

Washington Bridge League

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

- ◆ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X unlim/3000, B/C Separate 1500/500), Stratified 199er Pairs & 0-20 Pairs (Christ the King Church only), Stratified 99er Pairs (Beth El only)

Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria . .7:00pm Christ the King Church, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring . .7:30pm Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right on Grubb Rd. 1st left on Colston. The church is one block on the left.





New Location for the Remainder of Tournament

THE HERITAGE BUILDING ON PIN OAK STREET AT THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS IN GAITHERSBURG Directions: Take I-270 to Montgomery Village Ave. (Exit 11) East. Turn right on Rt. 355 (South). Turn Right on Chestnut St. Turn right on Pin Oak St. The Heritage Building and parking will be on the right.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

- ◆ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions)10:00am, 2:00pm, 8:00pm

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions)9:30 am, 1:30pm, 7:00pm
- ♦ Flight A/X Pairs (unlim/3000) (2 sessions w/1 session entries available) . .1:30pm & 7:00pm

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

- ♣ A/X Swiss Teams, VPs (unlim /3000, 7 round playthru w/short break) 10:30am & TBA
- ♦ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (2000/1250/750, 7 round playthru w/short break) ..10:30am & TBA

I/N events: 199er, 99er, 49er, & 0-20; Stratification at Director's Discretion.

Open and Senior Stratified Events and StrataFlighted Events vary as listed above.

Famous Washington Hospitality includes food and/or drinks for all players every day. Refreshments available throughout the tournament. Scrip awarded for 1st overall and section tops. Chairs: *Kathy Hilbers*, (202) 662-3430, elfenq@hotmail.com, *Ben Laden*, (202) 244-1765, benladen@prodigy.net, Hospitality: *Kitty Gottfried*, (301) 587-3981 kgottfried@hotmail.com, Partnerships: *Charity Sack*, (703) 963-7027, charity@charitysack.com, On-line Partnership Desk: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

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 18518 Grackle Way, Gaithersburg, MD 20879-1767.

DEADLINE: OCT. 30, 2003

TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2003 ISSUE

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SOME KEY VOLUNTEERS

Kathy Kruskal — Tournament Co-Chair (202-662-3430)
Ben Laden — Tournament Co-Chair (202-244-1765)
Frances Burke — Membership Secretary (301-384-6103)
Michael Carroad — Unit Game Chief Director and Manager (301-322-4289)
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Kitty Gottfried — Unit Game and Sectional Hospitality (301-587-3981)
Rosemary Marks — Prizes (301-598-2405)

WBL WEBSITE: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org DISTRICT 6 SITE: www.districtsix.org

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Dick Wegman

It was a very good summer for Washington-area bridge. Attendance was strong at the unit game and the Hunt Valley regional in August (with Hunt Valley setting an all-time record for the number of tables in play). At the Summer Nationals in Long Beach in July, Steve Robinson was inducted into the ACBL Hall of Fame. He is the first living player from the Washington area to be honored in this way. Steve really deserves this honor - not only because of his outstanding bridge accomplishments, but for his untiring efforts over the past three decades (strictly voluntary, of course) to build and strengthen bridge in the Washington area. And a District 6 team won the gold in the Flight B Grand National Teams in Long Beach. The team of Hailong Ao, Jian-Jian Wang, Huailin Chen and Yi Zhong beat out 23 other strong district teams to come out on top in this major national team championship. All in all, a very good summer indeed.

Thanks again for your responses to our survey. On the basis of what we've learned from your responses, we're going to try several new things at our sectionals this fall, and we hope you like them. Our December sectional will feature a major new event: the Washington Bridge League Trophy Pairs, a two session open pair event to be held on Saturday, with a qualifying session in the afternoon, and a championship final in the evening. We haven't had one of these for many years, and your survey responses indicate that many players

would welcome such an event.

We're also revising the schedule of two events at the fall sectionals, in response to your requests. Our Sunday Swiss team event will be scheduled as a play through, with a short lunch break (probably 30-45 minutes). We'll have food available for purchase on site probably sandwiches and soda, or possibly pizza — and we will do our best to keep the cost as low as possible. On Friday evening at the October sectional, we will have two alternative starting times, one at 7:00 P.M. and the other at 8:00 P.M. This will accommodate those who would like to finish early, and also make it possible for those who work a full schedule on Friday to play as well.

Please note that the October sectional will be held at the Heritage Building at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. This is a very attractive new facility, with ample playing space and lots of parking just outside the front door. You can get there easily by taking I-270 to Exit 11, then following the signs to the Fairgrounds entrance.

I'm very interested in your comments or suggestions for ways to improve our tournaments, and our unit and club games. Please get in touch with me by e-mail at aliweg@aol.com, or give me a call at 301-365-2228.

I look forward to hearing from you, and hope to see you at our tournaments this fall.

Dick Wegman

BITS AND PIECES

SIGN UP ON OUR UNIT VOLUNTEER LIST

The unit needs volunteers willing to help out occasionally with various tasks. If you are willing to be called, please e-mail Steve Forsythe at mailst@aol.com with a phone number and return e-mail.

SIGN UP AS A UNIT GAME ON CALL PARTNER

Are you interested in being a partner? We need volunteers who won't mind being called to play with someone who wants a partner on Thurday night. You'll get a free play for coming to play. Please contact Barbara Shaw at BarbShaw@comcast.net or CharitySack at charitysack.com.

SAD NEWS

Two more sad e-mails arrived too late to write full memorials for in this issue. Jim Wood, a long-time WBL Bulletin Editor and Columnist died July 27, 2003 in Washington Adventist Hospital after an extended illness. An article will appear in our next issue.

Bill Nucker, who was active in the fight to desegregate bridge, died the morning of Tuesday, August 19th from complications during an intestinal operation.

WBL BOARD MEMBER CHANGE

Jane Sturgis has resigned from the Board due to personal reasons. Rob Gunnell has been chosen by the Board to fill out the remainder of her term until the next Annual

PARTNERSHIPS AND CARPOOLS

Need a Partner or a Carpool for Unit Games or Tournaments?

Players who would like assistance can obtain help either on-line or by contacting one of the WBL's partnership coordinators or Don Berman, the carpool coordinator.

- (1) **On-line partnership desk.** The WBL has established an on-line partnership desk on its web site (www.washingtonbridgeleague.org). The WBL is the first unit in the country to do this. Sign up, indicate which events you are available for, and find out if other players are available for the games you wish to play in. Simply log on to the WBL website and click on the partnership desk. Please give it a try.
- (2) **Partnership coordinators.** For those who prefer assistance in person, three people have volunteered to help players find partners in advance of the unit game or sectional events. For the unit game, Barbara Shaw will assist players in Flights A/X (<u>BarbShaw@comcast.net</u>; 301-598-3339). Charity Sack will assist players in Flights B/C/D for the unit game, and all players for the sectionals (<u>charity@charitysack.com</u>; 703-963-7027). Please let them know as early as you can what game or events you would like to play in.
- (3) **On-line carpool notices.** Post your requests and look at others at the WBL website. To post requests, send an e-mail to the Web Master (don.berman@verizon.net). Include your name, when you need a ride (either a specific date or a general request, e.g., all unit gmes), and how to contact you (E-mail or phone numbers).
 - (4) Don Berman, carpool coordinator can also be contacted at 301-776-3581.

Good luck, and we look forward to seeing you on Thursday evenings and at the WBL sectionals.

Meeting and Elections. Anyone interested in running for the full two year term should plan on running at the next regular election which will be held in May, 2004.

OF NOTE

Stevie Wonder... that is, Steve Robinson was written up in *The Washington Post* in honor of his recent induction into the ACBL Hall of Fame. The article appeared in <u>Bob Levey's Washington</u> on Wednesday, August 27, 2003.

INTERSCHOLASTIC BRIDGE

The WBL is planning to establish an annual interscholatic bridge championship for high schools in the Washington area. We think this will help encourage more young people in the DC area to play duplicate bridge. The winning school will receive a prize from the WBL, and students on the winning team would be awarded trophies and earn the pportunity to play as partners with world and national champions from the Washington area. The WBL will provide teachers to help students develop their play-

ing skills, and will donate teaching materials, boards and bidding boxes to help after school bridge programs get underway.

We need help in identifying schools where a bridge club could get started when schools reopen in September. Let us know if you have children or grandchildren who may be interested in participating, if you know any high school students who may be interested in starting a club, or if you have any connection with local high school faculty members (such as math or computer science teachers) who could help sponsor a club. Also tell us if you would be interested in teaching or mentoring in an after-school bridge program.

If you can help, please e-mail any suggestions or call Dick Wegman, WBL President (aliweg@aol.com, 301-365-2228), Ron and Shirley Starr (r4starr@comcast.net, 301-365-1144), or Charity Sack (charity@charitysack.com, 301-585-5051).

BUILDING FUND?

The Washington Bridge League Board is considering starting a building fund. The

Laurel Bridge Club's Annual 'Van, the Man' Game

Saturday, October 4th is the date for this year's "Van, the Man" charity bridge game. Now in its 12th year, the bridge event is sponsored by the

Laurel Bridge Club, with lots of help from the Washington Bridge Center and many, many other supporters. Last year's game raised over \$8,200 for the Midnight Basketball League, which was begun by a Washington area bridge player, the late Van Standifer. All funds raised will directly support local operations of the League.

The event will be held at the Deerfield Run Community Center, located on Route 197 near Contee Road in Laurel. As always, there will be a silent auction, numerous raffles, the sale of expert partners, and of course a great bridge game. Doors will open at 6PM for a dinner of all-you-can eat lasagna (both vegetarian and meat), bread and salad. There will be great home-made desserts for sale throughout the evening. The sale of partners will begin at approximately 7:35 and the game will begin at about 8 PM. All of the proceeds from the food sales will be contributed to the Midnight Basketball League. This is a great opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of some disadvantaged young people.

Any contributions, cash or items for the silent auction, are greatly appreciated, and are tax-deductible. For further information, or to make a donation, please contact Rose Berman (301-776-3581) or Mary Dresser (301-776-5992).

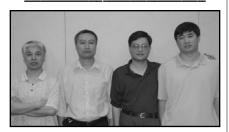
long term goal would be to own a building suitable for sectionals, unit games, club games and bridge classes.

The WBL has formed a building fund committee chaired by Steve Robinson. Steve would be glad to get input and suggestions.

ATTENTION: 2004 DIRECTORY IS COMING SOON

If you have any address changes or phone changes please submit them to the ACBL. You may mail your changes or e-mail your changes to them. We will be printing the information that we receive from the ACBL. If you do not submit your changes by December 15th, the information printed in the address directory may be incorrect. Thank you for your cooperation.

WBL MEMBERS WIN 1ST OVERALL OF THE FLIGHT B GNT WINNERS AT THE NATIONALS



Congratulations to Hailong Ao, Hualin Chen, JJ Wang, and Yi Zhong on winning the Flight B GNT event in the Long Beach NABC in July!! A full write-up of their experiences appears in the October/November 2003 issue of *District 6 TableTALK*.

Grand National Teams 2003-2004

It's time to get out to your local club and qualify to win a subsidized trip to New York! New York! at the Summer 2004 NABC to represent District 6 in the national finals of this grassroots competition.

The club qualification period begins in mid-October 2003 and extends through mid-April 2004. Because the District-level competition for some flights begins in February 2004, make sure you qualify early. However, you can go out and play as often as you want!!

Once again, the competition will contain four flights at the District level. The Open Flight is an open event and all players may enter, regardless of their master point holding; Flight A is limited to players with 0-5000 master points; Flight B is limited to players with 0-2000 master points; and Flight C is limited to Non-Life Masters with fewer than 500 master points. At the club level, the Open and A flights will be combined.

Master points awarded at the club level are half red—an easy way to earn colored points without traveling or changing your normal local playing habits. In the District level competition, the match awards are red and the overall awards are gold.

Remember, players qualify as individuals at the club level and may form new teams of qualified players for the District phase of the competition. What this means is that you can play with all of your friends at the club level no matter what their flight eligibility is and then form one or more teams and compete in one or more flights at the District level. So y'all come out and play!

Call your club manager to find out when the club is holding qualifying games. As club dates are made available to the District GNT Coordinator, they will be posted on the District 6 web site, www.districtsix.org.

We will be holding the first weekend of the District finals of Flights B and C at separate northern and southern sites; however they will be the same weekend. To start your planning process, the dates for the District competition are as follows:

 Open
 March 13-14
 April 24-25

 Flight A
 May 1-2
 May 15-16

 Flight B
 February 28-29
 March 13-14

 Flight C
 February 28-29
 March 13-14

All the information about pre-registration, and times will be in the sites December/January of District issue TableTALK. District level competition dates and sites and other pertinent information will be published in subsequent editions. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Rae Dethlefsen, District 6 GNT Coordinator, at 703-709-5205 or by e-mail at raed@erols.com.

Washington Bridge League's Board Member Assignments

for May, 2003 - May, 2004

Awards	Round Robin Coordinator Steve Robinson
Bulletin Liaison	Committee Chair Barb Doran Committee Members John Adams, Peter Boyd, Bill Cole, Earl Glickstein, Dave Ruderman, Charity Sack
Charity	SchedulingDick Wegman, Barb Doran,
Eileen Houghton (03) Directory Barbara Shaw Education Steve Forsythe Elections Barb Doran, Wei Bao	PartnershipsFred King, Charity Sack, Madge Gallant PrizesRosemary Marks VolunteersBen Laden
Elections Chair	Unit Game Co-ChairsBen Laden, Ron Zucker CaddiesKitty Gottfried Chief DirectorMichael Carroad Church LiaisonDick Wegman Hospitality — Unit Game .Kitty Gottfried Hospitality-Annual Meeting/ Holiday PartyKitty Gottfried, Nadine Wood, Millard Nachtwey ManagerMichael Carroad PartnershipsBarbara Shaw,
Barbara Shaw Player Achievement (Trophies) .Don Berman PublicityBarbara Shaw, Charity Sack RecorderDon Berman	Charity Sack, Madge Gallant Prizes

WBL Solvers' Club

Moderated by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to Darwin Afdahl who came in first with a score of 490. He wins a free entry to the Unit Game and will be invited to be on a future panel. Tied for second were Gareth Birdsall, Yi Zhong and Kathy Paramore with a score of 480. Tied for fifth were Jeff Watson, Elliot Grant and Dario Filiar with a score of 450. Tied for eighth were Fletcher Smoak, Fred Wagner, Millard Nachtwey, Rick Bingham, John P Glynn, Fred Steinberg and Mark Rosen with a score of 440. Tied for fifteenth were Matthew Haag, Craig Olson, Elliot Itkin, Natalie Aronsohn, Joe Lentz, Rob Graves, Ted Wilkinson and Mel Welles with a score of 430. Tied for twenty-second were Rich Ferrin, Lee Bauer, Rick Eissenstat, Georgianna Whipple, Jim Allen, George Lewis, Ravi Arulnandhy, Don Berman, Kieran Dyke, Nikola Tcholakov and Aimal Abbass with a score of 420. The average score of the 254 solvers was 347. The average score of the experts was 415.

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

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 and at tournaments or can send him a check for \$28.95 which includes \$3.95 for priority mail.

1) MPs, None Vulnerable You, South, hold:

♦4♥10642♦KJ3♣AQ753

SOUTH	WEST	<u>NORTH</u>	EAST
			3♦
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
????			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	Panelists	Solvers
Pass	100	6	63
3NT	90	6	105
4 lacklark	80	0	2
4♥	70	0	52
3♥	50	0	23
4♣	40	0	5
5♣	40	0	2
3♠	20	0	1

Partner has made a takeout double and the experts have voted for two choices. Pass the takeout double and play for penalties or bid game. If you pass, lead a spade and hope you beat them. If you can make game, hope to beat them more then the value of your game. Playing for game is more difficult. If partner has ♠KQJx♥Axx♠xx♣KJxx, 3NT is the only game that makes. If partner has **♦**xxxx♥AKJx♦xx♣KJx, you belong in 4♥ and if partner has ♠xxxx♥AQJ♠x♣KJxxx, 5♣ is the only game that makes. If there were only one game in the picture, the choice would be easy but with three possible games, passing for penalties becomes clear. If you beat them at least one trick, you beat all the pairs who get to the wrong game and go minus.

Five experts agree with me and play for penalties.

Roman: "Pass—My guess is that pass will work best unless we have a slam (300 vs. nothing, 500 vs. game). I'm leading my stiff spade, of course."

Lublin: "Pass—And get plus score. No guarantee we make game."

Adams: "Pass—-Assuming they have nine diamonds and we have eight hearts, that is 17 total tricks, and it looks right to bid. However, I have three Law modifiers; bad Hearts, KJx of Diamonds, and probable spade wastage. Only if we are making 6.4 do I think we have a better spot. Will take likely plus."

Elster: "Pass—All other bids have good chance of going minus, so I'll take my only chance for a 'sure' plus."

Cappelletti: "Pass—-And lead spade."

If you decide to pull partner's takeout double, use the Wolff rule — When 3NT is a possibility, bid 3NT.

Woolsey: "3NT—I believe the fifth club argues for declaring rather than defending, although passing is tempting. I don't like the idea of introducing the heart suit. A 4-3 fit would play awfully, and a 4-4 fit could easily be wrong."

Wallen: "3NT—-I have diamonds double stopped with a source of tricks. Hearts will likely break badly."

Hopkins: "3NT. I hope to use the Club suit as my main source of tricks along with my Diamond stoppers and a few major suit tricks from partner's hand. 4♥ could suffer if there is a 4-1 split."

Parker: "3NT—I have a good five-card suit, two stoppers in the opponent's suit and a very weak four-card major. It all sounds like notrump is the best bet for plus."

King: "3NT—Partner is in balancing seat, so this could be a big overbid, but with a double stop in diamonds it seems right to be aggressive."

Schwartz: "3NT—-With diamonds and hopefully spades onsides, I hope to make it even if we are light on HCP. Too short in diamonds for penalty pass with danger of them have a double fit. No way to safely investigating Hearts without getting too high."

When there is a choice between taking a small plus score and maybe getting to the wrong game, take the small plus.

2) MPsthey're Vulnerable. You, South, hold: $\triangle Q2 \lor A \lor A76 &AKQ10753$

-		-	
SOUTH	$\underline{\text{WEST}}$	NORTH	EAST
	Pass	Pass	2♠
2222			

3♠ and 4♣ are NOT valid answers and will be given 0 points.

Action	<u>Score</u>	<u>Panelists</u>	Solvers
3NT	100	7	47
3♣	80	2	19
5♣	50	1	33
Double	40	2	139
2NT	30	0	2
4NT	20	0	8
Pass	20	0	1
5NT	20	0	1
3♠	00	0	4

3♠, asking partner to bid 3NT with a spade stopper, is a perfect answer to this problem. But you're playing 3♠ as Michaels. A Michaels hand occurs more often than the solid suit hand. Wouldn't you like to play in 3NT if partner holds ♠QJ10x♥xx♦KQJx♣Qx opposite a typical Michaels hand such as Ax VKQ1032 ♦ xx AKJxx? You can't play 3NT if you have to bid $4 \clubsuit$. A jump to $4 \clubsuit$ showing a better hand than 3 vould also be a good answer. But, you're playing 4♣ as 'Leaping Michaels'. A jump to four-of-a-minor over a weak-two shows that minor and the unbid major but with extreme distribution, 4. shows ♠-♥KQJxxx♦x♣AKxxxx where 3NT is not a likely contract.

Seven experts say that if you can't ask partner to bid 3NT with a spade stopper, assume partner has some spade help and bid 3NT. So what if partner is short in spades and they run the first six spade tricks. 3NT would make more sense if you were in balancing seat. In balancing seat, you would know that West does not have four-card spade support. You could also escape even if you are off the first six spade tricks if East doesn't lead one. East might be afraid to lead from KJxxxxx. I would be much happier bidding 3NT if East were non vulnerable. There's too much chance that the weak-two opener has the AK of spades and that West will lead a spade. West knows that his partner has made a vulnerable weak-two.

Elster: "3NT—-Partner always has Jxx on this hand. Or LHO believes me and leads from his KOJxx of hearts."

On good days, partner has Jxx of spades. On bad days he has three little.

Lublin: "3NT—I make it if board has Jxx of spades. If board has 10xx, they have to work it out and it's a matchpoint bid."

Adams: "3NT—Too many good things can happen here. Might be cold. They might bid 4 , they might not lead spades, they might duck to preserve communication when dummy has just a doubleton spade, noting the value of my spade deuce in concealing opening leader's three-card spade holding. Best of all, this might be a good save against spades."

Cappelletti: "3NT—-The only question is will I sit for double."

Hopkins: "—-3NT. Bid what I think I can make. I only lose when our combined hands don't produce a Spade stopper and they let me play in 3NT. I have been rescued before when LHO has four Spades and bids 4..."

Suppose LHO bids 4. Are you going to be in a better position?

Woolsey: "3NT—-If I'm not allowed to ask for a stopper, I'll simply bid one."

Roman: "3NT—Maybe they can't run the spade suit...maybe they won't lead one."

Two experts violate the "Don't double with shortness in the unbid major rule". If you double, you might as well jump to directly to 5.

Wallen: "Double—I have sympathy for a direct 3NT call. Partner may have a partial stopper, or 3NT may be a good save when partner is broke. I'll double hoping to extract more information."

King: "Double—If partner bids the expected 2NT, I can bid 3NT and make it harder for east to lead a spade, I hope."

If partner has a weak heart hand, he probably won't pass when you double and then bid 3NT.

If you don't want to gamble on 3NT and you can't violate the takeout double rule, then some number of clubs is your only other option.

One expert jumps to $5 \clubsuit$.

Parker: "5♣—3NT seems right if you feel the vibes from East that he may not have his bid. On the other hand it would be silly to lose the first six tricks when you can just claim 5♣ if partner has any diamond or heart cards and an entry. Sometimes you just go plus and move on."

One expert agrees with me and bids the minimum number of clubs. If someone bids over 3.4, you should be OK. If 3.4 ends the

auction, it could be right.

Schwartz: "3..—Due to the poor methods, I am fixed. I can't bid 5.. off two likely spade losers. With them vulnerable, I can't play for their spades not to run. Maybe someone will find another bid."

There's a big difference between direct and passout seat. In passout seat, you can assume that your partner has a stopper and balance with 3NT.

Play cuebids as Michaels. It comes up more often.

3) MPs You're Vulnerable. You, South, Hold: \$\Delta 110864 \Pi \text{K}104 \Phi - \Pi \text{K}8653\$

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST Pass
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
Action	<u>Score</u>	Panelists	<u>Solvers</u>
Double	100	4	81
Pass	90	6	138
3♠	70	2	28
3NT	20	0	3
4♦	20	0	2
4♣	20	0	2
4 🖍	20	0	1

You are in balancing position since the opponents are going to stop in $3 \spadesuit$. This is different from 1♠ - 2♠ where opener is unlimited. Do you act over 3♦? When in doubt, compete when short in the opponent's suit and pass when long. Short is two or fewer. With Qx, you could treat as long. You are definitely short so it's right to act. Partner won't count on you for much since you're a passed hand. Six experts take action. Three of them agreeing with me hoping partner has good diamonds. If partner doesn't have diamonds, he could have **♦**KQxx♥QJxx♦xxx♣Qx and with good breaks you can make four spades or **A**x♥Axx♦xxxx♣AQxxx and with good breaks you can make 5.

Lublin: "Double—Because partner can't hang me and might have hearts but not spades."

Wallen: "Double—-Having already passed, partner will know I'm doubling on distribution. Partner is marked with values and didn't bid 2♥. Assuming partner has at most eight red cards, we are guaranteed a fit.

I'd pass at IMPs."

Roman: "Double—-Have you seen the 3rd-seat, white-on-red preempts these days? Partner may really have them. I'll bid 3♠ over 3♥. of course."

Two experts reopen with $3 \spadesuit$ giving up possible penalties. If the opponents end up in $4 \spadesuit$, partner could lead a disastrous spade. $3 \spadesuit$ works when partner is 3-3-4-3 but holds bad diamonds.

Adams: "3 .——Can't hope for partner to bid. Glad I'm a passed hand. Partner has a lot of inferences available and should land us in the right spot."

Parker: "3♠——Partner will not be able to balance since he will be long in diamonds. My distribution asks me to play, not defend. Double is silly since I have no defense and partner is a passed hand. If they double loudly I will run to clubs."

Six experts pass.

Elster: "Pass—Lousy suits, mediocre defense."

Woolsey: "Pass—If partner has a penalty double, he can make one without my help (yes, double of 3 ◆ by him would be penalties). Otherwise it's a guess, but flying in blind at the three-level without any particular reason to expect a fit is pretty scary."

If you double and partner removes it, you are guaranteed at least one eight-card fit. If partner has a balanced 11-count, don't you want to compete holding two five-card suits?

Cappelletti: "Pass—Partner will have a chance to act over 3 ♦."

Hopkins: "Pass—Partner can look at his Diamond holding and decide what to do. Hint, having three or four small is the call to action. Whenever I try to prebalance with a double in this position, my partner has something like a 3-3-4-3 pattern, passes for penalties, and they scrape it home."

If partner holds $AKQx \bigvee QJxx \bigwedge xxx AQxx$, he knows that you are short in diamonds but didn't take any action. That points to you having extreme weakness. Letting the opponents play in $3 \bigwedge$ is not going to be a good score.

King: "Pass—Call me chicken, but I don't want to double with such disparity in length between my majors, I don't think the spade suit is good enough to bid and I don't want to risk a -200."

Schwartz: "Pass—Certainly sounds like partner is trapping so will give him a chance to double. Can't see doubleing myself with imperfect distribution and only seven HCPs. It has happened before that they opened 2 ◆ with close to an opening bid and its their hand."

If partner bids $3 \, \nabla$, you can bid $3 \, \blacktriangle$ and show spades and clubs.

Pass when long in the opponent's suit, compete when short.

4) IMPs, NoneVulnerable. You, South, hold:

^-♥KQ10932♦Q43*****K1054

<u>SOUTH</u>	$\underline{\text{WEST}}$	<u>NORTH</u>	$\underline{\text{EAST}}$
		1 🖍	Dbl
Rdbl	Pass	2♦	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	Pass
????			

Action	<u>Score</u>	Panelists	Solvers
Double	100	6	144
Pass	60	3	31
3♦	40	1	23
3♥	30	2	39
3NT	20	0	6
$4 \mathbf{V}$	20	0	11

2♦ shows a weak diamond-spade distributional hand. Fewer than 13 HCPs. If you have a good diamond-spade hand, pass the redouble and bid diamonds at your next opportunity. Since partner has a weak hand with at least 5-5 in spades and diamonds, there leaves little room for hearts. This is a semi misfit hand. Passing 2♦ is the best way to get a plus score. West balanced with 3. and we have four of them. Remember, West did not bid clubs directly over the double so he shouldn't have more then four. Partner can't be void in clubs, since he would surely bid again. The opponents are at best in an eight-card club fit and could be in a sevencard club fit. I know that they could make 3♣ doubled, but the odds are they will go down. You have hearts behind the takeout doubler and a void in partner's first-bid suit.

Five experts agree with me. Make them pay.

Lublin: "Double—-Why did I pass partner's 2♦ bid? I would certainly double now."

Elster: "Double—I'd have bid 2♥ after partner's 2♦ bid and now could double 3♣

to show my hand and let partner judge whether to pass or bid on. I guess I double, but feel a bad result coming my way."

Wallen: "Double—-Having failed to bid hearts on the previous round, I'm not going to introduce them now. Where are their tricks? This auction may even induce a trump lead from partner!"

Cappelletti: "Double—-But why did I not bid 2♥ over 2♦?"

Parker: "Double—Partner can bid 3 ♦ with great distribution and long diamonds. This is a misfit for everyone, so I will double and start hearts. BTW I would never redouble with a six-card suit. How can I ever show it unless I start with 2 ♥?"

Three experts are wimps.

Woolsey: "Pass—We don't have a game (at least so I decided when I passed out $2 \spadesuit$). We can probably defeat $3 \clubsuit$, but the odds on doubling are very wrong. The fate of $3 \spadesuit$ is uncertain. Thus, pass is the percentage action."

Roman: "Pass—Did I really bid this way to this point? I would've bid 2♥, but partner has a bad hand, so I'm not willing to wheel out the heart suit at the three-level."

Schwartz: "Pass—Looks like both sides have eight trumps, so no need to compete."

Three experts let West off the hook.

Hopkins: "3 ♦ —-Partner shows a minimum distributional two-suiter (such as ★KQxxxx♥x ♦ AJxxx♣x). I could conceivably get +300 against 3 ♣ doubled, but most likely is +100 or -470. I expect to have a good play for 3 ♦ and I am going to give them one more chance to compete."

King: "3 ♥——I owe partner a bid and I can't pass up a suit this good."

Adams: "3♥—-Who knows? I have a good suit, and a fit for Diamonds. That should protect me. LHO is probably long in Spades and short in Diamonds. 3♣ might have trouble finding tricks on a trump lead, but on a non-trump lead we will be hard pressed to defeat it. Not even sure partner has a club to lead."

After passing $2 \blacklozenge$, partner is going to think you are crazy. Is partner supposed to pass $3 \blacktriangledown$ with a singleton?

If the opponents don't make a doubled contract once in a while, you're not doubling

enough. Holding four trumps is a good reason to double them.

5) MPs None Vulnerable. You, South, hold: AJ1043 ♥ 2 ♦ K43 AO32

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
		1♦	Pass
1 🖍	Pass	2♦	Pass
????			
Action	<u>Score</u>	Panelists	Solvers
2♥	100	1	0
3♥	90	6	25
4♥	60	1	9
3♣	50	3	186
4NT	40	1	8
5♦	30	0	4
$4 \blacklozenge$	30	0	3
3♦	30	0	7
6♦	30	0	2
5♣	20	0	1
3♠	20	0	1
4♣	20	0	1
2♠	20	0	3
3NT	20	0	4

This is an easy problem. First you want to find out if partner has three spades. If partner does not have three spades, you want to show diamond support. If partner has heart strength you want to play in 3NT, otherwise you want to play in diamonds. So what is the best way to elicit the most information from partner? 2♥! 2♥ in this situation is forcing and asks partner to describe his hand. Usually the cheapest bid is the most efficient way to ask partner to describe his hand. You would bid 2♥ as fourth suit forcing if the auction went $1 \blacklozenge -1 \spadesuit -2 \clubsuit$. Why not bid $2 \vee$ here? Over $2 \vee$, opener can bid 2 to show three spades, bid 2NT to show stoppers in clubs and hearts, bid 3♣ to show a 6-4 diamond-club hand, bid 3 ♦ to show extra diamonds or raise hearts with four. Over 2 , you can try for a spade slam by splintering and you start at a lower level. Over 2NT and 34, you can bid 3 ♦ setting up a diamond slam auction and you start at a lower level. Using 3. as the artificial force is very awkward. You won't be able to show your diamond support below 3NT. Partner will bid 3NT over 3♣ with a smattering of strength in clubs and hearts assuming he does not have three-card spade support. Suppose you hold a game-forcing semi-solid six-card spade suit such as ♠KJ10xx♥xx♠Kxx♣AK. Since jumping to 3♠ over 2♠ is invitational, you have to create a force first. If you bid 2♥ as the artificial force, you will be able to show your six spades and get possible two-card support below 3NT.

Three experts bid 3♣. But does partner have ♠x♥Qxx♠AQxxxx♣KJx where 6♠ is cold and 3NT might go down? Does he have ♠x♥AKQ♠QJxxxx♣Jxx where 3NT is where you belong? Partner will bid 3NT over 3♣ holding both hands.

Lublin: "3♣—-And over 3NT bid 4♦ and drive it into slam. More than likely into diamond slam although we could have grand."

Wallen: "3♣—-I'll bid 4♦ over a 3NT call from partner. Partner should get a good picture of my hand."

When I show partner diamond support at the three-level and he bids 3NT, maybe you don't belong higher.

All partner will know is that you have a good hand with diamond support.

Roman: "3♣—-An excellent example of why I like to play 3♦ here as forcing."

Six experts bid 3♥. If it were clear what 3♥ meant, 3♥ would be a good bid. Even the experts are not 100% sure on whether it's a splinter or natural. It's not very good to make a bid that partner might not understand in a constructive auction. 3♥ should be a splinter. Jumps when the lower bid is forcing are splinters, showing shortness, trump support and interest in slam. But doesn't 3♥ leads to 3NT when partner has ♠ Kxx ♥ KQ10♠ Axxxxx ♣x?

Cappelletti: "3 ♥—-Splinter."

Parker: "3♥——Splinter. If 3♥ shows 5-5 in the majors I just forgot another convention. I assume 4♥ is RKC for Diamonds. I need to show my fit and a good hand. If 3♥ is 5-5 I would bid 3♣ and hate it."

Elster: "3♥——Which I believe is a splinter. If not I bid 3♣. This hand will produce slam opposite lots of minimums - so let's explore."

Suppose partner is on the wrong wavelength and thinks that $3 \, \checkmark$ is natural and raises to $4 \, \checkmark$. You must assume that $4 \, \checkmark$ is some sort of diamond cuebid or diamond RKC and bid accordingly.

Woolsey: "3 ♥—-Looks like a model splinter to me. Of course 2 ♥ should be forcing, so 3 ♥ is a splinter."

King: "3♥——A splinter. We could easily have a slam in Diamonds and I need to show my shape to partner to get that message across."

Schwartz: "3♥——When partner shows six trumps, my splinter should guarantee only three, but anyway it's the best way to investigate slam or the right game."

Hopkins: "4NT—I am going slamming unless partner has no Key Cards. Ace six times in Diamonds and either black King gives me a play for slam."

4NT as RKC Blackwood? If you want to be a serious bridge player, you should learn to play Kickback where one-overthe-trump-suit at the four-level asks for keycards. If spades are trumps, 4NT works perfectly. If diamonds are trumps, 4♥ gives you the same room as 4NT does over 4♠ when spades are trumps and you don't get to slam off two keycards because partner's answer was too high. In this situation, if partner has one keycard, he'll respond 5♠ to 4NT and you won't be able to ask partner if he has the queen.

I like the following bid. You'll get to 6 ♦ if partner has at least two of the three missing keys and you'll play in 5 ♦ if you're off a keycard and the queen.

Adams: "4♥—-RKC for Diamonds. Second choice is 2♥, forcing, but most partners do not really get this bid so I avoid it without a little something in Hearts. Wishing I had a way to splinter, but I do not, so just take the practical approach. 2♥

also risks getting raised to 3♥, leaving me an ugly followup, including losing kickback. 3♣ I really hate, because 3NT will be next and I will have no clue what to do. 4♦ is reasonable, but assumes Partner would make a better captain. 6♦ rates to have a play."

The point I want to make here is that

2 ★ should be the artificial force here. Over 2 ♥, responder can get a more natural response from opener while staying lower. If you can bid 2 ♥ as fourth suit forcing to game holding AQJxx ♥x ♦ Axx Axx after 1 ♦ -1 A -2 Axx to find three-card spade support, then you can bid 2 ♥ as an artificial ask in this auction.

SOLVERS' SCORES

John Adams	Pass	3NT	3♠	3♥	4♥	360
Mike Cappelletti	Pass	3NT	Pass	Dbl	3♥	480
Marvin Elster	Pass	3NT	Pass	Dbl	3♥	480
Robbie Hopkins	3NT	3NT	Pass	3♦	4NT	370
Fred King	3NT	Dbl	Pass	3♥	3♥	360
Glenn Lublin	Pass	3NT	Dbl	Dbl	3♣	440
Steve Parker	3NT	5♣	3♠	Dbl	3♥	390
Steve Robinson	Pass	3♣	Dbl	Dbl	2♥	470
Jeff Roman	Pass	3NT	Dbl	Pass	3♣	400
Alan Schwartz	3NT	3♣	Pass	Pass	3♥	420
Tom Wallen	3NT	Dbl	Dbl	Dbl	3♣	370
Kit Woolsey	3NT	3NT	Pass	Pass	3♥	440

WBL Solvers' Club's New Problems

November/December 2003

1) MPs, None Vul. You South hold:

AQ82/**∀**J5432/**♦**54/**♣**J9

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
_	_	1NT	PASS
2♣	PASS	2♦	PASS
????			

2) I MPs, None Vul. You South hold:

♦ AKQ872/**♥** A3/**♦** QJ103/9

SOUTH	WEST	<u>NORTH</u>	EAST
1 🛦	PASS	1NT	PASS
?????			

3) MPs, None Vul. You South hold:

♦K4/♥AKQ10985/**♦**A3/**♣**K9

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
_	PASS	PASS	PASS
?????			

4) MPs, Both Vul. You South hold:

♦8/♥9/♦AQ1032/♣AK8765

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
?????			

5) I MPs, Both Vul. You South hold:

 $\blacktriangle AKQ54/\blacktriangledown Q2/ \blacktriangle AK54/\clubsuit 54$

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 🖍	PASS	2♣(GF)	PASS
2♦	PASS	2 🖍	PASS
????			

Return answers by October 23 to:

Steve Robinson

2891 S. Abingdon St #A2, Arlington VA, 22206 robinswr@erols.com

2003 Trophy Race Standings

www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Updated by our Webmaster, Don Berman

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The Lovenberg Race is open to all WBL members; the Izzy Cohen Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 1500 masterpoints; the Tubbs Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year as a Non-Life Master; the Woolridge Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 20 masterpoints; the Machlin Race includes only those points won in senior events at the five WBL Sectional Tournaments.

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

This list is up to date through August 20, 2003 (not including KOs or RR). All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

	j	Lovenberg
1		
2	124.83	Leo LaSota
3	93.04	John Adams
4	89.01	Alfred Steinberg
5	88.05	
6	70.29	Fred King
7	68.90	Lloyd Rawley
8	68.32	Barbara Shaw
9	64.79	Mark Shaw
10	64.26	John Lawrence
11	61.11	Charity Sack
12	58.37	
13	56.87	Richard Wegman
14	56.87	Ellen Klosson
15	55.68	Charleen Brand
16	54.96	David Ruderman
17	53.09	William Cole
18	51.72	Andrew Gofreed
19	51.35	Warren Kaufman
20	49.97	William Hacker
21	49.74	•
22		
23	47.85	Earl Glickstein

45.81 Jim Houghton

43.64 Stephen Swearingen

25

Izzy Cohen

1	68.90	Lloyd Rawley
2	64.26	John Lawrence

Charity Sack 3 61.11

4 49.97 William Hacker 5 49.74 James Geist

42.41 Charles Young Jr 7 Kitty Gottfried 39.97

8 39.40 Andrew Kaufman

9 35.17 **Kevin Barnes** 10 35.11 Robert Ellis

11 32.95 Alice Wegman

> 31.42 Vincent Wilmot Jr

13 31.32 Janet Dence 29.67 Joel Miller 14

15 29.48 Steven Sacks

Tubbs

1 35.17 **Kevin Barnes** 2 29.48 Steven Sacks 3 24.16 Ellen Rosenthal 4 24.15 Martin Reed 5 23.53 John Lowe III 6 22.88 Neal Rosenthal

19.61 Mark Rosen 8 19.32 Bruce Bromberg

9 19.26 William Gill 10 18.63 Suzanne Abrams

Woolridge

22.88 Neal Rosenthal 1 2 10.35 Jean Agenbroad 3 8.72 Cielle Block 4

8.72 Rachelle Sladoff

5 8.66 William Kingery Jr 7.21 James Andre

6 7 5.32 Ron Starr

8 4.44 Lily Andre Kathleen O'Toole 9 3.80

10 3.80 David Mead

Machlin

1 5.88 Audrey Marbach 2 4.30 Alice Miller

3 4.30 Eugene Davidson 4 3.92 David Wakefield

5 3.88 Juline Glaz

6 3.88 Daniel Shankle Jr 3.68 7 Edward Alexander

8 3.68 Donald Jacobs

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UNIT GAME + WBL V UNIT GAME A THURSDAY NIGHT

SCHEDULE

All Games held at Christ the King Church

October 2......Club Appreciation Swiss Teams October 9......Club Appreciation Pairs

October 16......WBL Sectional

October 23Stratified Club Championship

October 30.....Stratified GNTeams Qualifying

November 6.....NVBA Sectiona

November 13......Stratified BAM Teams Club Championship

November 20.....StrataFlighted Unit Championship

November 27...... ••• CLOSED for Thanksgiving •••

December 4......WBL Sectional

December 11MABC STaC/Holiday Party

December 18Stratified GNTeams Qualifying

December 25•••CLOSED for Christmas•••

January 1...... ◆ • • CLOSED for New Year's Day • • •

January 8......WBL Sectional

~ * • • • ~

Newcomer, Novice, and Intermediate

7:15pm.....Free Duplicate Mini-Lesson 7:30pm.....Bridge

Call Frances Burke at 301-384-6103 for info on Newcomer Classes and Games

UNIT GAME PARTNERS GUARANTEED

To find a partner before the game, contact Barbara Shaw: barbshaw@comcast.net, 301-598-3339, or Charity Sack: charity@charitysack.com, 703-963-7027. Please call at least 2 days before game time. ...Or log on to the WBL's new Partnership Desk Online at: www. WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

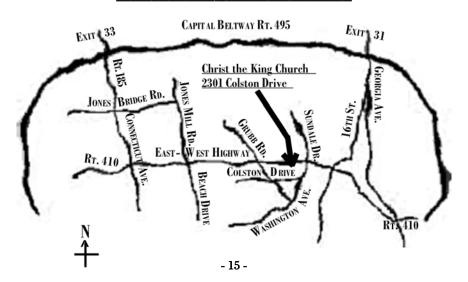
UNIT GAME CARPOOL AVAILABLE

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.

GAME IS TO START PROMPTLY AT 7:30PM

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COMITTEE ACTION XLIII

Part I

by Rich Colker, rcolker@worldnet.att.nat

In 2003 the International Team Trials were almost appeal free. Almost, that is, except for one case which, oddly enough, occurred on the first day, in the very first session of the opening round-robin. The case, which evoked a good deal of discussion among appeals aficionados, illustrates a couple of instructive points. Here's what happened (note: screens in use).

Bd: 3 Dlr: South Vul: E/W NORTH ♠ KQ65 K5 K762 ♣ K109 WEST EAST 42 AJ3 874 AQJ32 J985 AQ4 **4** 65 ♣ AJ84 SOUTH ♠ 10987 1096 103 ♣ Q732 **SOUTH** WEST **NORTH** EAST Pass Pass 1NT(1) Dbl(2)2. $2 \spadesuit (3)$ Pass 2NT(4) Pass

(1) 12-14 HCP

3♥

- (2) A good hand (14+ HCP or better), not necessarily balanced
- (3) Intended as a transfer to hearts

All Pass

- (4) Undiscussed but intended as a constructive game move
- 3♥ made four, +170 for E/W. The Director was called at the end of the auction

(before the opening lead) when E/W discovered that the 2 hid had been explained differently on the two sides of the screen. South told West that 2 showed clubs and a higher suit but might also be the start of a scramble (N/S's actual agreement). North told East that 2 was simply clubs and a higher suit, leaving out the part about the scramble. Now that may seem like a fairly unimportant difference but not to this E/W pair, who played that an opponent's suit was known all bids were natural but when no suit was known "system on" applied, as if the doubler had opened 1NT himself. Since West knew none of South's suits for certain he thought his 2♦ bid was a transfer to hearts. But East, who "knew" that South held clubs for certain, thought West's 2♦ bid was natural.

Another problem for E/W was that they had not discussed what 2NT meant after a transfer in this situation. If East had opened 1NT and rebid 2NT over West's transfer it would have shown a good hand with threecard support. But as East might have doubled 1NT with a source of tricks of his own might he not refuse to accept a transfer into a suit in which he held a singleton or a weak doubleton and bid 2NT hoping to be able to take eight tricks rather than play in a weak six- or seven-card fit? Being suspicious of East's (undiscussed) 2NT bid, at the end of the auction West passed the note with his explanation of his 2♦ bid ("intended as transfer but undiscussed") under the screen so that North would know the correct meaning of the bid in case East had misexplained it. When East passed a note back saying "not a transfer, we know one of their suits!" West realized that they had been given different explanations and called the Director.

The Director's ruling was based in large part on two sections of the Conditions of Contest which read:

Requirement to Know Own System. Players are expected to know their system, especially early in the bidding. If it is determined that the opponents have been disadvantaged by ambiguous or differing explanations, score adjustments may be applied.

Screens. When a contradiction between information provided on the two sides of the screen on the same call is apparent, ANY REASONABLE doubt that harm was done will be resolved in favor of the non-offenders in determining a score adjustment.

He ruled that E/W were damaged by the different explanations; with a correct explanation East would have known that $2 \spadesuit$ was a transfer and bid $2 \blacktriangledown$, after which West would either have simply bid game (3NT) or at least invited it with 2NT (and East would have accepted). The contract was therefore changed to $4 \blacktriangledown$ made four, +620 for E/W.

N/S appealed the Director's ruling and made several points they believed were relevant. First, they said that using 24 as a scramble when a weak notrump is doubled is not an uncommon practice and E/W should have been aware of this possibility even though North neglected to mention it. Second, they thought the difference between the explanations on the two sides of the screen was not really that significant. And third (and the main thrust of their appeal), they said that West's non-forcing 3♥ bid was unduly conservative after a 2NT bid that, discussed or not, must have shown a good hand of some sort—one which, at the very least, would have its own source of tricks so that East could hope to take eight (or nearly eight) tricks even opposite a varborough with five hearts. Thus, E/W should still have reached game (either 4♥ or 3NT) and it was West's 3♥ bid which was responsible for their not getting there-not the different explanations.

When asked by the Committee about their methods after their weak notrump was doubled N/S said that had South passed the

double it would have forced North to redouble, after which South could show various one-suiters. E/W said they had the same bidding agreements in the present auction as they had after their strong 1NT opening was interfered with. East's double normally showed a strong notrump or better (14+ HCP, balanced) but an unbalanced hand was possible. The latter meant that some continuations of the auction-like East's 2NT or new suit bid-had meanings which E/W had not discussed. For example, had East opened 1NT his new suit in response to a transfer would have shown a pre-acceptance with shortness in the bid suit. But in the present auction a new suit should theoretically be natural and deny a fit. Similarly, East's 2NT bid here did not necessarily show a good balanced hand with a three-card fit as it would have if East had opened 1NT.

Finally, West admitted that his 3♥ bid was an error. He suspected from East's undiscussed 2NT bid that something had gone awry (East would not spring a bid like that on him when a straightforward encouraging 3♥ bid was available), but even so, he realized that East's 2NT showed a good hand of some sort and that E/W should reach game given his hand. However, he failed to appreciate that when he bid 3♥ intending to show his suit and give East a choice of contracts it would be interpreted as a signoff with a weak hand and long hearts. East said that had N/S explained their agreement properly he would never have bid 2NT, which he intended as constructive with his excellent diamond fit since 3NT was still possible opposite as little as king-sixth of diamonds and out (remember, East thought 2♦ was natural); he would have accepted the transfer and bid 2♥ with his three small hearts. West would then have either bid 3NT or 2NT (and East would have bid game) and the problem would never have happened.

Okay, those are the facts. Decide how you would adjudicate this case and I'll be back next time to explain what the Committee did and offer my own opinion.

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BEST LEADS AGAINST NOTRUMP

by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

When you lead an honor against notrump you want to get the best possible signal from your partner. In order to get the best possible signal, your partner has to know what you have. (x) represents one or more spot cards.

Lead the Ace from AKx or longer. This will get partner to signal encouragement with the Queen and discouragement with the Jack. From AK109(x), you want partner to encourage with the Queen and discourage with the Jack.

Lead the King as the power lead. Partner plays an honor if he has one, otherwise partner gives count. From AKJ109(x) lead the King. Partner plays the Queen if he has it otherwise partner gives count. You want to be able to run the suit if declarer has Qx. Lead the King from AKQ10(x) to get the Jack or count. Lead the K from KQJ109 to get count or get partner to unblock with the Ace. Lead the King from KQ109(x) and get the Jack from partner.

Lead the Queen to get attitude for the Jack. KQ10(x), KQ9(x) and AKQ(x) are sequences where you would lead the Queen. You want partner to encourage with the jack or a higher honor. If you lead the Queen and follow with the Jack that shows length and partner is supposed to unblock with the Ace If you lead the Queen and follow with the King that shows shortness and partner is not supposed to unblock with the Ace.

Lead the Jack to get attitude for the 10. KQJ(x), QJ(x), AQJ(x) are sequences where you would lead the Jack. You want partner to encourage with 10 or a higher honor. You have to be careful when leading the Jack from KQJ since partner will not know that you have the King. If you lead the Jack and follow with the 10 that shows length and partner is supposed to unblock a higher honor. If you lead the Jack and follow with the Queen that shows shortness and partner is not supposed to unblock with a higher honor.

Lead the 10 as a standard Jack lead. AJ10(x), KJ10(x) or J109(x) are sequences where you would lead the 10.

Lead the 9 as a standard 10 lead. A109(x), K109(x), Q109(x), AQ109(x), AK109(x) and 1098(x) are sequences where you would lead the 9.

Lead the 8 from 98(x), 1087(x), KJ98(x) or AQ98(x). Second or fourth best.

UNIT GAME VINNERS

	November 7, 2002
Stra	tified Club Championship(62 Pairs)
1	Hy Chansky - David Popper385.82
2	Michael Richey - Lloyd Rawley 376.65
	tified Pairs 0-200(12 Pairs)
1	William Norlander - Chuck Zurawski 62.50
2	Timothy Stewart - Alexander Vortmeyer 61.50
_	NOVEMBER 14, 2002 RATA FLIGHTED CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP A/X
<u>Sti</u>	RATA FLIGHTED CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP
	A/X(42 Pairs)
1	Bryan Coleman - Fred King
2	Glenn Lublin - Eugene Kales279.17
1	B/C/D
2	Benjamin Stauss - Hy Chansky 109.00 Joana Da Silva - David Harris 105.50
	tified Pairs 0-200(14 Pairs)
]	William Norlander - Chuck Zurawski 71.00
2	Joan Fitzpatrick - Gail Morgenweck .67.00
_	November 21, 2002
	WBL Sectional
Thu	rsday Evening A/X Pairs
1	Bob Kerchner - Kenneth Katzner334.40
2	Helene Bauman - Vincent Wilmot Jr 319.90
Thu	rsday Evening B/C Pairs(64 Pairs)
1	Mark Rosen - Marlys Moholt 110.43
2	Keith Crank - Gregory Campbell 109.50
Thu	rsday Evening WBL 0-200 Pairs(14 Pairs)
1	David Bort - Walter Mitnick78.50
2	Joan Anderson - Gwendolyn Harllee .74.00
	DECEMBER 12, 2002 ual Holiday Board-a-Match Teams .(51 Teams)
	ual Holiday Board-a-Match Teams .(51 Teams)
1	Leo LaSota - Alan Kleist - Daniel Koch -
	William Kingery Jr
2	David Ruderman - Alfred Steinberg - David
D	Epstein - Thavendran Arulnandhy 17.00 ket A
Drac 1	Leo LaSota - Alan Kleist
2	John Adams - Clyde Kruskal
Brac	ket B(24 Pairs)
1	Charity Sack - John Lawrence 58.93%
2	Charity Sack - John Lawrence58.93% Bill Gainer - Dolores Rioux58.63%
Brac	ket C
1	Steven Forsythe - Eugene Fisher 101.00 John Evans - Ruth Schrider
2	
Rrac	John Evans - Ruth Schrider
	eket D(28 Pairs)
1	ket D(28 Pairs) David Epstein - Thavendran
1	Arulnandhy
	Arulnandhy
1 2	ket D (28 Pairs) David Epstein - Thavendran 63.26% William Norlander - Chuck Zurawski 61.74% DECEMBER 19, 2002
1 2 Gran	David Epstein - Thavendran Arulnandhy
1 2	David Epstein - Thavendran Arulnandhy
1 2 Gran	David Epstein - Thavendran Arulnandhy
1 2 Gran	David Epstein - Thavendran Arulnandhy

UNIT GAME VINNERS

DECEMBER 26, 2002 Strata-Flighted A/X Pairs(28 Pairs) Earl Glickstein - Robert Bell 156.50 Eugene Kales - Alfred Steinberg . . . 154.50 Strata-Flighted B/C/D Pairs(20 Pairs) Barry James - Diane Jaworiwsky . . . 105.00 Stratified Pairs 0-200(8 Pairs) Wilma Middleton - Lillian Howard . .40.00 James Scott - Ruth Freedman39.50 **JANUARY 2, 2003** WBL SECTIONAL Thursday Evening A/X Pairs(70 Pairs) Margot Hennings - Prahalad Rajkumar 298.88 Robert Hartmann - Ronald Spieker .286.46 Thursday Evening B/C Pairs (58 Pairs) Jon Ranhand - Donald Goldman ...140.14 Kitty Gottfried - Eileen Houghton . .138.21 Thursday Evening WBL 0-200 Pairs ...(16 Pairs)) Joan Fitzpatrick - Gail Morgenweck 105.64 2 Julie Oethinger - Joan Donoghue 99.50 JANUARY 9, 2003 Strata-Flighted A/X Pairs(41 Pairs) Clyde Kruskal - Rossi Lindstrom . . .282.55 Ellen Klosson - Ellen Cherniavsky .268.91 Strata-Flighted B/C/D Pairs(34 Pairs) Kevin Barnes - Robert Henry 173.50 Kitty Gottfried - Rosemary Marks . . 157.50 Stratified Pairs 0-200(14 Pairs) Robert Sturm - Thomas Marcelino . . . 90.50 Timothy Stewart - Alexander Vortmeyer .77.00 JANUARY 16, 2003 Strata-Flighted A/X Pairs(30 Pairs) David Ruderman - Robert Klein ...162.50 Alan Kleist - Andrew Kaufman 159.50 Strata-Flighted B/C/D Pairs(30 Pairs) Joana Da Silva - David Harris 160.50

Kitty Gottfried - Reginald Beard, Jr. 159.00

Keith Crank - Gregory Campbell . . . 171.50

Eric Nash - Wilma Middleton58.00

JANUARY 23, 2003

Strata-Flighted A/X Pairs (48 Pairs)

Strata-Flighted B/C/D Pairs(36 Pairs)

Christopher Miller - Thavendran

KITTY PICKETT

An Appreciation

by Sylvia Levy

Kitty Pickett died recently at 96, an event she would applaud. Her last years were spent in blindness and her last

two, unknowing. This was intolerable for a woman of her vigor. She has left behind many memories for a lot of us.



Kitty ran the Silver Spring Duplicate Club

for thirty years, and her players will tell you that it was the best game in town. It did not get that way by accident. Kitty was, well, "Kitty," the reigning monarch of her world. Her graciousness to newcomers hooked them for all time. I was one of them. Her walls were lined with pictures of winners, and her food table replete with goodies. At the head of it all was the gracious Southern hostess with the Tallulah Bankhead voice, ruling with an iron hand and a carefully modulated voice (to hide the stutter few knew she had). When her two games a week came to a close, we all felt that something major had gone from our lives - as indeed it had.

No talk of Kitty would be complete without mentioning her beloved dogs – ones we all knew and some of us loved. There was Val, a Weimeraner, Cinder, a miniature Schnauzer, and Georgia, a Yorkie who spent our sessions on my lap. In her retirement, her family got her a Jack Russell Terrier, whom she named J.R. He was very much like his owner – sweet, feisty, full of fun, and hardy as they come. A real dog for a real human.

Even people who had not played at Kitty's game for 20 years still asked me about her. She left her mark on all of us.

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... Unit Game Winners continued

JANUARY 30, 2003
JANUARY 30, 2003
1 Ann Lindley - Kenneth Berg - Robert Ellis - Ralph Turner
2 Glenn Lublin - Barbara Shaw - Jeff Roman
- Richard Allison
FEBRUARY 6, 2003
NVBA SECTIONAL
A/X Pairs
2 Ed Lewis - Charles Yaple236.59
B/C Pairs(49 Pairs)
1 John Glynn - Ben Laden
2 Robert Henry - Kevin Barnes169.00 Stratified Pairs 200/100(10 Pairs) at WBL
1 Albert Leon - Millie Reizenstein 67.38
2 David Bort - Walter Mitnick57.90
FEBRUARY 13, 2003
GNT A/X Qualifying
1 Louis Stuckey - George Hershman - Lynn Jones - Joseph Trapani
2 Steve Robinson - William Cole - Earl
Glickstein - Steven Parker
GNT B/C Qualifying(15 Teams)
1 Robert Stearns - Charles Young Jr - Bill
Gainer - Lynn Boardman
Rosenthal - Steven Sacks
Febrary 20, 2003
NIVDA Communica
NVBA SECTIONAL
NVBA SECTIONAL A/X Pairs
1 Dalia Kende - Shou-Ling Wang 238.50
NVBA SECTIONAL 36 Pairs
1 Dalia Kende - Shou-Ling Wang
1 Dalia Kende - Shou-Ling Wang 238.50 2 William Gill - Michael Gill 220.47 B/CD Pairs (32 Pairs) 1 Robert Stearns - Charles Young Jr . 175.00 2 Azmat Ali - John Verthelyi 151.00 FEBRUARY 27, 2003 WBL SECTIONAL Thursday Evening A/X Pairs (WBL site) (18 Pairs) 1 Helene Bauman - Arnie Frankel 113.00
1 Dalia Kende - Shou-Ling Wang
Dalia Kende - Shou-Ling Wang
Dalia Kende - Shou-Ling Wang
Dalia Kende - Shou-Ling Wang
Dalia Kende - Shou-Ling Wang 238.50 William Gill - Michael Gill 220.47 B/C/D Pairs (32 Pairs) Robert Stearns - Charles Young Jr 175.00 Azmat Ali - John Verthelyi 151.00 FEBRUARY 27, 2003
Dalia Kende - Shou-Ling Wang
Dalia Kende - Shou-Ling Wang
Dalia Kende - Shou-Ling Wang



In Memory of Kenneth Katzner

Kenneth Katzner, 72, passed away on May 25. He had been battling can-

cer for 6 years, but his death at this time was nevertheless unexpected. Ken was a major authority on the Russian language, and was the author of an English-Russian Russian English dictionary which the *Washington Post* called "definitive". In 1999, he launched the company Wordfind which produced and sold the CD ROM version of his dictionary. He was also the author of two additional books, Languages of the World, the fourth edition was published in 2002, and A Russian Review Text. He wrote numerous Op-Ed articles for major newspapers, articles for scholarly journals and articles based on his world-wide travels accompanied by his photographs.

A Washington resident since 1972, he applied his skills as a Soviet expert for the CIA and Defense Department. Ken graduated from Cornell University. He previously lived in New York and worked as an editor for Grolier Encyclopedia, Encyclopaedia Britannica and the American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language where he developed his methodology for researching and defining the different meanings of words.

In 1964, Ken was introduced to New York Times bridge editor Albert Morehead who with his partner, the legendary bridge player and ACBL President Emeritus, Waldemar von Zedtwitz owned a small publishing company which produced dictionaries, crossword puzzle, bridge books and various other reference works. They hired Ken to work on an English-Russian dictionary. After Mr. Moorehead's death, Ken took over the project and completed it in his spare time, and on his own, 18 years later. Ken was completing work on the third edition at the time of his death.

At the bridge table, Ken was a strong competitor and a pleasure as a partner, never losing his composure after a bad result. Ken's bridge career was quite successful, especially in light of his many competing interests. He was acquainted with many of the major NYC bridge figures of the 1950's and 1960's, for example occasionally partnering Jeff Rubens. In recent years he rarely traveled to out-of-town tournaments, but he did play locally, and won several sectional A events in the last year alone.

Ken's survivors include his wife of 36 years, Betty, a brother Steve of New York and numerous nieces and nephews.

Washington Bridge League's Sectional in the Clubs

August 14-17, 2003

Results

1

Thursday Evening 0-200 Pairs(12 Pairs)

Herbert Behre III - Deborah Branch

Mary Ann Moskowitz - Frances Burke

Joan Benesch - William Benesch

William Colket - Doreen Colket

Joan Cutler - Susan Quint

Ted Guthrie - Reese House

Juan Pardo - Larry Gomberg

THURSDAY

Thursday Morning Open Pairs(48 Pairs) A B C 1 James McGann - Barbara Vinson 2 Andrew Gabrilovitch - Donald Geerhart	Ali Al-Aref - Wanda Avila Donald Goldman - Steven Schlosser Agnes Gavin - Evelyn Knapp 1 1 Dale Collinson - Steve Rosenthal Eric Nash - Wilma Middleton Stephen Weiner - Ruby Brooks
3 Carol Netchvolodoff - Gloria Silverman 4 Rossi Lindstrom - Warren Kaufman 5 William Snyder - Joseph Carlomagno 6 1 Jeanne Clayman - Adele Margulies 2 Martha Boyd - Marcia Stein 3 1 Charles King - Cynthia Helms 4 Gordon Ginsburg - Judith Phelps 5/6 Larry Myers - Ralph Sturgis 5/6 Shirley Light - Mary Farrow 2 Frieda Joyce - John Lowe III 3 Pitamber Devgon - Salam Saidi 4 Silas Wasserstrom - Michael Gottesman	Friday Morning Stratified Pairs(57 Pairs) A B C 1 1 1 Hikmat Nasr - Julia Nasr 2 Leo LaSota - Mark Shaw 3 2 Victor Stewart - Harold Minus Sr 4 3 Alice Wegman - Seema Bhagwat 5 Sumner Steinfeldt - Kenneth Davis 6 Jean Levin - Salam Saidi 4 Charles Carrington - Mildred Anderson 5 Marge Bernard - Mary Schwerdtfeger 6 2 Samuel Bowlin - Charles King
Thursday Evening A/X Pairs(50 Pairs) A X 1 1 Charity Sack - John Lawrence 2 David Ruderman - Roger Pies 3 Robert Klein - Arnie Frankel 4 2 Saul Penn - Jan Garber 5 Leo LaSota - Alan Kleist 6 3 Avinash Bhagwat - Marlys Moholt 4 Lynn Jones - Joseph Trapani 5 David Fleischer - Gary Helman 6 Donald Berman - Jim Allen Jr	at Fun Friday
Thursday Evening B/C/D(36 Pairs) B C D Beta Nahapetian - Ruth Zimmerman Rosemary Marks - Martha Chen Barry James - Diane Jaworiwsky 4 1 1 Martin Reed - Fred Ris	Audrey Marbach - Warren Manison Sylvia Levy - Charleen Brand Eileen Theimer - Barbara Shaw

Norris Hekimian - Edgar MacArthur

Marshall Kramer - Stephen MacArthur

Prem Garg - Shyam Giridharadas

Ellen Rosenthal - Neal Rosenthal

Reese House - Suzanne Abrams

EILE C C. ID. (OOD.)	C. I.E. C I.B. (Q4B.)
Friday Evening Stratified Pairs(39 Pairs)	Saturday Evening Stratified Pairs .(24 Pairs)
ABC	A B C
1 Steve Robinson - Peter Boyd 2 Clyde Kruskal - Barbara Shaw	1 John Adams - Steve Robinson
ž	2 Weizhong Bao - Kefu Xu
3 1 1 Harold Minus III - Harold Minus Sr 4 Ellen Klosson - Arnie Frankel	3 Charles Stenger - Mary Guandolo
	4 1 Jeremy Koegel - Charity Sack
5 Gary Helman - David Fleischer 6 Donald Berman - Rose Berman	5 Leo LaSota - Barbara Shaw
2 D Bennett - Charles Moment	6 2 1 Robert Boorman - Christon Johnson
3 Karen Chagalis - Nancy Kramer	3 Robert Gunnell Jr - Jay Kelkar
4 James Geist - Ralph Williams Jr	4 2 Helen Solomon - Jason Rosenfeld
5 Ralph Sturgis - Tom Luther	
6 Jean Marx - Jerry Falconett	C ····-
2 Ray Dodson - Rodger Kamuf	SUNDAY
3 Carole Banks - Livingston Johnson	Samulan AN Sarin Tarana (7 Tarana)
4 William Colket - Doreen Colket	Sunday A/X Swiss Teams(7 Teams)
r william colker boreen colker	A X
C	1 Leo LaSota - Barbara Shaw - Glenn
SATURDAY	Lublin - Eugene Kales
Saturday Morning Stratified Pairs .(16 Pairs)	2 1 Yi Zhong - Weizhong Bao - Hailong
A B C	Ao - Kefu Xu
1/2 Hank Meyer - Barbara Shaw	3 Ernest Boatman - David Fleischer -
1/2 Leo Lasota - Stephen Swearingen	Frank Collins - Patricia Parker
3 Marie Creisher - Ellie Ostrinsky	
4 Clyde Kruskal - Sandra Schwalb	Sunday B/C/D Swiss Teams (13 Teams)
5 1 Charles Carrington - Bill Wade	B C D
2 Thomas Din - Gloria Halstead	1 Robert Wissman - John Christensen
3 Marshall Kramer - Stephen MacArthur	- Mita Banerjee - James Geist
4 Lily Andre - James Andre	2 1 Jerry Miller - Margie Coccodrilli -
, ,	Walter Kerns - Daniel Feldman
Saturday Morning 0-750 Stratified Pairs	
Saturday Morning 0-750 Stratified Pairs (Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph
Saturday Morning 0-750 Stratified Pairs (Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer
(Norma's Game)(27 Pairs)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr.
(Norma's Game)(27 Pairs) A B C	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr. - John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar
(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton -
(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne
(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum -
(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert
(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney
(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal -
(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner
Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal -
Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner
Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner 2 Charles King - Cynthia Helms - Samuel Bowlin - Steven Fox
Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner 2 Charles King - Cynthia Helms -
(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner 2 Charles King - Cynthia Helms - Samuel Bowlin - Steven Fox Sunday Stratified Pairs
(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner 2 Charles King - Cynthia Helms - Samuel Bowlin - Steven Fox Sunday Stratified Pairs (26 Pairs)
(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner 2 Charles King - Cynthia Helms - Samuel Bowlin - Steven Fox Sunday Stratified Pairs
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(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner 2 Charles King - Cynthia Helms - Samuel Bowlin - Steven Fox Sunday Stratified Pairs (26 Pairs) A B C 1 Kenneth Davis - Jean Levin 2 1 1 Richard Hesse - Pitamber Devgon 3 2 David McIntyre - Kim Ashenden
(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner 2 Charles King - Cynthia Helms - Samuel Bowlin - Steven Fox Sunday Stratified Pairs
(Norma's Game) (27 Pairs) A B C 1 Mahadeo Patwardhan - Jay Kelkar 2 1 Franz Delahan - Madeline Delahan 3 2 1 John Miles - Kim Ashenden 4 3 Cherie Charles - Barbara DiCicco 5 4 2 Keiko Quinn - Joseph Lentz 6 5 Alfred O'Malley - David Schultz 6 Marilyn Udell - Maida Crocicchia 3 Kathrine Loh - Edward Molnar Saturday Afternoon Stratified Pairs (78 Pairs) A B C 1 Mark Shaw - William Cole 2 Charleen Brand - William Hacker 3 John Adams - Steve Robinson 4 Ellen Klosson - Arnie Frankel 5 Bruce Houston - Donald Van Arman 6 Leo Lasota - Stephen Swearingen 1 Marsha Brown - William Brown 2 1 Cynthia Helms - Charles King 3 Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer Zehava Tadjer - Ursula Cairnes	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar 5/6 Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner 2 Charles King - Cynthia Helms - Samuel Bowlin - Steven Fox Sunday Stratified Pairs
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(Norma's Game)	3 Rick Larkin - Millie Larkin - Ralph Williams Jr - Leslie Shafer 4 2 Joana Da Silva - Robert Gunnell, Jr John Kuchenbrod - Jay Kelkar Jeremy Koegel - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried - David Genne 5/6 3 Richard Cassell - Stanley Legum - Gordon Hatheway Jr - Herbert Hackney 4 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner 2 Charles King - Cynthia Helms - Samuel Bowlin - Steven Fox Sunday Stratified Pairs

Washington Bridge League's Non Life Master Sectional

July 24-27, 2003

Results				
Thursday A B C	Evening Kick-off Pairs(36 Pairs)	Saturday A B C	Morning Stratified Pairs .(30 Pairs)	
l l	Bradley Tash - William Isenstein	1 1	Sherrie Schrama - Paul Stygar	
2	Betty Siefring - Richard Bryan	2 2	Jean Agenbroad - Frieda Joyce	
3	Alvin Ezrin - James Wisman	3 3 4	John Buchanan - J Willard Williams	
4 1	Barry Lieberman - Thomas Din	5	Netttie Banks - Mary Gross Donald Jacobs - Sandra Jacobs	
5 2	Ellen Rosenthal - Neal Rosenthal	6	Marshall Kramer - Stephen MacArthur	
		4	Jerry Krim - Herbert Fallin Jr	
6	Robert Sturm - Erwin Schuler	5	Larry Moran - S Jeffery Koch	
3 1	Linda Clover - Stephen Weiner	6/7 1 6/7	James Andre - Lily Andre	
4 2	Rachelle Sladoff - Cielle Block	0,,	Sen. Robert Packwood - Kathy Attlan Louise Wattles - Ann Fenton	
5	Sen. Robert Packwood - Kathy Attlan		Afternoon Stratified Pairs (45 Pairs)	
3	Steve Ro - Dale Collinson	A B C	Alternoon Stratmen 1 ans (45 1 ans)	
4	Jean Agenbroad - Lena Vargas	1	Mahadeo Patwardhan - Jay Kelkar	
		2	Samuel Bowlin - Danut Gliga	
Thursday	Evening 0-20 Pairs (6 Pairs)	3 1	Teryl McBurney - Jean Montague	
$N\epsilon$	Overalls, Section ResultsOnly	4 2 5 3	Susan Strauss - Richard Slater Jerry Krim - Herbert Fallin Jr	
1 N-S	Maureen Pelter - Nomy Hume	6 4 1	Tim Kuhn - Edward Dyer	
1 E-W	Eric Beard - Trish Houston	5 2	James Andre - Lily Andre	
		6	Dan Koch - Bill Kingery	
Friday Aft	ernoon Stratified Pairs (32 Pairs)	3	Paul Stygar - Lorraine Tyler	
АВС	`	4	Margarett Wilden - Madeleine Minetti	
1 1 1	Jean Agenbroad - Lena Vargas		Evening Stratified Pairs .(26 Pairs)	
2 2 2	Edgar Hopkins Jr - Dennis Faber	A B C	Bryan Geer - Lois Geer	
3	Betty Siefring - Marie Siefring	2 2	Thomas Din - Gloria Halstead	
4	Thomas Reckford - Behnaz Fardshisheh	3	Michael Goldman - William Mendez Jr	
5 3	Rena Brewrink - Billie Ahrens	4/5 3	Elliot Grant - James Davenport Jr	
6	Marshall Kramer - Stephen MacArthur	4/5 6 4 1	Mahadeo Patwardhan - Jay Kelkar Kathleen O'Toole - David Mead	
4	Patrick Stanton - Bob Grudberg	5 2	Bartoszro - Henry Mach	
5	Cynthia Helms - Samuel Bowlin	6	Rena Brewrink - Billie Ahrens	
6 3	Craig Caplan - Teresa Caplan	3		
0 0	Grang Capitani Teresa Capitani	Sunday Sv	wiss Teams(18 Teams)	
Friday Fy	ening StratifiedX Pairs(36 Pairs)	A B C	,	
A B C	eming Stratificant rans(50 rans)	1/2 1	J Willard Williams - John Buchanan	
1 1	Clifford Dyhausa Judy Clipk	1/2	- Beverly Meredith - Philip Meredith John Mattioli - Ali Al-Aref - William	
$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{array}$	Clifford Dyhouse - Judy Glick Jean Agenbroad - Shirley Forrester	1/2	Colket - Doreen Colket	
3 3	John Buchanan - J Willard Williams	3	Alvin Ezrin - James Wisman -	
3 3 4	Alvin Ezrin - James Wisman		Martin Reed - Bradley Tash	
		4	Stephen Mac Arthur - Janet Berman	
5 6	Allen Shearn - Peggy Shearn	5	- Joan Cutler - Marshall Kramer James Andre - Lily Andre - Mehmet	
	Marshall Kramer - Stephen MacArthur		Bayar - Mary Ann Moskowitz	
4	Robert Sturm - Erwin Schuler	2	Herbert Fallin Jr - Jerry Krim -	
5	Patrick Stanton - Bob Grudberg		Susan Strauss - Richard Slater	
6	Samuel Bowlin - Cynthia Helms	3 1	Eric Nash - Wilma Middleton - Gail	
1	Kathleen O'Toole - David Mead	4	Morgenweck - Joan Fitzpatrick Herbert Behre III - Eve Ingber -	
2	James Andre - Lily Andre	'	Thomas Din - Gloria Halstead	
3	Edgar Hopkins Jr - Dennis Faber	2	Jeff Youngen - Mary O'Shea -	
4	Jane Lee - Audrey Bourke	I	Elizabeth Huffman - Terry Jones	



ritten and compiled by I/N Editor, Leslie Shafer

Some Random Thoughts FROM YOUR ROVING REPORTER

What a summer! Two huge Regionals and one National later, the bridge dust is settling and I have a few notes to share with you all.

Recently at the club, my RHO opponent (a local diamond life master) had the unfortunate timing to actually laugh at my partner's bidding sequence during the auction. It was an unusual sequence:

PARTNER	<u>DLM</u>	<u>ME</u>	<u>LHO</u>
Pass	Pass	1 🚓	Pass
1 🔦	Pass	$2 \wedge {1 \choose 2}$	Pass
$3 \spadesuit (2)$	Pass	$3 \blacktriangle (3)$	Pass
$_{4} \blacktriangle (4)$	All Pass		

- (1) As I might have opened "light" in third seat, my 2 raise showed a "full" opener, since with less I would have passed Pard's 1 response.
- (2) A help-suit game try by a passed hand. Must be invitational, about 11-12ish. Partner's passed-hand 3♦ bid was only forcing because we had agreed on a spade fit.
- (3) I have just a minimum opener, partner, and I'm not interested in game.
- (4) I've changed my mind, I think we have a game anyway. I'm accepting my own invitation.

This is where the Diamond Life Master decided to laugh and shake her head in disbelief. Now readers, you probably know me well enough by now to know that I do not tolerate acts of rudeness at the table. "Sharon [not her real name], I do not appreciate your reaction to our auction. I think it is very rude."

"Well, I am entitled to think anything I want to," she said dismissively.

"Why don't we have you explain that to the director, then. Director, please!" The director promptly came to the table where the DLM actually denied that she had made any derogatory laugh at all! Amazing. We were instructed to "play nice" and move along. I then proceeded to make 4 exactly, thanking my partner for his excellent raise to game. I absolutely agreed that his hand improved greatly as the auction progressed. The 3♦ bid was superfluous as he did push to game in the end. When trying to make our bids in tempo we often do not have the time needed for in-depth decision making, and pard had decided to upgrade his "invitational" hand before the auction had ended.

Whether or not we agree with anyone's irregular bidding at the bridge table, it is not our place to make snide comments, glorying in our own feelings of superior bridge knowledge. It is arrogant and unkind.

This is one of the reasons why our newcomers to bridge (0-50 players) do not enjoy playing in an open game. Their bids are treated with disdain and/or glee, with the open players writing down a good score with great relish. We all could take a lesson from the weather: it pays no attention to criticism, and neither should we. But we're only human.

Even if it's your partner's bidding that you have a problem with – your comments WILL NOT BE WELCOME. Any immediate comment by you will only make partner blow the next two boards. Talk about it after the game. You might even find that your own perspective is wrong and that partner's choice was actually a logical alternative at the time. The human mind is like a parachute, it only works when it is open.

Sharon's comments are bad for bridge. Everyone should hold these types of individuals accountable for their actions. If we consistently call the director on this type of behavior, they might stop acting like this. By letting them get away with it at the table, we are CONDONING it. If we are to attract new players to the game and keep them, it should be everyone's job to clean house.

These rude players needs to be dealt with. Ah, I hear you saying, we already have a system called "recorder forms" where you would write up the incident. To be perfectly honest, I have gone that route also, and was never notified of any outcome or decision. If there was any action taken as a result of my filing such a form, it must have been done secretly. So the present policy does not seem effective. I have an idea ... why not create a committee to deal with rudeness ... and ask "Sharon" to be our first chairman? Let the offender(s) rehabilitate themselves by serving on this committee!

Whoever degrades another degrades me, and whatever is done or said returns at last to me. - Walt Whitman (1819 - 1892)

An Interesting Ruling in Hunt Valley

South, as declarer, has just lead a card from the dummy. Before his RHO has a chance to play, however, the LHO plays a card prematurely face up on the table. Not only is this bad form, it has some heavyduty ramifications.

<u>Law 57A.</u> Premature Play, or Lead to Next Trick — When a defender ... plays out of turn before his partner has played (penalty) the card so led or played becomes a penalty card, and declarer selects one of the following options. He may:

- 1. <u>Highest Card</u> require offender's partner to play the highest card he holds of the suit led, or
- 2. <u>Lowest Card</u> require offender's partner to play the lowest card he holds of the suit led, or
- 3. <u>Card of Another Suit</u> forbid offender's partner to play a card of a different suit specified by declarer.

So wait until it is your turn to play. Do not play out of turn.

An Interesting Suit Combination DUMMY

Jxx

<u>LHO</u> ??

<u>RHO</u>

PECLARER A K 9 x x

Most of my students would get to the dummy to lead the J, intending to finesse

RHO for the missing Queen. However, missing the Q 10 x x x there is a better way.

If you need four tricks: Play the Ace first, then if the 10 doesn't fall, lead low to the Jack. If lefty has Q 10 x x - you'll only lose one trick. If RHO has Q 10 x x - you'll still only lose one trick as you will later finesse RHO's 10 with your K-9. If you need all five tricks: Play your Ace and King, hoping the Queen falls doubleton.

Lay this combination out at home and watch it work!

There are many suit combinations like this. An excellent classic book for learning how to play them is Watson's *Play of the Hand. The Encyclopedia of Bridge* published by ACBL has quite a few suit combinations as well. Maybe look at one example every week and build your knowledge slowly and comprehensively. It will pay off handsomely.

Another Interesting Ruling

PARTNER	RHO	<u>ME</u>	<u>LHO</u>
Pass	Pass	1 🚓	1♥
1 🖍	Pass	2♠	Pass
$3 \blacklozenge (1)$	Pass	4♥ (2)	Pass (3)
Pass (4)	Pass		

- (1) A help-suit game try.
- (2) I pulled out the wrong bidding card! I had meant to pull out 4♠, accepting the invitation.
- (3) This is when I noticed my mistake and gasped out loud in shock. Had I actually said "Wait" and stopped the auction before pard's next bid, the director would have allowed me to correct a "purely mechanical" bidding box error.
- (4) Partner, wondering what all the excitement was about, passed in confusion. For a moment my face was blue, but then I started breathing again.

As it happened they only set me one trick. This turned out to be a good board, interestingly enough, as other pairs in my direction are getting a 5-0 spade break and going down 2 or 3 tricks! No use getting upset in these situations because you don't know yet if it's a bad board. Besides, it shows style to play in your 3-2 fit at the four-level if you do it with laughter. A person rarely succeeds at anything unless he has fun doing it.

[Leslie Shafer is the editor of "Bridge Students 'R Us." A national bridge newsletter specifically for Intermediate and Novice players, it is receiving rave reviews! Started in January 2001, hundreds of subscribers in its first year attest to its easy-to-read format and Leslie's famous humor! Call (301-593-6828) or write for a free copy of Issue #1. You may subscribe by sending your name, address, phone number and payment of \$25 for a one-year subscription (six issues a year) to Leslie Shafer, 690 Concerto Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20901. Her website is www.bridgeteacher.com and her email address is slamhand@erols.com1

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS

As of September 1, 2003

Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

Stanley Buda Roma Chandra
Ruth Fu Prem Garg
Arthur Milholland Lucille Mostello
Shlomit Rind Lena Vargas

Club Masters (20 Masterpoints)

Jim Mahler Ruth Mahler William Martin David Mead Kathleen O'Toole Dorothy Weil

Sectional Masters (50 Masterpoints)

Joan Bragdon Eve Ingber Rodney Peterson Thomas Reckford Nancy Weil

Regional Masters (100 Masterpoints)

Thomas Din Shyam Giridharadas Rose Hadidian Daniel Koch

NABC Masters

Robert Boorman Behnaz Fardshisheh Ajit Thyagarajan

Here is a picture of Leslie Shafer and world champion, Steve Robinson in Long Beach at the American Bridge Teacher's Association Seminar and Convention during the Summer Nationals. Steve was inducted into the Hall of Fame. Leslie was elected President of the American Bridge Teacher's Association. This is a two year term of office. She also won the 2003 ABTA Applebasket Contest for the bridge teacher's Tip of the Year Award. Anyone interested in becoming a bridge teacher should contact Leslie for details (301-593-6828).

Area Bridge Class Offerings

LESLIE SHAFER'S CLASSES

Every Saturday 10 a.m. - 12 noon. Supervised Play. Excellent brush up for bidding and play techniques. \$10 fee per class. This class is on a "drop-in" basis. No reservations required. Location: Washington Bridge Center, 301-445-0276.

One Day Bridge Institutes!

Selected Sundays from 2-5 pm at the Potomac Community Center; Fee \$20 per class.

Sept. 28 Strong Bidding Sequences. When an opener has a big hand, there are only two ways he can force his partner to bid again. Learn the ins and outs of reverses and jump shifts. These two bids will allow you to find better games and even more slams.

Oct. 12 Signaling Suit Preference. Scenario: partner just gave you a club ruff. Which suit do you play back to him so he can give you another ruff? Partner can signal ways to get back to him. This is a very exciting workshop. Your opponents do not want you to take this class.

Nov. 23 The Weak Freak. This is one of the most exciting bids you will ever learn. It frustrates the opponents and exhilarates your partner! With lots of trumps and good distribution, we don't need no stinkin' points to raise our partner.



THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE 14517 PERRYWOOD DRIVE BURTONSVILLE, MARYLAND 20866

Periodicals Postage Paid at Burtonsville, MD

70th Annual D.C. Championships THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

◆ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X unlim/3000, B/C Separate 1500/500), Stratified 199er Pairs & 0-20 Pairs (Christ the King Church only), Stratified 99er Pairs (Beth El only)

Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria .7:00pm **Christ the King Church**, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring .7:30pm

Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right on Grubb Rd. 1st left on Colston. The church is one block on the left.



Location for the Remainder of Tournament will be in our next issue

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

- ♦ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/2000) & B/C/D Pairs (2000/1250/750) . . . 2:00pm & 7:30pm
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions) ...10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

- ♦ 1<u>St</u> <u>Annual: Washington Bridge League Trophy Pairs</u>1:30pm & 7:00pm (Two session Open Pairs, qualifying and final)

↑ Newcomer Pairs (0-5 MPs)1:30pm SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

♣ ◆ Full Schedule of Intermediate and Novice Events ♥ ♠

I/N events: 199er, 99er, 49er, & 0-20; Stratification at Director's Discretion. Open and Senior Stratified Events and StrataFlighted Events vary as listed above.

Famous Washington Hospitality includes food and/or drinks for all players every day. Refreshments available throughout the tournament. Scrip awarded for 1st overall and section tops. Chairs: *Kathy Hilbers*, (202) 662-3430, elfenq@hotmail.com, *Ben Laden*, (202) 244-1765, benladen@prodigy.net, Hospitality: *Kitty Gottfried*, kgottfried @hotmail.com(301) 587-3981, Partnerships: *Charity Sack*, (703) 963-7027, charity@charitysack.com, On-line Partnership Desk: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.