

**June  
2005**

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League

Editor: **Karen Walker**,  
Champaign IL

## MIDWEST TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

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

- June** 08-12 Minocqua-Lakeland Sectional, Woodruff WI  
10-12 Sioux City IA Sectional, Sioux Land Senior Center  
13-19 **DISTRICT 8 SPLIT REGIONAL:** Executive Inn, Paducah KY  
& Indoor Sports Center, Loves Park (Rockford) IL  
24-26 Kokomo IN Sectional, Johanning Civic Center ([Dick Ellis](#))  
28-Jul 4 TWO RIVERS REGIONAL, Sheraton, Des Moines IA ([Schedule](#))
- July** 08-10 Bloomington IL Sectional, Interstate Center ([Mike Tomlianovich](#))  
09-10 199er Sectional, Delmar Gardens West, St. Louis MO ([Jennifer Luner](#))  
11-17 SUMMERFEST REG., Sheraton NW, Arlington Hts. IL ([Schedule](#))  
15-17 Evansville IN Sectional, Executive Inn ([Ray Andersen](#))  
21-31 SUMMER NABC, Hyatt Hotel, Atlanta GA  
29-31 Edwardsville IL Sectional, Knights of Columbus Hall (Ruby Nelson)
- Aug** 05-07 South Bend IN Sectional, Indiana University campus ([Raj Kohli](#))  
15-21 **MISSISSIPPI VALLEY REGIONAL**, Renaissance Hotel, St. Louis MO ([Mike Carmen](#))  
26-28 Terre Haute IN Sectional, IUOE Hall ([Laura Lee Bright](#))  
26-28 Marquette WI Sectional, Masonic Building ([Denise Hoffman](#))

**Complete schedule of ACBL tournaments:** <http://www.acbl.org>

**District 8 web site:** <http://home.insightbb.com/~m.tomlianovich/d8.htm>

**District 8 Tournament Coordinator:** [Chris Patrias](#)

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# ACBL Director's Report

by Georgia Heth, Morton IL

District 8 Representative on the ACBL Board of Directors

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**ACBL Headquarters:** It has been an interesting two months. A rumor went around the country that the ACBL was moving its headquarters from Memphis to Las Vegas. There is no truth in this at this time. The ACBL did receive a non-binding offer for the Memphis building on Airways Boulevard, which it countered with a new non-binding offer, but nothing has come of this. There is a study going on regarding the possibility of moving to a different city, but nothing has been decided yet, except that we need to leave the Airways Boulevard building for safety reasons.

**Grand National Teams:** The Grand National Teams District Final was held April 30 and May 1 in Springfield. We had 29 teams participating: four in the Open Flight, one in Flight A, 14 in Flight B and 10 in Flight C. I don't think there were any repeat winners from last year except in Flight A, and they were the only team that entered. Thanks to Chuck and Liz Zalar, Betty Primm, Mike Tomlianovich, and Gary Schechter, who all worked hard to put on a lovely event. The only way it could have been better is if more teams had shown up!

**District Board committees:** Two special committees have been formed this summer and the District 8 Board will be discussing the issues. We have been asked for our opinions on two topics: tournament scheduling and redistricting. Our district is always on the chopping block when ACBL discusses redistricting as we are still the smallest district based on membership numbers. If you have opinions on either of these topics, please let me know.

**Atlanta Membership Meeting:** If you are going to be at the NABC in Atlanta on the first Sunday, please consider coming to the Membership Meeting. It will be held immediately after the end of the second session, around 7:30 pm. The membership will be voting on the new bylaws, the final step before passage. The meeting time is different than usual since Atlanta will be starting all events at 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. We may be considering changes to the Articles of Incorporation as well. It isn't often that the membership meeting has actual items to be voted on, so don't miss your chance.

**District Regional sites:** I just returned from Champaign's Memorial Day Regional. Attendance was up from last year and I thought the tournament was successful. The Chancellor Hotel closed as soon as we left, and the new owners are beginning major renovations. I also heard that the Fort Wayne site renovation is complete and the new playing site is very plush. Rockford's regional is moving to the Clock Tower Resort next year and Paducah may be moving its tournament to a casino hotel in the next few years. The St. Louis site was recently renovated as well. We are going to be spoiled by the new digs.

**Club and Unit news:** Last week, I got to attend the grand opening of a new bridge club in Springfield. They had a good turnout with friends coming from all over Unit 208 to join in the party. There is also a new weekly game starting in Champaign on Saturday afternoons. Unit 143 is running a Unit Growth Seminar this fall. Bridge is booming in District 8!

If you have questions or suggestions about ACBL Board actions or other bridge matters, please contact me at [gkheth@hotmail.com](mailto:gkheth@hotmail.com) or 917 S. Main St., Morton IL 61550-2419.

See you at the tables.

-- Georgia



# 2005 District 8 Grand National Teams

April 30 & May 1, 2005 -- IDOT Building, Springfield, IL



Congratulations to the winners and runners-up in District 8's annual Grand National Teams finals. The winning team in each flight won a travel award from the District Board to represent District 8 in the national finals in Atlanta GA in July.



### Flight A (0-5000)

1 - (photos) **Richard Blumenthal**, Lincoln IL; **Kris Maillacheruvu**, Peoria; **Madhu Viswanathan** - **Mike Halvorsen**, Champaign IL;

### Championship Flight

1 - (photos) **Mike Carmen** - **John Dicks** - **Larry Kolker** - **Marvin Shapiro**, St. Louis

2 - Nancy & Alan Popkin - Milt Zlatic - Tom Oppenheimer - Tom Kniest, St Louis; Karen Walker, Champaign IL



### Flight B (0-2000)

1 - (photo) **Meyer Abarbanel**, Belvidere IL; **Jim Hudson**, DeKalb IL; **Mike Giacaman**, St Louis; **Arbha Vongsvivut**, Godfrey IL

### Flight C (Non-Life Masters under 500 pts.)

1 - (top photo) **Bill Lindemann, Sr.** - **Bill Lindemann, Jr.** - **Gary Dell**, Champaign IL; **Dan Faulkner**, Monticello IL

2 - Pat Carrington - Cal Corbin, Champaign IL; Jim Scott, Rantoul IL; Hank Hoffman, Bloomington IL  
3/4 - Ruby Nelson, Edwardsville IL; Doug McQuaid, Lebanon IL; Ray Sigler, Trenton IL; Bob Cundall, Collinsville IL  
3/4 - Georgia Heth, Morton IL; Will Engel, Freeport IL; Carole & Ron Sholes - Jim Melville, Springfield IL

2- (**bottom photo**) Larry & Peggy McLaughlin, Decatur IL; Linda & Gene Albrecht, Mt. Zion IL  
3/4 - Becky Baum, Alan Avery, Maryellen Nifong, Dan Punzcak, Springfield IL  
3/4 - Bret Van Fleet - Zack Freehill - Steve Hawthorne, Bloomington IL; Eric Gettleman, Normal

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**Sunday side game**

1 - (68.50%) Liz Zalar, Springfield IL - Mike Tomlianovich, Bloomington IL  
2 - (60.50%) Mary Jarrells, Wildwood MO - Naomi Orsay, Brentwood MO

# Good lessons from a red herring

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*North (dummy)*

♠ AKJ542

♥ A

♦ Q2

♣ J974

♠ 7

♥ KQJ107

♦ J1043

♣ KQ5

*South (Declarer)*

Here's a fairly simple play problem that generated a lot of discussion after a 199er game a few years ago at the Bridge at Ginger Creek club in Champaign IL. The contract at most tables was 3NT, but only a few declarers made it.

You're South, declaring 3NT with the opening lead of the club 6. What's your plan?

Did you routinely play a low club from dummy? If so, you went down.

In the post-game discussion, a few declarers admitted they were thinking matchpoints and played low, hoping to eventually find the club 10 and take three club tricks. The club suit, though, is a "red herring" here. You don't need three club tricks to make your contract, but you do need five heart tricks.

If you mentally plan just the first few tricks, you quickly see that your main problem will be cashing hearts. After you unblock dummy's heart ace, the only possible entry to your hand is a club. That entry will disappear, though, if North led from the club ace and you win the first trick with the king or queen.

One declarer used the Rule of 11 to determine that East had no club higher than the 6, so he carefully played dummy's 7, assuming the opening leader held ♠A1086 (or longer). As others pointed out, though, the Rule of 11 is reliable only when the lead is an "honest" fourth-best card. On this deal, the other three suits had been bid naturally -- South had bid hearts and diamonds, North had shown long spades -- so West might well have chosen to lead a club from a three-card suit. If West led from ♣A86 or ♣A106, you can't afford to let East cover dummy's spot card.

The group's final conclusions:

- 1 - Always stop to plan the play before you call a card from dummy, even on deals where it looks "automatic" to play second-hand low.
- 2 - Before you assume a lead is fourth best, consider the auction and try to determine if the opening leader might have a good reason for selecting a shorter suit.
- 3 - Focus on your most critical suit first, then worry about maximizing tricks in other suits. Here, if you think too much about extra tricks in clubs or spades, you may end up cashing only one of your five "sure" heart winners.
- 4 - All of this leads you to the right play at trick one: You must put up dummy's club jack to assure the contract.

Pretty good analysis for players in a 199er club (or any other)!



# District 8 Solvers Forum -- June 2005

by Tom Dodd, Branchburg NJ

## 1. Matchpoints, both vulnerable

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
3S	DBL	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding: ♠953 ♥K95 ♦764 ♣AK96 ?

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
Pass	100	10	54
4C	90	3	32
5C	90	2	4
4S	90	1	0
4H	50	0	10

Competing over preempts is a recurring theme in this forum and others, annoying little problems all mainly because the “correct” answer at the table is often different because of the human element. Like in a high-stakes poker game, if your West is loose, it will be more profitable in the long run to take what should be a big penalty, even though you may be cold for a slam. When West is tighter with his preempts, passing may be best for the sole sake of scoring a small plus when game is problematic and you can’t even guess a strain to play in. Long and short, anyone who sounds confident with his or her answer here is kidding themselves.

GIACAMAN: “5C. Partner should have a good 15-16 points for this action, which means that we belong in game. North is also likely short in spades, so 3NT and Pass are probably wrong. 4H may be the best spot, but the preempt makes it impossible to find out. I’ll tell partner what I think we can make opposite a good double (and where my values are). If there is a slam it will be up to partner to bid it.”

KNIEST: “4C. Need to go plus at matchpoints. My admiration goes to those who pass, and further admiration to those who passed and went plus.”

STRITE: “4C. Given my trump holding, the opponents rate to have seven spade tricks, limiting the upside of a penalty pass. I’m okay with the heavy 4C because of the high loser count, uncertain support, the impending spade tap and likely bad breaks.”

KESSLER: “4S. Preempts are supposed to cause bidding problems, and this one certainly has. I think this shows values as opposed to guaranteeing 4 hearts. If partner is 4-4-4-1, he will bid clubs, and if he bids a red suit, he rates to have five. Bidding 4C is off the charts, as you may play there with 20 opposite 10 and cold for a slam. This isn’t perfect, but as close as you can get.”

At least there are people in all camps who realize the tenuous nature of any call here (except for Kessler, and in all the years I’ve known him, he has never second-guessed a call until after the session!).

Out of all the calls, 4C is my least favorite. It understates the hand strength, making game less likely, while giving up on a penalty (it is *highly* unlikely that even a conservative West will make 3S given the bidding, and BWS has always been a system that advocates “light, aggressive preempts”). And when the penalty comes, it may well be more than the score you will perhaps struggle to score up. The real question that nags me is whether we will get enough at 200 or 500 to make up for a potentially lost game. In other words, *who* is sitting on my left, and how likely is it that other Wests will insert the preempt. It’s a judgment call that must be made at the table if there is to be any confidence behind it.

For the majority:

NELSON: “Pass. Certainly with a balanced hand and only a f4-card club suit, it is right to pass, with the preempt, suits will split unfavorably. I don’t want to bid any number of clubs.”

FELDHEIM: “Pass, to go for +200 and try to avoid a minus score. If partner started with QJxxx in clubs, the post-mortem may be painful.”

WALKER: “Pass. With no long suit and all this defense, I can’t see being bullied to the 4-level into what could be a specious fit. I have three potential tricks and partner surely ought to have two or three, so I’ll take the plus score.”

HUDSON: “Pass. We probably have enough to beat them, and +800 is not out of the question. We may have a game (or slam), but would we find it if I bid 4C (which would be my choice, rather than 3NT or 4H)? With no clear route to success, I won’t go adventuring with a flat hand.”

MERRITT: “Pass. At matchpoints, I pass, see what happens and move on to the next board. This is much thornier at IMPs.”

KLEMIC: “Pass, only because the scoring is vulnerable at matchpoints. We rate to be able to find five tricks somewhere. We might have a game, but who knows if we’ll be able to figure out which game it is? Two random cards may be enough to beat 3S, and North should have much better than just two random cards.”

Seems I’m always holding two random cards these days, except when I’m playing Omaha.

## 2. IMPs, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1S	2D	Pass
3D	3H	Pass	???

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
4S	100	7	30
3S	90	6	46
4D	90	1	4
3NT	80	2	8
Other	60	0	12

What is your call as South holding: ♠65 ♥A9 ♦Q765 ♣Q9765 ?

The only excuse I could muster for bidding game on this piece of garbage is one I used to hear a lot from some old teammates: “We don’t play making partscores red at IMPs.” Seemingly sharing this philosophy-

PAOLO: “4S. Partner, though vulnerable, reaches the 3-level after my initial pass, so he must have a very good hand. At IMPs, with one sure value, I bid game.”

MERRITT: “4S. I bid game, but don't feel real confident that this will have any chance. Partner could have doubled with a really nice hand, so I might be hanging him with no fit. Still, my Ace and 'kinda in the way' queens might give him a fighting chance.”

A fighting chance at what? Did I miss something here about those queens? Since when did we start counting purely defensive values when evaluating trick-taking potential?

HUDSON: “4D. Since we're vulnerable at IMPs, I'll take a shot, letting partner choose in case he's 5-6. At matchpoints, or playing with my regular partner (who loves to compete and rarely has extras), I'd bid 3S. I expect partner to read my bid as asking him to choose the game, rather than as suggesting slam (!) in hearts. He'll remember that I didn't make a negative double.”

I have no idea why more than half of a presumably sane panel would want to unilaterally take the plunge here. You have exactly one trick in hand, with virtually no hope that you'll help beyond that. I can only surmise that the 8 panelists who chose to jump without a parachute here were seduced by the vulnerability, or perhaps they felt they were behind in the match and forgot that North still has a bid coming after you take your simple preference? Speaking for sanity:

KNIEST: “3S. Let partner bid the game; he may have been under pressure and my hand is so-so.”

NELSON: “3S. I have one working card and a bunch of junk, and I doubt that is enough for game. Partner could have doubled 3D, but his hand is very distributional.”

And if it IS enough, North is still there with the opportunity to bid it.

GIACAMAN: “4S. Partner has a strong two-suiter. My Ace and doubleton are worth gold, so I'm giving partner the good news.”

Cover your ears when North sees the “good news”. Even FOX News Channel couldn't spin this pile of garbage into a good hand.

## 3. Matchpoints, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1S	2D	2H	Pass
3H	4D	4H	???

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
Pass	100	8	40
5D	90	7	38
Double	60	1	20
5S	50	0	2

What is your call as South holding: ♠J8 ♥A754 ♦654 ♣10932 ?

Another hand that has me in a quandary (I've learned a lot of fun new words since moving to the East Coast). This tickler has at least a justification for bidding because of the form of scoring. I would expect East-West to make 4H most of the time, so is it worth the gamble to try for a smaller minus? A sampling of views-

MERRITT: “5D. While we are shooting at a pretty small target, partner sure seems to be suggesting that I bid on. I could fathom this as a maker on a heart lead if partner holds something like S-Kxxx H-Void D-AKxxxx C-Ax, but I know that is a bit optimistic.”

KNIEST: “ Pass. My Heart Ace doesn't figure to be an offensive asset and, while I may have some annoyance in the black suits for the opponents, my hand doesn't suggest they're going down. All partner need for his bids is great diamonds and a card and a half on the side. That's not nearly enough to chance a double. I'll look for a better opportunity.”

PAOLO: "5D. I assume that the opponents bid 4H to make, we can't set their contract, our sacrifice is profitable, and they may be pushed."

KESSLER: "Pass. I'll go with Gunther Polak's advice: 'Only Jesus saves'. My gut feeling is 5D is going down, as is 4H. I would have bid 3D over 2H and hopefully avoided this problem."

STRITE: "Pass and lead diamonds sounds like a plan to me. I could see doubling to rattle my grandmother sitting East, but never a sacrifice when both opponents made limited bids and trumps aren't breaking."

GUTHRIE: "Pass. Partner may not be far off aiming for 5D but 11 tricks are a lot. Persistent diamond forces are more likely to break the opponent's heart, but double seems overconfident."

I really don't feel strongly about this problem. My gut tells me they're one too high, and that we can make 4D but not 5. These are the kinds of decisions that win pair events (or stick you in the consolation), which is probably why I've always preferred teams!

With the panel fairly evenly split and one panelist still to answer, I had hoped for a clear resolution. Alas, it was not to be:

WALKER: "Double. Partner is showing decent defensive strength (else he could have made a heavy vulnerable preempt opposite my passed hand). He probably has spade cards and he's shown no fear of pushing them into game. With those inferences, I think I ought to cooperate. This could be a huge number if declarer loses trump control. Since he didn't open 2H, he's likely to have only a 5-card suit, and we'll have plenty of opportunities to shorten his trump length."

While I agree that North should have some defense, I don't share the wide-eyed optimism of a big penalty here, unless East-West are a couple of crazies. They can supposedly see the red colors on their side of the board, and West's raise was not forced.

#### 4. Matchpoints, NS vulnerable

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
			Pass
Pass	4S	5C	???

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
5D	100	7	8
5S	90	5	66
Double	60	4	8
Pass	50	0	18

What is your call as South holding: ♠1032 ♥64 ♦AKQ103 ♣943 ?

Double or bid on was the question here. Since an opening 4S at this vulnerability in any position is *not* a weak bid, we are faced with a similar decision as Problem 3, with a slightly different hand. Yes, we will probably beat 5C a trick or two, but will it be enough to compensate for the almost certain game?

PAOLO: "5S. I expect to win this contract. I don't bid 5D, though this call might allow partner to better judge our combined strength, because I'm afraid of West gliding a lead directing 5H, and I'm on lead against 6C (doubled)."

KLEMIC: "5S. Partner need not have a weak hand for 3rd seat 4S call, especially at this vulnerability. If I weren't on lead I'd bid 5D on the way, but if I choose 5D now, that lets in a 5H call, showing the same kind of hand my 5D call would have been here. Since I don't want to let that call happen, I choose 5S. The only benefit to 5D is that if they bid 6C, partner will better decide to pull or not. I think this is a rather small target."

MERRITT: "Double. Partner has applied the heat. I think that I need to try and scare them, but again, I have been wrong before. We do only need three tricks on defense vs 11 on offense."

HUDSON: "Double. I ardently wish pass were forcing -- and, in favor of that interpretation, we did voluntarily bid a vulnerable game -- but I suspect partner wouldn't take it that way. In the battle of slogans, 'The five level belongs to the opponents' overrides 'Support with support'. What tips the scale in favor of doubling over bidding 5S is that I suspect partner has heart length, therefore diamond shortness. Therefore, our hands don't fit well, while my diamonds will probably stand up on defense."

To me, a double here is a give-up, and given the panel vote will produce a big matchpoint swing. Opposite most reasonable red-vs.-not 4S openers, you will be virtually laydown for 5S unless North has a diamond void, made unlikely by East's little foray to the 5-level. I had originally dismissed 5D as silly, since you will be on lead against 6C should E-W save, but the comments for this call made me think twice.

STRITE: "5D. Who is sitting North? Certain undisciplined third-seat 4S bids produce slam. Wouldn't you open 4S with seven solid spades, the heart ace and a stiff club here?(I might open a Bridge World Standard NAMYATS 4D with that hand. -- TJD) I'd double at IMPs, but I don't think double will yield many matchpoints. Goren proscribed 8 tricks for an unfavorable 4S, so the 5-level rates to be safe or cheap, and the clever 5D call still gets us to slam on the super-fitter."

KNIEST: "5D. There may be more bidding, so I'll let partner make the decision at the 6 level. It's nuts to bid 5S and have both of us guessing later."



It's rather optimistic to think we can make a slam here, but I suppose there's no harm in trying. You can't possibly want to play this hand in diamonds, but showing the suit is a two-edged sword, giving the favorable-vulnerability opponents information they may need to decide what to do next.

### 5. IMPs, none vulnerable

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

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
2NT	100	13	38
2D	70	3	26
1NT	70	0	12
2C	60	0	14
3C, 3D	50	0	10

What is your call as South holding: ♠KQ ♥63 ♦AJ92 ♣AQJ86 ?

This is truly an ugly hand, and the panel came through in a difficult situation. I nearly always open these midrange 2-2-4-5 hands 1NT because of the insoluble follow-up bidding nightmares. Anything you try at this point is either an overbid (2NT) or an underbid (1NT, 2C) or misstates your hand (2D). I was gratefully surprised that nobody tried a spade raise.

NELSON: "2NT. Close my eyes and bid 2NT. Hopefully, partner has hearts or they won't lead them. I am way too big to bid 2C, not long enough to bid 3C, and I certainly can't cuebid with only two spades."

PAOLO: "2NT. At most, partner has five points in spades; so, he has some heart values or the club king. In this case, I hope that hearts break well or West doesn't find the lead."

GIACAMAN: "2D. That's what you get for not opening 1NT in the first place. No bid is suitable! 2NT is an overbid and 1 NT is a gross underbid. 2D is not natural, but maybe the best temporizing bid, followed by a NT bid if partner bids hearts or a spade raise if partner rebids the suit. It also could get us too high."

Amen to that last comment! Whatever happens, this should be a fun comparison with your teammates.

KNIEST: "2NT. I didn't open 1NT because with 17 points and a strong 5-card suit, the hand is too good. Now's the time to let partner know that. This is right on everything but the heart stopper, but you can't have everything."

WALKER: "2NT. LHO's overcall took away my 2D reverse, but I wasn't going to make one anyway, as this looked like a notrump hand to me before and after the overcall."

KESSLER: "2NT. The most descriptive bid I can make. Nothing else comes to mind."

I wouldn't reverse with this garbage either, but what sort of notrump rebid would be accurate had E-W remained silent? 2NT? With no heart stop AND at least a pip-and-a-half shy in strength? If that's the plan, why not open 1NT, and at least advertise the correct hand strength? Evidently, that wouldn't work for KNIEST and other panelists who noted that they evaluate this hand as too good for a 15-17 1NT opener. They say they typically treat this hand type (17 high-card points and a good 5-card suit) as an 18-count.

FEILER: "2D. I should be able to torture partner with a couple of cuebids and find out whether he has 6 spades and/or a heart stopper."

A *couple* of cuebids? We have got to play sometime, Kent, so long as I start drinking early, like maybe two hours before game time?

### 6. IMPs, none vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
Pass	2H	Pass	???

Action	Score	Votes	% Solvers
3H	100	6	20
2NT	90	4	10
4H	80	4	18
Pass	70	1	46
3NT	60	1	2
2S	60	0	4

What is your call as South holding: ♠KQ654 ♥1042 ♦K73 ♣K4 ?

Sorry, but I searched and searched and Bridge World Standard doesn't mention anything about fourth-seat weak two-bid requirements being any different from those in first or second seat. I believe that 3H should show this sort of responding hand. It's invitational if North has extras or some distribution (something like ♠Ax ♥KQJxxx ♦Qxxx ♣x or ♠xxx ♥AKQxxx ♦Void ♣Qxxx would be nice), but it gives him an out if he holds a more "normal" looking hand.

FEILER: "2NT. Is there anything in BWS about fourth-seat Weak Twos? Personally, I think a fourth-seat 2D or 2H should be an opening hand, so I'll try 2NT and hope partner's on the same wavelength."

WALKER: "2NT. Only because it's IMPs. My hand is (barely) worth a try for game, but it will be a feeble one, as I don't really have enough to insist on 4H even if partner shows an ace. Partner's fourth-seat 2H should be a "good" weak 2-bid, but it should deny the strength of a hand he would have opened with a one-bid in first or second seat. Otherwise, responder will always be guessing when he has a constructive hand like this one."

But even this solicitation won't make anyone feel comfortable bidding game if North shows an ace, will it? Why not just bash:

KESSLER: "4H. This is an opening bid unless you are Al Roth. I don't like missing games at IMP's, so I'll just bid it. At worst it should be on a hook."

FELDHEIM: "4H. Partner must hold some sort of positive hand to open fourth seat at IMPs, so this better be enough. At matchpoints, I'd bid 2NT in case he was out stealing."

KLEMIC: "3NT. A fourth-seat 2H is a strong call. 3NT should be a natural offer to play with a moderate heart fit. I like protecting my kings."

Although either 4H or 3NT could work out, imagine poor North next time he holds a marginal hand in fourth seat thinking, "Weeelll, I can either pass this out and grab a smoke, or get shoved into game and be late for the next round." We do seem to owe him one nudge towards the Promised Land here, as most of the panel agreed:

PAOLO: "3H. I take this fourth-seat opening as to play and win the contract, but West can see through it and balance with a minor-suit bid. My hand is fine; moreover -- following the rule of Pearson -- partner has spades or values, and either my spade strength or some minor king is helpful."

Might the raise give a nudge to E-W to come barreling into the auction, thinking they are being stolen from? Not likely, but you never know.

GUTHRIE: "3H. This makes it hard for opponents to stop in four of a minor. You are happy to take your chances against 4S or five of a minor."

NELSON: "3H. This is, of course, blocking. Maybe they believe they are missing something and will trot out a double over my 3H. I think I am setting a trap."

And all this goes to show what? That preempts cause headaches no matter who fires one? No wonder we see them so often, both at the table and in this Forum. Ciao everyone, have a great summer and we'll see you again when the snow's flying.

Thanks to all who sent in answers and comments and to this month's guest panelists, George Klemic and Mike Giacaman. Congratulations to **Bruce Kretchmer, John Seng and Paul Soper**, who led all Solvers for this set. They're both invited to join the August panel.

The 2005 Solvers Contest is based on your best three scores, so there's still time to join in. The six new problems are below. Please submit your solutions by **July 25** on the [web form](#) or by email to our August moderator:

**Tom Kniest** -- [kniest@swbell.net](mailto:kniest@swbell.net)

<b>How the Panel voted (Panel/Staff Avg. -- 551):</b>							
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b>Kent Feiler</b> , Harvard IL	4C	4S	5D	DBL	2D	2NT	500
<b>Harold Feldheim</b> , Hamden CT	Pass	4S	Pass	5D	2NT	4H	580
<b>Mike Giacaman</b> , St. Louis	5C	4S	5D	Pass	2D	3H	550
<b>Nigel Guthrie</b> , Reading UK	Pass	4S	Pass	5D	2D	3H	570
<b>Jim Hudson</b> , DeKalb IL	Pass	4D	Pass	DBL	2NT	2NT	540
<b>Mark Kessler</b> , Springfield IL	4S	4S	Pass	5S	2NT	4H	560
<b>George Klemic</b> , Bensenville IL	Pass	3NT	5D	5S	2NT	3NT	520
<b>Larry Matheny</b> , Loveland, CO	Pass	3S	Pass	5S	2NT	4H	560
<b>Bev Nelson</b> , Fort Myers, FL	Pass	3S	5D	5D	2NT	3H	580
<b>Manuel Paulo</b> , Lisbon, Portugal	Pass	4S	5D	5S	2NT	3H	580

Larry Rabideau, St. Anne IL	5C	3NT	5D	5S	2NT	4H	530
Toby Strite, Mysiadlo, Poland	4C	3S	Pass	5D	2NT	Pass	550
<b>How the Staff voted</b>							
Tom Dodd, Branchburg NJ	Pass	3S	Pass	5S	2NT	3H	580
Tom Kniest, University City MO	4C	3S	Pass	5D	2NT	3H	580
Scott Merritt, Alexandria VA	Pass	4S	5D	DBL	2NT	2NT	540
Karen Walker, Champaign IL	Pass	3S	DBL	DBL	2NT	2NT	500

### Solvers Honor Roll (Average Solver score: 499)

Bruce Kretchmer, Boynton Beach FL	570	Dave Wetzel, Rantoul IL	550
John Seng, Champaign IL	560	Kevin Jones, Crestwood KY	540
Paul Soper, Sierra Vista AZ	560	Fred Sandegren, Quincy IL	540
Warren Bosch, Elgin IL	550	Arbha Vonsvivut, Godfrey IL	540
Bob Wheeler, Florissant MO	550	Steve White, Broomall PA	540

*Tied with 530: Leroy Boser, Elkhart IN; Anthony Lim, Durham NC; Bud Hinckley, South Bend IN; Judy Eaton, Carbondale IL*

## Solvers Forum -- August 2005 Problems

### 1. Matchpoints, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1C
2D *	Pass	Pass	???

\* (preemptive)

What is your call as South holding:

♠AQ97 ♥5 ♦6 ♣AKQJ1065 ?

### 2. Matchpoints, none vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1H
2D	3C	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:

♠K85 ♥AKQ1095 ♦3 ♣A65 ?

### 3. IMPs, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1S
Pass	2NT *	Pass	4S **
Pass	5C	Pass	???

\* (Forcing spade raise)

\*\* (Minimum opener; no singleton or void)

What is your call as South holding:

♠87654 ♥AK7 ♦A64 ♣Q8 ?

### 4. Matchpoints, both vulnerable

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:

♠QJ76543 ♥4 ♦KQJ ♣Q3 ?

### 5. Matchpoints, EW vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1C	Pass	1H
Pass	2D	Pass	2H
Pass	3D	Pass	???

What is your call as South holding:

♠J862 ♥QJ8632 ♦Void ♣Q106 ?

### 6. IMPs, none vulnerable

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

What is your call as South holding:

♠KQ98742 ♥AK103 ♦7 ♣8 ?

Thanks to Kent Feiler for Problems 1 & 6.



# Pair Fare

*News from Northwestern Illinois Unit 239*

**Editor: Dennis Ryan, 118 Glenview Court, Janesville WI 53545 [drchezmoi@aol.com](mailto:drchezmoi@aol.com)**

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## **Richard Murdock: Life Master**



Dick Murdock of North Aurora, a recent Unit life master, has a real appreciation for the many versatile gifts of the bridge players around him. He recalls standing in the check-in line at the Tampa airport one day, standing next to Eric Rodwell. "Rodwell had played the piano beautifully during a break at a tournament in which Rodwell had also played bridge particularly well, so I took the opportunity to congratulate him on both his performances," Dick recalls. "It's simply incredible how much talent got wrapped up in one individual."

Dick made LM in a team game in sectional in Lake Geneva, needing only black points. He was playing in a team game with Carole Gleason, Fred Blaumueller, and Kathy Preziosa.

Born in Youngstown, Ohio, Dick lived there until he joined the navy at age 21. He learned bridge in college in Youngstown, but took up duplicate in 1991 in Aurora at the urging of Frank Smolek of Elk Grove Village. He now plays regularly at clubs in Aurora, Palatine, St. Charles and Wheaton, ranking Smolek among his favorite partners, along with Jack Fitzpatrick and John Otto. "I travel a lot," he confesses, "so I play with a

wide variety of partners."

Dick recalls with special admiration the lessons he received from Tom Sucher, former president of District 13. "These lessons really helped my thinking processes develop at the table. Tom is an excellent teacher."

Dick spent 33 years as a pilot for United Airlines, retiring in 1993. (He's shown in the photo with his grandson on a tour of the Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola FL.) He and his wife Joan (who plays only party bridge), have three children: a daughter, Leslie, who is in sales and marketing for a chemical company in Geneva; a daughter, Lauren, a pharmacist on the Navajo reservation in New Mexico; and a son, Vincent, who sells flowers, seeds and garden elements in Wellington OH.

Dick recalls another favorite "Rodwell story": "Years ago I was playing with Dick Claus at the Aurora game. We were, maybe, 49ers at the time. About halfway through the session, we sat down with this couple and exchanged first-name introductions. They bid a slam which we set, and then bid a notrump game making overtricks. Afterward, my partner said, 'They were really good players,' and I agreed. After the game, the director, Betty Wade, told us that the pair was Eric Rodwell and his wife Donna. No wonder we thought that they were good."

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## **Paul Thuma: Life Master**

With a pick-up partner and needing just over one silver point, Paul Thuma of Woodstock became a life master last January in a stratified pairs event in a sectional tournament in Tucson, Arizona.

Born and raised in Sunfield, Michigan (near Lansing,) Paul spent his career with Morton International (Morton, as in "salt,") working both as a process supervisor and as a research chemist. His college training came at Michigan State, where he majored in chemistry. He came to Woodstock in 1963, and retired from Morton six years ago. Thus, he follows the typical profile of most of our Unit's new life masters, who seem to hit their "duplicate bridge stride" only after or near their retirement years.

One of the highlights of Paul's bridge career was winning a Lake Geneva knockout event with a pick-up team.

Although he began playing bridge in college, Paul had graduated by the time he took up serious duplicate. Now, he plays regularly in St. Charles and Elgin, and in Green Valley, Arizona, where he and his wife Vicki winter.

Paul and Vicki have three sons: Raymond, a lawyer in Woodstock; Matthew, a fireman and paramedic in Woodstock; and Mark, a tool-and-dye maker in Lawrence.

Many new life masters try to celebrate their “300 mark” by setting new goals, but Paul merely plans to “keep on truckin’.” “Everyone has room to learn and improve,” he asserts. “Most of the people one meets in bridge are so pleasant, and for this reason I especially enjoy playing with pick-up partners.”

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## Dan Scroggins: Life Master



Dan Scroggins of Beloit WI, one of our Unit’s most recent life masters, earned his 300 points the hard way: eschewing “limited games” insofar as possible, he has always preferred open games and tougher competition. “It took me longer to make LM that way,” Dan comments, “but the result is that I am a much better player now than I would have been otherwise. Bridge players are like steel: ‘tempered’ means stronger.”

Dan made LM in January, playing in a Rockford club championship with Jack Snyder. He needed 1.80 going in, and his award was 1.87. Dan has concentrated on learning from stronger players and on building sound partnerships with players on his own level. He recalls with special fondness his partnership with the late Pam Eden of Rockford. He even recalls his days as a teenaged novice in Shreveport, LA, and bridge advice he received from national expert Betty Ann Kennedy.

“I have always found encouragement and support from strong players,” Dan asserts. “The bridge community has been very good to me.”

Dan grew up in Chicago as the sixth of nine children. Neither of his parents played bridge. (“Considering the non-bridge-playing gene pool, I turned out quite well,” Dan laughs lovingly.) He began playing in high school with adults whom he knew, and played party bridge before leaving the game for awhile. But he tackled serious duplicate in college in Shreveport, and continued when he moved to Beloit in 1997.

Dan is a jack of all trades, and a master of almost all of them. Among the various jobs he has held are: professional acting teacher, executive secretary, executive director of the Stateline Literacy Council, special events coordinator for Beloit College, and organic farmer. He is now special events coordinator for the Downtown Beloit Association.

Dan lives in Beloit with his partner, Chuck Drury, who is on the faculty of Beloit College.

### *Correction . . .*

In the April issue of “Pair Fare” Jan Condon, a member of the Unit Board from Rockford, was incorrectly listed as serving on a nominating committee that nominated herself for an additional term to the board. It was Lucille Chaffee (DeKalb) who served on the committee, not Jan. Your columnist regrets the error.

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## Upcoming Unit Tournaments

- ♠ Rockin’ Rockford Regional -- Indoor Sports Center, Rockford, June 13-19.
- ♠ Rockford Classic Sectional -- Clock Tower Resort, Rockford, September 9-11.
- ♠ Turkey Bowl -- Prisco Center, Aurora, November 25-27.

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## The Changing Scene . . .

New Junior Masters: Mary Lindberg, Rockford; Mary Simonson, Rockford; Beverly Voorhees, Rockford.

New Club Masters: Betty Hettinger, Aurora; Frank Hettinger, Aurora; David Wilson, Davis; Nancy Wilson, Davis.

New Sectional Masters: Herbert Ahrens, Aurora; Mary Grandgeorge, Somonauk; Bernice Neshelm, Rockford; Jay Riskind, Geneva.

New Regional Masters: Connie Canter, Rockford

New NABC Masters: Betty Basler, Oregon; Daniel Chamberlain, Rockford; Kathryn Chamberlain, Rockford.

New Life Masters: Laurie Hamachek, Huntley; Patrick Haverty, Woodstock; Dan Scroggins, Beloit WI.





# CIBA Digest

News from Central Illinois Unit 208

Editor: Karen Walker, 2121 Lynwood Drive, Champaign IL 61821  
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## Illini Regional -- May 24-30, Champaign IL

Thanks to everyone who traveled to Champaign during Memorial Day week to play in our Unit's annual regional. We were the last group ever to hold an event in the Chancellor Hotel, which closed as we left at 5:00 on Monday. The new owners are planning to expand and renovate the convention center ballrooms and build two new hotels on the site -- a Hilton Gardens and a Homewood Suites. It's all supposed to be completed by early spring 2006, so we're hoping to be back at the same site for next year's regional -- **May 23-29, 2006.**

Chairmen Karen Walker and Mike Halvorsen offer thanks to the many hard-working volunteers from Champaign's Bridge at Ginger Creek club. Committee chairmen were **John Brandeberry & Maggie Stephens** (hospitality suite), **Pete Petillo & Bob Shair** (Daily Bulletin), **Debbie Avery** (caddies and door prizes), **Dot Roemelt** (registration), **John Seng** (prizes) and **Hugh Williams & Madhu Viswanathan** (partnerships).

Special congratulations to:

- **Madhu Viswanathan and Mike Halvorsen**, Champaign, and **Kris Maillacheruvu**, Peoria (see photo at right), who won two events and placed first, second and fourth on the list of top point winners at the regional. That was no small feat, as Madhu and Mike were both busy with tournament jobs every day, and the third-place point winner was Alan Stout, leader in the nationwide Barry Crane Top 500 contest.
- **Eric Gettleman** (photo) of Normal, who was the top non-Life Master, winning a total of 52.83 points for the week. Eric, a student at the University of Illinois, won Bracket 2 of the Orange & Blue and Chief Illiniwek Knockout Teams and placed overall in three other events.
- **Paul Holmes** (photo) of Bloomington, who was the second leading non-LM point winner. Paul, a UI student, started the week with less than 50 masterpoints and added 34.40 to his total.
- **John Brandeberry** of Champaign, who generously served as a fill-in partner for many of the side-game sessions. Playing with a different partner every day, John placed first among 176 players in the Evening Side Game Series for a win of 7.84 gold points.

## Regional Winners



Big Ten KO (Br. 4): **Frank & Clara Batte, Eldred Holm & Ken Bengoechea**



Big Ten KO (Br. 3): **Dewey Gronau, Marilee Martin, Hank Hoffman & Linda Fisher**



Orange & Blue KO (Br. 1) and Monday Swiss Team: **Kris Maillacheruvu, Madhu Viswanathan & Mike Halvorsen**

Central Illinois players who placed in the top 25 on the point winners' list for the week included:

72.63 -- Madhu Viswanathan, Champaign  
 71.19 -- Michael Halvorsen, Champaign  
 60.72 -- Kris Maillacheruvu, Peoria  
 58.33 -- Mark Kessler, Springfield  
 57.08 -- Karen Walker, Champaign  
 53.25 -- Gail Moon, Bloomington  
 53.25 -- Betty Capodice, Bloomington  
 52.83 -- Eric Gettleman, Normal  
 44.81 -- James Melville, Springfield  
 41.27 -- Colby Vernay, Lacon

The full list of event winners and points won by all players is [here](#).



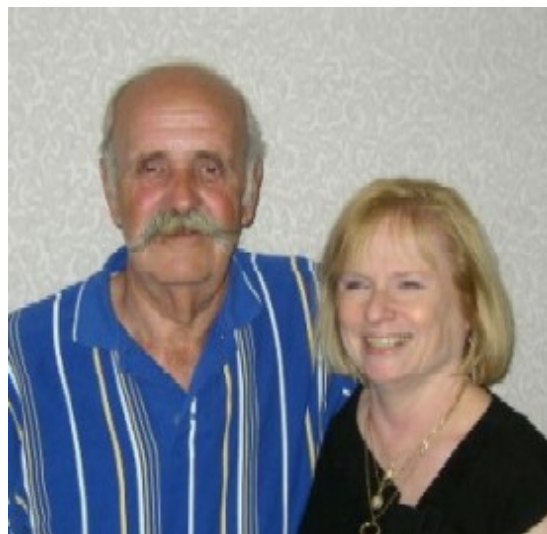
Orange & Blue KO (Br. 2): **Eric Gettleman, Mike Tomlianovich, Gail Moon, Betty Capodice & Paul Holmes**

## 2005 Grand National Teams

Congratulations to all our Unit players who entered the District 8 Grand National Teams in Springfield on April 30 and May 1. Two of our Central Illinois teams won their flights and will be representing our district at the national finals in Atlanta GA in July. Good luck to:

**Flight A** (0-5000 pts.) -- Mike Halvorsen & Madhu Viswanathan, Champaign; Richard Blumenthal, Lincoln; Kris Maillacheruvu, Peoria

**Flight C** (0-500, non-LM) -- Gary Dell, Bill Lindemann Jr. & Bill Lindemann Sr., Champaign; Dan Faulkner, Monticello



Saturday EasyBridge 99er:  
**Buddy Shuler & Alice Pierce**

## Orange and Blue Bridge Club

Glenn Overby of Tilton is the director of a new weekly session at the Bridge at Ginger Creek club in Champaign. The Orange & Blue Bridge Club is an open game, scored by handicaps, that meets every Saturday afternoon at 2:00. The first meeting was Saturday, June 4, when the club hosted 7 tables in the Worldwide Pairs.

Every Saturday session will support a charitable cause and offer sectionally rated black points. Entry fee is \$5 (\$4 for students), with \$1 of each entry donated to charity.

For more information, contact the director Glenn Overby by phone (217-443-4227) or email ([goverby@bsamail.org](mailto:goverby@bsamail.org)).



Friday 199er: **Peggy Cupp & Dee Cylkowski**

## In Memory

Our Unit was saddened by the death of Ann Wienman, 79, of Morton. Ann, who grew up in Bloomington, attended Illinois Wesleyan University and was a four-time winner of the Bloomington-Normal Women's Golf Tournament. A regular player at bridge clubs in tournaments in the Bloomington area, she made Life Master in 1963 and had many tournament successes with her husband and regular partner, Alan.



Thursday 199er: **Marcia Bondurant & Ann Smith**





# Greater St. Louis Bridge News

## News from Greater St. Louis Unit 143

Editor: Susan Rechter, 35 Upper Ladue Rd., St. Louis MO 63124 (314-993-5080) [susanrechter@yahoo.com](mailto:susanrechter@yahoo.com)

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### You'll Never Know What to Expect at the Bridge Table

Sonni Mauze and Sue George are sisters. Always dressed beautifully, poised and generous with smiles, it's fun when they sit down to play bridge. The last time they played, I was sitting North-South with the histrionic John Smith. You should know that John is an actor. Truly. His voice projects like an actor's, bounces off walls, and lands upon the ears of nearby opponents informing them of results and plays. On that day, the two sisters, John and I were shuffling the decks when I related my "lunch" story to them.

It's a true story. It happened when I first started playing bridge. I sat East against a woman who mentioned it was lunchtime. She unlatched her handbag, pulled out a bologna sandwich and replaced her handbag on the floor. I looked down, and out from the handbag crawled a huge cockroach!

"Was it part of her lunch?" John asked! We all cut up with laughter! John then started in on *Periplaneta americana* and the intelligence of a cucaracha. John related that we must allow the dumb cockroaches to proliferate so that they outnumber and replace the smart cockroaches. Then will be the time to attack the dumb ones! What a plan. Sonni's and Sue's eyes rolled! Indeed. John finds fascination in everything!

So what's happening in St. Louis? The newcomers are being mentored and will play their wicked games at the Pro-Am in June. I played against one who led the 7 from K74. It was MUD ... short for muddle the opponents. I never did figure out what was going on and am still in that state!

Naomi Orsay can no longer play in the novice game. She crawled out of that playpen last weekend when she accrued 100 masterpoints at the St. Louis sectional! Norm Goldman made Life Master. For some reason, I thought Norm was already a LM.. It's good to see the Finkenstadts at the club games. For years they always played the tournaments but rarely made it east to St. Louis. Now they are regulars! Louise Mandel and Lois Kanefield are back in town! They're former money-bridge players who exit St. Louis during the winter months to play in Florida. A few years ago, when they converted to duplicate, Kenny Bland prepped them ... made everyone nervous ... then they left for Florida!

Suzy Shymanski-Moore did another outstanding job hosting the sectional. Suzy knows what people crave! She made sure everyone was well-fed and it was delight seeing stacks of Tupperware filled with brownies, cookies and candy-sweets! Her consort, Doug, managed to pause and ponder in his dashiki! Also laudable is the dynamic bridge duo, Arbha Vongsvivut and Mike Giacaman. They won the NAOP in Flight B for our district. Now on to the Nationals! Wowiee!

Donna Coker's Sunday night game at Forest Green is a challenge. There is a range of players who show up so you can compete in your flight. There are usually 7 tables, maybe more. Of course the Ellebrachts' Monday game is awesome with a huge turnout (12 or more tables) weekly and a bounty of food. A good number of Illinois players show up at the game to augment the core. Louise Ellebracht is a very principled woman and she and Paul run a great game! Louise is not shy about what is right and wrong and will stand up to anyone! She defended me when I was a rookie and I will always admire her for speaking out, especially on behalf of someone who was being taken advantage. Thanks, Louise!

Surmise that the world of bridge is like the ocean. One can frolic in the shallow waters, never really getting into the currents. In the shallows, there are visible and obvious bridge plays, a few crabs but in general, the sun shines and one is not aware of the dangers, they're not apparent. Venture into the deep, and there the schools of sharks lurk, glancing furtively and waiting to take a big bite out of you! In the deep and beautiful coral reefs, one can spend a lifetime swimming among them and always find something new to discover, a convention, card combination, a revelation...a world of bridge information. It's also dangerous in the deep waters. An undertow can pull you into bridge hell and shackle you there for weeks! Months! Hold your breath because you'll pop back to the surface if you're stalwart. In the dark blue waters, you may even come across a great whale of a player, so fine and smooth, it will inspire you to take chances and leap onto the riptide that will surf you to the top!

Finally, the words of John Smith: "I had a very interesting hand. I was dealt 4-3-3-3 ..."

Regards,  
*The Swiss Miss*



# Unit 223 Reporter

**News from Southern Illinois-Paducah Unit 223**

**Editor: Karen Coe, 12761 Webb Hill Rd., Ewing IL 62836**

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## Focus on Youth - Part I

An area of intense concern for all bridge players -- from the professional staff in Memphis and the ACBL National Board of Directors on down to players at the local club level -- is introducing potential new players to our favorite game in the hope of harvesting a future crop of bridge players. Our Unit is fortunate in being the locale for some exciting programs for youth which expose children to bridge, and in having as members some outstanding young players.

This article - Part I - will focus on one of those youth programs, specifically the activities of Christopher (Chris) Shaw of Carlinville, who has been implementing an exciting teaching program in the public school system.

A husband and proud father, Chris is retired from two careers -- first serving as an officer in the Air Force, and then as an educator teaching business at American University in Washington, D. C., nearby St. Mary's College in Maryland, and at the Florida Institute of Technology. Chris is, however, still exceptionally busy and active in spite of his "retirement". Chris first started learning bridge at the age of 8, while in the hospital recuperating from polio. He told his parents, both bridge players, that he was interested in learning the game, and was given a Goren Autobridge set to while away the time during his hospitalization.

I had the honor of partnering Chris at a pairs event in St. Louis a couple of years ago. He is a powerful, intelligent and aggressive player, a real pleasure to partner. Chris is a Silver Life Master, a rank he attained at the recent NABC in New York, and his name appears annually on the Unit's Masterpoint Race lists.

Chris serves on the National Board of the ACBL Education Foundation, and has done so for a number of years. Members of this Board are approved by the ACBL National Board of Directors, and meet during NABCs. The Education Foundation, an independent entity, receives funding from private donations, a \$2 checkoff when paying ACBL dues, and monies collected from entry fees at the Thursday games at the NABCs (a KO and a pairs game). This funding supports teaching programs, bridge educational software development, and the North American Intercollegiate Bridge Tournament. Chris sent out the mailings for the Intercollegiate Tournament in 2003.

Chris is currently conducting a research study in the Carlinville school system. This study is being funded by the Education Foundation. Over a three-year period, each year approximately 30 5th graders are being introduced to and taught bridge in their classroom. Bridge is being taught in a structured way, with lesson plans and objectives, to students who are not pre-selected but who have chosen to take the class. As every bridge player knows, the game teaches and enhances a number of cognitive skills -- problem-solving, concentration, memory, strategy, partnership and cooperation, to name just a few. The effects of learning a game -- probably more complex than chess -- on the 5th graders' general skills and achievement is then evaluated by looking at their scores on Standardized Tests, and comparing those scores with the scores of students who did not volunteer to participate in the bridge program. The bridge students' test scores have thus far been elevated, indicating that learning bridge, a disciplined and structured skill, enhances the students' general scholastic skills and achievement levels.

Chris first started working with introducing bridge as curriculum in the Carlinville school system in 1999/2000. He initially taught an after-school program to children, but also taught a class to teach the school system's teachers how to teach bridge. The teachers received educational credit (CPDU) to maintain their teaching credentials, and at least one previously non-bridge playing teacher enthusiastically implemented the curriculum in her classroom. The first group of children offered the opportunity to learn bridge were pre-selected on the basis of having superior talent in Math. Standardized Test Scores after instruction in bridge showed that those children, the first participants, had benefited from their study of bridge. The current study increases and diversifies the sample size in documenting educational benefits to students who have been taught bridge. Interestingly, Chris has gotten indirect feed-back that some of his former students have continued to play bridge; one of Chris' current 5th grade students decided to take bridge classes after watching some older boys at Boy Scout camp play bridge.

Chris would like to spread the word to college-level students in our Unit that the ACBL Education Foundation will underwrite the cost of implementing educational programs in public school systems, and will provide an honorarium to apply to college expenses for the college students who teach these programs. Chris may be contacted at 1 Quail Run Drive, Carlinville IL 62696 for details on how to become a teacher in the teaching program.

A Unit 223 college student participating as a teacher in this program funded by the Education Foundation, Andrew Carver of Edwardsville, last

year a nationally ranked ACBL youth player, is currently in his second year teaching bridge in middle-school. His students are scheduled to play Chris' students in a unique tournament to be held in Edwardsville on May 23. This will be the second year that students from the two programs have met to compete against each other. Last year, 14 children participated in the tournament; six from Carlinville and eight from Edwardsville. The two programs are evidently doing an equally fine job because the tournament last year, scored cross-country style, resulted in a 14 to 14 tie between the two programs.

Part II of this article will announce the results of the May 23rd event, and highlight a local young and talented player, the aforementioned Andrew Carver, and his achievements in bridge.

***Congratulations*** to new Life Masters:  
**Patricia Dawson** of Mt. Carmel IL and **Barbara Worthen** of Paducah KY.

## Tournament Information

Two tournaments of particular interest to Unit 223 players are coming up soon.

The **Paducah KY Champagne Regional** once again returns to the Executive Inn, June 13th through 19th. The tournament features a new and improved schedule. Stratified Choice Pairs is being offered; players may choose any two of 3 sessions offered daily (morning, afternoon, and evening). Also, players will find that no more than two sessions of any given KO will be featured a day; no grueling three-session marathons! Come and enjoy playing and staying at the host hotel, and the fine hospitality for which this tournament is so noted! Partnerships: Maxine Wynn, 270-554-5719.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the **Edwardsville Sectional**, July 29th through 31st. The tournament offers opportunities to play in Pairs, KO's and Swiss Teams. Site is the the Knights of Columbus Hall. Partnerships are being handled by Ray Sigler, 618-656-4900.





# The RECAP SHEET

## News from Northern Indiana Unit 154

Editor: Jim Pelletier, 11115 Bittersweet Dells, Fort Wayne IN -- 46814  
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Congratulations to the players who earned enough points in 2004 to qualify for the Unit Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs awards. The Mini-McKenney is for those Unit players who have won the most points in all events. It is patterned after the National Barry Crane Top 500. The Ace of Clubs awards are for those players who have won the most points playing in club games. Following is the list of the top three finishers in each category in both races.

## Ace of Clubs & Mini-McKenney Winners

### ♣ Ace of Clubs

Points won in club games in 2004

#### ROOKIE

Donald Groch, South Bend IN -- 36.50  
Suzanne Gerhold, South Bend IN -- 25.17  
James Gerhold, South Bend IN -- 24.85

#### JUNIOR MASTER

David Hoevel, Fort Wayne IN -- 37.97  
Michael Adams, Auburn IN -- 22.64  
Robert Rife, Fort Wayne IN -- 21.84

#### CLUB MASTER

Cappy Gagnon, Notre Dame IN -- 44.34  
Sheila Kiefer, Fort Wayne IN -- 33.31  
Dorothy Helmeczi, Fort Wayne IN -- 29.18

#### SECTIONAL MASTER

Thomas Carpenter, Fort Wayne IN -- 96.49  
M. N. Schumm, Munster IN -- 57.66  
Barbara Walczak, Munster IN -- 54.25

#### REGIONAL MASTER

Raymond Aguas, Mishawaka IN -- 72.00  
Larry O'Maley, Fort Wayne IN -- 50.14  
George Wild Jr, Crown Point IN -- 46.04

#### NABC MASTER

Patricia Killeen, Mishawaka IN -- 80.59  
Judy Elliott, Merrillville IN -- 64.32  
Nancy La Master, Munster IN -- 46.81

#### LIFE MASTER

Phillip Stephan, Boynton Beach FL -- 96.59  
Raj Kohli, Granger IN -- 71.83  
Manuel Silverman, Fort Wayne IN -- 67.41

#### BRONZE LIFE MASTER

John Killeen, Mishawaka IN -- 160.08  
Satish Gupta, Munster IN -- 114.58  
Samy Sawaya, Munster IN -- 103.61

#### SILVER LIFE MASTER

James Feinstein, South Bend IN -- 198.86  
Richard Sullivan, Decatur IN -- 160.91  
Sally Chapleau-Russo, Fort Pierce FL -- 132.00

### ♠ Mini-McKenney

Total masterpoints won in 2004

#### ROOKIE

Donald Groch, South Bend IN -- 38.20  
Suzanne Gerhold, South Bend IN -- 28.54  
James Gerhold, South Bend IN -- 28.22

#### JUNIOR MASTER

David Hoevel, Fort Wayne IN -- 43.09  
Thomas Esten, Sr, Fort Wayne IN -- 26.76  
Daniel Cunningham, La Porte IN -- 25.56

#### CLUB MASTER

Cappy Gagnon, Notre Dame IN -- 69.96  
Sheila Kiefer, Fort Wayne IN -- 43.20  
Dorothy Helmeczi, Fort Wayne IN -- 36.37

#### SECTIONAL MASTER

Barbara Walczak Dr Munster IN -- 176.18  
Thomas Carpenter, Fort Wayne IN -- 146.65  
Sylvia Slomski, South Bend IN -- 97.60

#### REGIONAL MASTER

Raymond Aguas, Mishawaka IN -- 217.22  
Faye Anderson, Schererville IN -- 111.71  
Larry M O'Maley, Fort Wayne IN -- 84.18

#### NABC MASTER

Patricia Killeen, Mishawaka IN -- 270.69  
Nancy La Master, Munster IN -- 169.42  
Frank La Master, Munster IN -- 133.97

#### LIFE MASTER

Carl Wheeler, Fort Wayne IN -- 229.48  
Phillip Stephan, Boynton Beach FL -- 141.78  
Raj Kohli, Granger IN -- 120.69

#### BRONZE LIFE MASTER

John Killeen, Mishawaka IN -- 390.32  
Donna J Simon, South Bend IN -- 230.13  
Dr. Satish Gupta, Munster IN -- 163.47

#### SILVER LIFE MASTER

James Feinstein, South Bend IN -- 350.26  
Joseph Chin, Highland IN -- 324.24  
Daniel Simon, South Bend IN -- 230.13

**GOLD LIFE MASTER**

Irene Singleton, South Bend IN -- 176.44  
John Chmielowiec, Michigan City IN -- 119.15  
Rosemary Zonker Elkhart IN -- 118.92

**DIAMOND LIFE MASTER**

Dean Duncan, Mishawaka IN -- 159.39  
Bob Carteaux, Fort Wayne IN -- 14.79

**GOLD LIFE MASTER**

John Chmielowiec, Michigan City IN -- 259.20  
Irene Singleton, South Bend IN -- 234.05  
David Bish, Leo IN -- 233.48

**DIAMOND LIFE MASTER**

Bob Carteaux, Fort Wayne IN -- 1086.70  
Dean Duncan, Mishawaka IN -- 206.20

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Visit the [ACBL Awards](#) page to view lists of the top ten Unit players in each category for 2004 and year-to-date 2005.

# Rockin' Rockford Regional

## June 13-19, 2005



**Awards  
for  
Winners!**

Indoor Sports Center (ISC)  
8800 East Riverside Drive • Loves Park (Rockford) IL  
On I-90 exit, Riverside Drive East and go East one mile.

**TOURNAMENT CHAIRS:** Doug Gugger, 815-235-7566, dougbuggy@aol.com  
John Pree 630-377-9116

**PARTNERSHIP CHAIRS:** Jan and Gene Condon, 815-633-4979, jiggs320417@cs.com  
**299ER AND NEWCOMER CHAIR:** Mary Jo Sergent, 815-874-4157, mjosarge@aol.com

**HOSPITALITY CHAIRS:** Lucille Chaffe, 815-758-6407 & Dee Witte, 815-623-6167

**A great regional  
for teams!**

Four Knockout series and two Swiss Teams

Choice Pairs  
Play any two of three sessions

**A great regional  
for players with under  
300 MPs**

### BRACKETED KNOCKOUT SCHEDULE

**KO #1:** 7:00 pm Monday, 9:30 am, 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm Tuesday

**KO #2:** 9:30 am Wednesday, 9:30 am, 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm Thursday

**KO #3:** 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm Friday, 9:30 am & 2:00 pm Saturday

**Compact KO:** 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm Saturday

**Host Hotel:** Days Inn & Suites, 4313 N. Bell School Rd., Loves Park, IL 61111. Approximately 1 mile west of Indoor Sports Center via Riverside Drive, then north on Bell School Road (first street west of I-90).

**Reservations:** 815-282-9300. Std. King room: \$73; Std. Double Queen rooms: \$73.  
Refer group code 0613

**Continental Breakfast. Microwave, refrigerator, coffeemaker in rooms.**

### MONDAY, JUNE 13

7:00 Stratified Open Charity Pairs

### TUESDAY, JUNE 14

9:30 am Side Game Series #1, 1st  
9:30, 2:00 & 7:00 Stratified Choice Pairs  
2:00, 7:00 Side Game Series #2, 1 & 2  
2:00, 7:00 Stratified 299er Pairs\*

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

9:30 am Side Game Series #1, 2nd  
2:00, 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams  
2:00, 7:00 Side Game Series #2, 3 & 4  
2:00, 7:00 Stratified 299er Pairs\*

### THURSDAY, JUNE 16

9:30 am Side Game Series #1, 3rd  
9:30, 2:00 & 7:00 Stratified Choice Pairs  
2:00, 7:00 Side Game Series #3, 1 & 2  
2:00, 7:00 Stratified 299er Pairs\*

### FRIDAY, JUNE 17

9:30 am Side Game Series #1, 4th  
9:30, 2:00 & 7:00 Stratified Choice Pairs  
2:00, 7:00 Side Game Series #3, 3 & 4  
2:00, 7:00 Stratified 299er Pairs\*

### SATURDAY, JUNE 18

9:30, 2:00 & 7:00 Stratified Choice Pairs  
9:30, 2:00 & 7:00 Stratified 299er Pairs\*

### SUNDAY, JUNE 19

9:30 & 2:00 Stratified Open Pairs  
11:00 am Strat. Swiss Tms - Playthrough

\*All Stratified 299er Games Are Single-Session Events

### STRATIFICATIONS

Open and Swiss: 1500+; 500-1500; 0-500  
299er Pairs: 200-300; 100-200; 0-100

## SPLIT REGIONAL / SPLIT REGIONAL

# Champagne Regional • Paducah, KY

## June 13-19, 2005

**Hotel Information:**  
**J.R.'s Executive Inn**  
One Executive Blvd.  
Paducah KY  
**800-866-3636 or 270-443-8000**  
\$50, 1-4 people  
*Under new ownership!*

### Famous Paducah Hospitality

<b>Monday</b>	7 pm Charity Pairs Bracketed Knockout I (cont. Tues. 7)	<b>Friday</b>	9:30 am Bracketed Knockout III (Round 3) Bracketed Knockout IV (Round 1) Stratified Choice Pairs (Session 1 of 3)
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:30 am Bracketed Knockout II (Round 1 of 4) Stratified Choice Pairs (Session 1 of 3)	2 pm Bracketed Knockout III (Round 4) Bracketed Knockout IV (Round 2) Stratified Choice Pairs (2 of 3)	7 pm Compact Knockout II (Rounds 1 & 2) Stratified Choice Pairs (3 of 3)
2 pm Bracketed Knockout II (Round 2) Stratified Choice Pairs (2 of 3)	<b>Saturday</b>	9:30 am Bracketed Knockout IV (Round 3) Bracketed Knockout V (Round 1) Stratified Choice Pairs (1 of 3)	2 pm Bracketed Knockout IV (Round 4) Bracketed Knockout V (Round 2) Stratified Choice Pairs (2 of 3)
7 pm Bracketed Knockout I (Round 2) Stratified Choice Pairs (3 of 3)	7 pm Compact Knockout I (Rounds 1 & 2)	<b>Sunday</b>	9:30 am Bracketed Knockout V (Round 4) <i>May be earlier by agreement</i> Stratified Swiss Teams <i>Play through with concessions</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30 am Bracketed Knockout II (Round 3) Stratified Swiss Teams (Session 1) Bracketed Knockout II (Round 4) Stratified Swiss Teams (Session 2)	2 pm Bracketed Knockout I (Round 3) Compact Knockout I (Rounds 1 & 2)	9:30 am Stratified Open Pairs & 2 pm
2 pm Bracketed Knockout I (Round 3) Compact Knockout I (Rounds 1 & 2)	<b>Thursday</b>	9:30 am Bracketed Knockout III (Round 1) Stratified Choice Pairs (Session 1 of 3)	
7 pm Bracketed Knockout III (Round 2) Stratified Choice Pairs (2 of 3)	2 pm Compact Knockout 1 (3 & 4 of 4) Bracketed Knockout I (Final) Stratified Choice Pairs (3 of 3)		

### Hosted by ACBL Unit 223

**Tournament Chairs**  
Robin Lampley & Bruce Gardner  
270-443-2722  
bgardner04@comcast.net  
**Partnerships**  
Maxine Wynn, 270-554-5719

**Side Game Series every session  
Tuesday-Saturday  
(Morning, Afternoon and Evening events)**  
**299er games every session  
Tuesday-Saturday -  
Choice Pairs (Play any 2 of 3 sessions)**

**Unsurpassed Hospitality!**

**SOMETHING DIFFERENT EVERY NIGHT!**

Open bar, pizza and beer blast,  
ice cream social, and our unique  
champagne party

**STRATA FOR ALL EVENTS:**  
**C=0-500 B=500-1500 A=1500+**



# Saint Louis Regional

*Teams Are The Theme*

## August 15 - 21, 2005

*Outstanding hospitality every evening. Team games every day!*

### Monday, August 15

Bracketed KO Teams #1 (continues Tue)-- 7:30 pm  
Win-an-Entry Pairs -- 7:30 pm

### Tuesday, August 16

Bracketed KO Teams #1 -- 9 am, 1 & 7:30 pm  
Side Game Series Pairs I -- 9 am, 1 & 7:30 pm  
Compact KO #1 -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
Stratified Open Pairs -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
Intermediate/Novice Pairs -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
One Session Board-a-Match Teams -- 7:30 pm

### Wednesday, August 17

Bracketed KO Teams #2 (continues Thu) -- 9 am  
Charity Side Game Series AM Pairs -- 9 am  
(continues thru Sat)  
Stratified Open Swiss Teams -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
Intermediate/Novice Pairs -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
Side Game Series Pairs II -- 1 & 7:30 pm

### Thursday, August 18

Bracketed KO Teams #2 -- 9 am, 1 & 7:30 pm  
Charity Side Game Series AM Pairs -- 9 am  
Stratified Open Pairs -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
Compact KO Teams #2 -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
Intermediate/Novice Pairs -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
Side Game Series Pairs II -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
One-Session Swiss Teams -- 7:30 pm

### Friday, August 19

Bracketed KO Teams #3 (continues Sat) -- 9 am  
Charity Side Game Series AM Pairs -- 9 am  
Side Game Series Pairs III -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
Stratified Open Swiss Teams -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
Intermediate/Novice Pairs -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
Zip KO Teams -- 11:30 pm

### Saturday, August 20

Bracketed KO Teams #3 -- 9 am, 1 & 7:30 pm  
Charity Side Game Series AM Pairs -- 9 am  
Strata-Flighted Open Pairs -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
Flight A - Qualifying with Barometer Final  
Flights B/C/D - Stratified 300/750/1500  
Side Game Series Pairs III -- 1 & 7:30 pm  
Intermediate/Novice Pairs -- 1 & 7:30 pm

### Sunday, August 21

Strata-Flighted Swiss Teams -- 10:30 am & TBA  
Flight A - Unlimited Masterpoints  
Flights B/C/D Stratified - 300/750/1500  
Stratified Fast Pairs -- 10:30 am & TBA

*Sunday Events will finish by 6 PM*

Visit our website -- [www.unit143.org](http://www.unit143.org) -- for more information

**Stratified throughout:** A: 1500+ B: 500+ C: Non-LM (0-500) Intermediate/Novice: 0-20/20-100/100-200

**Teacher Accreditation Program** -- Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday mornings. Click [here](#) for more details.

**Bridge rate and free parking at the Renaissance Hotel** (1 mile from the airport; shuttle available), 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis. Bridge rate guaranteed through July 25. Toll-free reservations: 888-340-2594

**Tournament Chairman:** Mike Carmen (314) 872-8439

**Partnerships:** Mary Hruby (314) 739-1574

# Kokomo Sectional

## June 24-26, 2005

### Johanning Civic Center -- 1500 Reed Rd. (US 31), Kokomo IN

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#### Friday, June 24

Single-session Open & 199er Pairs -- 1:00 & 7:00 pm

#### Saturday, June 25

Free continental breakfast -- 8:45 a.m.

Bracketed KO Teams (random draw) -- 9:00 a.m., 1:00 & 7:00

Stratified Pairs -- 9:00 a.m., 1:00 & 7:00

Single-session 199er Pairs -- 1:00 & 7:00 pm

#### Sunday, June 26

Bracketed Swiss Teams -- 10:00 am (Playthrough)

**Strata for open events:** 1250+ / 500-1250 / 0-500

*All times E.S.T.*

- **Partners guaranteed for 199er games** (register 1 hour before gametime).
- **Entry fees:** \$8 per person per session. Purchase an entry book by June 24 and play all seven sessions for \$37 (includes \$5 for Sunday lunch).
- **Bridge rate** at the Fairfield Inn, US 31 & Lincoln Rd. (Phone: 765-453-8822).

**Chairman:** Richard Ellis 765-453-4341

**Partnerships:** Dorothy Harrell 765-457-7709





# Edwardsville Sectional July 29-31, 2005

**Knights of Columbus Hall,  
7132 Marine Rd. (Hwy. 143),  
Edwardsville IL**

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## **Friday, July 29**

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

## **Saturday, July 30**

9:00, 1:30 & 7:30 -- Bracketed KO Teams

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

## **Sunday, July 31**

10:00 -- Bracketed Swiss Teams (dinner included)

**Strata:** 0-500 / 500-1500 / 1500+

**Bridge rates** at the Maryville EconoLodge (618-345-5720) and the Edwardsville Comfort Inn (618-656-4900).

**Directions:** From I-55, take Hwy 143 exit (3 miles north of the I-55 & I-270 interchange). Travel west on Hwy. 143 approximately 2 miles.

**Info:** Ruby Nelson (618-659-9716) (cell: 618-514-2293)

**Partnerships:** Ray Sigler (618-224-9606)