

# THE DUMMY



QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE STATE BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 2013  
MARIE FILANDRO, EDITOR

## UPCOMING EVENTS

STaC  
November 11 - 17  
Clubs within Unit 190

Unit 168 Sectional  
November 22 - 24  
Harrisburg Bridge Club  
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania

**NORTH AMERICAN BRIDGE  
CHAMPIONSHIPS - PHOENIX  
NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 8**

**Dave Treadwell Sectional  
December 27 - December 31  
Bridge Studio**

Unit 141 Sectional  
January 10 - January 12  
Bala Golf Club, Philadelphia PA

Unit 168 Sectional  
January 24 - January 26  
Harrisburg Bridge Club  
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania

## District 4 Representatives

Thanks to Richard Popper, Barbara Rhoades, Cindy Rowland and Rick Rowland for serving as the Unit 190 representatives to District 4 Board Meetings for the upcoming year.

## DSBA President's Letter

It is my honor to serve as the new President of Unit 190 for the coming year. I am especially honored to serve with all our outstanding, dedicated board members who volunteer their time. Their efforts benefit us all and help keep competitive bridge alive and well in Delaware. Please thank them when you see them.

Many thanks go out to Trina Williams, our outgoing President of the past two years, for her great leadership. Also a big "thank you" to our retiring board members Bill Everitt and Harold Jordan. Please help me in welcoming new board members Caroline Hughes, Rick Rowland and Alan Horowitz. They are a great addition to our already terrific line-up of board members.

Despite trying to spend down our money, the DSBA finished the fiscal year wealthier than when we began. Because of the surplus, along with continuing to subsidize beginning bridge lesson and hold the annual Achievement Award competition, the board has decided to begin the process of revamping our website. Stay tuned for more information about this exciting new venture.

As we move forward through the year, I welcome comments, suggestions and concerns from our members. You can reach me at [bmossr@gmail.com](mailto:bmossr@gmail.com).

Thanks for all your support and please keep it coming! Barb

## DSBA Board of Directors

President - Barbara Rhoades  
Vice President & Membership Chair South - Scott Freber  
Treasurer & Recorder - Jess Stuart  
Secretary - Bruce Gwaltney

Immediate Past President - Trina Williams  
Hospitality Chair - Kay Brown  
Dummy Editor & 4-Spot Contributor - Marie Filandro  
Sectional Chair South - Peter Harris  
Sectional Chair North - Richard Popper  
Disciplinary Chair & Historian - Steve Herrmann  
Membership Chair North - Julie Hockersmith  
ACBL Liaison - Eli Solomon  
Intermediate/Newcomer Chair - Caroline Hughes  
State Tournament Chair - Rick Rowland  
Publicity Chair - Alan Horowitz



## **2013 Dave Treadwell Sectional**



### **Friday, December 27**

10 a.m. - Stratified Open Pairs (2,000+/500-2000/0-500)  
Stratified NLM Pairs  
3 p.m. - Flight A/X Pairs (3000+/0-3000)  
Stratified B/C/D Pairs (1000-2000/500-1000/0-500)  
Stratified NLM Pairs

### **Saturday, December 28**

10 a.m. - Stratified Open Pairs (2000+/500-2000/0-500)  
Stratified NLM Pairs  
3 p.m. - Flight A/X Pairs (3000+/0-3000)  
Stratified B/C/D Pairs (1000-2000/500-1000/0-500)  
Stratified NLM Pairs

### **Sunday, December 29**

11 a.m. - 2 sessions play thru  
Flight A/X - Two Session Swiss (Open/3000)  
Strat B/C/D - Two Session Swiss (1500/750/300)  
Pizza will be sold between sessions

### **Monday, December 30**

9 a.m. - Stratified Open Pairs (2000+/500-2000/0-500)  
1:30 p.m. - Flight A/X Pairs (3000+/0-3000)  
Stratified B/C/D Pairs (1000-2000/500-1000/0-500)  
Stratified NLM Pairs  
7 p.m. - Stratified Open Pairs (2000+/500-2000/0-500)  
Stratified NLM Pairs

### **Tuesday, December 31**

10 a.m. & TBA  
2 - single session Stratified Pairs (2000+/500-2000/0-500)  
2 - single session Stratified NLM Pairs

### **Fairwell '13 Party - Door Prizes & Lunch**

**Events will be scored single session (more masterpoints)**

**2-session commitment expected to party & play**

**Note: All NLM Pairs will be stratified at game time based on attendance**

**CONGRATULATIONS to the DSBA 2013 ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS!**

Bronze 0-49  
Jill Itzkovitz - 6.90

Silver 50-199  
Angela Jones - 7.28

Gold 200-499  
Spencer Kiernan - 12.68

Diamond 500-999  
Colin MacKay - 9.48

Emerald 1000-2499  
Jeff Ruben - 23.04

Platinum 2500-unlimited  
Rick Rowland - 52.98

♣♦♥♠ **BELOW THE CANAL by Audrey Pugh** ♣♦♥♠

Ralph & Liz Gordy have returned to Florida for the winter. September 28th we had a farewell luncheon for Dick Glidden who has moved to Pennsylvania. Our club has welcomed several new members - Robert Hatton, Cookie Boliq, Cheryl Shields, Barbara Auguston, and Debbie Flayhart

Dover Bridge Clubs @ Modern Maturity Center, Inc.

1121 Forrest Ave., Dover, De. 19901

Monday 10:00 AM and Friday 11:00 AM

For Information & partnerships call: Audrey L. Pugh ( 302 734 4870)

Clare O'Brien (410 758 2434)

"In Memoriam" - Mary Ann and Leonard Cavender who passed away recently.....Leonard died in August and Mary Ann one month later in September.....after 63 years of marriage.

### **Congratulations, Dini Romito!**

Dini Romito, Club Manager of three bridge clubs in Sussex County, has been appointed to the ACBL Goodwill Committee. Craig Robinson, ACBL Director from District 4, announced the appointment on Thursday, September 26, 2013 at the Shuffles game in Ocean View. He presented a certificate/letter from the ACBL and also a letter from the district.

Unit 190 presented a Goodwill Bell to Dini, and all 18 tables were enthusiastic in their support of the appointment. Dini has made numerous contributions to bridge in Delaware, most notably her striving to bring new players to the game and then to keep them as ACBL members. Her pleasant demeanor and positive attitude add enjoyment for all players in her clubs.

Trina Williams

***DSBA Open Pairs winners....October 5th***  
***Flight A - Pete & Marie Filandro***  
***Flight B - Robert Smink & William Ravreby***  
***Flight C - Catherine Karsten & Rachel Wubker***

#### **Advancement in Rank**

Life Master  
 Scott Freber

Bronze Life Master  
 Anne Ratledge  
 Spencer Kiernan

Silver Life Master  
 Betty DeMartino



***Congratulations to Spencer Kiernan and Sam Amer who placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Flight C of the NAP***

#### **Top Masterpoint Winners at Regionals and Sectionals**

##### **Lancaster Regional - October 28 - November 3**

Rick Rowland (92.78) Mooch Taylor (53.63) Randy Berseth (50.45) Richard Popper (27.44)  
 Andy Stayton (26.68) Andy & Debby Purbrick (25.91) Catherine & Mervin Jones (18.42)

##### **Unit 141 Sectional - September 6 - September 8**

Rick Rowland (17.57) Pete & Marie Filandro (12.56) Alessandra Graves (9.61)

##### **Diamond State Sectional - September 20 - September 22**

Rick Rowland (20.52) Andy Stayton (15.67) Jeff Ruben (11.31) Pete & Marie Filandro (10.83)  
 Eli Solomon (10.27) Richard Popper (7.94) Lois Stuart (7.25) Chris Marlow (7.09) Jess Stuart (6.97)

##### **Allentown Sectional - October 18 - October 20**

Pete & Marie Filandro (8.25)

## **Beginning Bridge Lessons - by Julie Hockersmith**

In order to encourage people to learn bridge, the Delaware State Bridge Association has offered free beginning bridge lessons at the Bridge Studio for the past two years. This year those same free lessons are also being offered in Southern Delaware with Dini Romito as the teacher. Barbara Rhoades and I have been teaching the lessons upstate.

The classes in Northern Delaware are offered Monday mornings beginning at 9:30 and/or Tuesday evenings at 7:00. The classes are interchangeable. The lessons are progressing, and are nearly completed. The response to the lessons has been great. Each session in Northern Delaware has had between five and eight tables. During the ten weekly sessions, the students are being taught the Standard American style of bidding as well as Stayman and Jacoby Transfer bids and the Roman Key Card method of slam bidding.

Beginners II classes will be offered at the Bridge Studio immediately following the conclusion of the Beginners classes. Beginners II will be a ten week course discussing Strong 2 - Club openings, take out doubles, overcalling and preemptive bidding. There will be a two week holiday during the Christmas-New Year's weeks. There will be a charge for these lessons. Additional information is available at the Bridge Studio website, [www.bridge-studio.org](http://www.bridge-studio.org).



## **World Youth Open Bridge Championships - Atlanta - by Sam Amer**

Being my first youth event, I was unsure how my experience in Atlanta would go. I told myself before the departure to keep a positive attitude, knowing I was going to transition from being the youngest bridge player at my local club to the oldest bridge player in the youth championships at Atlanta. And boy was I glad I had that attitude because Atlanta turned out to be one of the most amazing experiences in bridge I've had so far.

The greatest part about Atlanta was getting to meet so many people my age, who also had most of the same interests as I did. It was almost surreal to be in an environment where my peers could actually understand my nerdy bridge talk, and at the same time be able to respond with phrases other than "what the heck is bridge?" I was overjoyed to make so many new friends and to be able to hang out with them for all 10 days of competition.

During the competition, the most exciting part would definitely be participating live on Vugraph. There is nothing more thrilling, and at the same time just as nerve-racking, like giving partner a ruff on a trump promotion play for the setting trick, while your plays are being watched and scrutinized by other bridge players alike. I have so much more respect for what the bridge pros actually go through, because playing 64 hands in a row can be exhausting, especially when it can all come down to one play on the last board of the set like it did in the Spingold Finals.

Toward the end of the tournament, I was able to watch the sudden death overtime live in the Spingold Finals. It's amazing how much thought process these pros go into, even in the low-level contracts. One of the players, Brad Moss, must have taken about 10 minutes before actually playing a Two Heart contract in a 4-3 fit, and it was worth the wait, because he played it to absolute perfection.

But what I am most appreciative about the whole experience was what a privilege it was to spend it with my favorite bridge teacher/mentor, my father. Ever since I was little I was always fascinated by card games such as poker and spades, but if it wasn't for my dad teaching me bridge when I was just thirteen years old, I probably wouldn't have been interested in learning this tough game. If it wasn't for his generosity, I probably wouldn't have attended the youth event in Atlanta. And for that I am so grateful.

I look at this experience as the beginning of a wonderful bridge career that I can spend with so many pleasant and delightful people, and I hope one day instead of watching the Spingold finals, I will have the opportunity to play head to head against the greatest in the world.

### **“Proud Papa” by Paul Amer**

All bridge players fantasize - you know - bidding and making 7NTXX on a double squeeze on the last board of the Spingold finals to win it all. A bit more realistic fantasy for the parents among us is to have one of our children smitten by the game we are all to one degree or another addicted to.

My fantasy started roughly 8 years ago when Sam filled in and helped our team win an evening club Swiss event at the Talleyville Fire Hall. That win doubled (!) Sam's masterpoint total from 2.5 to 5. I now find myself watching my son absorbing the game at a rate that makes me wonder just when he will pass his old man. (I can hear my so-called friends saying that's already happened.)

In August, I accompanied Sam to Atlanta to play in the 3rd World Youth Open Bridge Championships held in parallel with the ACBL Nationals. Organized with cooperation of the ACBL and the US Bridge Federation, roughly 200 young players from around the world competed in two categories: Youngsters - 20 and under, and Juniors - 26 and under. Sam was the oldest Youngster making the cutoff age by a mere 27 days. For 10 days, Sam was in bridge heaven, getting his first opportunity to play bridge with everyone his own age (or younger).

Sam competed in all three scheduled events: Pairs, Swiss Teams, and Board-a-Match. The Youngster pairs had 40 pairs competing with the first day qualifying half the field. Sam was playing with Nolan Chang from California. They had been paired up with some help from Joseph Stokes and Debbie Rosenberg who help oversee the development of US youth players. For several months over BBO, Sam and Nolan fine-tuned their bidding card with mentoring help from Josh Donn.

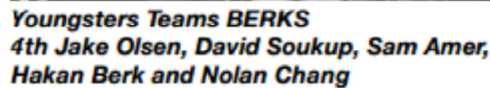


At the end of the day, Sam and Nolan were 1st out of the 40 pairs with a 69.61% game. I shall forever remember how I felt when I walked in and saw the scoreboard. It was a parent's life moment. Too bad the event had no carryover into days 2&3. Sam and Nolan finished 8th overall. Of note is that 2nd place went to Andrew and Richard Jeng. Richard holds the ACBL record for becoming a life master at 9 years, 6 months and 12 days old. He's now an experienced 13. His brother Andrew, who became life master at 12, is now 16. I wonder how their parents feel?

Fifteen teams competed in the Youngster Swiss Teams with the top 4 qualifying for head-to-head knockouts over 2 days. Sam's team ended the 7-session qualification round in 3rd place. Proud Papa had another scoreboard moment to remember forever. Sam's team lost the semifinals to the Jeng brothers' team 75-38, and the next-day consolation round 50-41, thus ending up 4<sup>th</sup> overall. Here's a photo of the team.

.....CONTINUED ON PAGE SEVEN.....





Dlr: South ♠ K Q 9 4  
 Vul: E-W ♥ A 2  
 ♦ A Q 4  
 ♣ A 9 8 3

♠ -- ♠ 6 3  
 ♥ K J 10 9 6 5 3 ♥ Q 8 7 4  
 ♦ J 9 6 ♦ 10 8 5  
 ♣ J 7 4 ♣ K Q 6 5

♠ A J 10 8 7 5 2  
 ♥ --  
 ♦ K 7 3 2  
 ♣ 10 2

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Chavarria</i>	<i>Amer</i>	<i>Botta</i>	<i>Soukup</i>
<i>(ITA)</i>	<i>(USA)</i>	<i>(ITA)</i>	<i>(USA)</i>
			4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♦
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

Oh yes, back to the proud papa... Joe's partner Brad Moss was being kibitzed by his mother Gail Greenberg, many time bridge world champion who was awarded the von Zedtwitz Award earlier in the week. While watching Gail kibitz her son, I couldn't help but fantasize sitting behind Sam one day while he's playing in the Spingold finals...