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Editor: [Karen Walker](#), Champaign IL

Get your team together for the

**District 8 Grand
National Teams
May 5 & 6, 2007
IL Education Assn.,
Springfield IL**



- ♠ **Saturday, May 5: 1:00 & 7:00 pm -- 2-Session qualifying**
- ♠ **Sunday, May 6: 10:30 am & TBA -- Knockout finals
12:30 pm -- Open Pairs side game**

Trips to Nashville TN -- and regional-rated gold points -- are featured in the 2007 District 8 finals of this national team event. Any team of four, five or six District 8 members can enter in one of four separate flights:

Championship: Open

Flight A: 0-5000 masterpoints

Flight B: 0-2000

Flight C: 0-500 (non-LMs)

The winning team in each flight will receive a travel award from the District Board to play in the national finals in Nashville TN in July.

Your flight eligibility is determined by the number of masterpoints you held on September 1, 2006.

Directions: The site is the Illinois Education Association (IEA) Professional Development Center at 3440 Liberty Drive. From I-55, take I-72 West, then take the first exit (Route 4/Veteran's Parkway north). At the first stoplight, turn left into the Walmart/Walgreen's complex (Lindbergh Blvd.). Go straight through the first light and first stop sign, then bear left around the next corner. The IEA is the first building on the left, behind Walmart.

Sunday side game: This is a stratified, sectional-rated pairs event that is open to all. You do not have to have played in the GNT event to enter.

Event coordinator: Georgia Heth -- 309-263-0242 gkheth@hotmail.com



ACBL Director's Report

by **Georgia Heth, Morton IL**

District 8 Representative on the ACBL Board of Directors

Such a dilemma! I don't know what to write about first. We had a wonderful national tournament in St. Louis, but this is the last chance I have to convince you to come and play in the District 8 Grand National Team finals, coming up in just a few short weeks.

St. Louis NABC: Thanks to everyone who worked at the St. Louis Nationals. Mike Carmen and Glenn Smith did a wonderful job running the tournament, but there were dozens of you who worked as committee chairmen and volunteers who made things go so smoothly. I heard very few complaints for a bridge tournament and many compliments about how well things went. People also seemed to enjoy the area. I thought the after-game hospitality and entertainment were very good, and I particularly enjoyed the different bands they hired. I know the tournament took a lot of work from a lot of people, but it was really worth it. It was great seeing so many different District 8 players at a national tournament, and I enjoyed getting to talk to so many of you.



Goodwill winner: Many of you may not know that **Debbie Avery** from Unit 208 was given a special goodwill award at the Goodwill Reception at the tournament. She was surprised and pleased. Debbie has been the District 8 Secretary-Treasurer for many years, the caddy master at the Champaign regional and a longtime owner and club manager of the Bridge at Ginger Creek club in Champaign. She is also just a truly nice lady. Debbie (center in the photo) was presented the award by me (left) and **Martha Leary** (right). Martha, who lives in Urbana, is immediate past president of the District 8 Board and Debbie's partner in running the bridge club.

Grand National Teams: Please make your teams now and show up for the District 8 Grand National Teams District 8 Final, to be held May 5 and 6 at the Education Association Building in Springfield IL. We had so many teams show up last year that they are making me hire two directors this year, so I need even more of you to come and play. Chris Patrias will be the director in charge, so I expect things will run smoothly this year. The national finals are in Nashville TN, which is easy driving

distance from most of District 8. That means our District travel awards for the first-place team in each flight will go even further. I hope to see at least 45 teams this year. We will have the standard Springfield hospitality from Betty, Liz, and Mike.

Board of Governors: It's time for us to re-elect our District representatives to the ACBL Board of Governors, a national board that serves as an advisory body to the ACBL Board of Directors. Our current representatives are **Chris Benson** of Le Roy IL and **Leah Newell** and **Liz Zalar** of Springfield IL. If you're interested in running for this position, you should file for candidacy by the end of May. Details are in the April issue of the *ACBL Bridge Bulletin*.

Highlights from the Board of Directors meeting:

- Karen Walker was re-appointed to the ACBL Disciplinary Committee and I was appointed to the ACBL Laws Commission.
- The Board decided to establish a new tax-exempt foundation to preserve the history of bridge. It is expected that this foundation will fund a Hall of Fame and a library/museum exhibit.
- It was decided to let the national bridge organizations decide if a player who has been readmitted to the ACBL after being expelled for cheating should be allowed to represent the ACBL in international competition. Previously, the ACBL Board made this decision.
- A motion to create an Educational Foundation month (similar to the Charity, International Fund and Junior months) was defeated. I believe the reason was that the Educational Foundation has a checkoff box on the membership dues statement and has the fundraising game at the Nationals, neither of which the other groups have.
- The conditions of contest for the Grand National Teams national finals, the Blue Ribbon Pairs, the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams, and the other four-session NABC Board-a-Match events were changed slightly.
- You can no longer petition to receive ACBL masterpoints for games played outside of the ACBL.
- Grand National Team and North American Pair eligibility requirements were changed to allow exceptions for people with multiple residences.
- The reimbursement for winners in the North American Pairs has been changed to a flat amount, rather than reimbursement of actual expenses. First place qualifiers in each flight and each District will receive \$700 each and second-place qualifiers will receive \$300 each.
- The Masterpoint Committee gave a preview of the changes they plan on recommending at the next meeting.

Again, thanks to everyone who worked at the Nationals and helped make the tournament such a success. I hope to see hundreds of you in Springfield IL at our District GNT weekend on May 5 and 6.

-- Georgia

If you have questions or suggestions about ACBL Board actions or other bridge matters, please contact me at gktheth@hotmail.com or 917 S. Main St., Morton IL 61550-2419.

Director, please

by David Stevenson, Liverpool, England



Question (from Illinois): In a recent club game, my LHO opened 2D, which his partner explained as Mini-Roman (11-15 points with three 4-card suits). My partner, who has a tendency to make light overcalls, bid 3D and my RHO bid 3H. I asked LHO the meaning of 3H and was told that it showed a desire to play in hearts with at least 6 points and no upper point limit.

I held ♠KQ1074 ♥Q105 ♦52 ♣A62. I assumed that "no upper point limit" meant that the 3H bid was forcing, so I passed to see what opener's rebid would be. To my surprise, opener passed. I called the director, who ruled that opener's pass was allowed. We got a zero for this result, as RHO had a 2-point hand and we were cold for +650 in 4S.

Once opener gives me an explanation, does he have a legal or ethical (or both) obligation to not violate the agreement he described? Is he allowed to use my interest in the bid as justification for deciding to pass?

Stevenson: No, no such obligation exists. Your opponents are obligated to describe their methods accurately, but there is no rule they must follow them. Psychic bids are part of the game, i.e. deliberate and gross failures to follow methods. So are deviations, similar but not gross, and misbids, similar but not deliberate. This is unaffected by questions.

Follow-up question: Was I wrong to assume that "no upper point limit" meant that the bid was forcing? Did I have an obligation to press opener for a clarification?

Stevenson: The lower point limit makes the opponents' method suspect. If 3H could be done on 6 points, then I doubt he wants his partner to raise on 11. It would never occur to me to make any presumptions about a strange method. If he did not say it is forcing, you should not assume it. If you need to know you should ask a supplementary question.

Follow-up question: Should I have ignored the explanation (or not even asked for it) and bid 3S directly? Did my failure to do so affect the ruling?

Stevenson: It should never affect a ruling whether you asked for an explanation. You will only be denied redress if:

- [1] There was no misinformation, so no infraction, or
- [2] You committed an egregious error (e.g., passing was awful), or
- [3] There was no damage.

[3] is easy, as it's clear that you might have done better. The only slight problem is whether you would have bid with a different explanation. In fact, I think your bid is tricky whatever. If LHO's shortage is in diamonds, a 3S bid could get you -200 or -500. So you might need to convince a

director that you would have bid 3S if you had known 3H was not forcing. However now you have [1] to come!

[2] is very easy. Your pass is not that bad.

[1] is a problem. Their methods are illogical and unplayable. So as a director, I would be very suspicious and ask a lot of questions. But if they are playing as they describe, I think you have no infraction, so the result stands.

Of course, 3H was a deviation, or even a psych, so I would have to be convinced it was not fielded. But if 3H is not forcing, and LHO (opener) was reasonably minimum, there is no problem.

My best guess without being there is that one of three things have occurred.

[1] The players are very poor and are playing a convention with little understanding. If so, accept your bad board. You will get many good ones from them to compensate.

[2] The players have taken up a new convention without much discussion, but they did agree to play it as they said without thinking it through properly. Tough luck!

[3] The players have taken up a new convention without much discussion, and do not really play it as they said. Now you have a case.

Do you have questions about bridge laws, a ruling you received (or made) at a tournament or club game, how to handle an ethical dilemma? David, who is very knowledgeable on North American bridge, will explain laws and proprieties, share opinions on specific cases and offer advice on any aspect of game direction. You can submit questions on his [web form](#) or by email to laws2@blakjak.com . In your message, include a note that you're an *Advocate* reader from the U.S.

David maintains an archive of articles on laws and proprieties on his web site: http://www.blakjak.demon.co.uk/lws_menu.htm

Dave Carter Top 100

Here are District 8's top masterpoint winners and the total points each earned during calendar year 2006. The list is named for the late Dave Carter of St. Louis, who won the national McKenney Trophy in 1954.

1. Bob Carteaux, Fort Wayne IN -- 848
2. Sheldon Margulis, St. Louis -- 644
3. Will Engel, Freeport IL -- 617
4. Jack Bryant, St. Louis -- 601
5. John Kinst, Batavia IL -- 575
6. Dick Benson, Le Roy IL -- 519
7. Colby Vernay, Lacon IL -- 510
8. Rod Van Wyk, Alton IL -- 497
9. James Melville, Springfield IL -- 490
10. Tom Kniest, University City MO -- 470
11. Stephen Brauss, St. Louis -- 464
12. Kenneth Bland, St. Louis -- 412
13. Tom Oppenheimer, Ballwin MO -- 394
14. Chris Benson, Le Roy IL -- 390
15. Suzanne Dunn, Crystal Lake IL -- 367
16. Ralph Behrens, St. Louis -- 359
17. Nancy Popkin, St. Louis -- 359
18. Joshua Stark, Grayslake IL -- 338
19. Richard Ellis Jr. , Kokomo IN -- 337
20. James Feinstein, South Bend IN -- 329
21. John Killeen, Mishawaka IN -- 322
22. Arbha Vongsvivut, Godfrey IL -- 321
23. Joseph Chin, Highland IN -- 313
24. Dalton Darnell, Murray KY -- 309
25. Alan Popkin, St. Louis MO -- 308
26. Gary Kessler, Springfield IL -- 306
27. Ed Schultz, Chesterfield MO -- 291
28. Sasanka Ramanadham, St. Louis -- 290
29. Donald Florida, Marshall IL -- 286
30. Audrey Danocup, Beloit WI -- 283
31. John Aumiller, Fort Wayne IN -- 282
32. Laurie Hamachek, Huntley IL -- 276
33. Joseph Shull, New Haven IN -- 274
34. Stephen Hawthorne, Bloomington IL -- 271
35. John Chmielowiec, Michigan City IN --
51. Dean Duncan, Mishawaka IN -- 224
52. Lynne Feldman, Champaign IL -- 222
53. Elaine Delaney, South Bend IN -- 221
54. Fran Russell, Paducah KY -- 221
55. Karen Coe, Ewing IL -- 219
56. Dennis Spencer, St. Louis -- 218
57. Leroy Boser, Elkhart IN -- 212
58. Kay Korte, Woodstock IL -- 211
59. Jason Clevenger, St. Louis -- 209
60. Linda Leinicke, St. Louis -- 207
61. Mark Ehret, St. Louis -- 207
62. Irene Singleton, South Bend IN -- 206
63. Ralph Rotter Jr. , Granite City IL -- 205
64. Gilbert Fox, Auburn IN -- 205
65. Phyllis Rahn, Dunlap IL -- 205
66. William Lindemann, Champaign IL -- 205
67. John Burgener, St. Louis MO -- 205
68. John Seng, Champaign IL -- 205
69. Nancy La Master, Munster IN -- 202
70. Larry Thompson, West Paducah KY -- 201
71. Susan Perez, Maryland Hts MO -- 200
72. Carol Mahoney, Kokomo IN -- 198
73. Paul Quayle, Gilbertsville KY -- 198
74. Alan Wienman, Morton IL -- 197
75. Mrs. L. A. Jenkins, Rockford IL -- 197
76. Rosemary Zonker, Elkhart IN -- 194
77. Stephen Babin, Normal IL -- 193
78. Robert Volsted, Elgin IL -- 193
79. Daniel Simon, South Bend IN -- 192
80. Meyer Abarbanel, Belvidere IL -- 191
81. Karen Erlanger, St. Louis -- 190
82. Donna Simon, South Bend IN -- 189

- 269
36. Roger Lord, St. Louis -- 269
37. Milton Zlatic, St. Louis -- 268
38. Jacqueline Sincoff, St. Louis -- 255
39. Lee Hastings, St. Louis MO -- 246
40. Patricia Killeen, Mishawaka IN -- 242
41. Karen Walker, Champaign IL -- 242
42. Denny O'Connor, St. Louis -- 240
43. Frank Yoder III, Goshen IN -- 236
44. En Xie, St. Louis -- 233
45. Christopher Shaw Jr. , Carlinville IL -- 232
46. James Pelletier, Fort Wayne IN -- 232
47. Lena Howard, Elkhart IN -- 231
48. Gail Moon, Bloomington IL -- 229
49. Zach Freehill, Bloomington IL -- 228
50. James Davis, Kokomo IN -- 225
83. Michael Slaven, Elkhart IN -- 188
84. Sheryl Finkenstadt, St Charles MO -- 188
85. Sandra Lemon, Mayfield KY -- 187
86. Ron Sholes, Springfield IL -- 187
87. William Finkenstadt, St Charles MO -- 187
88. Andrew Carver, Edwardsville IL -- 185
89. Brenda Gagnon, Paducah KY -- 184
90. Paul Holmes, Champaign IL -- 182
91. John Dicks, Saint Charles MO -- 182
92. Frank La Master, Munster IN -- 182
93. Larry Kolker, St. Louis -- 181
94. Douglas Gugger, Freeport IL -- 181
95. Howard Schmid, Merrillville IN -- 180
96. Michael Halvorsen, Champaign IL -- 180
97. Eunice Garrison, Boca Raton FL -- 180
98. Naomi Orsay, Brentwood MO -- 179
99. John Coe, Ewing IL -- 179
100. Sanford Becker, Chesterfield MO -- 178

District-wide Mini-McKenney Race -- 2006

The annual Mini-McKenney race recognizes the leading masterpoint winners in each player-ranking category. Your category is based on the number of points you held at the beginning of 2006. Listed here are the top 15 point winners in each category in District 8 and the total masterpoints each player won during calendar year 2006. Congratulations to all!

Rookie of the Year (0-5 pts. on 1/1/2006)

1. Renee McNitt, Roscoe IL -- 74
2. Robert Melvin, Bristol IN -- 66
3. Richard Bredemeyer, Ft Wayne IN -- 50
4. Bob Biarkis, Glen Carbon IL -- 46
5. Eric Bizzell, Beecher City IL -- 44
6. Linda Wilkening, Springfield IL -- 39
7. Linda Biarkis, Glen Carbon IL -- 38
8. Becky Lagouros, Peoria Heights IL -- 35
9. Carol Windland, Glen Carbon IL -- 31
10. Paul Morsches, Columbia City IN -- 31
11. Edmond Douville, Hobart IN -- 30
12. Robert Herro, Rockford IL -- 30
13. Margaret Taylor, St. Louis -- 29
14. William Defuniak, Long Beach IN -- 25
15. Arnold Kiefer, Ft Wayne IN -- 25

Junior Master of the Year (5-20 pts.)

1. Dave Bigler, Hobart IN -- 82
2. Amnon Harel, Batavia IL -- 63
3. Michael White, Springfield IL -- 56
4. Jane Byram, Chatham IL -- 54
5. Rhonda Berberet, Springfield IL -- 53
6. Wini Morsches, Columbia City IN -- 40
7. Peggy Wallace, Dixon IL -- 37
8. Phyllis Siegel, Ballwin MO -- 36
9. Praveen Jayachandran, Champaign IL -- 35
10. Pamela White, Springfield IL -- 34
11. Daniel Spangler, St. Peters MO -- 31
12. Stephen Cart, Rockford IL -- 31
13. James Mc Chesney, Fort Wayne IN -- 30
14. Jerry Hinds, Morton IL -- 30
15. Barbara Worden, Rockford IL -- 30

Life Master of the Year (300 pts.)

1. Mrs. L. A. Jenkins, Rockford IL -- 197
2. Frank La Master, Munster IN -- 182
3. David Jenkins, Rockford IL -- 175
4. Richard Riezman, St. Louis -- 156
5. Thomas Carpenter, Fort Wayne IN -- 152
6. Gene Wheeler, Chatham IL -- 150
7. Barbara Walczak, Munster IN -- 138
8. Gary Dell, Champaign IL -- 120
9. Katherine Samuels, Naples FL 120
10. Dan Faulkner, Monticello IL -- 120
11. Charlie Morton, Bloomington IL -- 119
12. Tim Butterbaugh, Paducah KY -- 118
13. Jennifer Luner, St. Louis -- 117
14. Gayle McLean, Bonita Springs FL 113
15. Edward Samuels, Naples FL 111

Bronze Life Master of the Year (500 pts.)

1. Audrey Danocup, Beloit WI 283
2. Laurie Hamachek, Huntley IL -- 276
3. Stephen Hawthorne, Bloomington IL -- 271
4. Patricia Killeen, Mishawaka IN -- 242
5. Lena Howard, Elkhart IN -- 231
6. Zach Freehill, Bloomington IL -- 228
7. Dennis Spencer, St. Louis -- 218
8. Gilbert Fox, Auburn IN -- 205
9. Nancy La Master, Munster IN -- 202
10. Larry Thompson, West Paducah KY -- 201
11. Paul Quayle, Gilbertsville KY -- 198
12. William Finkenstadt, St Charles MO -- 187
13. Brenda Gagnon, Paducah KY -- 184
14. John Coe, Ewing IL -- 179

Club Master of the Year (20-50 pts.)

1. Debra Romero, Clarkson Valley MO -- 176
2. Patricia Valiska, Highland IN -- 142
3. Donald Valiska, Highland IN -- 139
4. Daniel Bunde, Champaign IL -- 119
5. Dennis Moll, Bloomington IL -- 74
6. Helene Siegfried, St Louis MO -- 65
7. Linda Evans, St. Louis -- 63
8. Donna Cart, Rockford IL -- 49
9. John Antognoli, Clayton MO -- 48
10. Gretchen Smith, St. Louis -- 47
11. Sam Sgro, Springfield IL -- 45
12. Richard Spengler, Peoria IL -- 43
13. Larry Seitzman, Peoria IL -- 43
14. Robert Adler, Creve Coeur MO -- 43
15. Dorothy James, Crown Point IN -- 41

Sectional Master of the Year (50-100 pts.)

1. Camilla Rabjohns, Peoria Heights IL -- 108
2. Kay Cohen, St. Louis -- 97
3. Ann Smith, Marion IL -- 90
4. Thomas Esten Sr., Ft Wayne IN -- 78
5. Karen Pickelsimer, Oakwood Hills IL -- 75
6. Julia Kelley, Geneva IL -- 69
7. Duane Broline, Charleston IL -- 66
8. Barry Kalman, Olivette MO -- 63
9. Ann Schuyler, Bloomington IL -- 60
10. Stevie Holcomb, Springfield IL -- 57
11. Katherine Freeman, Beloit WI 55
12. Sammye Arnn Broline, Charleston IL -- 55
13. Sandra Dayton, Mahomet IL -- 55
14. Roger Hoffman, Springfield IL -- 51
15. Trudy McKamey, Portage IN -- 50

Regional Master of the Year (100-200 pts.)

1. William Lindemann, Champaign IL -- 205
2. Paul Holmes, Champaign IL -- 182
3. Naomi Orsay, Brentwood MO -- 179
4. Joshua Kueker, Champaign IL -- 165
5. William Bunn, Brentwood MO -- 163
6. Fred Roese, Springfield IL -- 138
7. Jay Shah, St. Louis -- 124
8. Laverne Niksch, Portage IN -- 114

15. Sanford Becker, Chesterfield MO -- 178

Silver Life Master of the Year (1000 pts.)

1. James Melville, Springfield IL -- 490
2. Stephen Brauss, St. Louis -- 464
3. Sally Chapleau, Fort Mill SC 338
4. John Killeen, Mishawaka IN -- 322
5. Arbha Vongsvivut, Godfrey IL -- 321
6. Sasanka Ramanadham, St. Louis -- 290
7. Joseph Shull, New Haven IN -- 274
8. Christopher Shaw Jr., Carlinville IL -- 232
9. James Pelletier, Fort Wayne IN -- 232
10. Gail Moon, Bloomington IL -- 229
11. Elaine Delaney, South Bend IN -- 221
12. Fran Russell, Paducah KY -- 221
13. Karen Coe, Ewing IL -- 219
14. Leroy Boser, Elkhart IN -- 212
15. Kay Korte, Woodstock IL -- 211

Gold Life Master of the Year (2500 pts.)

1. Sheldon Margulis, St. Louis -- 644
2. Will Engel, Freeport IL -- 617
3. John Kinst, Batavia IL -- 575
4. Kenneth Bland, St. Louis -- 412
5. Richard Ellis Jr., Kokomo IN -- 337
6. James Feinstein, South Bend IN -- 329
7. Joseph Chin, Highland IN -- 313
8. Dalton Darnell, Murray KY -- 309
9. Alan Popkin, St. Louis -- 308
10. Donald Florida, Marshall IL -- 286
11. John Chmielowiec, Michigan City IN -- 269
12. Lee Hastings, St. Louis -- 246
13. Denny O'Connor, St. Louis -- 240
14. Frank Yoder III, Goshen IN -- 236
15. En Xie, St. Louis -- 233

Diamond Life Master of the Year (5000 pts.)

1. Rod Van Wyk, Alton IL -- 497
2. Ralph Behrens, St. Louis -- 359
3. Nancy Popkin, St. Louis -- 359
4. Joshua Stark, Grayslake IL -- 338
5. Ed Schultz, Chesterfield MO -- 291
6. John Aumiller, Fort Wayne IN -- 282
7. Milton Zlatic, St. Louis -- 268

9. Wayne Carpenter, Chesterton IN -- 112
10. Raymond Ford, Highland IL -- 107
11. Cindy Wheeler, Chatham IL -- 102
12. Donald Groch, South Bend IN -- 101
13. Gilda Singer, St Charles MO -- 101
14. Irene Wen, Urbana IL -- 95
15. Douglas St John, Rockford IL -- 95

NABC Master of the Year (200 - non-LM)

1. Johnie Imes, Lake Ozark MO -- 157
2. Cappy Gagnon, Notre Dame IN -- 149
3. Robert Riggs, St. Louis -- 121
4. Chuck Briggs, Hobart IN -- 113
5. Ruth Minish, Granger IN -- 101
6. David Osucha, Paducah KY -- 100
7. Kathryn Chamberlain, Rockford IL -- 97
8. Richard Gierat, Belvidere IL -- 95
9. Daniel Chamberlain, Rockford IL -- 94
10. Carol Warner, Fairview Heights IL -- 87
11. Bill Petrie, Mayfield KY -- 86
12. Bud Hawkins, Mt Vernon IL -- 84
13. Judith Renken, Ballwin MO -- 78
14. Carole Bardwell, Normal IL -- 77
15. Randall Motchan, Bloomington IL -- 76

8. Jacqueline Sincoff, St. Louis -- 255
9. Karen Walker, Champaign IL -- 242
10. James Davis, Kokomo IN -- 225
11. Lynne Feldman, Champaign IL -- 222
12. Eunice Garrison, Boca Raton FL 180
13. Mark Kessler, Springfield IL -- 169
14. Marvin Shapiro, St. Louis -- 148
15. Dave Fred, Granger IN -- 128

Emerald Life Master of the Year (7500 pts.)

1. Bob Carteaux, Fort Wayne IN -- 848
2. Tom Kniest, University City MO -- 470
3. Tom Oppenheimer, Ballwin MO -- 394
4. Chris Benson, Le Roy IL -- 390
5. Suzanne Dunn, Crystal Lake IL -- 367
6. Roger Lord, St. Louis -- 269
7. Dean Duncan, Mishawaka IN -- 224
8. Larry Kolker, St. Louis -- 181

Platinum Life Master of the Year (10,000 pts.)

1. Jack Bryant, St. Louis -- 601
2. Dick Benson, Le Roy IL -- 519
3. Colby Vernay, Lacon IL -- 510
4. Gary Kessler, Springfield IL -- 306

District-wide Ace of Clubs Race -- 2006

The annual Ace of Clubs awards recognize the leading masterpoint winners in club-level games. Awards are made in each player category, which is determined by a player's total masterpoint holding at the beginning of 2006.

Listed here are the top point winners in each category in District 8 and the total masterpoints each player won in club games during calendar year 2006. Congratulations to these active and successful players, and thanks from all of us for your support of local bridge.

Rookie of the Year (0-5 pts. on 1/1/2006)

1. Renee McNitt, Roscoe IL -- 46
2. Richard Bredemeyer, Ft Wayne IN -- 33
3. Robert Melvin, Bristol IN -- 32
4. Linda Wilkening, Springfield IL -- 30
5. Robert Herro, Rockford IL -- 25
6. Margaret Taylor, St. Louis -- 23
7. Arnold Kiefer, Ft Wayne IN -- 21
8. Edmond Douville, Hobart IN -- 21
9. William Defuniak, Long Beach IN -- 21
10. Paul Morsches, Columbia City IN -- 18
11. Carol Windland, Glen Carbon IL -- 17
12. Debbie Garnier, Centralia IL -- 17
13. Janet Rose, Edwardsville IL -- 15
14. Bob Biarkis, Glen Carbon IL -- 15
15. Becky Lagouros, Peoria Heights IL -- 14

Junior Master of the Year (5-20 pts.)

1. Michael White, Springfield IL -- 46
2. Jane Byram, Chatham IL -- 42
3. Dave Bigler, Hobart IN -- 31
4. Rhonda Berberet, Springfield IL -- 31
5. Peggy Wallace, Dixon IL -- 27
6. Amnon Harel, Batavia IL -- 27
7. James Mc Chesney, Fort Wayne IN -- 26
8. Wini Morsches, Columbia City IN -- 26
9. Joan Aldrich, South Bend IN -- 24
10. Pamela White, Springfield IL -- 22
11. Kevin Peese, Urbana IL -- 21
12. Eugene Gordon, Aurora IL -- 20
13. George Wallace, Dixon IL -- 19
14. Cathy Camille, Springfield IL -- 19

Life Master of the Year (300 pts.)

1. Thomas Carpenter, Fort Wayne IN -- 98
2. Barbara Walczak, Munster IN -- 84
3. Robert Brightup, Rockford IL -- 73
4. Douglas Jonquet, Decatur IL -- 68
5. Katherine Samuels, Naples FL 65
6. E. A. Wagner II, Danville IL -- 65
7. Gary Schechter, Springfield IL -- 63
8. Richard Riezman, St. Louis -- 62
9. Frank La Master, Munster IN -- 58
10. Gene Wheeler, Chatham IL -- 58
11. Patricia Mikuta, Schererville IN -- 57
12. Frank Tirsch, Springfield IL -- 56
13. Rosemary Shafer, South Bend IN -- 54
14. Edward Samuels, Naples FL -- 54
15. Gayle McLean, Bonita Springs FL -- 52

Bronze Life Master of the Year (500 pts.)

1. Lena Howard, Elkhart IN -- 141
2. Patricia Killeen, Mishawaka IN -- 129
3. John Burdon, Charleston SC 114
4. Jo Ann Steigmeyer, Granger IN -- 113
5. Dennis Spencer, St. Louis -- 105
6. Zach Freehill, Bloomington IL -- 101
7. William Finkenstadt, St Charles MO -- 100
8. Sanford Becker, Chesterfield MO -- 98
9. Phillip Stephan, Boynton Beach FL 97
10. Jane Baker, Paducah KY -- 87
11. F. R. Kellstrom, Chesterton IN -- 82
12. Stephen Hawthorne, Bloomington IL -- 79
13. Robert Wheeler, Florissant MO -- 78
14. Tim Cull, Springfield IL -- 75

15. Charles Laurx, Aurora IL -- 19

Club Master of the Year (20-50 pts.)

1. Debra Romero, Clarkson Valley MO -- 70
2. Patricia Valiska, Highland IN -- 67
3. Donald Valiska, Highland IN -- 65
4. Dorothy James, Crown Point IN -- 39
5. Roger James, Crown Point IN -- 38
6. Daniel Bunde, Champaign IL -- 37
7. Sam Sgro, Springfield IL -- 36
8. Ben Van Bentveld, Ballwin MO -- 36
9. Dennis Moll, Bloomington IL -- 35
10. Robert Adler, Creve Couer MO -- 32
11. Raymond Rearick, Jr., Estero FL 31
12. Larry Sleeth, St Charles IL -- 30
13. John Antognoli, Clayton MO -- 29
14. Donna Cart, Rockford IL -- 29
15. Juanita Rearick, Estero FL 28

Sectional Master of the Year (50-100 pts.)

1. Julia Kelley, Geneva IL -- 53
2. Thomas Esten Sr., Ft Wayne IN -- 49
3. Kay Cohen, St. Louis -- 45
4. Stevie Holcomb, Springfield IL -- 40
5. Trudy McKamey, Portage IN -- 40
6. Ann Schuyler, Bloomington IL -- 38
7. Katherine Freeman, Beloit WI -- 37
8. Ronald Sicks, Fort Wayne IN -- 37
9. Camilla Rabjohns, Peoria Heights IL -- 35
10. Mary Jane Vehige, Creve Coeur MO -- 34
11. Gail Chesnut, Sarasota FL -- 33
12. Cheryl Bosak, Sun City West AZ -- 31
13. Fred Wallitsch, St Charles IL -- 31
14. Ladora Sloan, Mishawaka IN -- 30
15. Martha Smith, Kirkwood MO -- 30

Regional Master of the Year (100-200 pts.)

1. William Lindemann, Champaign IL -- 85
2. Julie Woods, Chesterfield MO -- 68
3. Fred Roese, Springfield IL -- 61
4. David Hoevel, Fort Wayne IN -- 57
5. Douglas St John, Rockford IL -- 53
6. Laverne Niksch, Portage IN -- 53
7. William Bunn, Brentwood MO -- 52

15. Judy Putzel, St. Louis -- 75

Silver Life Master of the Year (1000 pts.)

1. John Killeen, Mishawaka IN -- 185
2. Leroy Boser, Elkhart IN -- 162
3. Elaine Delaney, South Bend IN -- 157
4. Sally Chapleau, Fort Mill SC 154
5. Arbha Vongsvivut, Godfrey IL -- 153
6. Sara Marcus, South Bend IN -- 119
7. Marian Eggebrecht, South Bend IN -- 113
8. James Angell, Munster IN -- 111
9. Betty Primm, Athens IL -- 110
10. Mike Giacaman, St. Louis -- 108
11. Paul Scherer, Mishawaka IN -- 107
12. Teen Robertson, Mishawaka IN -- 106
13. Stephen Brauss, St. Louis -- 106
14. Linda Leinicke, St. Louis -- 104
15. Alma Karas, Batavia IL -- 102

Gold Life Master of the Year (2500 pts.)

1. James Feinstein, South Bend IN -- 211
2. Irene Singleton, South Bend IN -- 173
3. John Chmielowiec, Michigan City IN -- 137
4. Bobbie Holmes, St. Louis -- 133
5. John Kinst, Batavia IL -- 132
6. Denny O'Connor, St. Louis -- 127
7. Rosemary Zonker, Elkhart IN -- 119
8. En Xie, St. Louis -- 114
9. Joseph Chin, Highland IN -- 106
10. Julia Rambo, Mayfield KY -- 103
11. Kenneth Bland, St. Louis -- 101
12. Frank Yoder III, Goshen IN -- 100
13. Donna Pedrotti, Maryland Hts MO -- 99
14. Janice Condon, Rockford IL -- 98
15. Dalton Darnell, Murray KY -- 98

Diamond Life Master of the Year (5000 pts.)

1. Rod Van Wyk, Alton IL -- 190
2. John Aumiller, Fort Wayne IN -- 154
3. Ralph Behrens, St. Louis -- 90
4. James Hammond, Kirkwood MO -- 77
5. Dave Fred, Granger IN -- 68
6. Jacqueline Sincoff, St. Louis -- 49

8. Wayne Carpenter, Chesterton IN -- 50
9. Donald Groch, South Bend IN -- 49
10. Christine Barker, Granger IN -- 48
11. Christine Biggs, Bloomington IL -- 47
12. Linda Shaw, Geneva IL -- 46
13. Margaret Stephens, Champaign IL -- 46
14. Martin Crowe, Naples FL 45
15. Maryellen Nifong, Springfield IL -- 44

NABC Master of the Year (200 - non-LM)

1. Cappy Gagnon, Notre Dame IN -- 100
2. Bill Petrie, Mayfield KY -- 74
3. Martha Hosinski, South Bend IN -- 55
4. Jack Sanders, Champaign IL -- 54
5. Ruth Minish, Granger IN -- 53
6. Richard Gierat, Belvidere IL -- 52
7. Chuck Briggs, Hobart IN -- 50
8. James Farner, South Bend IN -- 46
9. Hilda Connor, Munster IN -- 45
10. Doris Baer, Trenton IL -- 44
11. Roberta Trochtenberg, St. Louis -- 41
12. Kathryn Chamberlain, Rockford IL -- 41
13. Larry O'Maley, Fort Wayne IN -- 40
14. Bud Hawkins, Mt Vernon IL -- 39
15. Peg Deutsch, Bloomington IL -- 38

7. James Davis, Kokomo IN -- 45
8. Eunice Garrison, Boca Raton FL 45
9. David Bish, Cherokee Vlg AR 36
10. Ed Schultz, Chesterfield MO -- 28
11. Robert Giles, Marion IL -- 27
12. Milton Zlatic, St. Louis -- 20
13. Marvin Shapiro, St. Louis -- 20
14. Nancy Popkin, St. Louis -- 20
- 15/16. Karen Walker, Champaign IL -- 6
- Mark Kessler, Springfield IL -- 6

Emerald Life Master of the Year (10,000 pts.)

1. Dean Duncan, Mishawaka IN -- 176
2. Roger Lord, St. Louis -- 63
3. Suzanne Dunn, Crystal Lake IL -- 51
4. Tom Oppenheimer, Ballwin MO -- 47
5. Larry Kolker, St. Louis -- 23
6. Bob Carteaux, Fort Wayne IN -- 17

Platinum Life Master of the Year (7500 pts.)

1. Jack Bryant, St. Louis -- 127
2. Gary Kessler, Springfield IL -- 8
3. Colby Vernay, Lacon IL -- 6
4. Dick Benson, Le Roy IL -- 3

Other Masterpoint Races -- 2006

Each year, ACBL recognizes the bridge successes of Junior players (age 25 and under) and players who win the most points in sectional tournaments. Listed below are the District-wide rankings and points won in 2006 by our players in these categories.

Junior Leaders

1. Will Engel, Freeport IL -- 617
2. Andrew Carver, Edwardsville IL -- 185
3. Sam Katz, Bloomington IL -- 108
4. Ben Englert, Edwardsville IL -- 69
5. Thomas O'Reilly-Pol, St Louis -- 37
6. Praveen Jayachandran, Champaign IL -- 35
7. Matthew Robb, St. Louis -- 28
8. Michael Noll, St. Louis -- 22
9. Yu-Ching Lee, Urbana IL -- 5
10. Brandy Fish, Belleville IL -- 4
11. David England III, Wabash IN -- 1
12. Nicholsa Brackley, Rolla MO -- 1
13. Cody Stipes, Bunker Hill IN -- 1
14. Kimberly Ford, Schererville IN -- 1

Sectional Point Winners

1. Rod Van Wyk, Alton IL -- 149
2. Ralph Behrens, St. Louis -- 135
3. Tom Oppenheimer, Ballwin MO -- 128
4. Nancy Popkin, St. Louis -- 125
5. Alan Popkin, St. Louis -- 120
6. Jack Bryant, St. Louis -- 118
7. John Kinst, Batavia IL -- 118
8. Richard Ellis Jr., Kokomo IN -- 114
9. Peggy Wald, Chesterfield MO -- 100
10. Donald Florida, Marshall IL -- 97
11. Sheldon Margulis, St. Louis -- 94
12. Dalton Darnell, Murray KY -- 87
13. Ed Schultz, Chesterfield MO -- 87
14. Roger Lord, St. Louis -- 86
15. Lee Hastings, St Louis -- 85
16. Kenneth Bland, St. Louis -- 85
17. Will Engel, Freeport IL -- 82
18. Jacque Sincoff, St. Louis -- 81
19. James Davis, Kokomo IN -- 80
20. Arbha Vongsvivut, Godfrey IL -- 77
21. Joseph Chin, Highland IN -- 77
22. Michael Carmen, St. Louis -- 74
23. Christopher Shaw Jr., Carlinville IL -- 72
24. Dennis Spencer, St. Louis -- 69
25. Norman Athy, St. Louis -- 68



District 8 Solvers Forum -- February 2007

by Scott Merritt, Abuja, Nigeria

Greetings from the fifth largest democracy in the world, and one that is about to have its first-ever transition from one elected leader to a different one. If all goes according to plan, insha'Allah, the Nigerian president's hand-picked successor, will win the election-like event and your price of gasoline will not go further through the roof. But who cares about oil and our second child, when there is bridge to be played? So let's jump in to this month's bumper crop.

1. Matchpoints, none vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	1H	1S	???

What is your call as South holding: ♠AK952 ♥1054
♦K ♣10743 ?

I get to start off being 0 for 1 in terms of agreeing with the panel majority. I play a simple game where you support with support, and going after the opponents white at the one-level doesn't usually pay off unless you have a mountain of trumps. Listen to how sensible the arguments are from the panelists who choose to raise their partner:

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
Pass	100	6	14
2H	90	4	35
2S	80	3	39
DBL	60	1	2
2C	60	0	2
1NT	60	1	4
3H	50	0	4

Listen to how sensible the arguments are from the panelists who choose to raise their partner:

Walker: "2H. This is plenty with this hand, especially at matchpoints. Even the most aggressive counters can't value it to more than 10 support points, and that's not enough for an invitational-or-better 2S bid. Passing for penalties looks like +100 at best."

Strite: "2H. Heavy, but it's easy to take the low road at matchpoints with only three trumps, devalued spades and a stiff king."

Kessler: "2H. I'm not sure I understand the problem. It seems automatic to bid 2H."

Nelson: "2H. I doubt the bidding will end here. Lefty will probably bid 3D, or partner for that matter. At this point, I'm not treating my diamond king as full value."

Spear: "2S. Second choice is 2H. I can't score diamond ruffs in notrump."

All of these bidders seem to take the support-with-support concept as so central to their partnership bidding, that they barely mention any other action. I think there is an interesting discussion to be had over whether or not it's an overbid to make an invitational raise with a cuebid. I like 2S, as it gives

partner the entire 3 level to make a game try. One panelist tried the "compromise raise" of a negative double:

Kniest: "Double. 2S is too rich with these values and just three trumps, so I'll double and convert partner's response to hearts to show a 3-card limit-raise. I hope his next bid isn't 5D."

That's one way to show support, and it suggests a gentler raise than the 2S cuebid. The rest of the raisers were fairly evenly split on the simple raise vs. the cuebid, but the majority still grabs all the points for passing. Is there any justice in the world? Are you convinced?

Feiler: "Pass. I like to double when I have an invitational point range. Okay, the truth is that I just like to double, but invitational point ranges provide more ways to win."

Feldheim: "Pass. If North reopens with a double, pass for penalties. If he bids a suit, move towards game in hearts. Who knows? West may enter and increase the E-W troubles."

Dodd: "Pass. Close between this and double. No heart raise fits and the hand pattern and controls argues against a NT call.

Hudson: "Pass. 2H, 1NT, 2NT and Double are also reasonable. Even 2S might work. I'm going to pass and convert a double. I know that could be very wrong, but I think it will be right more often."

Klemic: "Pass. The spade 9 makes going for the penalty a bit more attractive. If we have game, they may be going for 500. Hoping partner doesn't have 3 spades and pass it out."

Breaking rocks in the hot sun... I am shocked that no one invoked the Law here. I am shocked that the panel has become so bloodthirsty. I am shocked that people don't make the bids their partner most wants to hear. At matchpoints, this seems like a good opportunity to just bid your hand. If supporting partner doesn't work this time, partner owes you a hug on me.

2. IMPs, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1C	1H	1S
2H	3C	3H	???

What is your call as South holding: ♠A10764 ♥J742
♦A7 ♣K4 ?

I don't think one of our problems has ever generated ten different answers. There were many different strategies suggested here, but the panel majority seemed to be heading for the same contract. What kind of hand could partner have where he would make a red-on-white advance to the three-level, yet you have all the controls? There's a fine line on

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
4H	100	4	6
6C	100	4	2
4D	90	3	0
4NT	80	1	8
3NT	80	0	27
DBL	70	0	27
5C	70	2	22
4C	60	1	4
4S	60	0	2
3S	50	0	2

how to continue with this hand, and the three top-scoring approaches all seem to have comparable strengths and weaknesses.

Spear: "4H. Good problem. Don't want to go down in 3NT when partner is void in hearts and 6C is making."

Strite: "4H. Pard has at least 10 cards in the minors (no support double, plus the opponents' bidding). We are cold for 5C and have good prospects for 6C opposite two pointed kings and a beefy club suit. 4H, while not a space saver, is the cheapest call which shows slam interest on my way to 5C. It seems like we get a bidding problem each month which is made tougher by not having a Good/Bad 2NT agreement."

Hudson: "4H. Partner has ♠Kx ♥Void ♦Kxxx ♣AJ10xxxx or the like. He doesn't have three spades (no support double) and he should be void in hearts (trusting the opponents' bidding). Still, I can't quite drive to slam. I'll just cuebid on the way to 5C."

Feiler: "6C. Partner may have a heart void, so I want to bid something that won't cause him to overheat his circuits and bid 7C."

Walker: "6C. With partner's extreme heart shortness, this has to have a play, and if it's on a finesse, it's through the stronger hand. I could torture partner with Practice Blackwood or obscure cuebids (4H? 4D?), but since partner has no aces of his own to cuebid, those bids seem to be a waste of my time and his energy."

Kessler: "6C. There is no good bid to investigate a slam. I really hate 4H with this hand. 3NT is the obvious other choice. They may save if we bid it like we have our bid. When this bid doesn't work, you can expect to hear 'Just stay fixed'."

Feldheim: "6C. According to the bidding, North shouldn't have more than one heart, and with first-round control in all of the other suits, 6C is easy. The only worry is missing a grand slam."

I like what the people who just ram into slam have to say. There really will not be any subtlety in a cuebidding sequence that starts with 4H unless partner can now Blackwood. Here's a different move toward slam:

Klemic: "4D. My initial thought, and second thought, was 3NT, but as I look at it more, even relatively ordinary 3C bids give us a play for slam. If partner holds ♠Kx ♥x ♦Kxxx ♣AQJxxx, we need only a 3-3 spade break without clubs 5-0, and partner isn't limited to holding just 6 clubs, nor a heart. 4H would be an unambiguous slam action, but it seems like 4D should be also. 4C and 3S are not forcing, so clearly the wrong actions."

Vongsvivut: "4D. The cuebid should imply club support, but a second suit by responder is still forcing. Partner should make at least 5C and with the right cards, 6C."

Lambert: "4D. My hand has turned into a powerhouse opposite a likely 6+ club suit and a heart void. 4H shows slam interest, but 4D is better since it almost fully describes my hand. I'll pass 5C, and push over any other bid."

The 4D cuebid may be a good strategy if partner reads it as a cuebid for clubs *and* if you're really convinced you should give up on slam if he bids 5C. We already know that unless he has a heart void, he has nothing to cuebid, and most of the panel didn't see the lack of a heart control as a deal breaker for slam. If partner *can* cuebid 4H, there's no clear way to get to 7C, so I'm not sure what the cuebid accomplishes, other than to add a round of bidding that gives the opponents more information.

Anything more timid than these calls is not for me. Only three panelists chose bids that gave up on slam:

Kniest: "5C. I'm vul and game is the biggest reward, unless they bid 5H. I have a prime hand but am missing a trump, so I don't worry about 6C. If pard passes or bids more, he won't be disappointed with my prime hand. Imps, right? No 3NT for me."

Our panel was pretty clear that they wouldn't give a lot of thought to playing 3NT at matchpoints, either.

Francis-Wright: "4C. Partner has pretty much denied a spade fit and is marked for zero or one heart, so my choice comes down to Double or 4C. Double could well be right, but if we make game, we need to take 3H down 4. I think 5C is making and 6C is very possible (♠Kx ♥x ♦Kxx ♣AQ10xxxx).

I agree about the problems with a penalty double, but 4C doesn't rate to get you to slam or even game. 4C here is not forcing. It just shows the values for a competitive raise, and partner -- who is known to be short on aces and trump honors -- is very unlikely to do anything but pass and score up +170.

3. Matchpoints, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1C	Pass	1D
Pass	1S	Pass	???

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
2S	100	6	27
3D	80	3	29
2D	80	3	27
3S	70	2	6
2H	60	1	10

What is your call as South holding: ♠AQ7 ♥654
♦A109543 ♣10 ?

One of the better bridge teachers that I have had used to always urge me to "bid where you live", and two spade honors would surely help out partner on this hand. Do the spade bidders make the best case?

Dodd: "2S. Best of a lot of evils. 2D is too timid, 3D too bold and 2H or any notrump bid is just plain crazy."

Hudson: "2S. An underbid on high-card points, an overbid on trump length. I'm guessing partner is 4-3-1-5, in which case we want to play in spades, not diamonds. One likely result is +170. I can live with that. If partner tries for game I'll accept."

Kessler: "2S. I think at matchpoints this is clear-cut. If partner cannot bid again, play in the suit that

scores the most. I can tell you over the years this works very well."

Lambert: 2S. A tough choice. 1NT is a huge lie, 2D is a big underbid, 2S is likely a 4-3 fit, and 3D wastes a lot of bidding space on bad-fitting hands. Making 2S or 3D scores 110, but opposite a hand like ♠Kxxx ♥Axx ♦xx ♣KQxx, only 2S looks to go plus."

Spear: "2S. I don't like the bidding, but I hope to like the matchpoint score."

If partner passes 2S, this may very well be the best matchpoint contract. If he bids on though, I'll wish I had bid:

Kniest: "3D, invitational. It's still easy to get to 4S if pard is 5-5 or better. I have good diamond spots and spade entries, so 3NT by pard is welcome."

Nelson: "3D. I practice what I preach: I don't raise the second suit without four pieces."

Paulo: "3D. Raising spades, even a matchpoints, seems premature."

Francis-Wright: "3D. Because 2H is a game-forcing reverse, so 2NT and 3-level bids are invitational here. Over 3D, partner will go on to 3NT with a diamond card and the right heart holding. The only problem here is if partner has, say, a 4-3-1-5 pattern with fair to middling spades. In that case, 9 tricks are easy in spades with a normal diamond break and no trump lead, even if the heart and club honors are wrong."

I am so keen to get partner to bid again, that I push as fully as I can with this hand. Over 3D, I feel comfortable with any response partner may make. We may score less than if I bid 2S, but I'm sure the temporary angst I would feel putting down the dummy if I made a call other than 3D will more than make up for the poor score.

Of course, if partner has extra values, I may be wishing I had chosen:

Strite: "2D. Pard is likely to have a red-suit singleton. I don't see Moysian magic and I don't fit clubs. If partner can bid again, I'll be happy to drive to game, or even sniff at slam opposite a diamond raise."

Walker: "2D. 2S is a close second, but when in doubt, I go with the 'normal', most natural rebid. If partner can bid again, we'll be much better placed to get to the right game. I'll be able to give an even better description if the opponents balance (not entirely unlikely), as I can bid 2S then. The hand is short both in values and trumps for 3D (poor suit quality) and 3S (which makes it impossible to get to 3NT, which could well be the only making game)."

The more aggressive panelists didn't let trumps nor high-card points persuade them to give up on the highest-scoring game:

Feldheim: "3S. Purists need 4 spades, but with ruffing values in the short suit, the Moysian should be a pleasure to play."

Feiler: "3S. Maybe an overbid. It won't be my first."

4. Matchpoints, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	1S	DBL
2S	Pass	3C*	???

* (Help-suit game try)

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
DBL	100	6	33
3D	90	5	37
3S	70	3	2
Pass	60	1	24

What is your call as South holding: ♠Void ♥AKQ9 ♦KQJ108 ♣Q732 ?

I wasn't sure about the best bid with this hand, but I feel pretty strongly that 3S is not it. Unfortunately, too many members of the panel disagreed with me, so I had to bite my tongue just a little bit.

Feiler: "3S. Brilliantly preempting the opponents out of their sign-off bid! Hmm, maybe that is brilliant!"

Klemic: "3S. I don't have a problem pushing this hand to four-level. Partner needs only some useful distribution for this to be making. Double here looks more like clubs than a general second takeout, and besides, my hand is pretty good."

Feldheim: "3S. Partner may treat Double as lead-directing. 3S is a huge bid, but powerhouse red suits like this must be shown. This could be a disaster either way, especially if partner has a useful defensive spade holding."

The panel majority went with a second takeout double, giving partner the option to get out at the three-level:

Spear: "Double. Charmed to double again for the red suits. Is there any life across the table?"

Walker: "Double. There's a good argument for passing, but I'll try one more takeout double. A 3D bid is misguided because it takes hearts out of the picture, as partner would rightly play me for a big one-suiter."

Strite: "Double. If partner has a suit, I'd like to hear it, even at the four-level on a Yarborough, so how can double be wrong? I don't mind a penalty double of 3S on a trump stack if partner doesn't fit any of my suits, and my second double doesn't hinder that action."

Hudson: "Double. Partner seems to have length in spades and very few points."

Some may be concerned that a double here isn't precisely for takeout, but what else can it be? The opponents aren't going to play in 3C, so it's pointless playing it as purely for penalty. You're on lead to a spade contract, so a lead-directing meaning doesn't fit, either. What scares me more is the red 3S bid. I gave double the slight nod, as the call that remains the most flexible, despite my severe loathing for using that word.

The second most popular solution was showing your diamond suit.

Kessler: "3D. This is matchpoints, and if partner does know we have at least 5 diamonds, he cannot compete over 3S. I understand there is risk involved, but at matchpoints it is almost always right to be aggressive."

Kniest: "3D. How can this hurt? I have more, and definitely want to let pard know I have a good hand to encourage him to double 4S with a minor trump stack. Silly to pass and then bid over 3S in the passout seat."

I agree about the need to be aggressive here, but 3D isn't a "can't-hurt" action, as whoever declarers may be getting a minus score. It also focuses on just one suit instead of two, so if your best contract is hearts, you've talked partner out of competing in that suit. It just seems there must be a better way to show these values than to give up one suit, pick the other and then wait for the tap to come. Maybe the best course is to go quietly:

Dodd: "Pass. Bidding anything here only gives the opponents a free roll. Three-suiters are way over-rated for trick-taking potential and it's been a while since I dialed up a telephone number voluntarily."

5. IMPs, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	1D	???

What is your call as South holding: ♠AJ84 ♥Void
♦Q2 ♣AKQJ1084 ?

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
2C	100	10	32
DBL	70	4	61
3D	60	1	5

Is this another "bid where you live" hand? Or is it one where it's important to be able to show your full power? Both choices from the panel produce the possibility of disaster, either by partner making an aggressive jump to 4H after a double, or by missing a laydown game after overcalling 2C and hearing Pass-Pass-Pass. The panel expresses this dilemma well.

Feldheim: "2C. A quiet bid, but it feels like the auction isn't going to die. Given a chance, bid spades. Partner should know that clubs are much longer."

Nelson: "2C. There sure will be lots of bidding at this table, so start with the logical bid of 2C. Over some heart bids, I will double to showing spades, but I need to clarify long clubs *first*."

Kessler: "2C. I'm not sure I understand the problem. I'm kind of a slow learner. It seems to me that bidding 2C now gives us our best chance to show spades later by either being able to double (if they bid hearts) or by bidding spades ourselves. Anything else is pure speculation."

Feiler: "2C. Yeah, I know, I might end up in 2C making six, but the other available bids aren't that wonderful either."

Paulo: "2C. I would double if I was not afraid of partner jumping in hearts. After that, he might read

my club bid as a control."

Walker: "2C. This hand is a good advertisement for playing sound 2-level overcalls. If you don't, you have to make a very flawed takeout double and then wing it after partner makes the inevitable advance in hearts. On most hands, 2C won't end the auction, and I can get spades into the picture without misleading partner about my heart and club length."

Kniest: "2C. How can this be wrong? I doubt it will be passed out with 13 hearts missing. Two-level overcalls are virtually unlimited these days, and I'll have more information the next time around. Clubs, spades and notrump are still in the picture. Of course, I've heard pard bid 4H when I've held this type of hand. You feel much better about that development if you haven't doubled first."

Strite: "2C. No hurry. The bidding's not going to end here."

Mr. Strite is simple and to the point. If the bidding does end at 2C, just explain that in your bridge universe, 2C was meant to be forcing.

Four panelists thought a "Big Double" auction was the best approach:

Klemic: "Double. My holdings make this unlikely to be passed around, so I may as well get what useful information I can out of the auction. I am prepared to bid 5C over 4H by any of the three opponents. After partner's 1H response, 3C shows my values, and if partner has the stuff to jump to 2H, then 3C is forcing one round."

Francis-Wright: "Double. It would be great if 3D asked for a stopper here, but BWS defines it as natural. I double, expecting partner to jump in hearts. I'll then bid clubs and find that her honor-third in diamonds meant that 3 (or more) NT was making, if only I had the guts to bid 3NT."

Dodd: "Double. I can't wait for this auction to play out."

Patience was definitely a virtue when this deal was played in a knockout match, as slow bidding won the battle. At one table, the player holding this hand doubled and the auction moved quickly -- partner barreled into 4H and was finally talked out of his 7-card suit at the 6-level, down one. The player at the other table overcalled 2C, then got to show his spade suit in between heart bids from partner and diamond bids from the opponents. They landed in 5C and scored +600.

6. Matchpoints, EW vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	--	1D	Pass
1H	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT		<i>All Pass</i>	

What is *your opening lead* as South holding: ♠A
♥97432 ♦K8532 ♣106 ?

Lead	Score	Votes	% Solvers
♦3	100	6	14
♣10	80	5	24
♥2, 3 or 4	80	5	24
♥7	70	0	14
♥9	50	0	6
♠A	50	0	14

This is a most difficult lead problem, but it's not impossible to apply some logic to your decision, and we've all seen worse. The most problematic issue is that this is matchpoints, where holding down the overtricks may be critical.

Few of our panelists had great hopes of beating this contract, but they were split on the best way to get off lead. The unbid suits are always an option, and five panelists chose their longer one:

Feiler: "Club 10, I'm definitely not leading spades ... or hearts ... or diamonds. This is an attempt at a passive lead. It'll probably blow about three tricks."

Feldheim: "Club 10. The best chance. Neither red suit looks attractive and a spade lead is ugly with a singleton. Even if it 'hits' partner's spade holding, communications would be a serious (probably insurmountable) problem."

Francis-Wright: "Club 10. I expect that partner has 9 cards in the black suits, so a club it is. I may need the spade ace as an entry to lead another club through."

Lambert: "Club 10. After running through some possible holdings for pard (maximum of 2 hearts, maybe 2 diamonds), I still have no clue what is right. Maybe if I sit here thinking long enough, pard will lead out of turn."

It's interesting that some of the club leaders chose it as a passive lead and others thought it was attacking. I'd call it aggressive, as it's essentially gambling that partner has zero or three honors (and/or high spot cards) in the suit. If he has only one or two low honors, you've probably picked up the whole suit for declarer.

Only a handful of Solvers went for the greater gusto with their stronger unbid suit. As Feldheim suggests, the spade ace rates to work out only when partner has two or three spade honors *and* two entries to set up and run his suit.

The plurality of the panel settled for the tried-and-true fourth-best from longest and strongest, although they had qualms about the strength issue. Exchange a low diamond for the 10 and the diamond lead would probably have been the unanimous choice.

Hudson: "Diamond 3. We are leading fourth-best, aren't we? I don't like leading hearts with at least four behind me. Diamonds with four (or more) in front of me is better. I wish I had better diamond spots, but that's why it's a problem!"

Kessler: "Diamond 3. This problem is a flat-out guess for the most part."

Klemic: "Diamond 3. This is unlikely to blow any natural tricks, where a heart lead could pick up partner's honor unnecessarily (say Qx, when declarer has K10). It's not impossible to find partner with three diamond cards and some useful spots."

Kniest: "Diamond 3 looks most appealing. Hopefully, declarer won't be attacking spades right away. A heart hook into pard with a diamond return looks like our best shot. Other leads are hero leads. It's

hard to see how breaking hearts can help us here."

The heart leaders didn't exactly have visions of glory. They were focused on *not* helping declarer, hoping to hang onto a few extra matchpoints for limiting the overtricks. They were more interested in the issue of *which heart* to lead:

Spear: "Heart 3. A diamond lead rates to give up a trick, and a black-suit lead would be worse. A high heart lead would only help declarer."

Strite: "Heart 4. Any lead could help declarer; I hope this is safest. The 4 seems like the best use of my spots while hiding my length from declarer."

Dodd: "Heart 2. The only logical choice. A diamond or spade is hopeless and a club gives declarer an entry-less finesse. Why not attack the probable entry suit while declarer still has choices to make?"

Walker: "Heart 3. The diamond spots aren't strong enough to offer any hope, and a club rates to be little more than a free finesse into the strong hand. A heart at least makes declarer take his own finesses. It's important to lead a low heart, as an attitude lead (a second-highest 7) will give away the layout. If it misleads partner, it will be only for about two seconds, as he'll know after the first trick that I have nothing in this suit."

The "somewhat standard" lead from a nothing suit like this one is second highest, which sends the message that you aren't dying to have this suit returned if partner has a better idea. As these panelists pointed out, though, declarer will probably benefit more from that message than partner, so a deceptive low heart is called for. A few Solvers chose the top-of-nothing 9, but that will often blow a trick if partner has a doubleton honor.

Thanks to all who sent in answers and comments this month. Topping all Solvers were **Sandy Barnes** with 580 and **Nigel Guthrie** with 550. They're invited to join the June panel.

The six new problems for June are below. This is the third of the six sets in the 2007 Solvers Contest, so there's still plenty of time to join in the annual contest, which is based on your best three scores for the year.

Please submit your solutions and comments by **May 25** on the [web form](#). *Note:* The web form will sometimes crash if you've typed very long text into the comment boxes. If you have long comments, you can send your solutions by email to our June moderator:

Tom Dodd -- fieldtrialer@yahoo.com

How the Panel voted (Panel/Staff Avg. -- 528):	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score
Bridge Baron software	2S	4NT	2H	3D	2C	♥3	470
Harold Feldheim, Hamden CT	Pass	6C	3S	3S	2C	♣10	540

Tim Francis-Wright , Medford MA	1NT	4C	3D	DBL	DBL	♣10	480
James Hudson , DeKalb IL	Pass	4H	2S	DBL	2C	♦3	590
Mark Kessler , Springfield IL	2H	6C	2S	3D	2C	♦3	570
George Klemic , Bensenville IL	Pass	4D	2D	3S	DBL	♦3	500
Tom Kniest , University City MO	DBL	5C	3D	3D	2C	♦3	490
Robert Lambert , Warsaw IN	2H	4D	2S	DBL	2C	♣10	500
Larry Matheny , Loveland CO	2H	4H	2D	DBL	DBL	♦3	540
Bev Nelson , Fort Myers FL	2H	5C	3D	DBL	2C	♣10	560
Manuel Paulo , Lisbon, Portugal	2H	4D	3D	3D	2C	♣10	560
Jack Spear , Kansas City MO	2S	4H	2S	DBL	2C	♥3	540
Toby Strite , San Jose CA	2H	4H	2D	DBL	2C	♥4	560
Arbha Vongsvivut , Godfrey IL	Pass	4D	2S	3D	DBL	♣10	530

How the Staff voted

Tom Dodd , Branchburg NJ	Pass	5C	2S	Pass	DBL	♥2	480
Kent Feiler , Harvard IL	Pass	6C	3S	3S	2C	♣10	540
Scott Merritt , Abuja, Nigeria	2S	4H	3D	3D	3D	♦3	490
Karen Walker , Champaign IL	2H	6C	2D	DBL	2C	♥3	560

Solvers Honor Roll (Solver average: 481)

Sandy Barnes , Wildomar CA	2H	4H	2S	3D	2C	♣10	580
Nigel Guthrie , Reading UK	2H	3NT	2S	3D	2C	♦3	550
Ann Beye , St. Louis	540	Asher Axelrod , Jerusalem, Israel					520
Thomas Rossow , South Bend IN	540	Hugh Metzger , South Bend IN					520
Allan Sheppard , Creve Coeur MO	540	Dave Wetzel , Rantoul IL					520
David Warwick , Adrian MI	540	Jay Barron , Muncie IN					510
Sevgi Birol , Istanbul, Turkey	530	Mike Halvorsen , Champaign IL					510
Rich Pestien , Peoria IL	530	Len Vishnevsky , San Francisco CA					510

Solvers Forum -- June 2007 Problems

1. IMPs, none vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	1H	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:
♠A102 ♥AK10 ♦8654 ♣AQ5 ?

2. Matchpoints, EW vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1D	Pass	1H
Pass	3D	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:
♠104 ♥A10942 ♦A2 ♣Q763 ?

3. Matchpoints, EW vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1NT (15-17)	Pass	2S*
Pass	3C**	Pass	???

* (Transfer to clubs)

** (Qxx or better in clubs)

What is your call as South holding:
♠A3 ♥Q62 ♦3 ♣10975432 ?

4. Matchpoints, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1C	DBL	1H	1S
2H	DBL	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:
♠J8732 ♥10 ♦AJ103 ♣652 ?

5. Matchpoints, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
--	1H	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:
♠3 ♥642 ♦Void ♣AK9765432 ?

6. IMPs, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1D
Pass	1S	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:
♠AK83 ♥93 ♦AK8643 ♣K ?

Thanks for the problems above to Mike Halvorsen (2 & 5), John Seng (3) and Kent Feiler (6).



Pair Fare

News from Northwestern Illinois Unit 239

Editor: Dennis Ryan, 118 Glenview Court, Janesville WI 53545
drchezmoi@aol.com

Unit Board Election

Mary Jo Sergent (Rockford,) Susan Mackinney (Lake-in-the-Hills,) John Pree (St. Charles,) and Gene Condon (Rockford,) have been named as candidates to the Unit 239 Board of Directors by a Board nominating committee chaired by Jan Condon. All four are incumbents already serving on the Board, and all four are running for two-year terms beginning on July 1, 2007.

Any Unit member in good standing is invited to run for the Board alongside these candidates. Simply send a petition asking to become a candidate, supported by the signatures of ten Unit members in good standing, to: Dennis Ryan, Unit 239 Secretary, 118 Glenview Court, Janesville WI, 53548.

If no petitions are received, the nominating committee's slate will be presumed elected at the annual Unit meeting in DeKalb on April 21. If one or more petitions are received, details of a contested election will be announced at that same annual Unit meeting.

Annual Meeting and Free Membership Game -- April 21

Unit 239's annual meeting, awards ceremony and free membership game is slated for the First United Methodist Church in DeKalb on Saturday, April 21. The Church is located at Fourth and Oak Streets. The free brunch begins at 11:30 a.m., followed by a short business meeting and awards ceremony at 12:30, followed by the bridge game. Those in attendance will be given one non-transferable free play at the Rockin' Rockford Regional, June 18 - 24.

The entire event is free of charge to all members in good standing of Unit 239. Non-members will be charged \$7.

Directions: From Rockford and northwest: take I-39 south to I-88, I-88 East to Annie Glidden Rd., Annie Glidden Rd. north to Hwy. 38, Hwy. 38 east to Hwy. 23, and Hwy. 23 north to the Church at Oak St (Hwy. 38 becomes Fourth St. in DeKalb.) From Elgin and northeast: take Hwy. 64 west to Hwy. 23, Hwy 23 (Fourth St.) south to Oak St. From Aurora and southeast: Take I-88 to Peace Rd., Peace Rd. north to Hwy. 38, Hwy. 38 west to Hwy. 23 (Fourth St.,) and Hwy. 23 north to Oak St.

Important note: Toll booths at the I-88 exits at Annie Glidden Rd. and at Peace Rd. require tolls with the exact change of 55 cents.

Upcoming Area Tournaments

District 13 Spring Regional, Grand Geneva Resort and Spa, Lake Geneva WI -- April 23-29.

Rockin' Rockford Regional, Clock Tower Resort, 7801 East State St., Rockford -- June 18-24.

299'er Elgin Silver Sectional, Hemmens Cultural Center, 45 Symphony Way, Elgin -- August 3-5.

Rockford Classic Sectional, Clock Tower Resort, 7801 East State St., Rockford -- September 7-9.

Turkey Bowl Sectional, Prisco Community Center, Rte. 31 and Illinois Ave., Aurora -- November 23-25.

New Unit Appointments

Two new Unit appointments were announced last week by Unit president Karl Dencker (Lake-in-the-Hills). **Dee Witte** (Roscoe) has been appointed Unit Secretary, beginning July 1. She will be replacing **Dennis Ryan** (Janesville WI), who has served for the past three years. (Note that the Unit Secretary is a presidential appointment and therefore a non-voting member of the Unit Board.) **Roger Dieringer** (Elgin) has been appointed to replace Dennis Ryan as Unit columnist and correspondent to the *Advocate*, also effective July 1.

Paul Stunkel: Life Master

"I play bridge for two reasons: first, it keeps my brain functioning; and second, at least at the club level, I am part of a warm and genuine community there. Bridge clubs-especially small games-are pleasant places to be."

So avows Paul Stunkel (Crystal Lake,) one of Unit 239's latest Life Masters. Paul made LM in October at the Lake Geneva fall regional, playing in an open pairs game with John Novak (Algonquin.) "I had all my colors. Just any ol' points would do," he laughs.

Born and raised in Chicago, Paul grew up in Magnolia, Illinois, near Peoria. He attended Illinois State University in Normal, where he earned his B. A. degree, and then went on to Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He is the founding pastor of Joy Community Presbyterian Church in Lake-in-the-Hills, where he has lived for the past 10 years. He has also served as head of staff at the United Presbyterian Church of Cuyahoga Falls in Ohio, and at the Laboratory Presbyterian Church in Washington PA.

His wife Karen is also a player in our Unit. They have a son Tim, who works for Bosh Tools in Cleveland OH; a daughter Christy (the mother of their two grandchildren,) who is Director of Christian Education at the Presbyterian Church in Barbrton OH; a daughter Joy, a nurse for Sherman Health System in Elgin; and a son Josh, a student at Columbia University in Chicago. All play bridge on various levels, "so I did my job as a parent," asserts Paul.

Paul began bridge at age 13. "My minister and his wife played, and they taught me. But I only took up duplicate 10 years ago when I moved here. I saw in the newspaper that there was 'this bridge game,' so I just went out and did it. I showed up at Ray and Diane Du Shane's game in Crystal Lake. They

paired me with Bob Heuel of Lake-in-the-Hills. We won! I didn't know anything-I was far too stupid to realize that that wasn't the way it was supposed to be."

The Changing Scene . . .

New Junior Masters: Paul Brown, Rockford; Ellen McCarville, Rockford; Susan Zagnoni, Rockford.

New Club Masters: Carole Kaplan, Rockford; John Schoonover, Cherry Valley.

New Sectional Masters: Peggy Wallace, Dixon.

New Regional Masters: Kenneth Prouty, Geneva.

New Bronze Life Masters: Cecilia LeTourneau, Batavia.



CIBA Digest

News from Central Illinois Unit 208

Editor: Karen Walker, 2121 Lynwood Drive, Champaign IL 61821
(217) 359-0042 kwalker@insightbb.com

Ace of Clubs & Mini-McKenney Winners

♣ Mini-McKenney

Total masterpoints won in 2006

Rookie (0-5 pts. on 1/1/06)

Linda Wilkening, Springfield -- 39
Becky Lagourous, E. Peoria -- 35
Mary Goering, Springfield -- 15

Junior Master (5-20)

Michael White, Springfield -- 56
Jane Byram, Chatham -- 54
Rhonda Berberet, Springfield -- 53

Club Master (20-50)

Daniel Bunde, Champaign -- 119
Dennis Moll, Bloomington -- 74
Sam Sgro, Springfield -- 45

Sectional Master (50-100)

Camilla Rabjohns, Peoria Heights -- 108
Duane Broline, Charleston -- 66
Ann Schuyler, Bloomington -- 60

Regional Master (100-200)

Bill Lindemann Sr., Champaign -- 205
Paul Holmes, Champaign -- 182
Joshua Kueker, Champaign -- 165

NABC Master (200+ to non-LM)

Carole Bardwell, Normal -- 77
Randall Motchan, Bloomington -- 76
Bill Bulfer, East Peoria -- 73

Life Master (300-500)

♣ Ace of Clubs

Points won in club games in 2006

Rookie

Linda Wilkening, Springfield -- 30
Becky Lagourous, E. Peoria -- 14
Diane Marshall, Springfield -- 13

Junior Master

Michael White, Springfield -- 46
Jane Byram, Chatham -- 42
Rhonda Berberet, Springfield -- 31

Club Master

Daniel Bunde, Champaign -- 37
Sam Sgro, Bloomington -- 36
Dennis Moll, Springfield -- 35

Sectional Master

Stevie Holcomb, Springfield -- 40
Ann Schuyler, Bloomington -- 38
Camilla Rabjohns, Peoria Heights -- 35

Regional Master

Biill Lindemann Sr., Champaign -- 85
Fred Roese, Springfield -- 61
Christine Biggs, Bloomington -- 47

NABC Master

Jack Sanders, Champaign -- 54
Peg Deutsch, Bloomington -- 38
Ken Bengoechea, Champaign -- 31

Life Master (300-500)

Doug Jonquet, Decatur -- 68

Gene Wheeler, Chatham -- 150
Gary Dell, Champaign -- 121
Dan Faulkner, Monticello -- 120

Bronze LM (500-1000)

Stephen Hawthorne, Bloomington -- 271
Zach Freehill, Bloomington -- 228
Madhu Viswanathan, Champaign -- 175

Silver LM (1000-2500)

James Melville, Springfield -- 490
Gail Moon, Bloomington -- 229
John Seng, Champaign -- 205

Gold LM (2500-5000)

Don Florida, Marshall -- 286
Phyllis Rahn, Dunlap -- 205
Mike Halvorsen, Champaign -- 180

Diamond LM (5000-7500)

Karen Walker, Champaign -- 242
Lynne Feldman, Champaign -- 222
Mark Kessler, Springfield -- 169

Emerald & Platinum LMs (7500+)

Dick Benson, Le Roy -- 519
Colby Vernay, Lacon -- 510
Chris Benson, Le Roy -- 390
Gary Kessler, Springfield -- 306

Al Wagner, Danville -- 65
Gary Schechter, Springfield -- 63

Bronze LM

Dr John Burdon -- 114
Zach Freehill, Bloomington -- 101
Stephen Hawthorne, Bloomington -- 79

Silver LM

Betty Primm, Athens -- 110
Richard Schnepp, Springfield -- 92
John Kessinger, Decatur -- 90

Gold LM

Phyllis Rahn, Dunlap -- 97
Don Florida, Marshall -- 35
Mike Halvorsen, Champaign -- 33

Diamond, Emerald & Platinum LMs

Gary Kessler, Springfield -- 8
Karen Walker, Champaign -- 6
Mark Kessler, Springfield -- 6
Colby Vernay, Lacon -- 6
Dan Requard, Springfield -- 5
Lynne Feldman, Champaign -- 3

Visit the [ACBL Awards](#) page to view lists of the top ten Unit players in each category for 2006 and year-to-date 2007.

Make your plans now for the Illini Champaign Regional

We hope to see all of our Unit members at our annual Memorial Day regional is coming up May 22-28 at two brand-new hotels in Champaign -- the Hilton Gardens and Homewood Suites. Both hotels are located on the site of the old Chancellor Hotel, where the tournament was held from 1993 to 2005. We have spacious playing facilities in the completely remodeled convention center, along with free parking, convenient restaurants and non-stop hospitality. A full schedule of events is [here](#).

Hotel reservations: To reserve at the Hilton, call 800-548-8690 or 217-352-9970. To reserve at Homewood Suites, call 217-352-9960 and ask for Melinda. Bridge rate is \$89.99 at both hotels.

Please reserve by May 12.

Would you like to serve on the Unit Board?

If you live in one of the counties below, this is the year to elect your representative to the Unit 208 Board of Directors:

Area #5: Christian, Dewitt, Logan, and Macon Counties.

Area #8: Coles, Cumberland, Clark, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie, and Shelby Counties.

The Area Representative meets with the Board three times a year at our Unit sectionals. Anyone from these areas who would like to run for a seat on the Board should send name and ACBL number to Unit Secretary Marilyn Stickel by May 1. Elections will be held in May and June. You can contact Marilyn by email (b.stickel@mchsi.com) or by postal mail at 204 North Fulton Street, Lacon IL 61540.

Coming up on the Central Illinois Calendar:

May 5 & 6 -- District 8 Grand National Teams, Springfield IL

May 22-28 -- Illini Regional, Chancellor Hotel, Champaign IL

[Schedule](#)

June 1 & 2 -- Worldwide Bridge Contest, Local clubs

June, July & August -- North American Pair qualifying games,
Local clubs

July 7-9 -- Twin Cities Sectional, Bloomington



Movin' Up: Congratulations to these Unit members who recently advanced in rank:

Junior Masters (5 pts.)

Theodorsa Day, Paris
Jack Hrbak, Springfield
Cheryl Kuppler, Peoria

Club Masters (20 pts.)

Diane Marshall, Springfield
Ilda McFadden, Springfield

Sectional Masters (50 pts.)

Cathy Camille, Springfield
Judith Greek, Galesburg
Praveen Jayachandran, Champaign
Lorraine Pilcher, Springfield
Joann Rouse, Bloomington

Regional Masters (100 pts.)

Art Adams, Bloomington
Patrick Reilly, Springfield

Bronze Life Masters (500 pts.)

David Short, Champaign
Al Wagner, Danville
Ruth Wettaw, Bloomington

Silver Life Masters (1000 pts.)

Terry Goodykoontz, Champaign

Welcome to new members:

Robert Gossrow, Springfield
Nancy Huckaba, Mattoon
Shirley Logan, Springfield
Carol McNaught, Auburn



Illini Regional Bridge Tournament

Memorial Day weekend:
May 22-28, 2007

NEW site, two brand-new hotels:

**Hilton Garden Inn & Homewood Suites,
1501 S. Neil (Rt. 45), Champaign, Illinois [Map](#)**

**Please join us for seven days of bridge and our special Illini
hospitality:**

- ***Wednesday: Seniors Day*** -- \$4 off your 2-session Open Pairs entry for ages 65+.
 - ***Friday: Juniors Day*** -- Full-time students age 25 and under play **FREE** in the 2-session Stratified Pairs! \$3 student discount for all other sessions.
 - ***Saturday: Barometer final*** in the Flight A Strata-flighted Pairs (1:30 & 7:30).
 - ***Sunday: Fighting Illini Fans Day*** -- \$2 off your afternoon entry if you wear Illini orange and blue!
 - ***Monday: FAST Swiss Teams*** -- playthrough with free continental breakfast & cash snack bar.
 - **Novice/Intermediate Program:** 0-300 events Wednesday through Sunday. Expert speakers at 1:00 & 7:00, Wed. evening through Sun. afternoon.
 - **Non-stop hospitality** -- Evening buffets, hotel hospitality suite, registration gifts, door prizes, champagne splits & glasses to section winners, *Daily Bulletin*, [Daily Web](#)
- Tuesday, May 22**
7:30 -- **Big Ten KO Teams** (continues Wednesday AM, Aft & Eve)
7:30 -- Play for the Pets Charity Pairs
- Wednesday, May 23 -- Seniors Day**
♣ **\$4 off 2-session Open Pair entry for ages 65+.**
9:30, 1:30 & 7:30 -- Big Ten KO (2nd, 3rd & 4th sess.)
9:30 -- Charity Side Series AM Pairs
1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified Open Pairs (single-session entries available)
7:30 -- 299er Pairs
- Thursday, May 24**
9:30 -- **Orange & Blue KO Teams** (continues Friday AM, Aft & Eve)
9:30 -- Charity Side Series AM Pairs
1:30 & 7:30 -- Thu-Fri Side Series Pairs
1:30 & 7:30 -- Strataflighted Swiss Team (Flt. A separate)

[Bulletin](#), bridge bookstore, *more!*

- **Discounts** for full-time students under age 25.

Bracketed Knockout Teams:

Big Ten -- 7:30 Tuesday & 9:30, 1:30 & 7:30 Wed.

Orange & Blue -- 9:30 Thursday & 9:30, 1:30 & 7:30 Friday

Chief Illiniwek -- 9:30 Saturday & 9:30, 1:30 & 7:30 Sunday. *Dorner-Meyer trophies to winners in bottom bracket.*

OskeeWowWow Compact KO (two sessions, four 12-board matches) -- 1:30 & 7:30 Sunday

Side-Game Series: Enter any or all sessions. Play two or more sessions in any series to qualify for overall awards (gold points).

Charity Side Series AM Pairs -- 9:30 am, Wednesday through Sunday (to benefit CATSNAP, a local cat rescue center)
Thu-Fri Side Series ---- 1:30 & 7:30, Thursday & Friday
Sat-Sun Side Series ---- 1:30 & 7:30, Saturday & Sunday

Novice/Intermediate Pairs:

299er Pairs (0-300) -- 7:30 Wed., Thu., Fri. & Sat.; 1:30 & 7:30 Sunday
Easybridge Pairs (0-100) -- 1:30 Saturday

Strata: A=Open A/X=3500 B=2000 C=500 D=200

Entry fees: \$12 session
\$8 session for Easybridge & 299er Pairs
\$3 per session discount for full-time students age 25 and under

[2006 Daily Bulletins](#) (click on calendar links).

Host hotels:

Bridge rate (\$89.99 double) and free parking at the brand-new Hilton Garden

7:30 -- 299er Pairs

Friday, May 25 -- Juniors Day

♣ *Students age 25 & under play FREE in the Stratified Pairs.*

9:30 -- Orange & Blue KO (2nd, 3rd & 4th sess.)

9:30 -- Charity Side Series AM Pairs

1:30 & 7:30 -- Stratified Open Pairs

1:30 & 7:30 -- Thu-Fri Side Series Pairs

7:30 -- 299er Pairs

Saturday, May 26

9:30 -- **Chief Illiniwek KO** (continues Sunday AM, Aft & Eve)

9:30 -- Charity Side Series AM Pairs

1:30 & 7:30 -- Flight A Strataflighted Pairs (barometer final)

1:30 & 7:30 -- Flight BCD Pairs

1:30 & 7:30 -- Sat-Sun Side Series Pairs

1:30 -- Easybridge Pairs (0-100)

7:30 -- Barometer Final (2nd sess. of Flt. A Pairs)

7:30 -- 299er Pairs

Sunday, May 27 -- Illini Fans Day

♣ *\$2 off your afternoon entry if you wear Illini orange & blue!*

9:30, 1:30 & 7:30 -- Chief Illiniwek KO (2nd, 3rd & 4th sess.)

9:30 -- Charity Side Series AM Pairs

1:30 & 7:30 -- Sat-Sun Side Series Pairs

1:30 & 7:30 -- **OskeeWowWow Compact KO Teams**

1:30 & 7:30 -- 299er Pairs (single sessions)

7:30 -- Board-a-Match Teams

Monday, May 28

9:45 a.m. --- *Free continental breakfast.*

10:30 a.m. -- *FAST* Swiss Teams

(stratified by team's average MP holding).

On the road before 6:00.

Chairman: Karen Walker (217-359-0042) kwalker@insightbb.com

Inn and Homewood Suites, 1501 South Neil (corner of Neil & Kirby). Rate includes continental breakfast.

Both hotels are new construction, located on the same site (opened in fall 2006).

Facilities include a heated indoor pool and fitness center. Homewood Suites rooms have kitchenettes. A wide variety of restaurants are within walking distance.

[Map](#) [Driving directions](#)

Reservations: 217-352-9960 (Homewood Suites) *or* 217-352-9970 (Hilton Garden Inn) and ask for bridge rate. *Please reserve by May 12.*

Partners: Hugh Williams (618-203-9566) hrw1997@gmail.com

Madhu Viswanathan
madhubalan@insightbb.com



Greater St. Louis Bridge News

News from Greater St. Louis Unit 143

Editor: Marie Sander, St. Louis MO hatlady@prodigy.net

First, thanks to all local bridge players for participating in the ACBL Nationals held in downtown St. Louis and showing a national audience what fine competitors we are here in St. Louis. It was a rare treat for us to play against such a varied group, and meet some of the best players in the game.

Now, for the exciting local news: Unit 143 is sponsoring a special team game that started April 1. The plan is to have it at 5:00 p.m. on the first Sunday of the month at the American Legion hall. The game in May will be held on April 29, as the first Sunday in May conflicts with the Grand National Teams. The game on April 1 occurred on the Cardinals opening day and we still had 17 teams show up!

The makeup of the teams has a neat twist. It is called "8 is Enough." Each rating of the players on each team cannot exceed 8 points according to this formula:

Flight A player (>2000 masterpoints) = 3 pts.

Flight B player (750-2000) = 2 pts.

Flight C player (0-750) = 1 pt.

This will allow you to form groups of very experienced players and very inexperienced novices, hopefully increasing camaraderie and sportsmanship, as well as earning points.

Donna Coker is eminently suited to run this game, as she is also directing a flight C game on Thursday mornings and brings a lot of enthusiasm to the event. This game will help flight C players to streamline into the more competitive open games and play in a new mix.

If you plan to play, would you let Donna know ahead of time? In person, or by phone (636-386-0128). And if you would like to play but need help getting a team together, Donna will be happy to help there, too. If you have any questions, email at Hatlady@prodigy.net and I can forward your concerns to Donna.

Please print this article and post it at your favorite game to get the word out about this exciting new team event.

Y'all play nice now,
Marie



Unit 223 Reporter

News from Southern Illinois-Paducah Unit 223

Editor: Karen Coe, 12761 Webb Hill Rd., Ewing IL 62836
(618-435-4200) finesse002002@yahoo.com

Congratulations to Unit 223 Masterpoint Race Winners:

Mini-McKenney (total points won in 2006):

0 to 5:

Bob Biarkis, Glen Carbon, IL (45.57)
Eric Bizzell, Beecher City, IL (44.32)
Linda Biarkis, Glen Carbon, IL (37.88)

5 to 20:

Kay Jenkins, Mt Vernon, IL (23.40)
Bonnadean Reimer, Mt Vernon, IL (15.23)
Shirley Heuerman, Effingham, IL (14.29)

20 to 50:

Jill Woolf, Carbondale, IL (31.85)
James Pirkle, Glen Carbon, IL (29.42)
Louella Lyon, Paducah, KY (21.73)

50 to 100:

Ann Smith, Marion, IL (89.54)
Gerald Van Mill, Edwardsville, IL (38.15)
Jerry Cooksey, Centrailia, IL (31.23)

100 to 200:

Raymond Ford, Highland, IL (107.08)
Jim Baumeister, Marion, IL (89.51)
Robert Boivin, Treasure Island, FL (57.43)

200 to 300:

David Osucha, Paducah, KY (100.39)
Carol Warner, Fairview Hgts, IL (87.44)
Bill Petrie, Mayfield, KY (86.18)

300 to 500:

Tim Butterbaugh, Paducah, KY (118.23)

Ace of Clubs (for points accumulated at Club Level)

0 to 5:

Carol Windland, Glen Carbon, IL (17.36)
Debbie Garnier, Centrailia, IL (17.16)
Janet Rose, Edwardsville, IL (15.23)

5 to 20:

Kay Jenkins, Mt Vernon, IL (15.47)
Shirley Heuerman, Effingham, IL (10.98)
Joan McDaniel, Mt Vernon, IL (9.85)

20 to 50:

James Pirkle, Glen Carbon, IL (19.25)
Jill Woolf, Carbondale, IL (18.64)
Sue Gerhart, Lawrenceville, IL (15.93)

50 to 100:

Gerald Van Mill, Edwardsville, IL (24.38)
Jerry Cooksey, Centrailia, IL (21.35)
Ann Smith, Marion, IL (18.44)

100 to 200:

Charles Clark, Edwardsville, IL (36.00)
Raymond Ford, Highland, IL (29.24)
Wayne Sprehe, Centrailia, IL (28.02)

200 to 300:

Bill Petrie, Mayfield, KY (74.36)
Doris Baer, Trenton, IL (44.49)
Bud Hawkins, Mt Vernon IL (39.25)

300 to 500:

Sharon Henneke, Paducah, KY (36.93)

Verdene Twomey, Carbondale, IL (106.09)
Ben Englert, Edwardsville, IL (69.15)

500 to 1000:

Larry Thompson, W. Paducah, KY (200.53)
Paul Quayle, Gilbertsville, KY (197.86)
Brenda Gagnon, Paducah, KY (184.33)

1000 to 2500:

Chris Shaw, Carlinville, IL (232.45)
Fran Russell, Paducah, KY (221.08)
Karen Coe, Ewing, IL (219.44)

2500 to 5000:

Dalton Darnell, Murray, KY (309.45)
John Burgener, St Louis, MO (204.59)
Doug Edwards, Almo, KY (150.72)

5000 to 7500:

Bob Giles, Marion, IL (73.45)

Tim Butterbaugh, Paducah, KY (34.71)
Bill Amason, Summerfield, FL (33.40)

500 to 1000:

Jane Baker, Paducah, KY (86.66)
Larry Thompson, W Paducah, KY (54.60)
Prof Krzysztof Jarosz, Edwardsville, IL (52.56)

1000 to 2500:

Ralph Rotter, Granite City, IL (100.04)
Joann Knox, Metropolis, IL (77.94)
Fran Russell, Paducah, KY (71.25)

2500 to 5000:

Julia Rambo, Mayfield, KY (103.06)
Dalton Darnell, Murray, KY (97.57)
Jo Echols, Paducah, KY (66.86)

5000 to 7500:

Bob Giles, Marion, IL (26.85)

A special tip of the hat to ...

The Unit 223 players who did well in both masterpoint races, but especially to Kay Jenkins of Mt Vernon, who won both the Ace of Clubs and the Mini-McKenney in her category!

And an informational note in regard to the Masterpoint Races: The Masterpoint Category in which you will be competing for 2007 is determined by the number of points you possessed on Jan. 1, 2007.

The McCord Trophy

The prestigious McCord Trophy, awarded to the Unit 223 player for most points won at Unit 223 Sectionals, was won this year by **Judy Eaton** of Carbondale. Judy shared the win in 2005 with her frequent partner, Glafkos Galanos, and repeats her win solo this year. Congratulations and well done!

St. Louis NABC

Congratulations to Mike Carmen, Glenn Smith and all the volunteers who worked to put on the successful National Tournament in St Louis. It was a most enjoyable and well-run tournament.

Unit 223 Board of Directors Elections

Election Games will be held in each of our 5 neighborhoods the first week in June. Names of candidates, dates, locations, and times of Election Games will be announced on the Unit 223 website -- www.unit223.com -- as the election games draw nearer. Club managers also will be notified by mail, and asked to announce election games. Election games are currently expected to be held at Highland

DBC, Paducah DBC (Knights of Columbus), Robinson DBC, Saluki DBC (Carbondale) and Effingham Park Distric DBC. One candidate will be elected from each area to the Unit Board.

Pioneer Sectional

The next Unit 223 Sectional will be the Pioneer Sectional Tournament, April 21 & 22, 2007 at Hendelmeyer Park, 1906 S Fourth, Effingham IL.

Directions: Exit 159 off I-57; east on Fayette, and south on Fourth to the Park.

Play will commence at 1:00 on Saturday, with a second session at 7:00. Swiss Teams will commence on Sunday at 10:30. Events will be offered on both days for 99er players. A full schedule is in this issue of the *Advocate*.

Information: Kate Dickens, Tournament Chair – (217) 868-5462.

PADUCAH CHAMPAGNE REGIONAL
JUNE 18 – 24, 2007
HARRAH'S RIVERFRONT EVENT CENTER, METROPOLIS, IL
Split with Rockford, IL



- 14 REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS—7 K.O.—2 SWISS—5 CHOICE PAIRS
- SIDE GAME SERIES #1: TUE. 9:30 & 7:00; WED. & THURS. 2:00 & 7:00
- SIDE GAME SERIES #2: FRI. & SAT. 2:00 & 7:00
- 1 SESSION PAIRS ENTRIES ALWAYS AVAILABLE

note a player must play in at least 2 sessions of the same side series to win gold points

note both Swiss #1 and Swiss #2 will be scored won-lost and stratified by the average master point holding of the team members

note in a stratified choice pairs championship, a pair must play in 2 and only 2 of the 3 sessions, must buy the entry for both sessions before the start of the first session to be played in, and must inform the directors which 2 sessions they intend to play

- STRATA: C 0—500 B 500—1500 A 1500+

Events Other Than Side Games—Regional Championships in Bold Type

MONDAY—JUNE 18

- (1) CHARITY PAIRS 7:00 PM (1 SESSION)
- (2) BRACKETED K.O. #1 7:00 PM, CONTINUES TUE. 9:30
2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

TUESDAY—JUNE 19

- (1) STRATIFIED OPEN CHOICE PAIRS #1 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM &
7:00 PM. (PLAY IN 2 AND ONLY 2 OF THE 3 SESSIONS)
- (2) BRACKETED K.O. #2 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM CONTINUES WED.
9:30 AM & 2:00 PM
- (3) CHARITY B.A.M. TEAMS 7:00 PM (1 SESSION)

WEDNESDAY—JUNE 20

- (1) STRATIFIED CHOICE PAIRS #2 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM, & 7:00 PM.
(PLAY IN 2 AND ONLY 2 OF THE 3 SESSIONS)
- (2) STRATIFIED SWISS TEAMS #1 9:30 AM & 2:00 PM
- (3) BRACKETED K.O. #3 7:00 PM, CONTINUES THURSDAY 9:30 AM,
2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

THURSDAY—JUNE 21

- (1) STRATIFIED CHOICE PAIRS #3 9:30 AM & 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM.
(PLAY IN 2 AND ONLY 2 OF THE 3 SESSIONS)
- (2) COMPACT K.O. #1 9:30 AM & 2:00 PM
- (3) BRACKETED K.O. #4 7:00 PM, CONTINUES FRIDAY 9:30 AM,
2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

FRIDAY—JUNE 22

- (1) STRATIFIED CHOICE PAIRS #4 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM
(PLAY IN 2 AND ONLY 2 OF THE 3 SESSIONS)
- (2) BRACKETED K.O. #5 7:00 PM, CONTINUES SAT. 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM
& 7:00 PM

SATURDAY—JUNE 23

- (1) STRATIFIED CHOICE PAIRS #5 9:30 AM, 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM
- (2) (PLAY IN 2 AND ONLY 2 OF THE 3 SESSIONS)
COMPACT K.O. #2 9:30 AM & 2:00 PM
- (3) B.A.M. TEAMS 7:00 PM (1 SESSION)

SUNDAY—JUNE 24

- (1) STRATIFIED SWISS TEAMS #2 10:00 AM & TO BE ANNOUNCED

**Hosted by Unit 223
Chairmen**

Doug Edwards (270) 437-4977
Tom Wynn (270) 554-5719
Partnerships Chairman
Maxine Wynn (270) 554-5719
t_wynn@bellsouth.net

Tournament Contact

Dalton Darnell (270) 753-5992
marcia_darnell@hotmail.com

ACCOMMODATIONS

**Harrah's Riverfront Event Center and Hotel
MON. THRU THURS. ONLY**

Phone Number: 1-800-427-7247
Room Rate: \$ 69 + tax for Single or Double
\$10 per each additional person
Group Code: SO6ACBL
Reservation Cut Off Date: June 4, 2007

Players Amerihost Inn

Adjacent to Harrah's
Phone Number: 1-618-524-5678
Room Rate: \$55 + tax for Single or Double
\$10 per each additional person
Group Code: ACBL
Reservation Cut Off Date: June 4, 2007

Holiday Inn Express

At exit 37 off I-24 Easy 3 mile drive to Harrah's
Phone Number: 1-618-524-8899
Room Rate: \$69 + tax for Single or Double
\$5 per each additional person
Group Code: ACBL
Reservation Cut Off Date: June 4, 2007

Group Code used for discount at hotels

Harrah's Riverfront Event Center and Hotel in Metropolis, IL I-24 Exit 37 Across from Paducah, KY

ROCK IN ROCK FORD, ILLINOIS REGIONAL

SPLIT WITH PADUCAH, KY

June 18 – 24 , 2007

CLOCK TOWER RESORT

7801 East State Street – Rockford, IL

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY – June 18

Charity Pairs Game

KO "A" – 1st session

7 PM (benefit ACBL Charity)

7 PM

TUESDAY – June 19

***Stratified Open Choice Pairs (3 sessions)**

KO "A" - 3 sessions

KO "B" - 1st and 2nd of 4 sessions

Stratified Side Game # 1 – 1st round

Stratified Side Game # 2 – 1st round

Stratified Side Game # 3 – 1st round

299'er Pairs (single sessions)

9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

2 PM and 7 PM

9:30 AM

2 PM

7 PM

9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

STRATIFICATIONS

All Open Choice, Side, Charity & Swiss Games

A= 1500 + points

B = 500 to 1500 points

C = 0 to 500 points

299'er Pairs

A = 200 to 300 points

B = 100 to 200 points

C = 0 to 100 points

WEDNESDAY – June 20

***Stratified Open Choice Pairs (3 sessions)**

KO "B" – 3rd and final sessions

KO "C" – 1st and 2nd of 4 sessions

Stratified Side Game # 1 – 2nd round

Stratified Side Game # 2 – 2nd round

Stratified Side Game # 3 – 2nd round

299'er Pairs (single sessions)

9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

2 PM & 7 PM

2 PM & 7 PM

9:30 AM

2 PM

7 PM

9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

Masterpoint Averaging

For all Swiss Team Events:

Example: Player #1 - 760 points

Player #2 - 1,500 points

Player #3 - 2,500 points

Player #4 - 1,400 points

Total: 5,860 points

THURSDAY – June 21

***Stratified Open CHOICE Pairs (3 sessions)**

KO "C" – 3rd and final sessions

KO "D" – 1st and 2nd of 4 sessions

Swiss Team Game – 2 session

Stratified Side Game # 1 – 3rd round

Stratified Side Game # 2 – 3rd round

Stratified Side Game # 3 – 3rd round

299'er Pairs (single sessions)

9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

2 PM and 7 PM

2 PM and 7 PM

2 PM and 7 PM

9:30 AM

2 PM

7 PM

9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

Divided by 4 is 1,465 points = B

FRIDAY – June 22

***Stratified Open Choice Pairs (3 session)**

KO "D" – 3rd and final sessions

KO "E" – 1st and 2nd of 4 sessions

Stratified Side Game # 1 – 4th round

Stratified Side Game # 2 – 4th round

Stratified Side Game # 3 – 4th round

299'er Pairs (single sessions)

9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

2 PM and 7 PM

2 PM and 7 PM

9:30 AM

2 PM

7 PM

9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

being handicapped.

SATURDAY – June 23

***Stratified Open Choice Pairs (3 sessions)**

KO "E" – 3rd and final sessions

Compact KO – 2 session

Stratified Side Game # 1 – 5th round

Stratified Side Game # 2 – 5th round

Stratified Side Game # 3 – 5th round

299'er Pairs (single sessions)

9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

2 PM and 7 PM

2 PM and 7 PM

9:30 AM

2 PM

7 PM

9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

SUNDAY – June 24

Stratified "SWISS TEAMS" (play thru session)

10 AM (NEW TIME – Do Not Bring Food – FREE Sandwich Lunch!!)

*For overall **Gold Point** awards in "Choice Open Pairs" the same pair must play 2 sessions out of 3 sessions in one day.

In the Stratified Side Games, a player MUST play at least 2 sessions in the same event, to place overall or win Gold Points.

HOST HOTEL

Clock Tower Resort
7801 East State Street
Rockford, IL

All Family Friendly Tournament

Directions: Off Route 90 exit State Street business route 20
and you will drive directly into the Clock Tower Resort.

This resort offers an indoor & outdoor pool, tennis courts, workout room and 2 good restaurants. When making your reservation, ask them to mail you one of their brochures. Remember you can visit the new dinosaur “Jane” and play in the great Rockford Water Park. **Plenty of activity for your non-playing spouse and children!!**

Standard 2 double beds \$65.
Standard King/Queen \$65.

1-815-398-6000

Make reservations BEFORE May 18th for guaranteed \$65 room rate.

When making reservation refer to: **ACBL Unit 239 Bridge**

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

General Chairman – Karl Dencker – 847-458-8089 – karldencker@fvi.net

Co-Chair - Douglas Gugger – 815-235-7566 – D.A.Gug@insightbb.com

Partnership Chairpersons – Gene and Jan Condon – 845-633-4979 – jjggs320417@cs.com

Hospitality Chairpersons – Lucille Chaffee Douglas Gugger

299^{er} Chairlady – Mary Jo Sergent – 815-874-4157

Unit 239 Board of Directors

Karl D. Dencker – President

Douglas Gugger – Vice President

Susan MacKinney - Treasurer

Mary Jo Sergent – Gene Condon – Lucille Chaffee – Jan Condon – John Pree

Dennis Ryan – Secretary

Coming Events -----

September 7 -9, 2007 – Rockford, IL Classic Sectional – Clock Tower Resort

November 23 -25, 2007 – Turkey Bowl – Aurora, IL – Prisco Comm. Center

March 7 – 9, 2008 – Early Spring Sectional – Elgin – Elgin Comm. College

June 16 – 22, 2008 – Rockin’ Rockford, IL Regional – Clock Tower Resort

Read District 8 news in the ADVOCATE – <http://advocate.home.insightbb.com>

Emergency Tournament Phone – 1-815-398-6000 – ask for “bridge tournament desk”



Pioneer Sectional April 21 & 22, 2007

Hendelmeyer Park,
1906 S. 4th Street, Effingham IL

Saturday, April 21

1:00 & 7:00 -- Two-session Stratified Open Pairs (300 / 1000 / Unlimited)

1:00 & 7:00 -- Single-session 99er Pairs (if attendance warrants)

Party after the evening session.

Sunday, April 22

10:30 & TBA -- Stratified Swiss Teams (300 / 1000 / Unlimited)

10:30 & TBA -- Two-session 99er Swiss Teams (if attendance warrants)

Super dinner served between sessions.

Entry fees: \$9 per person session on Saturday; \$23 for two sessions on Sunday (includes dinner).

Lodging: Major chain motels located at interstate exits 159 & 160.

Directions: Take exit 159 from I-70/I-57. Go east on Fayette and turn south on 4th Street.

Info: Kate Dickens (217) 868-5462 nonnie@ineffingham.com

Park District phone: (217) 342-4415



St Louis Spring Sectional

May 18-20 , 2007

Blanchette Park, 1900 W. Randolph, St Charles MO

Friday, May 18

1:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs 0-500, 500-1500, 1500+
Stratified Intermediate/Novice Pairs** 0-199

7:30 pm Flight A/X Open Pairs 0-3000, 3000+
Stratified B, C Pairs 0-500, 500-1500
Stratified Intermediate/Novice Pairs** 0-199

Saturday, May 19

9:00 am Bracketed Knockout Teams Round 1 (Lunch provided)

1:30 pm Stratified One Session Open Pairs 0-500, 500-1500, 1500+
Stratified Intermediate/Novice Pairs** 0-199
Bracketed Knockout Teams Round 2
Side Game

7:30 pm Stratified One-Session Open Pairs 0-500, 500-1500, 1500+
Stratified Intermediate/Novice Pairs** 0-199
Bracketed Knockout Teams Round 3
Side Game

Sunday, May 20 -- 10 a.m. & TBA

Stratified Swiss Teams 0-500, 500-1500, 1500+
NEW 299 Swiss Team -- only play against 299er teams

- **Separate Intermediate/Novice Games with a dedicated director. You compete only against players with less than 199 masterpoints!**
- Terrific hospitality after all evening sessions
- Beverages, popcorn, baked goods & fruit at all sessions
- Lunch provided for participants of the Saturday KOs
- Continental breakfast on Sunday morning 9:00 AM
- Hot buffet meal between sessions on Sunday
- Guest speakers Friday & Saturday, at 12:45 & 6:45 pm.

Directions: From I-70 take 5th St North 1.8 miles to Randolph, turn left, then 0.5 miles to park entrance on the right



Kokomo Sectional

June 29, 30 & July 1, 2007

Johanning Civic Center - on US 31 1500 N. Reed Rd.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY JUNE 29

Stratified Open Pairs

Single Sessions

1:00 PM 7:00 PM

*Limited (200/100/50; 0-20 & 0-5 MP's) Pairs

Single Sessions

1:00 PM 7:00 PM

SATURDAY JUNE 30

FREE - Continental Breakfast at 8:45 AM!

Bracketed Knockout Teams (Random Draw)

9:00 AM 1:00 PM 7:00 PM

Stratified Open Pairs

Single Session

9:00 AM 1:00 PM 7:00 PM

*Limited (200/100/50; 0-20 & 0-5 MP's) Pairs

Single Sessions

1:00 PM 7:00 PM

SUNDAY JULY 1

Bracketed Swiss Teams (Play-thru)

10:00 AM

Stratified Open Pairs: A = 1500 +, B = 750-1500,
C = 0-750

* Stratification possible

**Intermediate/Novices
Partners Guaranteed** for
all 0-200 MP and under
events -1 hour before game
time

Tournament Chairman

Dorothy Harrell
(765) 457-7709

Partnerships

Chris Egberts
(574) 699-0594

NOTE:

**BROWNBAG LUNCH
INCLUDED IN SWISS
TEAM ENTRY FEE OF
\$21.00**

The ACBL *Zero Tolerance*
policy for bad behavior will
be in effect.

SMOKING POLICY:

This is a NON-SMOKING
tournament with frequent
breaks.

Hotel Information:

Fairfield Inn
US 31 at Lincoln Rd.
(765) 453-8822