

THE DUMMY

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE STATE BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

MAY 2010

MARIE FILANDRO, EDITOR



Upcoming Events

Mays Landing NJ
Unit 141 - Sectional
May 14 - May 16

Allentown PA
Unit 133 - Sectional
May 14 - May 16

District GNT
May 22 - May 23
Scranton PA

WILMINGTON SECTIONAL
JUNE 4 - JUNE 6
THE BRIDGE STUDIO

Kimberton PA
Unit 141 - Sectional
June 18 - June 20

DSBA PRO - AM GAME
7 p.m. - JUNE 21
THE BRIDGE STUDIO

DISTRICT 4 REGIONAL
VALLEY FORGE PA
JULY 12 - JULY 18

SUMMER NATIONALS
NEW ORLEANS LA
JULY 22 - AUGUST 1

President's Report

Spring has arrived and bridge is most definitely in the air in DSBA land. As I write this, the Delaware Regional is well underway. Many hundreds of bridge players, from novices to a few teams of professionals, including a recent ACBL Hall-of-Fame inductee, are happily pursuing Gold points, Red points, bridge pointers, and FUN! I have done a shift at the Partnership Desk, and can vouch for the matchmaking skills of Chair Julie Hockersmith and her volunteers. I attended a wonderful reception for non-life master players, hosted by Hospitality Chair, Carole Everitt. More than 100 NLMs enjoyed quite a feast and the opportunity to mingle with each other and with a few "dignitaries," including District 4 Director Craig Robinson and District 4's 1st Vice President, Rick Rowland. Kudos to NLM Chair Mike Mocella and his planning team for arranging so many NLM-centered events, including a series of talks. Most of all, hats off to tournament co-chairs Sue Corbett and Tom Grabowski, whom I've seen absolutely everywhere at the Holiday Inn, for their hard work and good cheer.

Since I last wrote, the DSBA has hosted a couple of other events. Our February sectional at the Bridge Studio went well, though table numbers were dampened a bit by the nastiness of this winter's weather. I had a great time playing in a new event, the Swiss Pairs. Thanks to co-chair Richard Popper who had played in the event in England and recommended we give it a try. Thanks also to co-chair Trina Williams for hospitality and for the caddies, and to all others who volunteered.

On Sunday afternoon, April 18th, the DSBA held the Delaware State Swiss Teams in conjunction with our annual Unit 190 Awards ceremony, honoring the top Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney winners for 2009. The down-staters made a particularly strong showing last year, a tribute to the health and the vitality of duplicate bridge games throughout the state. Congratulations to all the winners.

Get ready for the return of the DSBA Pro-Am Game, scheduled for Monday evening, June 21st, at 7 p.m. at the Bridge Studio in Wilmington. Last year's event was an unqualified smash, with 35.5 tables, most of whom had never played a session with their partners. For this year's event, Pros are defined as life masters, Ams as non-life masters. Mike Mocella and Jess Stuart will be handling the arrangements, including partnership formation requests. Details will be out soon.

Finally, I want to thank the multi-talented Unit 190 board for all they have done over the last year to support bridge in Delaware and to support me as Unit President. I surely needed every bit of the skills and dedication they brought to the board. Over the next couple of months, I'll be approaching some of you to join the board or to serve as officers, so that next year's president is as blessed as I have been. I hope you'll consider answering the call. Suggestions and feedback can be sent to

horowitz@udel.edu.

Warm wishes, Alan Horowitz, Your President.

DSBA 2010 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Many thanks to Marie Grabowski for the new directory. Marie always single-handedly does a fabulous job with this project - updating, formatting, printing and even distributing the final product. If you have not yet received your copy, contact Marie.

Spring Nationals - Reno, Nevada - March 11 - March 21

4,571 players earned 86,729.77 masterpoints

Unit 190 members who were there.....Mary Boyd, Amal Dasgupta, Pete & Marie Filandro, Peter Harris, Steve Herrmann, Andy Kaufman, Chris Marlow, Bridgett Pitt, Lynda & Gary Swenson, Jess & Lois Stuart, Anne & Monty Taylor

Profiling Outstanding Delaware Bridge Players

FIFTY YEARS AGO....

Imagine four players from the local club vying for a national championship. Four DSBA members did it in 1960 – Bill Dumas, Don McGee, John Siverts and Jerzy Zawisza. While they were all solid bridge players, who could have imagined that they would tie for second in the National Board-A-Match Championship. In fact, Don doubled his masterpoint total in the event from thirty to sixty.

Take it a step further. One of the teams that they tied included Delawareans Dave Treadwell and Marvin Paulshock. That was quite an event for Delaware.

Rick Rowland

DSBA 2010 - Pro/Am Pairs

Monday, June 21 - 7 p.m. - Bridge Studio

Pre-registration is required!

Pro: any Life Master ♣♦♥♠ Am: any non-Life Master

Pro's seeking an Am partner - send your request with your approximate masterpoints to
jesswstuart@verizon.net by June 7

Am's seeking a Pro partner - send your request to
mmocella@gmail.com by June 7

Pro/Am pairs send your names and the approximate masterpoints of the Pro to
mmocella@gmail.com by June 14

Congratulations to DSBA members who have advanced in rank!

Life Master

Bitsy Klein
Bob McHarness
Joyce Taylor

Bronze Life Master

Kimmie Fulweiler
Sharon Gordon
Peter Harris
Nancy Libourel

Silver Life Master

Anna Delapo
Melissa Jessup

Emerald Life Master

Rick Rowland

Thank you Unit 190 for making our Wilmington Regional a success. Your attendance is vitally important. We had 1174 tables in play, with 975 players in attendance. Of these 975 players, 874 won some color of master points. Total points awarded were 6711, of which 4520 were gold. A total of 470 players won gold points. Those are very impressive statistics.

Special kudos goes to our hard working regional committee members: Julie Hockersmith, Carole & Bill Everitt, Jean & Joe Brown, Anne Taylor, Mike Mocella, Elaine DeColli, and Kathy Bear. Sincere thanks to Doug Grove, our head director and his patient, competent staff, and to Rob Maier for publishing the daily bulletin.

Our next Wilmington Regional is already scheduled for June 24 - m30, 2012 at this great new location. In the meantime the Holiday Inn will be refurbished and upgraded to a Crowne Plaza hotel, with the room rate locked in at \$112.00/night. We hope to see you all in 2012. Susan Corbett & Tom Grabowski

DSBA Open Swiss Teams - April 18, 2010

Flight A - Soley Kristjansdottir, Rick Rowland, Ken Cohen, Daisy Goecker

Flight B - Aster Wu, Shirley Hanson, Gladys White, Leon Tomaszewski

Flight C - Jean & Joe Brown, Kathleen & Herbert Chalek

Top Ten DSBA winners at the Delaware Regional

Rick Rowland (58.89) Greg Burch (47.09) Andy Kaufman (36.39)

Andy Stayton (29.79) Barbara Rhoades (27.54) Kristofor Varhus (26.51)

Mary Boyd (25.73) Randy Berseth (24.80) Elizabeth Varhus (24.70) Jeff Ruben (24.66)

Top Unit 190 master point winners at Sectionals

Reading PA - February 12 - 15 - Pete & Marie Filandro (4.43)

Glenside PA - February 19 - 21 - Richard Popper (15.17) Andy Kaufman (10.09)

Rick Rowland (8.81) Bob Keeney (7.42) Jean Petrilli (7.42)

Blue Hen Sectional - February 26 - 28 - Andy Kaufman (32.56) Richard Popper (19.78)

Rick Rowland (12.49) Dave Venetianer (11.80) Jeff Ruben (11.25)

Wilmington Sectional - April 5 - 8 - Aster Wu (14.64) Peter Harris (13.54) Mary Boyd (13.54)

Alan Horowitz (12.87) Mooch Taylor (10.83)

Conshohocken PA - April 9 - 11 - Andy Kaufman (12.50) Rick Rowland (9.38) Dave Venetianer (6.84)

Lancaster PA - April 23 - 25 - Pete & Marie Filandro (9.06) Chris Marlow (3.29)

2009 Unit 190 Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs Awards

	Mini-McKenney	Ace of Clubs
0 - 5	Toni Notarnicola	Toni Notarnicola
5 - 20	Mary Boyd	Mary Boyd
20 - 50	Jean Petrilli	Barbara Thayer
50 - 100	Colin Mackay	Colin Mackay
100 - 200	Bitsy Klein	J Bruce Gwaltney
200 - 300	Peter Harris	Peter Harris
300 - 500	Nancy Steele	Jerome Sikora
500 - 1000	Bridgett Pitt	Bridgett Pitt
1000 - 2500	Barbara Rhoades	Harvey Retherford
2500 - 5000	Randy Berseth	Randy Berseth
5000 - 7500	Rick Rowland	Rick Rowland
7500 - 10,000	Jess Stuart	Jess Stuart
10,000 +	Dave Treadwell	Dave Treadwell

“SO YOU WANT TO BE A LIFE MASTER” - by Pete Filandro

[This article is based on a suggestion from Len Thomas. I've put it in a Q & A format.]

Q. I hope to become a Life Master (LM) someday. I know it may take years. Is there anything to keep in mind during this time?

A. Yes. Do not let your ACBL dues lapse! Effective Jan 1, 2010, the requirements for LM have increased from 300 total masterpoints (MPs) to 500 MPs - and the pigmented/colored MP requirements have also been increased. But all of you who are current members are “grandfathered” at the 300 level as long as you continue paying your ACBL dues. Another point. If you carelessly forget to renew, don't assume your points are lost or that you have been relegated to the 500-level requirement. There is a grace period for you to pay those dues and retain your MPs and your 300-level requirements. Check acbl.org for details.

Q. Do you have any tips on speeding my accumulation of those 300 MPs?

A. You bet. First, Seek out bridge clubs that make the effort to award the highest level of MPs. Clubs can increase their awards by scheduling special games during certain months for ACBL promotions, running teaching programs, actively seeking out new ACBL memberships and by paying a fee toward an ACBL charity. Special recognition to Harold Jordan who was one of the first practitioners of the art of maximizing MP awards in clubs. Second, play in Bracketed Knockouts whenever you can. It is widely known that, except for the very highest bracket, these events pay the most MPs commensurate with the level of effort and the quality of the opposition. If you and your teammates have, say, 150 MPs each, your team total of 600 MPs might put you in a bracket of 16 teams with, say, 500 - 800 MPs each. You only have to win 2 or more matches to earn fairly large MP awards, and your competition is usually very similar in ability.

Q. Do you have any tips on getting Silver (Sectional) MPs?

A. Yes. If you are willing to go to clubs you don't normally attend in order to get those difficult Silver points, I recommend you play in STaC games. STaC stands for Sectional Tournament at Clubs. STaC games pay Silver points for all awards - that is, section placings as well as overall awards. So you could win Silver for as little as, say, 5th in your direction for a fractional award to as much as 15 or more MPs for being 1st overall in all participating clubs. Look on the back inside cover of your monthly ACBL Bulletin magazine to find a list of STaC games for the upcoming month. (For up to a year ahead, future STaCs can be found on the ACBL website under Tournaments, then Sectional Tournaments at Clubs Calendars, then Participating Clubs.) Look for a STaC in Unit 190 (Delaware) or Unit 141 (Philadelphia and nearby PA and NJ), or District 4 (our District), or District 6 (Maryland). You will find games scheduled for almost every day and evening of the week.

Q. Do you have any tips on getting Gold/Red MPs?

A. Sure. Red and Gold MPs are awarded at Regionals (with one minor exception that there is an annual Gold Point event at participating clubs). Red is for any MPs earned in a 2-session or longer Regional event. Gold are awarded only for Section Top or Overall awards in 2-session or longer Regional events. Your best opportunity, as mentioned before, is to play in Bracketed Knockouts. Your chances of winning large awards in your bracket are excellent. And, they will be GOLD if you win as few as two matches! If you don't have a team, or you prefer to play in some pair events, if you and your partner are age 55+, consider playing in a Regional Senior Pairs. These events are usually less “star-studded” so may find the competition easier (and, as a side benefit, usually more friendly and less intense - but no guarantees here). However, a caveat: since the field is not “Open” the MP awards are not as generous.

Q. I have lots more than 300 MPs and I have all of my Red and Silver, but that last 0.16 (0.23, 0.08, etc.) of Gold has been eluding me for ages. Is there a way to earn a small Gold award without getting a Section Top or an Overall award at a Regional?

A. Yes, but it means I have to let you in on an ACBL secret. “Platinum points are downward convertible to Gold - and done automatically by ACBL.” Let me explain. Platinum points are not needed to make LM, so most newer players don't know much, if anything, about them. Platinum points are earned only at ACBL Nationals and only in NABC+ (National) events that have no upper MP limit. So, if you only need a fraction of a Gold Point, go to a Nationals and play in either the NABC+ Open Swiss or the NABC+ Open Senior Swiss. All you need to do is win just one of the eight matches and you will earn perhaps 0.44 Platinum MPs. They will magically turn into Gold and you will be a LM! Congratulations!

2010 Wilmington Sectional - June 4 - 6, 2010

The Bridge Studio of Delaware

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, June 4

9:00 am ²	Stratified Open Pairs (Open/1500/500) Stratified NLM Pairs ¹
12:30 pm	Flight A/X Pairs (Open/3000) Stratified B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) Stratified NLM Pairs ¹
6:00 pm	Stratified Open Pairs (Open/1500/500) Stratified NLM Pairs ¹

Saturday, June 5

10:00 am	Handicapped Bracketed KOs Stratified Open Pairs (Open/1500/500) Stratified NLM Pairs ¹
2:00 pm	Flight A/X Pairs (Open/3000) Stratified B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) Stratified NLM Pairs ¹
7:00 pm	Stratified Open Pairs (Open/1500/500) Stratified NLM Pairs ¹

Sunday, June 6

11:00 am 2 sessions playthru	Flight A/X - Two Session Swiss (Open/3000) Strat B/C/D - Two Session Swiss (1500/750/300) Pizza will be sold between sessions
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¹NOTE: All NLM Pairs stratified based on attendance - ²9 AM sessions will run 18-22 boards and include light brunch

BELOW THE CANAL by Audrey Pugh

Because of holidays & snow days, Monday Morning Bridge Club had to cancel three scheduled games. However, attendance for all games held has been excellent and we and Friday Nooners have not had to raise our playing fees from \$6.00 (Monday) and \$5.00 (Friday). Now we're looking forward to the return of our players who spend the winter in warmer climates.

Monday Special Games:

- February 22 - ACBL Wide Senior Game
 - 1st - Clare O'Brien & Lillian Schaub
 - 2nd - Ray Spector & Anne Schuster
- March 1 - Club Championship
 - 1st - Lila Childres & Dick Glidden
 - 2nd - Susan Derrickson & Laura Raganosi

Friday Special Games:

- February 19 - Club Championship
 - 1st - Wilbert Stanely & Pat Vogler
 - 2nd - Clare O'Brien & Lillian Schaub
- April 9 - Charity Club Championship
 - 1st - Audrey Pugh & Clare O'Brien
 - 2nd - Evelyn Petrucci & Joan Santelli



MOT DUPLICATE BRIDGE by Cheryl Shields

MOT Duplicate Bridge plays every Tuesday morning at 9:30am at The MOT Senior Center, 300 South Scott Street in Middletown, Delaware. We would like to encourage players to come and support this endeavor. We are half way between Newark and Dover. We always have hot coffee brewing.

Our duplicate director is Tom Kramer and club manager Cheryl Shields. For information and directions call 302-602-1638.

♣♦♥♠ BEACH BRIDGE by Dini Romito ♣♦♥♠

♣ Welcome back snowbirds and welcome to our newest ACBL members, Chick Allen, Judy & Gary Lippe, Betty & Paul Akana.

♥ ACBL-Wide Charity, March 17: WOW, what a blockbuster first-time partnership win in a 17-table game! Congratulations to Terry Dutton and Terry Patton with a 73.21% game. This partnership of Terry and Terry will forever in the future be known as "T'n'T". Wonderful hostesses, Dottie Ireton and Bitsy Klein, cooked delightful o'Irish food to feed the o'starving in fine style.

♠ Harry Coar Memorial Charity Game, April 22. Harry passed away unexpectedly in February. We all mourn the loss of our good friend and offer our sincere condolences to his wife, Jo. Harry was one of kind. He had a wonderful sense of humor and a twinkle of mischief in his eye. The generous donations were sent to one of Harry's favorite charities, the Scholarship Fund of DSOA, Delaware Standardbred Owners Association. The charity champions with a 68% game were Mary Alice Mumford and George Jones.

♦ 1st Qtr Club Champions: Beach, Linda Regan/Laurie Shelton; Shuffles, Terry Dutton/Bob Gore; All Stars, Corinne Sommer/Judy Harrington. Winners, all! Congratulations.

70% Games: Mary Alice Mumford/George Jones, 75% Game, Incredible - Amazing !!!

♣♦♥♠ New ACBL Rankings ♣♦♥♠

Club Master: Liz Flinchbaugh, Cele Mitchell

Sectional Master: Toni Notarnicola

Regional Master: Barbara Cleary, Jeanie Sullivan

NABC Master: Mary Boyd, Mike Klein, Jean Petrilli

Lesson Schedule: Please call Dini to reserve your seat.

Tuesday Afternoon - Hands-On Workshops: 1:30-4:30 PM, thru May 18.

Tuesday Evening - Beginner Classes, 6:00-8:45 PM, April 20-June 15.

Thursday Mornings - Play of the Hand with Terry Dutton, 10:00-11:30, (4)

Thursdays in May - prior to the 12 Noon game.

Tuesday Afternoon - "Commonly Used Conventions," May 25-July 20, 1:30-4:30.

Please register by May 15.

Mark your calendar:

May 13, ACBL-wide International Fund Game with hand records and full analysis by Frank Stewart, ½ black and ½ red points, Ocean View.

June 5 - WORLDWIDE Pairs Game, Ocean View, Saturday, 1:00 PM. Please reserve your seats. This is a rare opportunity to compete against players all over the world. Each participant receives a hand analysis booklet by Eric Kokish. District honors also available.

Keep on Shuffling' Dini www.who-dini.com