January/February 2007

We Welcome New Bridge Players!

Even *Steve Robinson* had to start somewhere! For those who are new to duplicate, or new to bridge, the *WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE* offers several options:

Every Thursday night. Steve Forsythe runs a weekly beginner lesson and game at Christ the King Church, in a small room around the corner from the Unit game, for players with fewer than 20 masterpoints. There's a 7:30 lesson followed by a friendly, slower-paced game from 8 to 10 or 10:30. The group is a mix of people who are just learning, social players new to duplicate, and people who used to play and need to brush up on their skills.

For people who have never played before, Steve will sit down with them oneon-one and teach them the basics while the rest of the group is playing. New players can then join the group whenever they're ready: either the following week or after another Thursday or two of instruction.

The cost is \$5, or \$2.50 for your first time or any time you bring a new player. Partners are guaranteed; no advance notice is required! For more information, email *Steve or Sandy Forsythe* at majslf@aol.com or call 301-592-9177.

Every Sunday afternoon. Steve runs a beginner/intermediate lesson and game at the Methodist Home of Washington DC., every Sunday unless there's a *WBL* or *NVBA* tournament. Usually there are two sections: one for non-Life Masters, and a slightly slower-paced section for players with up to 20 masterpoints. Because it's a larger group, there is no one-on-one instruction available during the game.

A light lunch (sandwiches) is served before the game starting at 12:30, the lesson is at 1 and the game goes from 1:30 to 5. The Methodist Home is at 4901 Connecticut Avenue, NW (just south of the intersection of Connecticut and Nebraska Avenues). Free parking is available in the Methodist Home lot or on the street.

Your \$10 entry fee includes lunch, the lesson and the game. Partners guaranteed; no advance notice is required! For more information, contact *Steve or Sandy Forsythe*.

Every Monday night. The *LAUREL BRIDGE CLUB* has a non-Life Master game every Monday night at 7:30, with a short lesson 15 minutes before the game. The cost is \$7. For more information or if you need a partner, call *Rose Berman* at 301-776-3581 or email rose.berman@verizon.net.

Twice a year. Steve Forsythe teaches his INSTANT BRIDGE PLAYER seminar. In five hours, even people who have never played bridge before will be bidding and playing bridge! (Thanks to Steve's One-Page Bidding sheet.) It's also a great class for those who have played "a little," or are just getting back into the game and need a refresher on basic play and bidding. Our next IBP class will be on Sunday, May 6. For more information, contact Steve or Sandy Forsythe.

Tournaments. The *WBL* holds four sectional tournaments a year, usually in Silver Spring, with newcomer/intermediate events offered every session. The next sectional will be May 3-6. For more information or to find a partner, contact *Sandy Forsythe*.

District 6 hosts one regional tournament a year, with daily celebrity speakers and games just for newcomer/intermediate players. Players with fewer than 5 masterpoints play free on certain days! The next regional will be July 2-8. For more information, email Nadine Wood at woodthere@comcast.net or call 301-565-9555.

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 8822 Fircrest Pl., Alexandria, VA 22308.

DEADLINE: MARCH 12, 2007

TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE MARCH/APRIL 2007 ISSUE

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Solvers' Club's New Problems



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Fred King

When he was mayor of New York City, Ed Koch used to walk around and ask people, "How am I doing?" He knew that feedback from his constituents was very important to his doing a good job. For those of us on the WBL board it is the same. Of course, some people come up to one of us and tell us when they are unhappy and at other times some people do give us kudos. In addition, with attendance at our unit game and sectionals remaining strong (indeed the recent January Sectional was 437 tables, the first time we have been over 400 tables since 2001 and our highest number since March 1999.) This is surely one indication that people support what is going on. Still we know that nothing is perfect and we would love to hear from you about what you like most about the WBL and what you would like to see changed or improved

The WBL Board recently reviewed 2006 and on the whole things seem to be going well. Attendance at both the unit game and our sectionals was good, financially we had a small positive cash flow and we started a newcomers game on Sundays in the District which has had steady growth. In addition, we have replaced all the cards, cleaned the bidding boxes and put in new inserts where needed (thanks to **Barbara Shaw**) and have worked to repair or replace our dealing machine. On a negative note, we again lost a net of 36 members (going from 1663 to 1627) and our bridge in schools efforts have gotten off to a slow start with a dearth of students interested in learning the game it seems. Our Thursday night newcomers game has been successful in feeding players into the non-LM game in the big room, but has not been as successful in getting new 0-20 players recruited. While they took longer than usual to complete, the round robin and double KO events continued to be popular, although I would like to see more teams enter.

Of course our continued success and popularity rests completely on our directors, led by Ted Ying, our caddies and especially all the people who volunteer their time. If you enjoy playing in the WBL games, why not show your appreciation by volunteering to help out. We can always use people to help in many different capacities. Just let Barbara Summers or any other board member know of your interest and how you can help. And give us your thoughts and suggestions. Thanks.

Fred King



♣ Silver Spring, MD **♦** MAY 3-6, 2007 **♥**

61st Annual City of Washington Tournament

THURSDAY, MAY 3

♣ 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, Alexandria7:00pm Christ the King Church, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring7:30pm

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.



Friday—at Christ the King Church Only

FRIDAY, MAY 4

- **♣ Barometer Pairs** StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/3000) & B/C/D Pairs (1500/1000/500) 7:30pm **Check your scores every round!** Friday nights are your chance to try a different form of the game. This one session Barometer Pairs has no qualification necessary. Everyone plays the same boards at the same time and you can see how you're doing after every round.

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SATURDAY, MAY 5

- * 4th Annual: Washington Bridge League Trophy Pairs11:00am, 3:30pm (Two session Open Pairs, qualifying and final. Single session entries available.)

- Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100) or Newcomer Pairs (50/20/5) (single sessions) 11:00am, 3:30pm

SUNDAY, MAY 6

- * Instant Bridge Player: Turn your friends onto bridge in this 1-day seminar! TBA
- ♥ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (2000/1000/500, 7 round playthru w/short break) 11:00am & TBA

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

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BITS AND PIECES

WELCOME TO THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: Mrs Jean C Barquin, Mr George D Blalack, Ms Louise P Caruso, Dr Barbara G Garrett, Mr Vera Krimnus, Daniel Pratt, Jason K Weiss, Dr Robert A Brown, Mrs Marnell H Bruce, Ms Lynn D Choquette, Ms Bonnie R Cohen, Mr Daniel A Falk, Mrs Doris A Garrett, Mr William D Garrett, Mr Gopal Iyengar, Robert L Kerr, Ms Cathy C McGarrigan, Ms Anne H Shields, and Mr Douglas T Yoest.

In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: Mary C Boteler, William J Boteler, Mrs Lena A Collins, Mr Melvin L Lauderdale, Mrs Christa Storm, Mr Keith Dailey, Mrs Madeleine S Devaney, Mr Marco Latini, and Leo K LaSota.

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.

2006 FIDELITY & TRUST ROUND ROBIN — RESULTS

The results from Flights X & B were reported in our last issue.

FLIGHT A

- 1) Fred King Robert Bell David Abelow -Barry Bragin - Linda Maloney - Richard Wegman
- 2) Fred Steinberg David Ruderman Leo LaSota - Alan Tenenbaum - Lyle Poe Jr -Arnie Frankel
- 34)Robbie Hopkins Jr Joan Lewis Barry Falgout - Rusty Krauss
- 34)Leon Letwin Donald Berman Joel Miller - Alan Kleist

FLIGHT C

- 1) Kathy Rabenstein Linda Marshall John Mattioli - Bala Chandran
- 2) Robert Schwab Anne Derbes Jay Weinstein - Rex Settle
- 3) Richard Levin Jon Ranhand Roberta Weiss - Kathy Litvak - Elizabeth Tevelow - Marc Weiner

FLIGHT D

1) Bob Schwab, Rex Settle, Anne Derbes, Jay Weinstein

2006 FLIGHT A DOUBLE KO - RESULTS

- 1) Bill Cole Peter Boyd Steve Robinson -Ellen Cherniavsky - Ellen Klosson
- Fred Steinberg David Ruderman Alan Tenenbaum - Andrew Gofreed - Lyle Poe Jr - Arnie Frankel
- 3) Fred King -Robert Bell -Linda Maloney -Barry Bragin Richard Wegman David Abelow
- 4) Robert Hopkins Jr Joan Lewis -William Pettis - Kent Goulding - Rusty Krauss - Barry Falgout
- 5/6) Judy Weisman Carl Weisman Ellen Glynn - John Glynn
- 5/6)Barbara Shaw Richard Ferrin Warren Kaufman - Ann Lindley - Alfred Duncker

2006 FLIGHT B DOUBLE KO — RESULTS

- 1) Albert Lauber Steven Fox Ned Griffith and Walter Smith
- 2) Dan Koch Bill Kingery Prem Garg -Shyam Giridhardas - Steven Schatzow
- 3) Rex Settle Robert Schwab Jay Weinstein - Anne Derbes

RUN FOR THE BOARD?

If you would like to run for the board, please submit a bio form and picture to the editor by March 22 to be published in the next issue. The offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary are one year terms. The six Unit Director positions are two year terms, at least three of which will be open this year. Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting and Charity Game on May 17 at the Unit Game at Christ the King Church.

2006-2007 WBL/NVBA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

To be eligible, a player: (1) Must be a member (or pending member) of either the NVBA or the WBL; (2) Must attend at least three WBL and three NVBA sectionals during the contest period (August, 2006 through May, 2007). Points won on Tournament Thursday evenings are included in the totals, but do not

...continued on p. 29, column 2



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WBL Solvers' Club

Moderated by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to **Dean Pokorny** who came in first with a score of 500. He wins a free entry to the Unit Game and will be invited to be on a future panel. I will also play with him at a future Unit Game. Second was **Hailong Ao** with a score of 490. Tied for third were Nikola Tcholokov and Suzanne Abrams with a score of 480. Fifth was Arnie Frankel with a score of 470. Tied for sixth were **Elliot** Grant, Mark Johnson, Paul Benedict, Roy Tibery, Kerry Sanborn and Mark McEnerney with a score of 460. Tied for twelfth were Dave Abelow, Kun He, Ron Zucker, Chuck Yaple, Robert Stone, Pete Whipple, Craig **Olson** and **Brad Theurer** with a score of 450. Tied for twentieth were Ann Lindley, Bala Chandran, Walter Taschek, Iris Payne, Brad **Bart** and **Linda Smith** with a score of 440. Tied for twenty-sixth were Marvin Elster. Fred Steinberg, Ellen Cherniavsky, David Rodney, Robert Boorman, Mark Chen, Jay Weinstein, Cecilia Valdivieso, Thyagarajan, Donna Rogall, Diane Walker and William Adams with a score of 430. The average score of the 234 solvers was 371. The average score of the experts was 437.

Enid Asherman had a perfect score on the previous problems, but somehow I missed her entry.

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 selfaddressed stamped envelope to the above address along with your answers, I will send you a copy of the new problems to ensure that vou 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 \$29.05 that includes \$4.05 for priority mail.

1) IMPs Both Vulnerable

♦ 3♥ QJ109♦ AKJ**♣** A10832

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	EAST Pass
1 ♣ ?????	Pass	1NT	Pass
Action	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	Solvers
2♣	100	7	93
2♥	80	4	68
Pass	50	0	36
2♦	40	0	13
2NT	30	1	13
3NT	20	0	03
3♣	20	0	06
2♠	20	0	02

Partner has responded 1NT, which denies a four-card major. The opponents have at least nine spades. Unless partner

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has two spade stoppers, we probably do not belong in notrump. Notice that not one expert passed 1NT. We should we get out of Dodge. What road do we take? Is this a minimum hand or could we make a game opposite a 1NT-response. A 1NT-response to 1. shows 6-10, usually on the top end. With a real bad hand, responder can always bid 1. Even if we find partner with no wasted spade values, xxx Kxx Qxxx Kxx for example, we are still far from game. There are a few hands, however, that partner could have, where game is reasonable.

Six experts join me in taking the low road.

Cappelletti: "2. —Notrump will probably get a spade lead and partner will usually have three or more clubs."

Landen: "24 —24 rates to be safer than 1NT when we might be wide open in spades. Also, it keeps the bidding open. To have a shot at bidding and making game I need partner to take a strong action, two-of-amajor, for instance. The hand is not strong enough for a reverse."

Taking the low road doesn't necessarily mean that you won't get to game. If partner has a maximum such as ♠ xxx♥ AKx♠ xxx ♣ Qxxx for his 1NT-response, he can continue with 2♥. Since 1NT denies four hearts, 2♥ is a club cue bid showing club support and heart values.

Schwartz: "2♣—If partner bids 2♥, I can follow with 3♦ to allow us to get to 5♣. I have enough so I don't have to fear competition in spades. Partner should not respond 1NT with five diamonds and two clubs."

Hopkins: "2♣—This is tough. Partner could have anything from ♠ AQ10♥ Kxx ♦ 10xxx♣ xxx where 3NT is a reasonable contract to ♠ Qxx♥ Kxx♦ Qxxx♣ Qxx where 2♣ is best/safest. All the examples I could think of had reasonable play at 2♣ and I am well placed to move if the auction continues, by either partner or the opponents, so I am settling."

Henry Bethe: "2♣—I play this (new method) as a one-round force. Partner bids 2♦ with diamonds, shows a major concentration or bids 2NT with a max, and bids 3♣ on other minimums. With a somewhat better

hand, say the heart King instead of the Jack, I can self splinter at the two-level."

So you can't play in exactly 24? This convention might make sense since there is a good chance that the opponents who have at least nine spades, will not let you play in 24.

Pollack: "2♣ —Tough problem. Not good enough for a descriptive 2♥ or 3♠ splinter. I don't like passing, since the round suits are so soft, so 2♣."

Four experts try for game. I hope they have to tools to end up in 3♣ if their partner doesn't have a super-fitting no-spadewastage maximum. At least 2♥ points to where you need help.

King: "2♥ —A slight overbid, but I want to try to keep them from finding their Spade fit. Also we might find a minor suit fit that could make ten or eleven tricks."

Roman: "2♥ —I'm light for this, for a change, but there are plenty of hands partner can have that make game worthwhile ★ Kxx♥ xx♦ Qxxx♣ Kxxx or ♠ AQx♥ xxx ♠ Qxx♣ J9x to name a couple, and others where we will go plus in a club partscore, but down in 1NT ♠ Qxx♥ xxx♠ xxx♣ KQxx for example."

Adams: "2♥ —Seems right on values. Partner rates to have a bit of a club fit, and we've lots of room to see if partner has a good fitting hand such as ♠ xxx♥ Kxx♠ xxx ♣ KQxx. Opposite that, 5♣ is practically lay down, and with a slightly worse hand, it has play. My style is to respond 1♠ with five diamonds so I know partner has at least three clubs."

The following expert will end up in notrump with partner holding Qxx of spades or worse. Not the way to have a constructive auction.

Parker: "2NT—Right on values, not good enough to reverse. Any suit bid will lead to a convoluted auction and not show the good suits I have. With a minimum partner can always bid 3..."

David Berkowitz: "2♥ —Too much potential to take the low road. If partner makes an encouraging noise I will try 3♦ next."

You don't usually want to play in notrump when you have a singleton in an unbid suit.

2) IMPs Both Vulnerable

♦ 6♥ A42♦ AKQJ10**♣** AK107

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
		Pass	Pass
1♦	2♦ *	Pass	2♥
?????	*Michaels		
Action	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	Solvers
Double	100	6	26
3NT	60	1	27
3♠	60	2	09
3♥	60	2	57
2NT	40	0	04
3♣	40	0	56
4 .	30	1	13
3♦	30	0	13
Pass	30	0	01
2♠	30	0	20
4♦	30	0	03
5♣	20	0	01
4NT	20	0	01
5♦	20	0	02

You have over half the deck and the opponents have entered the auction. How do you get partner involved so that you can figure out, what if anything, partner has? Choices are $3\clubsuit$, $3\spadesuit$, $4\spadesuit$ or double. This hand is too strong to bid 3♣ or 3♦. Partner might think that you had five clubs if you jumped to 4. Bidding 4. takes you above 3NT. I'm not sure exactly what double means, but however partner takes it, he can't go to far wrong. Partner would expect a double in this type of situation to show a good hand and be mostly for takeout. If partner is looking at a spade stack such as AQ109x, he might pass the double knowing that you hand to have some hearts and that you would lead a trump. If partner passed the double, I would lead a low trump since I would expect to get on lead very quickly.

Five experts join me in starting with a double.

Schwartz: "Double—Double to show a good hand, then 3♥ next. In this case I have both but does that show an honor or length?"

If partner does not pass the double, his most likely response is 2. If he surprises us and bids a minor, that would be great.

Hopkins: "Double—I believe this shows cards. If partner is not short in Hearts, I

expect to be left in. If partner pulls to Clubs, I will bid game (or slam). And if worse comes to worse, I should have play in 3• or higher, if I make a game try depending on how the auction proceeds."

Henry Bethe: "Double—Showing strong, transferable values, I am tempted to bid 3. but that depends on finding partner with the club Queen or the spade Ace."

Roman: "Double—Lots of things can happen from here, but strong hands start with double. If partner's spades are strong enough for him to pass, and it sounds like they are long enough, I'll lead trumps and this could be a juicy number. I agree with 1♦, but if we swapped either of my minors with spades I'd have opened 2♣."

David Berkowitz: "Double—No amount of clubs, or spades appears appropriate. Wait to get partner's reaction."

Six experts let the opponents off the hook. Might make more sense if there was a bid that describes this hand. One expert jumps in clubs. Wouldn't partner expect you to have five clubs?

Cappelletti: "4. —Let's bring partner into the auction since he should have two or fewer hearts."

Two experts jump in spades. I would have no idea what that bid meant. I try never to make a bid if I am not sure what it means. One expert thinks it asks for 3NT with a spade stopper and another expert thinks it shows spade shortness.

Parker: "3♠ —I could bid 3NT and hope partner has a spade stopper or they lead a heart, but this should be a clear ask for a spade stopper. If I bid 3♥, partner will not know to bid 3NT with QJx of spades and out. 3♠ must ask for a stopper with long clubs and a strong hand. Partner can figure out what to do now."

Landen: "3♠ —Surely this shows a very strong hand with short spades. If partner bids 3NT I'll happily pass. If he bids 4♣, I'll bid 4♥ as Qxxxx of clubs and out makes 6♣ nearly cold. Over 4♦ I'll probably bid five, but expect I'll often go down."

Two experts cue bid. When the opponents have shown two suits, you bid the suit you have strength in.

King: "3♥—I have eight tricks in my

hand and could easily have a game with two points in partner's hand, ♠ 109xxx♥ xx ♦ xx♣ Qxxx. I need to show a heart stopper and see if partner can stop spades."

Adams: "3♥ —I do not see a logical alternative here. Show the stopper I have, trying for 3NT."

One expert bids what he hopes he can make. At least everybody knows what 3NT means.

Pollack: "3NT—OK, so partner has lots of spades and not much in high cards. 3* is too wimpy, and 4* takes us past 3NT. Doubling and leading a small heart might not work, and if it doesn't work, -670 might not be well received by our teammates. And who knows what 2* means, or whether the follow up auction will help us. So let's just hope that "where there's eight tricks, there's nine tricks". The biggest minus we'll get is 100, not so bad a down side when +600 might be available."

With strong hands, start with a double, assuming you can handle partner's possible responses.

3) IMPs They're Vulnerable

♦ 10♥ AQ864♦ J43**♣** K732

<u>SOUTH</u>	WEST Pass	NORTH 1♠	EAST Pass
1NT ?????	2♣	2♦	Pass
Action	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
Pass	100	6	43
2NT	80	3	76
2♥	70	2	70
3♦	50	1	18
3NT	20	0	13
3♣	20	0	80
3♥	20	0	05

One of the factors you can use to decide your action is what would a double of 2. by partner show? If double of 2. would be a takeout double, then you could forget about partner having three hearts. If double of 2. would be a penalty double, partner could have three hearts. Since standard agreements say that double of 2. is penalties, we could belong in hearts. So what should we do now? The wasted King of clubs, the lack of a fourth diamond, the lack of good heart

spots and the lack of a club spot all point to going conservative. All of the possible alternatives have faults. If you had one more diamond, you could raise diamonds but you're not supposed to raise a second suit, which could be a four-card suit, with only three. If you had stronger or longer hearts, you could bid 2♥, but playing the possible 5-1 or 5-0 heart fit doesn't seem right. You could bid 2NT but the lack of a second club stopper and the lack of a source of tricks, makes 2NT undesirable.

Five experts join me and pass.

Schwartz: "Pass—Lack of a takeout double from partner makes a heart fit unlikely. With the opponents vulnerable, a second club stopper is not promising so we might have to take the first nine in notrump."

The lack could be because takeout doubles in this situation might not be part of your system. I should have said that double of 2. by opener would be for penalties.

King: "Pass—My club King is badly placed and this is a misfit, so I think I want to get out low. "

Adams: "Pass—Not much of a fit, take the likely plus. Vulnerable, I'd try 2NT."

Parker: "Pass—Non vulnerable at IMPs why stretch for a possible game when we have no fit or source of tricks. I will double 3♣ if they come back in. A plus is a plus especially at IMPs."

David Berkowitz: "Pass—Plus scores are nice too- this is easy, partner would have doubled 2. with any hand that we belong in game."

Three experts make an aggressive call.

Cappelletti: "2NT—More important to show points and club stopper. If he is 5-3-4-1 he should bid 3♥ if he is going to accept 3NT."

Hopkins: "2NT—Value bid. If partner has extras and moves on, I expect a distribution-defining call such as 3♥ with a 5-3-4-1 pattern."

Landen: "2NT—Tough hand. Partner often will have five diamonds, so perhaps, 3♦ is better. Passing 2♦ will often be best, but partner could be quite strong and yet bid only 2♦. I can't see bidding 2♥ with only five; if partner is strong enough to bid 3NT and has three hearts he should

bid 3♥ and we'll get to 4♥ when we have eight of them."

Two experts bid their heart suit.

Henry Bethe: "2♥—Nothing prevents partner from having three of them."

Roman: "2♥—By elimination. Can't pass since we're strong enough to keep the bidding open. Can't bid 2NT, since we're not strong enough for this, but would be with the ten of clubs. Can't bid 3♦ since the diamonds are not good enough to raise partner's second suit. The problem with 2♥ is that it's not particularly forward-going, and could be made on a weak hand with lots of hearts. I choose to keep the bidding open and hope that if it goes all pass from here, 2♥ isn't a silly contract."

One expert raises diamonds. Violates the 'You can't raise partner's second bid suit without four' rule.

Pollack: "3♦ —First, I assume that we're not playing that partner's double of 2♣ would be takeout, which is a clear cut expert agreement nowadays. That makes 2♥ unattractive here. Not good enough for 2NT, since our texture is so poor, with few "fitting" values, but too good for a wimpy pass, so that leaves 3♠."

If you open one-of-either-major, your partner bids 1NT, and the next player bids a new suit, play double as a takeout double. You want to compete when you're short in their suit. ♠ KQxxx♥ Qxx♠ KJxx♣ x. Open 1♠ and when the auction continues 1NT (by partner) 2♣ (by RHO), double for takeout.

4) IMPs None Vulnerable

♦ 010654♥ 1043♦ J108♣ AK

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
		1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
????*			

^{*2♣ =}new minor forcing

<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	Solvers
2♣	100	6	93
Pass	90	6	99
2NT	70	0	21
2♠	50	0	14
3NT	30	0	03
3♦	30	0	01
2♦	20	0	03

You have ten HCPs, a five-card suit, two ten's and a J108 in partner's suit. Is this hand worth an invitation opposite a weak notrump? If you held, ♠ Q5432♥ 543♦ J32♣ AK, you would never think about inviting but look how much stronger the problem hand is. Bidding has two ways to gain. If partner has three-card spade support you will play in your eight-card major suit fit. If partner does not have three-card support, there's a good chance he'll bid a red suit, which will bring your doubleton club into play.

Cappelletti: "2♣—With three 10s this hand looks like eleven HCPs."

Schwartz: "2♣ —Followed by 2NT. If my red suits were reversed I would pass."

King: "2♣ —It could be right to pass, but I think this hand is worth a game try."

David Berkowitz: "2♣—Am upgrading my diamonds, but will not venture past 2♠ over 2♥, and will pass 2♦."

Pollack: "2♣ —The diamond ten - which could be a huge card - seduces me to upgrade, despite the overvalued AK tight of clubs. We'll bid 2NT over 2♦ or 2♥, or raise 2♠ to 3♠. If 2♣ forces 2♦, then we have no choice but to follow with an invitational 2♠. Either route is better than passing."

Six experts pass.

Parker: "Pass—As in problem three why go minus when we are in a sure plus position. No sense in stretching for a non vulnerable game with no source of tricks."

Why are you in a sure plus position? Opposite ♠ KJ♥ QJxx♦ KQxxx♣ xx, 1NT goes down when you are cold for 3♦ or 3♠.

Adams: "Pass—Opposite Steve's openers, hard to envision a game, even if I was vulnerable."

Landen: "Pass—I don't see the problem. We don't have enough for game in notrump and 44 seems very unlikely unless partner has three spades, a maximum, and we're lucky. Are you allowed to raise to 24 in Washington Standard with only three?"

The problem is, what are 10's worth?

Hopkins: "Pass—Close. The only other bid I considered was 2♦ because of the likely matching Club shortness, but I can't be sure partner has five Diamonds. So 1NT should be a reasonable contract because of our HCP advantage and we need to take the

fewest number of tricks."

This might have been a better matchpoint problem where the size of the plus score is important. At IMPs, you only need to take seven tricks.

Henry Bethe: "Pass—I see no reason whatever to bid."

Roman: "Pass—Hopefully nobody fell for the footnote, as this hand isn't strong enough to invite game and bidding new-minor-forcing (NMF) shows game invitational or better. This leaves pass or 24. Usually I would correct to my five-card major, in the same way that if partner opens 1NT and we have less than game invitational strength with a fivecard major we transfer to our major and pass. but here I have ten HCPs with good spots, and I like partner's chances to make 1NT."

Converting to 2 makes sense only if partner can't have a singleton spade for his 1NT-rebid. If partner opens 1NT, I always transfer to a five-card major. If partner opens 1NT. he could have four or even five spades. Here his maximum is three.

Tens are worth more than spot cards and J108 in partner suit is worth more than one HCP.

5) Matchpoints None Vulnerable

♦ K109♥ J543♦ 654**♣** 654

SOUTH	WEST	<u>NORTH</u>	EAST
	1♥	Dbl	Pass
????			
Action	<u>Score</u>	<u>Votes</u>	Solvers
1♠	100	9	159
2♣	90	1	07
1NT	50	2	55
Pass	20	0	10
3♥	20	0	02
2♥	20	0	01

There are several choices, none of which stand out. A 1NT-response to a takeout double is constructive showing 7-10 HCPs. This hand is way short of that. Another choice is to bid 14, a three-card major. You're allowed to pass the takeout double but only with very good hearts, something like OJ10987. There are some bids that should be avoided if possible. One of those is bidding a three-card major when there is any alternative. Partner is aggressive when he

supposedly finds an eight-card major suit fit. Partner with ♠ AQJx♥ xx♦ AKx♣ AKxx would probably jump to 4♠ if you bid 1♠. In fact, if the auction gets competitive, partner might even raise you with only three spades. 1 encourages partner, 2, my choice, discourages partner. I really really really wanted to give 2. 100 points but bidding 2. could be disastrous if partner has a 4243 minimum takeout double and the opponents start doubling.

Nine experts bid $1 \spadesuit$.

Cappelletti: "1♠ —Is the book bid - BUT at matchpoints, I might play poker and try the 1NT steal based on my table feel."

Parker: "1♠ —Hopefully we can scramble tricks in spades that we could not get in notrump. Even my heart stopper may not be one if East has a doubleton honor."

Adams: "1♠ —Must be a trick question. 1NT shows values that I do not have."

Not a trick question. Just want to see if there are any experts who would refuse to bid a three-card major.

Landen: "1♠—1NT is too encouraging. Partner is aware I might bid 1♠ with only three. I'm happy my "suit" is as strong as it is."

I've never seen players holding four spades cue bid asking the 1A -bidder if he really has for spades. It would be hard to have good constructive auction if you first had to ask partner if he had his first bid.

Schwartz: "1♠ —I would guess the reason this hand is here to point to the virtues of a 2♣ bid to as that is less likely to get partner excited. With such disparity in the black suits, I am not buying that and bid 1.

At least one expert understands the problem. It would have been a better problem if the black suits were reversed.

Henry Bethe: "1♠ —What else?"

King: "1♠ —This hand is too weak to bid 1NT and while I worry that bidding spades might encourage partner more than 2. , the suit quality is too different for me to follow this strategy."

Roman: "1♠ —Yeah, it's ugly, but 1NT shows a better hand and surely nobody passed."

David Berkowitz: "1♠—Lead directing. Have a suspicion that pass is the winner, but even I, who love to convert would not do it here."

Two experts agree with me and reject bidding a three-card spade suit. However, 1NT in this situation shows at least seven HCPs. Far from the four HCPs that you have.

Hopkins: "1NT—I got tired of ending up in unreasonable four-level contracts whenever I responded a three-card Major in these

situations, so I am going to lie about my points, not my distribution."

Pollack: "1NT-I should have a queen more for this, but the alternatives are so poor that this is the best lie."

Don't bid three-card majors unless there is no other possible call.

Solvers' Scores

John Adams	2♥	3♥	Pass	Pass	1♠	430
David Berkowitz	2♥	Dbl	Pass	2♣	1♠	480
Henry Bethe	2♣	Dbl	2♥	Pass	1♠	470
Mike Cappelletti	2♣	4♣	2NT	2♣	1♠	410
Robbie Hopkins	2♣	Dbl	2NT	Pass	1NT	420
Fred King	2♥	3♥	Pass	2 ♣	1♠	440
Steve Landen	2♣	3♠	2NT	Pass	1♠	430
Steve Parker	2NT	3♠	Pass	Pass	1♠	380
Billy Pollack	2♣	3NT	3♦	2♣	1NT	360
Steve Robinson	2♣	Dbl	Pass	2♣	2 4	490
Jeff Roman	2♥	Dbl	2♥	Pass	1♠	440
Alan Schwartz	2♣	Dbl	Pass	2 ♣	1♠	500

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2006 FINAL TROPHY RACE STANDINGS

www.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 mem-

bers 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 final for 2006. All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director. Congratulations to the 2006 Winners!

(Their pictures appear on p. 2.)				
	Lovenberg			
1	225.01	Steve Robinson		
2	<u>204.52</u>	John Adams Alfred Steinberg		
<u>3</u>	<u>193.93</u>	Alfred Steinberg		
4	183.64	David Ruderman		
		Mark Shaw		
6	144.77	Benjamin Brill		
7	133.04	Noble Shore		
8	132.36	Michael Gill		
9	130.03	William Cole		
10	129.58	Fred King		
11	128.16	Arnie Frankel		
12	120.98	Earl Glickstein		
13	120.78	William Hacker		
14	118.80	Robert Bell		
15	114.63	Richard Wegman		
16	109.38	Ellen Cherniavsky		
17	107.33	James Geist		
18	104.87	Peter Boyd		
19	104.09	Leon Letwin		
20	101.00	Ellen Klosson		
21	94.36	Eugene Kales		
22	94.29	Angeliki Magklara		
23	91.94	Clyde Kruskal		

90.75 Diane Walker

84.16 Linda Malonev

		=
]	Izzy Cohen
1	132.36	Michael Gill
$\bar{2}$	132.36 120.78 94.29 83.76	William Hacker
<u>3</u>	94.29	Angeliki Magklara
4	83.76	
5	82.04	Joel Miller
6	80.12	Barry Bragin
7	65.88	Steven Schatzow
8	65.75	Mark Rosen
9	64.41	Richard Ferrin
10	62.63	Eugene Fisher
11	62.49	Katherine Rabenstei
12	61.45	Charity Sack
13	58.07	H John Edmonds
14	54.13	Linda Marshall
15	51.16	Janet Dence
	04.00	Tubbs

		Tubbs
1	<u>94.29</u>	<u>Angeliki Magklara</u>
2	<u>62.49</u>	Katherine Rabenstein
<u>3</u>	<u>54.13</u>	<u>Linda Marshall</u>
4	45.36	Roma Chandra
5	43.24	Shawn Stringer
6	41.41	Neal Rosenthal
7	40.47	Daniel Koch
8	40.29	William Kingery Jr
9	39.46	Prem Garg
10	36.78	Danut Gliga

Waalridge

		Woolridge
1	<u>32.94</u>	Joseph Porres
<u>2</u>	<u>30.22</u>	Amy Bloom
<u>3</u>	<u>21.69</u>	Paul Chassy
4	21.69	Reina Chassy
5	21.15	Kay Miller
6	20.60	Marie Saeger
7	20.15	Alfred Liepold

19.24 Ellinor Legg

10 16.39 Cynthia Harrison

17.74 Andrew Jacknain

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.

LESSON & GAME

GUARANTEED PARTNERS!

7:30_{PM} -10:30pm

JOIN ANYTIME

The cost is \$5. This includes a 30 minute lesson by Dr. Steven Forsythe followed by fun, enjoyable bridge for players with 0-20 masterpoints.

Lessons will cover slam bidding, weak twos, 3 level+ preempts, overcalls, takeout doubles, negative doubles, opening leads, and signaling. Each lesson will be tailored to the needs and interests of the players.

This is a great program for beginners as well as experienced social bridge players! Partners will be provided if needed. For more information call or email Steve or Sandy Forsythe at (301) 592-9177 (email: majslf@aol.com)

~ * * **SCHEDULE** * * ~ All Games held at Christ the King Church

03/01/2007StrataFlighted Membership Game
03/08/2007StrataFlighted Unit Championship
03/15/2007StrataFlighted Club Championship
03/22/2007Stratified STaC Pairs
03/29/2007StrataFlighted Unit Championship
04/05/2007 <u>CLOSED</u>
04/12/2007StrataFlighted Unit Championship
04/19/2007NVBA Sectional
04/26/2007StrataFlighted Charity Game
05/03/2007 <u>WBL Sectional</u>
05/10/2007StrataFlighted Unit Championship
05/17/2007 Annual Meeting & StrataFlighted Charity
05/24/2007StrataFlighted Club Championship

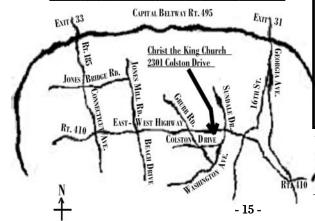
For a Last-Minute Partner, to tell someone you'll be late, to hear announcements, or to contact the Unit Game for any reason, call the WBL Cell Phone:

(301) 395-2760

UPCOMING SECTIONALS

August 9-12Silver Spring, MD September 6-9, 2007Arlington, VA October 4-7, 2007 Silver Spring, MD

MAP TO CHRIST THE KING CHURCH



WBL GUARANTEED PARTNER PROGRAM

You never need to miss the unit game because vou don't have a partner at the last minute! The WBL has a guaranteed partner (GP) program for players who occasionally need a partner for the unit game. Here's how it works: we provide a standby partner; if an odd number of people in need of a partner arrive, we match the players as best we can, and the GP plays with the one who is left. (If there is an even number of players looking, the GP goes home). You can always get a game.

Players in search of partners should try to arrive between 7:00 and 7:15 (or call ahead). The partnership desk closes at 7:25. You can call the WBL cell phone (301) 395-2760 at the last minute if are on your way and know you'll be at bit late.

To find a partner at least a day in advance, contact Barbara **Doran** (see below). or log on to the Online Partnership Bulletin **Board** at: www.Washington BridgeLeague.org.

You might want to volunteer for the GP program yourself. It's a great way to meet people. If you play on the night you're the GP, you play free. If you volunteer, you receive a free play for any future unit game whether or not you play that night.

Email Barbara Doran at UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix .org or barbd@starpower.net, or call her at (301) 608-0347.

PARTNERSHIPS CLOSE AT 7:25pm TO START THE GAME PROMPTLY AT 7:30PM. CALL IF YOU'RE LATE, OR YOU MAY NOT BE ACCOMMODATED.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RUN A BRIDGE LEAGUE

by Barbara Summers, Volunteer Coordinater, jimbarb1108@aol.com

Behind the scene volunteers are helping keep this game we love alive and thriving. This month: *IT TAKES A VILLAGE TAKES A DETOUR!*

Want to branch out? Go to Washington Bridge League Unit 147 and clock in at the partnership desk or email Barbara Doran at barbd@starpower.net (or call her at 301-608-0347). The **GUARANTEED PARTNER Program** is a good way to meet and play with others. You volunteer by emailing or calling Barbara Doran and you show up to play with anyone who needs a partner. You play for free that night (or go home if no one needs a partner), get a free play to use another time and play with someone you may never have played with or known before. I inadvertently showed up sans partner December 14th and Barbara set me up to play with Jeff Parker. I knew his wife Patsy but not Jeff. Jeff and I placed 7th and Patsy playing with David Fleischer placed 6th in the other A section. You don't need to be the guaranteed partner to branch out; you can just contact Barbara, tell her what type of partner you would like to play with (I always mention if Robinson is free to let me know) and when she suggests others who are looking, you can contact them or not. If you have a steady partner you and your partner might consider splitting up for an evening. You may be surprised at how a different partner handles his cards and get some fresh ideas. The **GUARANTEED PARTNER PROGRAM** is not to be used as a regular way to find partners, but is a sometime thing. If you are new to duplicate and don't know other players to contact, email or call Barbara and she will help you.

Again kudos to Nadine Wood, Kitty Gotfried, Frances Burke, and Barbara Shaw for the delicious food at our first WBL Sectional of the new year. Kudos also to our panel members, Jeff Roman, Steve Robinson and John Adams for sharing their expertise on the hands the morning section had just played. Also special thanks to **Richard Veach. Shawn Stringer,** and **Alfred Liepold** for arriving early on Saturday to set up the tables, and to those that stayed after the game Sunday to take the tables down. We miss **Lee** Biggs and his wonderful care and handling of our tables. More thanks to **Ron Zucker** and **Janet Dence** who worked the on-site partnership desk. Volunteering by emailing me at jimbarb1184@aol.com is one of the best ways to meet other players and have more fun. I volunteered to substitute teach for **Steve** and **Sandy Forsythe** Thursday night and met the greatest group of players. Do remember that anyone who wants to break into duplicate bridge can join their Thursday night lesson and game in the side room adjoining the main game. Lesson time 7:30, game begins at 8:00 and goes until 10:00.

Do you have any MUSCLE OR BRAINS TO SPARE?

The Washington Bridge League could use a little of either! In order to keep events exciting and entry fees low, the WBL relies on the goodness of our members to volunteer for small jobs at the Unit Game and Sectional Tournaments. Some jobs require brains while others require muscle. We'll be happy to employ either.

From setting up and breaking down tables, to publicity and events development, a little effort from you will make our bridge community even better. Busy schedule? No worries. Most volunteer assignments take only 15 minutes to 1 hour a month.

Here's how to help:

- 1. Reply by email, phone or in person if you are willing to help in any way.
- 2. Please indicate if you can offer any special skills (such as marketing or a strong back).
- 3. Someone will contact you shortly with a choice of assignments you can pick from.

BONUS – You will be invited to the summer Volunteer Gathering and BBQ Party.

Thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide.

Barbara Summers, Volunteer Coordinator, 301-598-5838, jimbarb1184@aol.com,

COMMITTEE ACTION #56

Part 1

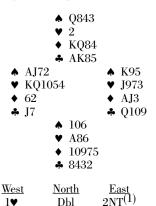
by Rich Colker, rcolker@worldnet.att.net

South

Pass

Hawaii last November provided a deceptively idyllic setting for this appeal from the first qualifying session of the Blue Ribbon Pairs. See if you can figure out why I'm displeased with the way it turned out.

Bd: 8; Vul: None; Dlr: West



3♣ Pass 3♥ All Pass (1) Explained as a relay to 3♣

North led the ♣A against 3♥, which made three; +140. E/W's agreement was that 2NT showed a limit raise or better in hearts; West confused two auctions and misexplained 2NT (no one asked about it). E/W played that 3♣ was a help-suit game try over a 2NT bid in this auction. The Director found that East had UI from the misexplanation of 2NT. After consulting several players, the Director decided that 3♥ was demonstrably suggested by the UI and that 4♥ was a less successful LA. In accordance with Laws 16A and 12C2, the contract was adjusted to 4♥ by East down one, -50 for E/W.

E/W appealed the Director's ruling. East told the Committee that West opened all 11 point hands and that the 34 bid suggested 12-13 high-card points (with more West would have accepted East's limit raise). With a combined total of 23-24 HCP East believed that bidding 3 was the indicated action. South told the Committee that the

club fillers in the East hand made it worth a raise to 4Ψ .

The Committee determined that West's misexplanation constituted UI under Law 16 and suggested that West might not have a game invitation. making bidding only 3v more attractive at this form of scoring. The question then became whether there was a LA to bidding 3♥ and whether any other calls, such as 3♦ or 3NT, should be considered. The Committee noted that opposite a minimum hand like: ♠ Ax ♥ KQ10xx ♦ xx *Kxxx game would depend on a club finesse. They also noted that changing West's ♥ K to the ace or adding the ♦ O would make 4♥ an excellent game. Therefore, the Committee deemed 4♥ to be a LA to 3♥. The contract was adjusted (as it was at the table) to 4♥ down one, -50 for E/W.

So, what could be so wrong with this decision? Think about it and in the next WBL Bulletin, I'll discuss the issues involved. (If you'd like a hint as to my thinking, read the following paragraph before making up your mind.)

A basic principle in deciding UI cases is to determine what type of action, if any, the UI demonstrably suggests and not allow the recipient to take any such action if a less successful LA exists. A second principle is to refrain from imposing your own personal standards of "good bridge" on the recipient. In other words, you may prevent him from taking advantage of the UI but you may not disallow a call simply because you feel it is not a "normal" action, or because it is not the call you would have made, or because you do not consider it "good bridge." (1) Determine whether UI is present and if so what action it suggests.(2) Do not allow the recipient of the UI to take any demonstrably suggested action unless such action is clearly indicated by the AI present. (3) Do not punish the recipient for taking an "abnormal" or "inferior" action that just happened to work out unexpectedly well.

...continued next month

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2006 WBL New Life Masters

Congratulations? Hadi Abushakra, Lily Andre, J. J. Armor, Janet Berman, Margaret Buda, Roma Chandra, Shirley Coll, Joan Cutler, Anne Derbes, Roma Dodson, Adrienne Fisher, Bryan Geer, Lois Geer, Hilda Getz, Donald Goldman, Merrill Hirsh, Donald Jacobs, Mary Lafferty, Reni Malloy, Neal Rosenthal, Shlomit Rind, Bob Schwab, Malcolm Stewart, Shawn Stringer, David Wampler, and Gordon Youngblood. (See group photo on p.2.)



Hadi Abushakra and his wife, Kathy Stuart have a 13 year old daughter. Hadi works for The World Bank as Chief Counsel, Middle East and South Asia. His education includes a JD

in French law (Lyon University, France), Lebanese Law (St. Joseph University, Beirut, Lebanon), and an LL.M (Harvard Law School). Hadi speaks three languages fluently and enjoys running, reading (mainly history, politics and espionage) and cinema.

His biggest thrill was qualifying for the GNT in 2004. Hadi's special wish, insofar as bridge is concerned, is for players not to forget that, after all, bridge is a card game, not a matter of life or death, and that there are many more important

things in life. He is all for focus and competitiveness at the bridge table without losing sight of the big picture, and behaving in ways that undermine bridge players and the game as a whole.



Janet Berman's most exciting bridge

moment occurred when she and her partner earned the rank of Life Master!

Roma Chandra retired as Chairman of Anatomic Pathology at Children's National Medical Center in 2003. She has two children, Rick Chandra (35) and Lili Mehta (34). Her honors include

Professor Emeritus at Georgetown University and Vicenniel Medal from Georgetown UniversitySchool of Medicine. Roma has enjoyed social bridge for over 36 years. She joined the WBL 10 years ago, after two years in the ACBL and started playing seriously in 2004. She has also played in Tunisia. Roma's favorite system is 2 over 1. She is excited to have become a Life Master.

Elaine Conway, a retired Guidance Counselor from Montgomery County Public Schools is a widow and has one son, Edward. She has also worked as an Elementary School Teacher and an Acting

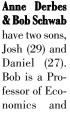


Assistant Principal. She received a BS in Elementary Education from Bowie State University, an MS in Guidance/ Counseling from Western Maryland College, and an MS in School Administration from Trinity College.

Elaine says, "My husband was a commissioned officer in the U.S Army and bridge was very popular in the military. Our first assignment was Fort Carson,

Colorado in 1962 and it was there that I learned to play the game. We moved frequently and bridge was a great way to meet new people. It wasn't until 1969

when we were stationed at Fort Knox, Kentucky that I decided to give Duplicate Bridge a try. So, I began playing At Fort Knox Officers Club and played in my first tournament in Louisville, Kentucky. My biggest thrill was becoming a Life Master! Now that I'm retired, my goal is to play as much as I can."



Lily Andre Adrienti



- 18 -

Associate Dean of the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, University of Maryland. Anne is a Professor of Art History at Hood College. Bob got his Ph.D. (economics) from Johns Hopkins University. Anne got her Ph.D. (art history) from The University of Virginia. Bob is a marathon runner; his proudest (non-bridge) moment is qualifying for the Boston Marathon, twice. Anne says she runs also, but much slower and nowhere near as far as Bob. Her proudest (nonbridge) moment is publishing her first book.

They both started playing bridge in college. They met in Washington in 1971; each of them had heard about Precision, and wanted to learn how to play the system with a regular partner. They became regular partners in more than one sense, and married in 1974. After raising their sons, they slowly returned to the game. They say, "We felt like Rip Van Winkle: we had never seen bidding boxes, had never heard of 2 over 1, etc."

Their preferred bidding system is still Precision; they've never played any other system together. Anne and Bob have won every masterpoint together (their totals are identical). For most of their bridge careers, they played only pairs, but recently discovered teams, and have enjoyed that very much. They'd especially like to thank their regular teammates, Rex Settle and Jay Weinstein. They've found the WBL a very welcoming place to play, and now feel very much part of the bridge community.



Bryan and Lois Geer both work for the US Department of Justice Drug En-

the Special Testing and Research Laboratory as a Senior Forensic Chemists. They have two sons/stepsons: Jeffrey Lamb (25), and Kevin Lamb (21).

Bryan is a sportsaholic. He enjoys watching football, baseball, basketball and hockey and is a Fantasy Football addict. He also enjoys reading (not necessarily about bridge!), coin collecting and has an interest in gemstones and gemology. Lois loves to read, collect art glass, spin yarn, weave, knit, crochet, judge handspinning fleeces, and garden - they have a 3000 gallon pond stocked with lilies and fish.

During her sophomore year of high school, Lois' boyfriend taught her the fundamentals of bridge after her mother suggested it as a way to keep occupied and she ended up playing in the school's bridge club.

Bryan started playing bridge in August of 1988 with a buddy of his who taught him the basics of Standard American. The first time Bryan played, his buddy bid a strong 2 opener. Knowing he couldn't pass, Bryan bid 2NT (weak). The buddy bid 3 spades and Bryan passed since he had no points. The buddy threw a deck of cards at his head and velled at him for passing! Bryan's not too sure why he kept playing but he did! A couple of months later, he found out that one of the women that he worked with played bridge. They would get together and play rubber a couple of times a month. She asked him to play a duplicate game with her. They won the 0-99 game the first time they played! He says, "I guess that hooked us because I have been playing bridge with her ever since and married her a few years later!" Until 2005, they could only play about two tournaments a year due to work and kids. This year has been lots of fun - circumstances allowed them to play in a bunch of tournaments and become Life Masters a couple of weeks apart last summer.

One of their most exciting moments came when they won the two session 0-49 National Pairs in Lancaster (1990). Another thrill occurred in 1991. They bid and Bryan made 7 NT on a squeeze play. At the time, he says he had no idea what he had done; he just thought that he had snookered two little old ladies into giving him the contract! In Harrisburg last year, Lois also got to bid and make 7 NT for the first time in competition.

Bryan says, "The best thing that I have found about playing bridge is the people we have met. Since we started playing frequently over the last two years, we have met so many wonderful and interesting people that we enjoy playing with, against and becoming friends with." Lois adds, "Bridge people are great!"



Hilda Getz and husband. Mike, have two grown children, Sidney (47) and Andy (44) and five grandchildren. For 13 years, Hilda worked as an Office Manager for Gary M. Roggin, MD, a

Gastroenterologist. She has also been an Aerobics Instructor. Hilda started playing bridge in 1970 in Cape Town, South Africa. She was a Foundation Member and President of the Cape Town Women's Bridge Club. Twelve years ago, she became a WBL member and she plays regularly at the JCC. As her South African points were not recognized by the ACBL and attending regional tournaments was not always possible, Hilda was thrilled to attain the rank of Life Master.



Merrill Hirsh is a lawyer for Ross, Dixon & Bell, LLP. He and his wife, Sally, have two children, David (17) and Brian (15). Merrill formerly worked as a Trial Attorney for the US

Department of Justice, Civil Division. He got his undergraduate degree from Oberlin College and his J.D. from Harvard Law School.

At age 10, when his parents needed a fourth, they taught Merrill to play bridge. In the 1980's, Merrill entered the WBL and the tournament bridge world, but rarely played while his kids were small. His favorite book is Frank Stewart's, Bridge Player's Comprehensive Guide to Defense. He now plays at the IMF, occasionally at the Unit Game and a lot online on BBO. Merrill had a great time collect 22 masterpoints in two days of pairs events at the New York NABC.

Donald Jacobs and his wife, Sandra, have three grown children: Shelley (50), Peter (47) and Brenda (44). He got his BBA from the University of Cincinnati in 1954. Donald went on to work as an Accountant for the Department of the Navy from which he is now retired. College introduced bridge to Donald and he played in the ACBL during those years until 1969. After a 30 year hiatus, he rejoined the game, with Standard American his system of choice. Donald's most exciting bridge moment was making Life Master which he achieved by playing in Norfolk, Ft. Lauderdale and Boynton Beach in addition to playing locally in the Gaithersburg - Rockville area.

Mary Lafferty and her husband Walter have six grown daughters [Phew! - ed.]. Mary is a retired Data Manger and Computer Systems Analyst from NIH. She got her education at



Brown University. At age 10, she started playing bridge and 10 years ago, she started playing duplicate in the WBL. Mary has also played duplicate in Spain. Her preferred bidding system is 2 over 1.

Reni Malloy is Interpreter for the Hearing Impaired for County Montgomery Public Schools. She is also a Medical Technician. She began playing bridge in 1997 and



joined the WBL and began playing tournament bridge a few years later. Outside of

- 20 -- 21 - bridge, Reni enjoys music, theatre, and being a hospice volunteer. For bridge, she frequents the JCC, the Rockville Senior Center, and the Unit Game and has also played in Germany. She prefers to play 2 over 1. Reni's biggest bridge thrill so far was becoming Life Master and her next bridge goal is simply to continue getting better. She says her best accomplishment outside of bridge was raising two wonderful boys.



Shlomit Rind is a doctor of Physical Therapy. She was the director of Rehabilitation Services at the Hebrew Home of Greater Washington until March 2005, when she established a pri-

vate contract therapy company: Prime Therapy Enterprises, LLC. She is the mother of three children (all in college), Libi, Aviv and Gil, who decided to take bridge lessons at Steve and Sandy Forsythe's 0-20 unit game, over three years ago. She was hooked on the game from the first board she played, and was thrilled to reach Life Master this past year.

Shlomit feels that bridge has changed her life in providing mental stimulation, friendships and travel opportunities. As a board member, she is helping to attract new players to the game, to promote a friendly enviornment, and to expand the novice/intermediate games.



Neal Rosenthal and wife, Ellen, have two daughters, Lee (42) and Danielle (41). In addition to bridge, Neal also enjoys tennis, furniture making and stained glass.

Neal's parents intro-

duced him to bridge in the 1950's. He and Ellen originally started playing duplicate together in the 1960's, but Neal stopped playing in 1970. When Neal retired in 2001 (as Associate Commissioner for the Bureau of Labor Statistics), he started playing bridge again. Neal has been a WBL member for four years now. He likes to play a modified Precision system. Last year, Neal and his team (wife Ellen, Richard Levin, Marc Weiner, Shyam Giridharadas, and Prem Garg) achieved a very exciting accomplishment! They won the right to represent our district at the summer NABC in Chicago in the Non-Life Master flight of the Grand National Teams.

Shawn Stringer is a selfemployed attorney specializing in Estate Planning and Elder Law. She is a graduate of Georgetown University Law School. She has three children: Brendan.



Kevin and Clare. Shawn's other interests include contra dancing at Glen Echo, real estate investing, and charity work for the National Kidney Foundation.

She has a neighbor who bugged her for many years to learn bridge, but it wasn't until about two years ago, when her kids were older that she had time to give it a try. She got hooked after a few months! Shawn says, "A hand I will never forget arose in my first sectional. I was playing in an AX Swiss match (because my partner had lots of points) against the top team. I ended up in 3NT doubled and my first thought was "I want to go home." I made the bid, shaking, and can still remember every card." Shawn reads a lot of bridge books and hopes that with each new game, she will learn something and leave happy that she was there.







Margaret Buda

45TH ANNUAL PRESIDENTIAL TOURNAMENT

January 4-7, 2007

TOP TEN CUMULATIVE POINT WINNERS

In honor of the WBL's 75th Anniversary, trophies were presented to the top point winners from each of our tournaments last year. The WBL has decided to continue this new tradition at each sectional this year. Congratulations to the Presidential Tournament winners:

Players	I	Play	vers with fewer than 500 masterpoints
36.76 . 24.90 . 21.65 .	David AbelowNoble Shore	1 2 3	12.91 Raghavendra Rajku 9.13 .Alfred Lie 8.29 .Angeliki Magk 7.65 .Herbert Ro
18.91 . 17.48 . 17.46 . 17.14 . 17.08 .	Leo LaSota Michael Gill Fred King Peter Boyd Earl Glickstein	5 6 7	7.50 Roger Laun 6.40 Jose Po 6.14 Susan Misl 6.14 Dennis Schw 5.86 Shawn Stri 5.13 Malvern Sheffiel
y ers with 17.48 . 13.56 .	fewer than 1500 masterpoints	1	5.13
	24.90 21.65 21.25 18.91 17.48 17.46 17.08 14.21 yers with 17.48 13.56 13.56	Players 36.76 Steve Robinson 24.90 David Abelow 21.65 Noble Shore 21.25 Alfred Steinberg 18.91 Leo LaSota 17.48 Michael Gill 17.46 Fred King 17.14 Peter Boyd 17.08 Earl Glickstein 14.21 Robert Hopkins Jr yers with fewer than 1500 masterpoints 17.48 Michael Gill 13.56 Michael Richey 12.91 Raghavendra Rajkumar	36.76 Steve Robinson 1 24.90 David Abelow 2 21.65 Noble Shore 3 21.25 Alfred Steinberg 4 18.91 Leo LaSota 5 17.48 Michael Gill 6 17.46 Fred King 7 17.14 Peter Boyd 17.08 Earl Glickstein 14.21 Robert Hopkins Jr 10 yers with fewer than 1500 masterpoints 17.48 Michael Gill 13.56 Michael Richey

10	14.21toben nopkins ji
Play	ers with fewer than 1500 masterpoints
1	17.48
2	13.56Michael Richey
3	12.91 Raghavendra Rajkumar
4	9.30 Jeffrey Kosnett
5	9.13
6	9.04
7	8.67Jerry Miller
8	8.29
	8.29 Jason Rosenfeld
10	7.65

yers with fewer than 500 masterpoints
12.91
9.13
8.29
7.65
7.50 Roger Laumark
6.40
6.14 Susan Miskura
6.14 Dennis Schwanz
5.86
5.13 Malvern Sheffield Jr
5.13 Janet Duke
5.15 Janet Duke
yers with fewer than 100 masterpoints
yers with fewer than 100 masterpoints 9.13
yers with fewer than 100 masterpoints 9.13
yers with fewer than 100 masterpoints 9.13 Alfred Liepold 7.50 Roger Laumark 6.40 Jose Porres 5.11 Stanley Weiland
yers with fewer than 100 masterpoints 9.13
yers with fewer than 100 masterpoints 9.13 Alfred Liepold 7.50 Roger Laumark 6.40 Jose Porres 5.11 Stanley Weiland 5.02 Eric Poskanzer
yers with fewer than 100 masterpoints 9.13 Alfred Liepold 7.50 Roger Laumark 6.40 Jose Porres 5.11 Stanley Weiland 5.02 Eric Poskanzer 4.56 Joav Steinbach
yers with fewer than 100 masterpoints 9.13 Alfred Liepold 7.50 Roger Laumark 6.40 Jose Porres 5.11 Stanley Weiland 5.02 Eric Poskanzer 4.56 Joav Steinbach 4.23 Albert Lauber

RESULTS

THURSDAY EVENING FLT A/X PAIRS

Stratum A, 43.0 Tables / Based on 93 Tables



1	William Cole - John Adams
2	Marie Creisher - Hanna Schepps 68.21
3	Yi Zhong - Weizhong Bao66.21
4	Ellen Klosson - Lynne Schaefer 63.22
5	Ed Lewis - Charles Yaple62.98
6	Barry Bragin - Robert Bell
7	Michael Polunin - Bob Kerchner 60.26
8	Robert Brady - Frank Cardillo 60.10
9	Fred King - Angeliki Magklara 59.06
10	Robert Hopkins Jr - Joan Lewis 58.24
	Stratum X, 27.0 Tables
1	Yi Zhong - Weizhong Bao66.21
2	Ellen Klosson - Lynne Schaefer 63.22
3	Michael Polunin - Bob Kerchner 60.26
4	Robert Brady - Frank Cardillo 60.10

,	James	Witting - Robert	Zier	58.01
,	Diane	Walker - Hailong	g Ao	56.79

THURSDAY EVENING FLT B/C/D PAIRS

Stratum B, 26.0 Tables
Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz71.25
Silas Wasserstrom - Michael Gottesman64.88
Howard Tash - Martin Reed
William Kingery Jr - Janet Dence61.31
Suzanne Abrams - Leo Cardillo 60.00
Barry James - Diane Jaworiwsky 59.82
Stratum C, 20.5 Tables
Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz71.25
Silas Wasserstrom - Michael Gottesman 64.88
Howard Tash - Martin Reed
Suzanne Abrams - Leo Cardillo 60.00
Carl Noller - Francesco Parisi-Presicce 57.92
C Ranganathan - Prem Garg56.25
Stratum D, 14.0 Tables
Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz71.25
Carl Noller - Francesco Parisi-Presicce 57.92
Ednamae Trevey - George Green 54.17
Judy Braddy - Sandra Stringer 53.57
Phyllis Sonen - Hilda Getz52.98

Philip Kopala - William White 52.92

THURSDAY EVENING NLM PAIRS @ WBL Stratum A, 10.5 Tables



Congratulations, Phyllis! (With this win, she more than doubled her masterpoints!)

1	Phyllis Arnow - Alfred Liepold 59.83
2	Garry Grossman - Calvin Konner 58.65
$\bar{3}$	Michael Berard - Marie Berard 57.18
4	Alan Ferraro - Jeanne Ferraro
5	Sheila Kaplan - Michael Watts 56.22
6	Alan Ferraro - Jeanne Ferraro
	Stratum B, 7.0 Tables
1	Alfred Liepold - Phyllis Arnow 59.83
2	Garry Grossman - Calvin Konner 58.65
$\frac{2}{3}$	Garry Grossman - Calvin Konner 58.65 Michael Berard - Marie Berard 57.18
4	Alan Ferraro - Jeanne Ferraro
5	Sheila Kaplan - Michael Watts 56.22
	Stratum C, 5.0 Tables
1	Garry Grossman - Calvin Konner 58.65
2	Alan Ferraro - Ieanne Ferraro 56 31
3	Sheila Kaplan - Michael Watts 56.22
4	Sheila Kaplan - Michael Watts 56.22 Marie Saeger - Andrew Jacknain 54.26
חטויזני	URSDAY EVENING 199ER PAIRS @ NVBA
1111	
	Stratum A, 13.0 Tables
1	Rod Spicer - Peggy Mc Carter
$\frac{2}{3}$	Paula Cloyd - Iom Feick
3 4	Barbara Hodges - William Hughes61.17
	Pat Lonergan - Tom Lonergan
5	Robert Dorosin - Virginia Ivin
6	Sidney Graves - Dianne Derbogosian 50.02
,	Stratum B, 9.5 Tables Rod Spicer - Peggy Mc Carter
$\frac{1}{2}$	Rod Spicer - Peggy Mc Carter05.87
$\frac{2}{3}$	Darbara nodges - William nugnes01.17
3 4	Pat Lonergan - Tom Lonergan 60.90
5	Robert Dorosin - Virginia Ivin
6	Sidney Graves - Dianne Derbogosian 56.02 Larry Taylor - Henry Ruempler 55.49
O	Carry Taylor - Henry Ruempier
	Stratum C, 7.5 Tables Barbara Hodges - William Hughes61.17
$\frac{1}{2}$	Darbara nodges - William nugnes01.17
3	Pat Lonergan - Tom Lonergan
4	Robert Dorosin - Virginia Ivin
5	Larry Taylor - Henry Ruempler 55.49
9	
_	FRIDAY MORNING OPEN PAIRS
Stra	tum A, 23.0 Tables / Based on 34 Tables
1/2	2 Benjamin Stauss - John Glynn 63.99
1/2	2 James Geist - Steven Schatzow 63.99
3	2 James Geist - Steven Schatzow 63.99 Leo LaSota - William Foster Jr 63.69
4	Lileen Theimer - Shou-Ling Wang61.90
5	Miles Kitzler - Jack Moss
6	Audrey Stern - Alice Miller
	Stratum B, 17.5 Tables
1/2	2 James Geist - Steven Schatzow 63.99
1/2	Z John Glynn - Benjamin Stauss 63.99
3	Miles Kitzler - Jack Moss
4	Robert Levey - Jimmy Ritzenberg 56.55

5/6	Elaine Conway - Richard Bryan55.95
	Pat Tyler - Joan Anderson55.95
	Stratum C. 5.5 Tables
1	Elaine Conway - Richard Bryan55.95
2	Monica Shumann - Susan Slattery 52.98
3	Linda Marshall - James Beller
4	David Brown - Norman Cowen, M.D49.40
	FRIDAY MORNING NLM PAIRS
	Stratum A, 11.0 Tables



1	Shelia Targan (pic.) - Sandra Jacobs	.60.42
2	Shyamalendu Pal - Arun Guha	
3	Ruth Freedman - Madeline Logee	
4	Henry Thompson - Betty Thompson	.56.25
5	Linda Burton - Phyllis Ísler	.55.36
6	Spencer Berg - Phyllis Berg	.54.76
	Stratum B, 6.5 Tables	
1	Shyamalendu Pal - Arun Guha	.59.23
2	Henry Thompson - Betty Thompson	.56.25
3	Linda Burton - Phyllis Isler	.55.36
4	Spencer Berg - Phyllis Berg	.54.76
5/6	Jan Potter - Martha Granger	.52.98
5/6	Amy Bloom - Joyce Currie	.52.98
	Stratum C, 3.5 Tables	
1	Shyamalendu Pal - Arun Guha	.59.23
2	Henry Thompson - Betty Thompson	.56.25
3	Linda Burton - Phyllis Ísler	.55.36
I	RIDAY AFTERNOON FLT A/X PAI	RS

FRIDAY AFTERNOON FLT A/X PAIRS Stratum A, 17.0 Tables / Based on 44 Tables



_	Leo Lasota - Aian Tenenbaum 02.00
3	Andrew Gofreed - Alfred Steinberg61.89
4	Robert Levey - Jimmy Ritzenberg 58.44
5	Peter Boyd - Ellen Klosson
6	Jim Allen, Jr - Steve Robinson 56.73
	Stratum X, 8.5 Tables
1	James Adams - Hadi Abushakra 63.22
2	Robert Levey - Jimmy Ritzenberg 58.44
3	Robert Ellis - Kenneth Berg56.27
4	Yi Zhong - Weizhong Bao56.23
5	Betty Bursey - M Cassandra Smith55.48

FRIDAY AFTERNOON FLT B/C/D PAIRS Stratum B, 14.0 Tables



1	James Beller - Steven Fox64.02
2	James Wisman - Koko Soderberg58.33
3	Thomas Reckford - Behnaz Fardshisheh 57.01

4 Audrey Warren - Sarah Goodstein55.68		
5 Robert Lawrence - Frances Lawrence 55.49		
6/7 Beta Nahapetian - Diane Jaworiwsky .54.55		
6/7 Judy Glick - Roma Chandra54.55		
Stratum C, 9.5 Tables		
1 James Beller - Steven Fox		
2 James Wisman - Koko Soderberg 58.33		
3 Thomas Reckford - Behnaz Fardshisheh 57.01		
4 Robert Lawrence - Frances Lawrence 55.49		
5 Judy Glick - Roma Chandra54.55		
6/7 Eric Beard - Malvern Sheffield, Jr52.27		
6/7 Juan Pardo - Tsung Lee		
Stratum D, 7.0 Tables		
1 James Wisman - Koko Soderberg 58.33		
2 Thomas Reckford - Behnaz Fardshisheh 57.01		
3 Robert Lawrence - Frances Lawrence 55.49		
4/5 Eric Beard - Malvern Sheffield, Jr 52.27		
4/5 Juan Pardo - Tsung Lee 52 27		

FRIDAY AFTERNOON NLM PAIRS Stratum A, 13.0 Tables



1	John Ryan - Alfred Caponiti 67.42	
2	Karen Copp - Charles Hintermyer 60.61	
3	Alan Ferraro - Jeanne Ferraro	
4	Neil Selvin - Howard Grunin 60.04	
5	Blair Curry - Judith Curry 57.95	
6	Arthur Sherwood - Fran Sherwood55.49	
Stratum B, 7.0 Tables		
1	Alfred Caponiti - John Ryan67.42	
2	Alan Ferraro - Jeanne Ferraro 60.42	
3	Blair Curry - Judith Curry 57.95	
4	Helen Long - Alfred Liepold 54.92	
5	Jerome Gumbiner - Calvin Konner52.84	
Stratum C, 4.5 Tables		
1	Alan Ferraro - Jeanne Ferraro 60.42	
2	Jerome Gumbiner - Calvin Konner52.84	
3/4	Shyamalendu Pal - Arun Guha48.48	
	Diane Dadiskos - Brenda Thomas 48.48	

FRIDAY EVENING IMP TEAMS 22 Tables / Based on 31 Tables



1	Raghavendra Rajkumar - Prahalad Rajkumar -	
	Katherine Rabenstein - Albert Phillips 93.00	
2	James Fordham - Craig Smith - Leo LaSota	
	- Barbara Shaw	
3	Craig Olson - Michael Lawrence - Benjamin	
	Stauss - John Glynn	
4	Carl Noller - Gloria Halstead - Donna	
	Rogall - Clyde Kruskal37.00	
5	Richard Price - Melissa Price - Angeliki	
	Magklara - Jason Rosenfeld	
6	Kenneth Berg - Robert Ellis - Jackie Beecher - Juanita Fernandez	
	Beecher - Juanita Fernandez	
FRIDAY EVENING IMP PAIRS		

Stratum A, 22.0 Tables / Based on 31 Tables



1	Prahalad and Raghavendra Rajkumar 73.71		
2	Leo LaSota - Barbara Shaw63.14		
3	Angeliki Magklara - Jason Rosenfeld 40.14		
4	Diane Walker - Benjamin Brill 38.86		
5	Craig Olson - Michael Lawrence 33.86		
6	Shawn Stringer - Richard Veach30.86		
tra	tum B, 16.0 Tables / Based on 17 Tables		
1	Angeliki Magklara - Jason Rosenfeld 40.14		
2	Diane Walker - Benjamin Brill 38.86		
3	Craig Olson - Michael Lawrence 33.86		
4	Shawn Stringer - Richard Veach30.86		
5	Kenneth Berg - Robert Ellis27.86		
6	Benjamin Stauss - John Glynn		
Stratum C, 9.5 Tables			
1	Angeliki Magklara - Jason Rosenfeld 40.14		
2	Craig Olson - Michael Lawrence 33.86		
3	Katherine Rabenstein - Albert Phillips 17.71		
4	Joan White - Francesco Parisi-Presicce 4.29		
5	Carl Noller - Gloria Halstead 2.14		
6	Lois Geer - Bryan Geer		
EDIDAY EVENING NI M DAIRS			

FRIDAY EVENING NLM PAIRS Stratum A, 7.5 Tables



Ph. 12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-1			
1	Paul Sullivan (pic.) - Mike Frosch65.87		
2	Steven Spaeth - Laurie Stewart 59.12		
3	Blair Curry - Judith Curry		
4	Alfred Liepold - Stanley Weiland52.43		
5	Cynthia Harrison - Kay Miller 51.39		
	Stratum B, 6.0 Tables		
1	Steven Spaeth - Laurie Stewart 59.12		
2	Blair Curry - Judith Curry		
3	Alfred Liepold - Stanley Weiland52.43		
4	Cynthia Harrison - Kay Miller 51.39		
Stratum C, 3.5 Tables			
1	Steven Spaeth - Laurie Stewart 59.12		
2	Blair Curry - Judith Curry		
3	Alfred Liepold - Stanley Weiland52.43		

SATURDAY MORNING FLT A/X PAIRS Stratum A. 17.5 Tables / Based on 69 Tables



	The state of the s
1	Earl Glickstein - Robert Bell
2	Linda Marshall - Monique Smith 61.41
3	Leila Whiting - Lorraine Morgan 58.08
4	Leo LaSota - Mark Shaw
5	Clyde Kruskal - Lloyd Rawley 55.62
6	Avril Rodney - David Rodney 55.45
7	Betty Chagrin - Patricia Parker 55.14

- 24 -

1 2 3 4 5 6	Stratum X, 9.5 Tables Linda Marshall - Monique Smith	Stratum B, 2.5 Tables 1 Lynne Beresford - Mary Jones 54.24 2 Lawrence Hiemenz - Alan Walter 53.59 SATURDAY AFTERNOON FLT A/X PAIRS Stratum A, 19.0 Tables / Based on 56 Tables
SA	ATURDAY MORNING FLT B/C/D PAIRS	
1 2 3 4 5 6	Robert Levey - Walter Smith Jr	1 Angeliki Magklara - Lloyd Rawley .65.62 2 Joel Miller - Leon Letwin
2 3	Michael Goldman - William Mendez Jr 64.39 Russell Beecher - Merril Hirsh 63.07	SATURDAY AFTERNOON FLT B/C/D PAIRS
4 5 6 1 2 3 4 5 6	Lois Geer - Bryan Geer .60.42 Jean Marx - Nancy Hove .59.66 Mark Rosen - Kiyomi Shiba .59.47 Stratum D, 16.5 Tables Michael Goldman - William Mendez Jr 64.39 Russell Beecher - Merril Hirsh .63.07 Lois Geer - Bryan Geer .60.42 Susan Miskura - Dennis Schwanz .56.82 Martha Bley - Ross Bley .56.06 Amy Bloom - Peter Valiante .55.68	Stratum B, 24.0 Tables 1 Jackie Beecher - Juanita Fernandez .67.63
	SATURDAY MORNING 299ER PAIRS	2 Carl Gutschick - Anita Gutschick61.48
1 2 3/4 3/4 5 6	Stratum Å, 11.0 Tables Paul Lubell - Ann Sjoerdsma	4 Jason Rosenfeld - Chuck Chang 58.04 5 James Andre - Lily Andre 57.84 6 Craig Olson - Michael Lawrence 57.42 Stratum C, 19.0 Tables 1 Carl Gutschick - Anita Gutschick 61.48 2 Jason Rosenfeld - Chuck Chang 58.04 3 James Andre - Lily Andre 57.84
	Paul Lubell - Ann Sjoerdsma	5 Kenneth Kaufman - John Mattioli56.92 6 Daniel Feldman - Walter Kerns56.79 Stratum D, 11.0 Tables 1 Phyllis Sonen - Hilda Getz54.82
1 2 3 4	Stratum C, 5.0 Tables Paul Lubell - Ann Sjoerdsma	2 Maida Crocicchia - Reni Malloy
	SATURDAY MORNING 49ER PAIRS	Stratum A, 13.0 Tables
	Stratum A, 5.0 Tables	1 Catherine Smith - Howard Schuyler61.57
1	Tom Lonergan - Pat Lonergan 62 16	2 Helen Long - Alfred Liepold 59.52

5

Lynne Beresford - Mary Jones 54.24

Lawrence Hiemenz - Alan Walter ...53.59

6	Juanita Beeson - Ruth Freedman 55.91		Stratum C, 16 Tables
	Stratum B, 10.5 Tables	1	Martha Bley - Ross Bley - Joe Lentz - Rama
1	Howard Schuyler - Catherine Smith .61.57		Kapur
2	Helen Long - Alfred Liepold 59.52	2	Jason Rosenfeld - Chuck Chang - Angeliki
3	Michael Watts - Sheila Kaplan57.98		Magklara - Kevin Barnes
4	Jerome Gumbiner - Calvin Konner	3	Carl Noller - Francesco Parisi-Presicce -
5	Cynthia Harrison - Kay Miller 55.68	"	Lynda Flanger - Gloria Halstead 80.00
6	Terry Coates - John Horner	4	James Beller - Lawrence Heinen - Albert
	Stratum C, 6.5 Tables	4	
1	Michael Watts - Sheila Kaplan 57.98	-	Lauber - Ned Griffith
5	Jerome Gumbiner - Calvin Konner	5	Walter Kerns - Daniel Feldman - Carl
2 3 4	Cynthia Harrison - Kay Miller 55.68		Gutschick - Anita Gutschick
4			Stratum D, 10 Tables
5	Terry Coates - John Horner	1	Martha Bley - Ross Bley - Joe Lentz - Rama
J	Eleanor Schwartz - Lynne Beresford .53.20		Kapur
	SUNDAY FLT A/X BAM TEAMS	2	James Beller - Lawrence Heinen - Albert
Stra	itum A, 18 Tables / Based on 60 Tables		Lauber - Ned Griffith
		3	Murat Berk - Larry Gebbie - Azmat Ali -
			David Epstein
		4	Dorothy Bechtle - Margaret Storey - Carolyn
			Becraft - Susan Slattery
-		۱ ۾	
100		3	UNDAY MORNING NLM SWISS TEAMS
ť.			Stratum A, 15 Tables
17			
100			
18			
1/2	left back: Peter Boyd - William Cole - left		
1/2	front: Steve Robinson - Mark Shaw 30.00	- 2	ASU CON
1/9	right back: Rusty Krauss - Barry Falgout - right	4	
1/2	front: Joan Lewis - Robert Hopkins Jr 30.00		
2/4			
3/4	Lyle Poe Jr - Robert Bell - Bryan Coleman -		
2/4	Fred King		
3/4	Rajkumar - Prahalad Rajkumar 28.00	1	Millie Reizenstein - Sally Garfinkel - Robert
5			Drake - Florence Drake
5	Earl Glickstein - Alan Schwartz - Ai-Tai Lo	2	Sorina Negulescu - Veronica Flynn - Anita
	- Dewayne Jones	_	Christman - Teri Harrison55.00
	Stratum X, 9 Tables	3	Ron Starr - Daniel Finn - Ronnie Loeser -
1	Noble Shore - Michael Gill - Raghavendra	"	Paul Sullivan
_	Rajkumar - Prahalad Rajkumar 28.00	4	
2	Vincent Wilmot Jr - Donna Rogall - Leon	T	Ahren Ames - Meg Massie-Taylor - Mike Frosch - Frances Knopf
_	Letwin - Donald Berman	5/7	William Dillon - Robert Blatt - Albert
3	Lloyd Rawley - Michael Richey - Clyde	3/1	
	Kruskal - Ted Ying	- 17	Phillips - Elise Hancock43.00
4/5	Thomas Musso - Ellen Cherniavsky -	5/7	Amy Bloom - Joav Steinbach - Helen Long -
	Kenton Schoen - Diane Walker		Alfred Liepold
4/5	Karen Fireman - Robert Brady - Frank	5/7	Jose Porres - Joan White - Terry Jones - Jeff
	Cardillo - Allen Lord		Youngen
	SUNDAY FLT B/C/D SWISS TEAMS		
	Stratum B, 27 Tables	1	Sorina Negulescu - Veronica Flynn - Anita
	onatum D ₁ Z ₁ Tables		Christman - Teri Harrison
		2/4	William Dillon - Robert Blatt - Albert
3			Phillips - Elise Hancock
		2/4	Amy Bloom - Joav Steinbach - Helen Long -
	AND PART OF THE PA		Alfred Liepold
		2/4	Jose Porres - Joan White - Terry Jones - Jeff
100			Youngen 43.00
			Stratum C, 5 Tables
8		1	Amy Bloom - Joav Steinbach - Helen Long -
33			Alfred Liepold
٦-	Ronald Kral Shuba Dov Jay Kolkar	2	Lawrence Hiemenz - Alan Walter - Carol
1	Ronald Kral - Shuba Dey- Jay Kelkar -		Elfant - Craig Perry35.00
2	Janet Dence - John Sedgewick - William	CIFT	
_	Kingery Jr - Edwin Fuller Jr	3U	NDAY AFTERNOON NLM SWISS TEAMS
3	Martha Bley - Ross Bley - Joe Lentz - Rama		Stratum A, 8 Tables
J	Kanur 94.00	1	Neil Selvin - Howard Grunin - Barry Kerne
4	Kapur		- Robert Van Dyke
4	Magklara - Kevin Barnes 92 00	2	Ahren Ames - Meg Massie-Taylor - Mike
5	Magklara - Kevin Barnes		Frosch - Frances Knopf
J		3	Amy Bloom - Joay Steinbach - Helen Long -
617	Lynda Flanger - Gloria Halstead80.00		Alfred Liepold
0/ /	Paul Black - Sam Westgate - Leo Cardillo -	Stra	Alfred Liepold
	Christon Johnson		,

6/7 James Beller - Lawrence Heinen - Albert

Amy Bloom - Joay Steinbach - Helen Long -

- 26 -- 27 -

Michael Watts - Sheila Kaplan57.98

Lorraine Davis - Winnie Yonkers 57.52

Jerome Gumbiner - Calvin Konner . .56.61



WE HAVE TEN MINUTES TO FILL OUT THIS CONVENTION CARD!

Even established partnerships sometimes have disagreements over how a tricky auction *should* have gone, or what kind of signal partner *should* have given on a certain play. So how can you hope to work out a system with a new partner when you have only a few minutes before the game starts? Please don't vow never to come to a game without a partner again! You can have a harmonious partnership with someone you just met: the key is to know which questions to ask and what assumptions to make.

Caveat bidder: If you or your partner don't understand any of these conventions, don't play them! Unless you or partner are eager to learn a new gadget, five minutes before the game is not the time to be teaching pard a new convention...even if it's "really simple, you just..." Just don't!

What to Discuss (On the right side of the convention card)

<u>General Approach.</u> Standard American or 2/1? Is 1NT forcing?

<u>Notrump</u>. What's your opening notrump range? Do you play transfers to the major suits? How about minor suit transfers? Texas transfers? Are systems "off" over interference from the opponents? "On" over double and 2C only?

<u>Responses to 2C.</u> Almost everyone plays strong 2C openings these days. Does pard expect you to always respond 2D, regardless of what you're holding? If not, what do you need to bid your suit? What does a 2NT response mean?

<u>Responses to weak two's.</u> Does 2NT ask for an outside ace or king (a "feature")? Is a new suit by responder forcing?

What to Discuss (On the left side of the con-

vention card)

<u>Notrump.</u> What are your ranges for notrump overcalls and balancing notrump? Does a jump to 2NT (the "Unusual 2NT") promise minors or the two lowest unbid suits? Do you bid naturally over the opponents' opening notrump bids, or do you play any defensive system such as DONT (Disturb Opponents' Notrump) or Cappelletti?

<u>Direct Cuebid.</u> Michaels over majors and minors?

<u>Slam Conventions.</u> Straight Blackwood, or key card? Do you play Gerber? When is 4C Gerber, and when is it natural? Many people play that 4C is Gerber only when the partnership has opened notrump or has bid to a 3NT contract.

<u>Leads</u>. What do you lead from ace-king? The convention card shows the lead of the king to be standard, but many people these days will lead the ace.

<u>Signals.</u> Standard or upside down? Will your first signal be attitude, count or suit preference?

When you're playing with someone new, remember <u>KISS</u>: Keep It Simple, Stupid! Don't spring Smolen, Bergen raises or upside down signals on your poor, unsuspecting partner if you haven't discussed them. But do remember ASBAF: All Strange Bids Are Forcing! If partner makes a bid that you don't understand, don't pass...give her one more chance to describe her hand.

Standard is the name of the game, but what is standard?

What to Assume (if you don't have time to discuss it)

<u>Doubles</u>. Takeout doubles are pretty basic, as are negative doubles. A double of a low-level contract is not likely to be for penalty.

<u>Overcalls</u>. Should promise a five-card suit (or a very nice four-card suit). Jump overcalls are weak, just like opening bids at

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS:

As of February 1, 2007

Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

Abdul Haji Charline K Coakley
Barry E Feldman
Adrienne C Kohn
Jason R Stewart

Charline K Coakley
Jeanne Haji
Esther Pinder

Club Masters (20 Masterpoints)

Barbara Brisentine Mark B Feldman
Virginia Ivin Lois S Stirling
Karen P Columbo Ralph W Freeman
Barbara S Ostrow Marie P Saeger

Sectional Masters (50 Masterpoints)

Sheila Bornstein Reina L Chassy Eugene P Stichman Sybil Cantor Jennifer L Elliott Edward A Jaffe

Regional Masters (100 Masterpoints)

Rosalind P Dixon Michael Berard Roger W Laumark Ajaz Rahman Fran Sherwood

the two-, three- or four-level.

<u>Responses to notrump openings.</u> Not everyone plays Jacoby transfers, but you can expect any duplicate player to play Stayman. Other bids at the two level in response to a 1NT opening are "drop dead" bids, if you're not playing transfers.

<u>New suits by responder</u>. Always forcing, if responder isn't a passed hand! If left-hand opponent doubles or bids a suit, pard's new suit response at the one-level is still forcing.

<u>Major openings.</u> (Almost) always five cards. Pard's jump raise in your major is a limit raise: 10-12 points and trump support.

Minor openings. Opening one in a minor doesn't promise four...but who cares, you'd rather be in a major or notrump! When you open 1C, will partner bypass his four-card diamond suit to show his four-card major suit? If you haven't discussed it, you can skip your diamonds to bid a major over his 1C, but don't assume he doesn't have a major when he bids 1D over your 1C.

<u>Jump shifts.</u> If you haven't agreed otherwise, they're strong and forcing.

Follow these guidelines, and I guarantee...nothing! Your new partner may miss your signal, or leave you playing in your 4-2 fit. But you may have a great time, you might learn something new, and you might meet your new regular partner!

Bits & Pieces, continued from p. 5...

count towards eligibility; (3) Must be a member in good standing of the ACBL and a local affiliate throughout the contest period and remain so through the award presentation.

Awards: Two trophies will be awarded. **Standings:** Here are the standings after five of eight Sectionals. The asterisk* indicates that the player has met eligibility requirements.

Open Leaders		
<u>Player</u> Open Leaders	Points	
1 Steve Robinson	.82.08	
2 Mark Shaw	.80.66	
3 Prahalad Rajkumar	.75.46	
4 Earl Glickstein	.66.98	
5 Noble Shore		
6 Raghavendra Rajkumar .	.62.72	
7 Robert Bell	.62.48	
8 Alfred Steinberg		
9 John Adams		
10 William Cole	.59.54	
11 Jay Kelkar	.58.15	
12 Helene Bauman		
13 Peter Boyd	.56.39	
14 Angeliki Magklara		
15 Michael Gill	.52.84	
16 Lloyd Rawley		
17 Stan Schenker		
18 Shuba Dey	.50.02	
19 Debnarayan Dhar		
20 Yi Zhong		
NonLM Leaders		

Player Points 1 Raghavendra Rajkumar .62.72 2 Angeliki Magklara .55.72 3 Alfred Liepold .32.54 4 Katherine Rabenstein .29.74 5 Linda Marshall .29.06 6 Dennis Schwanz .21.30 7 Susan Miskura .21.30 8 Carl Noller .19.98

7	Susan Miskura	21.30
8	Carl Noller	19.98
9	Ross Bley	19.33
	Martha Bley	
11	Helen Long	18.82
12	Roger Laumark	18.6
13	Joe Lentz	17.95
14	Iose Porres	17.48

WBL Solvers' Club's **New Problems** EAST $\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \text{Pass} \end{array}$ Return answers by March 15 to: Steve Robinson 2891 S. Abingdon St #A2, Arlington VA, 22206 robinswr@erols.com ♣ 10♥ 109642♦ AKJ72♣ 104 NORTH 5) Matchpoints, You're Vulnerable ₹ INI WEST Pass SOUTH Double Redouble EAST EAST *(All heart bids and double show hearts) *(If you pass, partner must pass also) **★** KQ2♥ 1073♦ 93♣ 87652 **♣** K54♥ 8765432♦ 4♣ 54 NORTH NORTH Dbl Dbl 4) IMPs, None Vulnerable WEST WEST Pass

SOUTH

EAST

NORTH

WEST Pass

SOUTH

2255

♦ K2♥ KQ95♦ K10**♣** KQ654

2) IMPs None Vulnerable

4

Pass

SOUTH

♦ 93♥ K65♦ KJ5♣ AQ654

1) Matchpoints, Both Vulnerable

Pass

EAST

NORTH

WEST

SOUTH

3333

January/February 2007

Pass

Dbl

THURSDAY UNIT GAME? PARTNER NEED A RIDE OR A FOR THE

(301-608-0347) to find a partner in advance or try the **On-Line Partnership Bulletin Board:** www.washingtonbridgeleague.org. Contact Barbara Doran UnitGamePartner@DistrictSix.org, For a last minute partner, call the WBL cell phone (301-608-0347). Don Berman, Carpool Coordinator can be contacted at 301-776-3581 or (don.berman@verizon.net) or log on to the On-Line Carpool Notices at www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

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