

bRidge Bits

The Newsletter of the Rhode Island Bridge Association

January 10, 2019

Message from the President

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as president of Unit 145 for these past two years. I want to personally thank the members of the Board for their support and their service and dedication to Unit 145. Your board has continued to preserve the financial strength of our Unit. And a big thank you to all the dedicated members of our Unit for their attendance at our Sectionals and D25 Regionals.

As Marshall Williams begins his tenure as President, I extend to him my best wishes and hope that he will enjoy the Presidency as much as I did.

Paula Najarian

Membership Report

Greetings! The Rhode Island Bridge Association extends a hearty welcome to all new members and to all members who recently transferred into our unit! Be sure to check your e-mail for regular mailings from RIBA. The clubs in RI are known for friendliness and sociability and we are confident that you will find bridge games relaxing and mentally stimulating.

New Members

Syd Bander	Warwick
Britt Bell	Wakefield
David Caron	East Greenwich
Robert Cornett	Newport
Susan Eddy	Newport
Edith Fletcher	Newport
Kevin Jin	Providence
Brian Murphy	Cranston
S M Reilly	Jamestown
Ellie Smith	Cranston
Neil Toback	Portsmouth
Ruthann Toback	Portsmouth
Frederick Hayes	Bellingham, MA
Peggy Ellis	Portsmouth
John Frizzell	Portsmouth
Frances Caban	Narragansett

Total Members as of 1/1/19: 475

70%+ Games

70%+ Open Pairs games September-December 2018,
at least 5 tables, at least 20 boards in play

Bridge Club of Northern Rhode Island

- Walter Morgan & William Morgan, October 8, 70.17%
- Susan Moubayed & Gail Kagan, November 13, 70.88%
- Helen Modelane & Fred Hayes, December 18, 70.60%

Narragansett Bridge Club

- Paula Najarian & Gail Borod, October 29, 71.88%
- Mario Briccetti & J. Michael Shaughnessy, Dec 30, 71.43%
- Bill Niemi & Timothy Yentsch, December 17, 70.94%
- Terry Byrne & Joyce Regan, December 19, 71.18%

Viking Bridge Club

- Eva Landy & Steven Myerson, September 13, 70.64%
- Mike Baker & Gregory Klinker, September 28, 79.69%
- Steven Myerson & Eva Landy, June 5, 72.69%*
- Leon Lesinski & Ed Rizey, June 28, 73.29%*
- Eva Landy & Steven Myerson, June 28, 70.93%*
- Joan Ceglarski & Eileen English, October 4, 71.25%
- Steve Grimes & Colette Harrington, October 16, 72.70%

Ocean State Bridge Club

- Chris Soares & Bernie Bendiksen, November 5, 71.43%

Warwick Bridge Club

- Joyce Regan & Terry Byrne, September 28, 71.13%
- Joyce Regan & Terry Byrne, September 29, 73.81%
- Maurice Chesney & John Urciuoli, October 4, 73.61%
- Phyllis Chase & Joyce Regan, December 13, 74.60%
- Chris Soares & Arlene Roberti, December 18, 70.83%

*Omitted in last issue

RI Bridge Assn. Winter Sectional

January 26 & 27, 2019
Win EXTRA Silver Points on Saturday!

FREE Lesson: "Attitude Signals" by Barton Buffington at 9:00 Sat.

**Johnston Senior Center, 1291 Hartford Avenue
(Route 6A), Johnston, RI**

www.RIBridge.org

RIBA Officers

President: Marshall Williams
Vice-President: Meg Gousie
Secretary: Linda Ahrens
Treasurer: Joseph Brouillard

Board of Directors

Linda Ahrens
Joseph Brouillard
Barton Buffington
Charleen Christy
Lois DeBlois
Megan DiOrio
Maureen Fahey
Julie Goulet
Meg Gousie
Diane Lambert
Carol McCullough
Paula Najarian
David Prentiss
Chris Soares
Marshall Williams
Stanley Williams

In Memoriam

Mrs Hannah Feibelman	Cranston
Mrs Jane Rankin	East Greenwich
Ms Patricia Caizzi	Bristol
Mrs Fleurette O'Toole	North Scituate
Dr Robert Luber	Cumberland

Transportation Available

If you are interested in playing bridge at a club, Sectional, or Regional and are unable to walk to a bus stop due to a disability, you may be eligible to receive transportation from RIDE for \$4 each way. You will get picked up and dropped off at your home. Call 461-9760 for info

Upcoming Events

February 13-18 Presidential Regional, Cromwell, CT,
March 16-17 Sectional, Johnston, RI
April 11-14 Gold Mine Non-Life Master Regional, Sturbridge, MA,
April 13-14 GNT District Finals, Sturbridge, MA
April 24-28 Keohane Senior Regional/ Cape Cod Sectional, North Falmouth, MA
June 8-9 Sectional, Johnston, RI
Sept 21-22 Sectional, Johnston, RI
July 20-30 NABC - Providence, RI (2021)

Newest

Rank Achievements

Congratulations to the following members on their rank advancements!

Diamond Life Master (5000 MP's)

Jean Lieberman, Tampa FL

Sapphire Life Master (3500 MP's)

John Urciuoli, Wakefield

Ruby Life Master (1500 MP's)

Joseph Brouillard, West Yarmouth, MA

Silver Life Master (1000 MP's)

Robert Garfinkel, Pawtucket

Frederick Rogler, Glendale

Steven Myerson, Portsmouth

Marshall Williams, Pawtucket

Life Master*

William Everett, Providence

NABC Master (200 MP's)

Eileen Lombardi, Cranston

Carol McCullough, Foster

Regional Master (100 MP's)

George Chase, North Kingstown

Dr Michael Viscusi, South Kingstown

Rita Barbone, Smithfield

Craig Cayer, Glendale

Dr Edwin Mehlman, Warren

Sectional Masters (50 MP's)

Daniel Sheinin, East Greenwich

Bobbi Graveline, Cumberland

Philip Wallis, Barrington

Club Master (20 MP's)

Mario Briccetti, Kingston

Janet Myrin, Little Compton

John Fitzpatrick, Warwick

Colette Schwoeri, Newport

James Shaughnessy, Wakefield

William Rusch, Middletown

Junior Master (5 MP's)

John Dinapoli, Middletown

David Caron, East Greenwich

Mary Kitzes, Providence

Neil Toback, Portsmouth

(as of 1/1/2019)

**300 MP's if a player joined ACBL before 1/1/2010; 500 if a player joined after that*

Bonus for Bakers

We get many compliments on the wonderful food that is served at our tournaments.

Bring something you've made to the January tournament. Baked goods are always a favorite, bonus: you'll get a discount on your entry fee!

Hesitations

During an auction, sometimes you have to think about a bid before you make it. There is certainly nothing wrong with this. Whether you pass, bid, or double, your partner may have gained extra information based on the speed of your bid. Your partner may not take advantage of this "unauthorized information". Your partner should still bid what he/she thinks is the right bid, and not base it on the UI. Sometimes this is difficult, but always do your best and let the director sort it out, if necessary.

PARTNERSHIP SUCCESS: R-E-S-P-E-C-T

By Rod.Bias@Cutlip.Org

Chemistry and cooperation are major components of success. When you play bridge, the number one — most important — person at the table is seated across from you: your partner. Your fate ... at least, for this session ... is inextricably fettered to your partner's. When the dust settles, you will have the same score; so, you want your partner to score BIG.

Always make it clear you are on your partner's side. When pard misplays a deal and goes down three (even when everyone can see how to make an overtrick), say, "Nice try; I might have done the same thing." Mean it; because, someday you will do the same thing!

Avoid conflict at the bridge table. Normally, two people who work closely together have disagreements that require discussion and negotiation — sometimes, vigorous discussion can "clear the air." At the table is the wrong place and wrong time. Walk away smiling, as if you had scored a grand slam on every board; and, you will win that round.

When the results are posted, yours can be the most successful partnership, even if you have the bottom score. QED



Your submissions to and ideas for bRidge Bits are welcome. Send to Carol McCullough at christmascarol999@yahoo.com. Upcoming bRidge Bits planned for January 2019.

Lesson: Handling Interference After An Opening 2NT

Recently, playing with an experienced partner I opened 2NT and heard 3D from my left hand opponent. Partner passed and it came around to me. I had Q 10 x of diamonds and a very nondescript 3-3-3-4 hand. I realized I had never discussed this with any of my partners. Reluctantly I passed. LHO did this with a “6” card suit headed by the Jack. It was a disaster.

Usually with “cards” behind the over-caller and equal vulnerability most would double to show values and expect partner to pass. My partner thought I would reopen the bidding. Vulnerable against not Vulnerable, you often have to guess whether 3NT is best. This is workable, but you can do better. Here is what we came up with.

A direct double by partner is Stayman (Q J x x, K x x x, x x J x x). Lacking a major, opener can Pass, bid 3NT, or bid the other minor.

A Pass by partner forces a reopening double. Partner then has the following options:

- (a) Pass for penalty. A Q x, K Q x, Q 10 x, A K x x
- (b) Bid his major to play (drop dead): Q J x x x, x x x, x x x x, x
- (c) Bid the other minor to play. Assuming a diamond overcall: x x, J x x, x x, Q 10 x x x x

Direct bids after the over-call are forcing. All subsequent bids are considered advances to game or slam. The Texas convention would be in play. 2NT – 3D – 4D (transfer to hearts).

When opponent decides to bid three of a Major we get a bit more complicated.

- (a) Direct bids are still forcing whether it be 3 of the other major or 4 of a minor.
- (b) Double is still Stayman (for the other suit). If opener does not have the other Major he may choose to Pass, bid 3NT, or bid a minor at the 4 level (usually 5).
- (c) Pass still requires opener to double and any suit bid by responder is to play. Like Lebensohl a delayed 3NT shows a stopper. “Slow shows, direct denies.” Therefore, using this principal, a direct bid of 3NT shows game values without a stopper. Bid the following hands after a 3D overcall? After a 3H overcall?:

- (1) x x x, K x x x, Q 9 x x, J x
- (2) Q x x x, A x x x x, x x x, x
- (3) Q x x x x, A x x, x, Q x x x
- (4) K 10 x x x x, Q x x x, K x, x
- (5) J x x x, x x, x, K 10 x x x x

Answers:

- (1) Over 3D you should Pass and Pass the reopening double for Penalty. Over 3H you should Pass, then Pass the reopening X at equal vul. and take a shot at 3NT if vul. vs. non-vul. It's close.
- (2) Over 3D you double and hope P bids a Major which you will raise. If he bids the other Minor you rebid 4H. If he bids 3NT you have a guess.
- (3) Over 3D and 3H bid 3S.
- (4) Over 3D bid 4H Texas. Over 3H you can bid 4H (still Texas), Note, If opponent had overcalled 3S, 4D would be natural.
- (5) Over 3D I would double and hope partner bids 3S. If he bids 3NT you can sign off in 4C. Over 3H you would do the same.

If you have any questions or suggestions please email them to: jmmaselli@verizon.net

submitted by Jack Maselli

Unit #145 First Place Winners

Rhode Island Sectional – September 22 – 23

Open Pairs Overalls

Bruce Fischer & Donald Rankin (B)

GALA

- Open Pairs AM John Maselli & John Malley (A)
Chris Soares & Arlene Roberti (B)
Catherine Branch & Deborah Norman (C)
- Open Pairs PM John Urciuoli & William Niemi (A)
Catherine Branch & Deborah Norman (C)
- 299er AM John Ahern & Michael Ahern (A)
Lyn Fitzpatrick & John Fitzpatrick (B)
- 299er PM Carol McCullough & Sisan Smallman (B)

New England Harvest Regional

- Thu Morn 299er Pairs – Kathleen Caron & Arthur Norman (A, B)
- Thu Eve Super Pt Side Game – John Ahern & Michael Ahern (C)
- Fri Aft Red Point Swiss – Bruce Fischer, Rumen Dimitrov, Donald Rankin & Vincent Fournier (B)
- Sat Aft Red Point Swiss – Robert Potvin, Donna Cone, Josephine Murray, & Jane Clancy (B)
- Sun Morn Super Point Side Game – Lois DeBlois & Paula Najarian (A, B)

Self Evident?

When, in the course of bridge events, it becomes necessary to dissolve the moral bonds between one player and another, the weaker ones require that they declare their unethical intentions. We hold these truths to be self-evident: that we are all created equal; that we are endowed with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of masterpoints; and that in the course of achieving this goal, we be allowed to cheat. - John Handhog

Andy Rooney Report

Why can't the ACBL leave the names of things alone? Just when we got used to the Grand National Pairs, the gods in Memphis made it the North American Open Pairs. And why did the McKenney race have to become the Top-500 race? I can't argue with the later change to the Barry Crane Top-500 to honor the best matchpoint player of all time. But why not the Barry Crane McKenney? Or is that too many names?

I am proud to have won the Reisinger Teams, formerly called the Chicago. My son won his category once in the Mini-McKenney; but then it was the Little McKenney. Sheesh! Is there that much difference between Little and Mini that a change was even necessary?

And what ever happened to the Men's Pairs? Now it's always the Open Pairs. I'm sure this is some kind of sexist thing, but I wish someone would tell me if I am being slighted or not.

Oh well, at least I can look forward to the next Nationals, er, I mean, North American Championships.

these two anecdotes submitted by the unknown comic