

♣ ♦ THE DUMMY ♥ ♠

Quarterly Publication of the Delaware State Bridge Association: **October 2026**

[DSBA website](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Diamond State Sectional
Wilmington, DE
October 9-11, 2026

Dini Romito ROYAL
Point Weekend
Rehoboth Beach, DE
November 20-22, 2026

Dave Treadwell Sectional
Wilmington, DE
December 11-13, 2026

See attached Flyers

WORDS OF WISDOM

Failure is success in progress.
- Albert Einstein

Editor: Andrea Malinowski
Unit190Editor@gmail.com

Comments, suggestions, questions,
corrections always welcome

President's Message

With our new Board in place (welcome new members Terri Young and Jeanmarie Leonard) and looking ahead to the coming year, our first priority is recognizing some outstanding service. Trina Williams and Kim Holm are stepping away from the Board (for now) after serving faithfully for several terms and consistently contributing to the success of bridge in Unit 190.

Our local playing communities and our larger tournaments continue to succeed despite ongoing challenges – and the efforts of Kim and Trina have clearly made a difference. Both have earned a well-deserved break, and on behalf of Unit 190, I sincerely thank them for their years of service.

There's a really good way for you to thank Kim and Trina for their efforts – pay them a visit in November! We are introducing a new event this fall – the Dini Romito Royal Point Weekend (November 20-22).

Part of the District-wide STaC, this event serves as a second destination event in Rehoboth Beach – three days of bridge with gold, red, silver, and black points all available. Great hotel rates also – check out the event flyer for more details.



Hope to see you at the bridge table!
Kurt

DELAWARE CLUBS (Unrestricted)

THE BRIDGE STUDIO OF DELAWARE

Wilmington, Delaware

Harold Jordan

302-479-5431

club@bridge-studio.org



MOT

Middletown, Delaware

Cheryl Shields

302-602-1638

c.shields@mehrs.com

MONDAY MORNING DBC

DOVER FRIDAY DBC

Dover, Delaware

Mondays @ 10:00 am / Fridays @ 10:30 am

Clare O'Brien

410-310-0549

clare758@outlook.com

SHORE BRIDGE

Lewes, Delaware

Mondays @ 12:30 pm / Wednesdays @ 9:30 am

Anna DeLapo

302-236-0346

Anna7nt@gmail.com

SHUFFLES 2023

Ocean View, Delaware

Thursdays @ 12:30 pm

Donna Heckscher

215-817-2465

shuffles2023@gmail.com



UNIT 190 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kurt Engleman, President
Bill Herdle, Vice President
Sally Humphrey, Treasurer
Michael Mayer, Secretary

Mary Harding Cist
Carl Coan
Ala Hamilton-Day
Donna Heckscher
Harold Jordan
Jeanmarie Leonard
Andrea Malinowski
Mark Nehra
Barbara Rhoades
Paula Varrassi
Terri Young



hello
AUTUMN
—



THE WELCOME MAT

Unit 190 extends a warm welcome to the new / transferred members listed below.

New Members

John Hedges
Helen Peters

Transferred Members

Marie Steiner
Don Steiner
F Howard Braithwaite
Mary Heinsohn
Sandy Benjamin



MOVING ON UP



Congratulations to the Unit 190 Members listed below who have achieved a new ACBL rank in July – September of this year !!!

Bronze Life Master

Alan Hodesblatt
Rosemarie White

NABC Master

Alex Koriakin

Sectional Master

Gary Fisher

Club Master

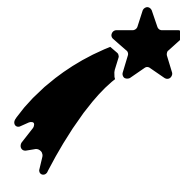
Talbot Lewin
Jay Gunasekera
John Newlin
Jeanne Peech

Junior Master

Harry Brown
Rosemary Kerwin
Gareth Llewellyn
Susan McClements
Janice Meyer

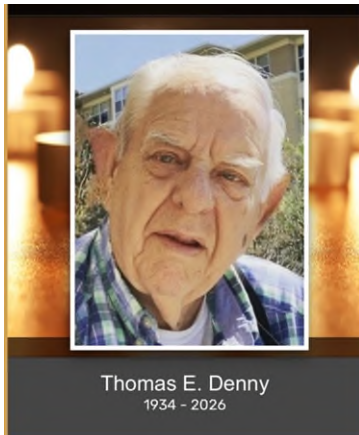


Congratulations
well-earned !!



IN MEMORIUM

TOM DENNY



Tom Denny – bridge Life Master, director, mentor, and friend to many in the Delaware bridge community, passed away in August. Provided below are an excerpt from Tom’s obituary, a link to the full obituary (which includes a beautiful video of Tom through the years), and a heartfelt tribute written by Tom’s friend, mentee, and frequent bridge partner, Karin Schwenk.

Obituary Excerpt

Thomas E. Denny, 92, formerly of Newark, Del., passed away on Aug. 10, 2026, at Maris Grove, Glen Mills, Pa. Born in Spangler, Pa., Tom was the son of the late Harry and Martha LaPorte Denny. While his father was serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps, the family was stationed in Hawaii during the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

After serving in the Navy during the Korean War, Tom graduated from Regis College in Denver, Co., where he married his high school sweetheart, Constance Gettings, in 1958.

Before moving to Maris Grove in 2014, Tom and his family lived in Newark for 45 years. He worked at W.L. Gore & Associates for 22 years, retiring in 1996. As a retiree, he worked in the DelCastle Golf Club pro shop and enjoyed hunting for and collecting stray golf balls. An avid golfer, he played almost daily until 2024.

Tom was introduced to duplicate bridge in 1972 and was an ardent and accomplished competitive bridge player until his death. A Life Master and director, he played in tournaments throughout the country and mastered online bridge during the COVID pandemic. He also loved doing puzzles, gardening, cooking, and baking bread, amusing his young grandchildren by creating animal-shaped loaves.

In addition to his parents and wife, Tom is predeceased by his daughter, Kelly Ann Stoops; a grandson, Benjamin Brewer; and two siblings, Martha Gabriel and Paul Denny. He is survived by four children, Thomas G. Denny, Sue Denny, Judith (Gene) Denny-Lybbert and Constance (Blake) Riley; a brother, Harry Denny; 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

[Full Obituary and Video](#)

Celebrating Tom... by Karin Schwenk

Tom Denny was the Bridge Studio's lovable curmudgeon. In the last ten years of his bridge career, he focused on mentoring newer players. Before COVID, Tom was a fixture at the Bridge Studio - attending every game with a different partner before heading down to his golf game.

Tom had a gruff exterior and some very colorful language to describe people who were not his favorites. When greeting him, he would just grumble something back. He would like to tell me that "I was on his list." Followed by "I didn't say which list." While no one would ever have accused him of being warm and fuzzy, deep down Tom had a heart of gold.

He had a passion for bridge and for teaching. He loved to bring in hand records and teach his partners about tenaces and different card combinations. One of the comments he frequently said to me was "Where's the Queen? You need to think about that before putting up your honor." He made that comment to me so many times that I went out and bought him a sweatshirt with that question on the front. I don't think I ever saw Tom when he wasn't wearing a sweatshirt - more often than not with a stain on the front. The family appropriately honored him by burying him with a sweatshirt.

When COVID hit, Tom thought it would pass by in a few weeks. After six weeks, he mentioned that he was glad his windows at his apartment didn't open. If they did, he would have been tempted to jump out. A few of us took on the daunting task of coaching him to get online and play. That was difficult to do since we couldn't meet in person to walk him through the steps. After getting him online, Tom proceeded to make that his new life. I think he had six different groups and played many hours a day.

At his funeral, his son told me a story that epitomizes Tom. One day Tom called his son and told him to get over to Maris Grove immediately and to bring \$20. Tom junior raced over only to have his father snatch the \$20 and order the son to get out. There was a bridge game starting and Tom senior needed money for the entry fee. The bridge world has lost a great man. His legacy will last for decades.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS UNIT 190 UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

DIAMOND STATE SECTIONAL OCTOBER 9-11, 2026

Open Tournament
Bridge Studio of Delaware
1403 Foulk Road, #203
Wilmington, Delaware

Two stratified pairs sessions on October 9 and 10
Bracketed teams session on October 11

\$16/person per session Friday and Saturday
\$128 per Team on Sunday
Free lunch between sessions each day

[Diamond State Sectional Flyer](#)

Flyer attached at end



DINI ROMITO ROYAL POINT WEEKEND

NOVEMBER 20-22, 2026

Atlantic Sands Hotel – Ballroom

1 Baltimore Avenue

Rehoboth Beach, DE



The holiday season at Rehoboth Beach is simply delightful! Play bridge and start your holiday shopping or just enjoy the festive decorations, music, and restaurants throughout the area. Visit the Schellville Christmas Village ... free admission!

Each point = 25% gold, silver, black, and red !!

Two stratified pairs sessions on November 20 and 21

Bracketed teams session on November 22

Free lunch each day / Hotel room block rates available

See Tournament Flyer attached at end or click the following:

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/unit190acbl/2026%20Dini%20Royal%20Pts%20Weekend.pdf>

DAVE TREADWELL SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

DECEMBER 11-13, 2026

Open Tournament

Bridge Studio of Delaware

1403 Foulk Road, #203

Wilmington, Delaware

Tournament Flyer to be posted at

[Dave Treadwell Tournament Flyer](#)

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

OCEAN VIEW NLM TOURNAMENT

The Non-Life Master Sectional Tournament was held in Ocean View, Delaware on September 18-19, 2026. Co-Chairs Kim Holm and Donna Hecksher, along with their merry band of volunteers, and Director John Hogan put on a fabulous tournament complete with an abundance of food, snacks, and easy parking. Plus, they even ordered up some gorgeous late summer weather at the beaches. Plenty of bridge was played over the course of two days, silver points were awarded, and yes – even new connections / friendships were made! Photos and 1st place finishers list from the tournament provided below.

OCEANVIEW NLM 2026 – PHOTOS



Donna Hecksher & Jeffrey Weeks – 4.57
MPs each – 1 & 2 overall in MPs



Roger McAlevey & Paul Beckerman – 3.59
MPs – 3 & 4 overall in MPs / Roger also
slaying it with the bridge fashion



Nan Mester & Gareth Llewellyn – Silver
Winners / 4th place B (9/18 am)



Frank Falcone Jr & Larry Banker –Silver
Winners / 1st place C (9/18 pm)

OCEAN VIEW NLM 2026 – First Place Finishes in A, B, C

Friday September 18 – Morning Session

MPs	A	B	C	Players
2.05	1			Kurt Weidner, Millsboro, DE ; Cindy Hoadley, Lewes, DE
1.65	3	1	1	Susan Law, Towson, MD; Eileen Giardina, Selbyville, DE

Friday September 18 – Afternoon Session

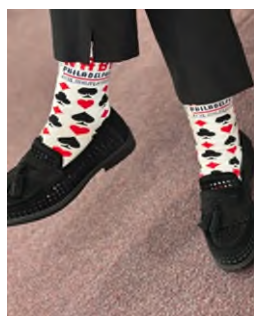
MPs	A	B	C	Players
2.05	1			Roger McAleve, Millsboro, De; Paul Beckerman, Berlin, MD
1.65	2	1		Donna Heckscher, Dagsboro, DE; Jeff Weeks, Ocean City, MD
1.36	3	2	1	Frank Falcone, Rehoboth Beach, DE; Larry Banker, Washington, DC

Saturday September 18 – Morning Session

MPs	A	B	C	Players
2.05	1			Lynne Coan & Carl Coan, Rehoboth Beach, DE
1.55	2	1		Carol Bason, Frankford, DE; Kathleen Sullivan, Hoschton, GA
1.36	4	2	1	Barbara Brooks – Mary Harding Cist, Wilmington, DE

Saturday September 19 – Afternoon Session

MPs	A	B	C	Players
2.05	1	1		Donna Heckscher, Dagsboro, DE; Jeff Weeks, Ocean City, MD
1.36	4	2	1	Andrea Malinowski, Boothwyn, PA; Kathy Rodammer, Newark, DE



Love the bridge fashion!



Until next year ... au revoir from beautiful Ocean View



THE THRILL OF VICTORY

Philadelphia Regional @ King of Prussia
August 03-09, 2026



First Place Finishes – Pairs or Teams w/Unit 190 Player(s)

Date	Section	Players	MPs
08.03.26	Gold Rush Pairs	<i>Donna Heckscher, Dagsboro DE; Jeffrey Weeks, Ocean City MD</i>	5.05
08.04.26	Teams 2	<i>Mark Henderson, Wilmington DE; Lisa Mita, Downingtown PA; David Venetianer, Chadds Ford PA; Robert Rebelein, Poughkeepsie NY</i>	16.53
08.05.26	Teams 4	<i>Kim Holm, Millsboro DE; Tamara Holm, Millsboro DE; Karen Pollak, Norristown PA; Thomas Tully, Kennett Square PA</i>	10.12
08.05.26	Teams 5	<i>Jeffrey Weeks, Ocean City MD; Manish Mehta, Chatham NJ; Andrew Krawitt, Ocean City NJ; Donna Heckscher, Dagsboro DE</i>	8.78
08.06.26	Teams 3	<i>Kelley Wilson - Kurt Engleman, Avondale PA; Karin Schwenk, Downingtown PA; Pamela Scalamandre, Cherry Hill NJ</i>	11.17
08.06.26	Teams 6	<i>Jane Bonenberger, Wyndmoor PA; William Herdle, Wilmington DE; Anne Pelak, East Norriton PA; Kristen Fireman, Flourtown PA</i>	5.70
08.07.26	Teams 2	<i>David Venetianer, Chadds Ford PA; Mark Cohen, Audubon PA; Mark Henderson, Wilmington DE; Patricia Civale, Chesterfield NJ</i>	15.30
08.08.26	Mid Flight Pairs – 1 st C /2 nd B	<i>Paul Cassidy, Baltimore MD; Thomas Osborne, Historic New Cas DE</i>	11.45
08.08.26	Gold Rush Pairs	<i>David Sichel, Downingtown PA; Lianger Gong, Claymont DE</i>	4.13
08.08.26	Teams 3	<i>William Herdle, Wilmington DE; Karin Schwenk, Downingtown PA; Lee Guo - Jason Zhang, Eagleville PA</i>	11.03

Unit 190 Players in the Top 25 Master Point Winners for this Tournament

<u>Rank</u>	<u>MPs</u>	<u>Players</u>
18	62.41	Mark Henderson, Wilmington DE
22	55.70	David Venetianer, Chadds Ford, PA



**JOIN US DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON
DINI ROMITO ROYAL POINT WEEKEND**

**REHOBOTH BEACH, DE
NOVEMBER 20-22, 2026**

ROYAL PTS BREAKDOWN! EACH POINT = 25% GOLD, SILVER, BLACK & RED

WHETHER YOU'RE A SEASONED ACE OR A BEGINNING PLAYER, COME CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH GOOD COMPETITION, CLEVER BIDS AND SEASONAL SPARKLE! REHOBOTH BEACH IS THE **PERFECT** PLACE TO START YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING AT THE IRRESISTIBLE DOWNTOWN BOUTIQUES OR THE TANGER OUTLETS! ENJOY SCHELLVILLE WITH MUSIC AND FUN FOR ALL OR SPEND AN EVENING OUT WITH FRIENDS OLD AND NEW AT YOUR FAVORITE RESTAURANT AFTER THE GAMES! THE OPTIONS ARE ENDLESS!

WHAT'S IN STORE?

SANDS HOTEL - BALLROOM
1 BALTIMORE AVE, REHOBOTH BEACH, DE. (302)-227-2511

2 SESSIONS PER DAY, 10:00 & 2:15PM

DELICIOUS LUNCH DAILY

FESTIVE TREATS AND REFRESHMENTS

FRIDAY & SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 20-21, 2026
STRATIFIED PAIRS

SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 22, 2026
BRACKETED TEAMS



ROOM BLOCKS FOR THE EVENT

ATLANTIC SANDS
1 BALTIMORE AVE
REHOBOTH BEACH, DE (302)-227-2511
\$125/NIGHT - BLOCK #11623

THE BREAKERS HOTEL
105 SECOND STREET
REHOBOTH BEACH, DE (302)-227-6688
THURS NIGHT - \$69
FRI-SAT - \$99/NIGHT
BLOCK #2137

Deadline for cancellations at both hotels - October 28, 2026



WONDERFUL THINGS TO DO IN REHOBOTH AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

[THINGS TO DO IN REHOBOTH AREA](#)

OTHER HELPFUL WEBSITES ARE LISTED BELOW

SHELLVILLE CHRISTMAS VILLAGE - [THE SCHELLVILLE CHRISTMAS VILLAGE](#)

Schellville is for **ALL** ages...everybody's a kid there!

Come check it out...free admission compliments of Schell Brothers Builders

DOWNTOWN REHOBOTH SHOPPING WITH INCREDIBLE BOUTIQUES - [SHOP DOWNTOWN](#)

TANGER OUTLETS - [SHOP TANGER](#)



Tournament Co-Chairs

Kim Holm kimrholm13@gmail.com & Carl Coan carlcoan325@gmail.com

Partnerships = Tammy Holm - tamaraholm@yahoo.com

Hospitality = Marilyn Haskins - marilynhaskins@aol.com

Tournament Director = TBD

Diamond State Sectional

**October 9 - 11, 2026
at the Bridge Studio of DE**

**1403 Foulk Rd, Suite 203
Wilmington, DE 19803
(302) 479-5431**



Friday, October 9, 2026

10:00am Flight A/X Pairs (4000+/0-4000)
Flight B/C/D Pairs (1250-3000/500-1250/0-500)

2:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs (2500+/750-2500/0-750)
Stratified 499er Pairs (100-500/50-100/0-50)

Saturday, October 10, 2026

10:00 am Flight A/X Pairs (4000+/0-4000)
Flight B/C/D Pairs (1250-3000/500-1250/0-500)

2:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs (2500+/750-2500/0-750)
Stratified 499er Pairs (100-500/50-100/0-50)

Sunday, October 11, 2026

10:00 am A/X Teams (4000+/0-4000)
B/C/D Teams (0-3000)

Brackets and Stratifications (by average masterpoints) may be changed at the discretion of the director to accommodate the participants, as necessary

**\$16/person per session Friday and Saturday
\$128 per Team on Sunday**

Free lunch between sessions each day

This is a cashless tournament. Only debit or credit cards will be accepted.

Tournament Chair

Harold Jordan
sectional@unit190.org

Partnerships

Barbara Rhoades
partnership@unit190.org

Tournament Director

Alan Hodesblatt

Check website for tournament updates: unit190.org