 2C by you). It is never to play and your partner should *never pass!* The exact meaning of the cue-bid depends on the auction. The term "cue-bid" is also used to describe a bid that shows a specific ace.

**Crossruff.** When instead of drawing trumps, you use your trumps to ruff losers in both hands, crossing from one hand to the other and back.

**Entry.** Any card that can win a trick to provide transportation into a hand: a high card or a trump.

**Blocking, unblocking.** Say you have Ax of spades in your hand, and KQJx in dummy. If you play the king on the first spade trick, and the ace on the second, the suit is blocked: you can't get back to the board unless you have an entry in a different suit. You can unblock by playing the honor from the short side first. Defenders also need to consider unblocking when they hold an honor in their partner's suit.

**Masterpoints.** Point awards for winning or placing (also called "scratching") in a duplicate-bridge event sanctioned by ACBL.

**Matchpoints.** A form of scoring used in pairs games. On each board, you receive one matchpoint for each pair sitting in your direction that you scored better than, and half a matchpoint for each pair you tie.

**Top.** The maximum number of matchpoints you can earn on a board. If a board is played eight times in a duplicate session, "top" is 7 because the best you can do is beat the other seven pairs who played it.

**Bottom (or zero).** The opposite of a top. What if your scores are all tops and bottoms? We call that a pajama game!

**Stratified.** An event that offers extra masterpoint awards to newcomer and intermedi-

ate players. Players of all skill levels play against each other, but each pair is classified into a stratum (A, B, C) depending on their masterpoints, i.e. 50/20/5. Point awards are given to the top pairs in each stratum.

**IMPs (International Match Points).** A form of scoring usually used in team games. On each board, the difference between your score and your opponents' score is converted to IMPs, which can be positive or negative. The team with the most total positive IMPs on all boards wins the match.

**Swiss teams.** An event for teams of four

players. Each team plays short matches against several other teams and scores the results by IMPs. Masterpoints are awarded for each match won.

**Knockout teams.** A multi-session team event. In each session, one team plays against one other team and scores the results by IMPs. The loser is eliminated; the winner advances to play another winning team in the next session. Matches continue until there is one winner.

For more on these and other terms, Karen Walker provides an excellent glossary at: <http://www.prairienet.org/bridge/glos.htm>



## ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

...Thursday, Dec. 15 at the Unit Game

Buffet Dinner starts at 6 p.m.

Game starts at 7:30 p.m.



The Annual **WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE HOLIDAY PARTY**, which includes dinner and a bridge game will be held at the Thursday night Unit Game on December 15. Everyone is asked to bring their favorite goodies (appetizers, salads, casserole, desserts, etc.). The main course and holiday drinks will be provided. Dinner will be served from 6 to 7 p.m., followed shortly after by the game. If you have any questions or would like to help with the party, please call Kitty at (301) 587-3981 or email her at [kgottfried@hotmail.com](mailto:kgottfried@hotmail.com).

*Come on out for great feasting, great bridge and great fun!*

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

## DUES ARE DUE

If you are a non-member who subscribes to the *WBL Bulletin*, your dues are due. Unless you renew by **March 1, 2006**, the next issue will be your last. Renewals are \$21 for 3 years. Send this page with your check for \$21, made out to The Washington Bridge League to:

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 Silver Spring, MD 20905-3711

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# NEED A RIDE TO THE UNIT GAME? NEED A PARD FOR THE UNIT GAME?

Contact Charleen Brand (301-946-8483) one day ahead to find a partner for the unit game. For a last minute partner, call the **WBL cell phone (301-395-2760)**. Try the country's first **On-Line Partnership Bulletin Board: [www.washingtonbridgeleague.org](http://www.washingtonbridgeleague.org)**.

**Don Berman, Carpool Coordinator** can be contacted at 301-776-3581 or ([don.berman@verizon.net](mailto:don.berman@verizon.net)) or log on to the **On-Line Carpool Notices** at [www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org](http://www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org).

*Good luck! We look forward to seeing you on Thursday evenings.*

THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE  
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## WBL SOLVERS' CLUB'S NEW PROBLEMS

November/December 2005

### 1) IMP's None Vulnerable

♠ AQJ6♥ A3♦ J86♣ AQ54

|              |             |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| <u>SOUTH</u> | <u>WEST</u> | <u>NORTH</u> | <u>EAST</u> |
| —            | —           | —            | Pass        |
| 1♣           | 4♦          | Dbl*         | Pass        |
| ????         |             |              |             |

\*Negative

### 2) IMP's None Vulnerable

♠ KQ2♥ 43♦ AK3♣ 65432

|              |             |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| <u>SOUTH</u> | <u>WEST</u> | <u>NORTH</u> | <u>EAST</u> |
| —            | —           | 1♦           | Pass        |
| ????*        |             |              |             |

\*2♣ & 2N = GF

### 3) IMP's None Vulnerable

♠ KT6♥ 52♦ AKJ7♣ AKT4

|              |             |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| <u>SOUTH</u> | <u>WEST</u> | <u>NORTH</u> | <u>EAST</u> |
| 1♦           | Pass        | 1♠           | Pass        |
| ????         |             |              |             |

### 4) Matchpoints None Vulnerable

♠ A2♥ Q7652♦ Q2♣ A654

|              |             |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| <u>SOUTH</u> | <u>WEST</u> | <u>NORTH</u> | <u>EAST</u> |
| 1♥           | 3♣          | Dbl*         | Pass        |
| ????         |             |              |             |

\*Negative

### 5) IMP's None Vulnerable

♠ 52♥-♦ AK10876♣ Q9654

|              |             |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| <u>SOUTH</u> | <u>WEST</u> | <u>NORTH</u> | <u>EAST</u> |
| —            | —           | 1♣           | Pass        |
| ????*        |             |              |             |

\*Strong jump shifts, inverted minors

Return answers by January 12 to:

**Steve Robinson**  
2891 S. Abingdon St #A2,  
Arlington VA, 22206  
[robinswr@erols.com](mailto:robinswr@erols.com)