



Quarterly Newsletter



Cincinnati
Bridge Association



UNIT 124

October 2016 XLII Number 4

2860 Cooper Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45241 (513) 563 2218

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Unit 124 Members,

It has been a busy year for the CBA and the CBC. 2016 Renovations and upgrades to the CBC are done.

Completed projects: Parking lot repaved, hallway women's and men's restrooms renovated at the building owner's expense as part of our lease extension. **CBC renovations:** Replaced all ceiling tiles and louvers, painted entire space, renovated women's restroom, carpet has been cleaned and a Reverse Osmosis water filtration system has been installed. We've hooked the water system to a new Bunn and new Krups K-Cup coffee makers. Members are invited to bring K-cups to enjoy their favorite coffee while playing bridge at the CBC. Thanks to Amit Raturi and Martin Gibler for donating a variety of K-cup samples.

Tom Mess, Steve Moese and I are re-elected to the Board of Directors. We thank you for your support.

Several special congratulations are in order:

AJ Stephani has been elected as the District 11 representative to the ACBL Board of Directors.

Bill Higgins went over 10,000 masterpoints this summer.

Norm Coombs went over 25,000 masterpoints during the Dayton/Columbus Regional in early October. He is 69th on the all time list of Grand Life Masters.

Special events for the remainder of 2016:

Tuesday November 15th at 6PM will be a CBA Membership meeting. Light dinner, snacks and drinks will be provided and the 7PM bridge game will be a Unit Championship game with lots of masterpoints available. **BEST PART:** The bridge game is FREE!!! I expect a large turnout.

Tuesday November 22nd at 7PM. ACBL wide charity game.

Sunday December 11th at Noon will be the CBA's Annual Holiday Party and Bridge game.

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Details will be on our web site and posted at the CBC.

The final **STaC week** of 2016 will be held **Monday December 26 through Saturday December 31.**

Always check our web site for the latest special event information (www.cincybridge.com).

The web site now includes a link to a **Facebook page** for the CBC. Check this for special news including weather updates this winter. Thanks to Reeta Brendamour for getting the Facebook page up and running.

See you at the tables,

John Meinking
President Unit 124



The Unit 124 Board of Directors announces a search for a new Board Member to complete a 26 month term. All interested members in good standing who want to serve please contact any Board member and volunteer before **November 8, 2016**. The Board will choose a new member at the Board meeting on **November 15, 2016**.

AUTUMN LEAVES

Harvest time has deep historical and emotional importance for many communities. Folk celebrations, Octoberfest, Halloween parties, and neighborhood events trace deep roots to times long ago. Trips to the pumpkin patch, sampling fresh pressed apple cider, carving pumpkins into jack-o-lanterns, raking leaves, and the nip in the air reminding us of the changing season – all mark the cycle of time.

On Fields O'er Which the Reapers Hand has Passed

by Henry David Thoreau

On fields o'er which the reaper's hand has pass'd
Lit by the harvest moon and autumn sun,
My thoughts like stubble floating in the wind
And of such fineness as *October airs*,
There after harvest could I glean my life
A richer harvest reaping without toil,
And weaving gorgeous fancies at my will
In subtler webs than finest summer haze.

We count many blessings –

- a renewed contract for the CBC at affordable rates,
- CBC building and exterior renovations and updates,
- a new home for the Cincinnati Flying Pig Regional that will bring needed revenues to the Unit and better amenities for our players,
- major personal achievements by leading players,
- attracting new players and grow tournament player success from our Unit,
- Leadership at District and National levels to guide the ACBL forward.
- A 5-year commitment to run the D11 NAP Finals at the CBC and to run the GNTs once every 4 years.

Your Unit has contributed this, and much more. We live in a Unit with a broad range of rich offerings to engage and enjoy. You can always do your part to contribute your time and talent – the Unit has many opportunities for you to volunteer. Contact any Unit Board member and let them know what you'd like to get involved in.

Unfortunately our membership rolls are slowly declining. The Unit has 935 active members down about 30 from this time last year. Word of mouth and friends bringing friends is the best way for us to grow our games. Every new person we bring makes for more fun, stable games and an enduring legacy for those to come. **Join us Nov 15 at the Members Meeting!**

It is with great sadness that we commemorate the passing of two members who contributed substantially to the growth and leadership of our Unit. Mrs Sonya Wilson and Ms Carolyn Ahlert passed away this October. Carolyn was a long time editor for this ALERT and an active board member and player in the CBC. She moved to South Carolina years ago. Sonya is a recent Board Member Emeritus, a local sponsor for Bridge (Anderson Bridge Club and NKy Sectionals) and a one person army in charge of welcoming new members to the Unit. Sonya cared for every bridge player and worked hard to make the Unit what it is today.

As I Watch'd the Ploughman Ploughing

by Walt Whitman

AS I watch'd the ploughman ploughing,
Or the sower sowing in the fields—or the harvester
harvesting,
I saw there too, O life and death, your analogies:
(Life, life is the tillage, and Death is the harvest
according.)

Write About Our Unit

That's right – we want your stories, perspectives, magic hands, questions, anything that informs our members and highlights the fun being an active player in Unit 124 is all about. If you like to write, try your hand as a Reporter or Writer for the ALERT! Get me your story and I will review it for publication. We publish the ALERT at the end of January, April, July, and October.

On What's Happening Around Us

The Unit Wide Game – a monthly interclub pairs competition was discontinued in June 2016. It takes a minimum of three separate clubs competing at the same time and day on the same hands to give members the opportunity to win 3x Black Points. Our Unit Wide Game dates back to 2011. NKy, CBC and Anderson had been participating. The recent ACBL fees increase (\$3.25 per table) caused Anderson to drop out. If you want this game to start again please talk to the Anderson BC Board and Sanction Holders and let them know you'd be willing to pay an extra dollar once a month to play in this great game. See our history at:

<http://www.cincybridge.com/UnitWideGame.html>

This ALERT

In addition to the two memorials we share, our major sanction holders provide club news and we have an update from our Education Chair in this issue. As

always, we bring the major events for the next 3 months into focus so you can plan with your friends. From the “We must be doing something right” department, we report results from the District 11 North American Pairs Finals recently contested at the CBC. Of the 22 players qualifying to play in the NABC Finals in Kansas City, 14 are from Unit 124. Check out the results from the Spooktacular Sectional. We offer a warm introduction to our new ACBL Board of Directors Member – AJ Stephani. You’ll find a recap of the final Mentor Game – the capstone of the summer-long program many enjoy. Potter asks about illegal bids. Dean introduces us to new friends, Joanne reminds us about name tags (and partnerships). Further along you’ll find another compelling offering from the Ruminator-in-Chief. Rob W. gives a compelling example how to read a bridge hand – a great skill to develop and hone. We note several major milestones in member advancements. A few interesting hands are offered for light entertainment.

Harvest is when we account for our efforts earlier in the year. To quote my wife: “*Cosechas lo que siembras* – You reap what you sow.” **If you want more from bridge, put more into your planting!**

See you at the tables,

Steve

Editor, The ALERT alert@cincybridge.com



ANDERSON BC NEWS

By Jodie Keiffer



We learned today (Oct. 25) that we lost Sonya Wilson, who was a very strong supporter of bridge in the Cincinnati area, but especially our Anderson bridge club. She was beyond generous with local bridge clubs. She donated whatever we needed whenever we needed it, and always offered to do more. She is responsible for our bridge mates, and both of our laptops at the Anderson bridge club. I know she supported the Northern KY club with paying for their sectional supplies and many other things. Sonya passed away in Florida after suffering a medical incident that left her in a coma and unable to breathe on her own. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family, and all those who loved her.

We have had several member upgrades in the last little while. New Club Master: Judy Bratton, New Sectional Masters: Jan Willenborg and Melissa Hellman, new Regional Masters: Joan Simon and Helga Tillinghast, new NABC Masters : Kwang Cha Hurley and Al Venosa, new Life Master: Patrick Lammers, New Silver Life Masters: Elaine Jarchow and Henry Jackson and new Ruby Life Master: Al Norwood. Congratulations to them everyone!

Join us every Tuesday and Wednesday at 11:30 AM at the Anderson Senior Center, 7970 Beechmont Avenue. I look forward to seeing everyone at the tables!

NKBC NEWS

By John Wolfe

The Northern Kentucky Bridge Club celebrated its 15th Anniversary on Nov. 1 Voting for next year’s board also took place. A nice-sized contingent of NKBC members, family and friends dodged Hurricane Matthew as they enjoyed a 7-day Caribbean cruise in early October. They sailed from Ft. Lauderdale the Sunday after the storm blew through Florida.

There were several 70 percent games at NKBC in the last quarter: **David Britt and Norman Coombs** had a 74.10 game on Sept. 14, **Dave Tolleson and Rick O’Connor** had a 73.75 game on Sept. 21, and **Steve Moese and Mike Purcell** scored 71.43 on Aug. 24.

CBC Monday Night Bridge

Game times for this sanction are currently Monday Night 7PM and Tuesday 11AM weekly.

Monday nights are a fun night! We have a lot of intermediate players that come out and we play some bridge and eat some Cheese Puffs! A lot of couples play in this game. There is always a stand by partner and Expert Hand Analysis is provided by Bob Fisk. It is part of The Common Game where a bunch of Bridge Clubs around the country play the same hands. It’s interesting to see how you fared against all the other players.

Want a more competitive game? Play against Grand Life Masters? That is Tuesday mornings. This game is by far the most competitive in our Unit. When you win this game you know you have achieved something. These people are good!!!

Unfortunately I have cancelled the Wednesday Morning Open Game for lack of players. Thanks to all who made an effort to play.

Any suggestions or comments are welcome. You can reach me at 513-467-8054 or email me at lippmichael@gmail.com. I am always eager to take suggestions.

All the above games have a lot of special games throughout the year. Please come out and support your club at the Cincinnati Bridge Center.

Evening Bridge

By Steve Moese

There is clear evidence that evening bridge in the Unit is showing signs of weakness. While CBC Monday Evening (Mike Lipp) and NKy Wednesday Evening (Shiela Dipple) remain strong, the CBC Tuesday Evening (Unit 124 – Debbie Wiest) has a nice 6-7 table NLM game, but the open game has disappeared. The CBC Thursday Evening Game has deteriorated to 3-4 tables twice a month. Monday Evening is a limited game so players with more than 2000 MPs have only one evening option if they can't play during a weekday.

Unit 124 Tuesday Evening Game at the CBC

Tuesday Night at the CBC has become a very attractive evening for NLM players. What would make you want to play in the Open Game on Tuesday Evenings? Would you be willing to play in the Open game if we found enough players for a 4 to 5 table game? Let Debbie Wiest debbiewiest@hotmail.com or John Meinking jmeinking@cinci.rr.com know!

Starting November 17, EIGHT IS ENOUGH comes to Thursday Nights! By AJ Stephani and John Meinking

We announce this new format for Thursday night Swiss Teams – Eight is Enough. The idea is to allow inexperienced players to play with stronger players on the same team. Each person is assigned a "Point" value based on their Masterpoint holding. The points are then added up and any total over 8 points are not allowed to play as a team. Likewise in any team match, pairs will be matched by points where possible.

Player Points Assignments:
1 Point: <500 Master Points;
2 Points: 500-2000 MPs;
3 Points: > 2000 MPs.

No Team can have more than 8 Points. That means there can be a team of 4 – 1 point players, any combination of 1 and 2 point players (yes, 4 2-point players is possible). When 3-point players get involved things get interesting. If two 3-point players are partners, their teammates must be 1-point players. If a

3-point player plays with a 2-point player, the other pair cannot have more than 3-points. When a team has a 5 or 6-point pair, that pair must play at the table of a 5 or 6-point pair in any head to head match. 5-6 point pairs may not play against 2-point pairs unless no other match-up is possible. This new format is meant to attract newer players to team games and IMP scoring, help them get to meet players from other strata, and continue playing with mentors where possible. If you commit to play, we promise great fun. All you need to do to win master points in Swiss Teams is win one match. Three wins (of four matches in one evening) and you are likely getting overall points.

So that we can help pairs find teams, we ask that you sign up using the invitation genie at this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B44A8A82AA6F-F2-eight>

Simply fill out this schedule for yourself, for you and your partner, or for your entire team of 4. We discourage teams of 5 and 6 people because we want more teams and this game is only 4-sessions long.

Click the link above and sign up today!

UNIT 124 COMING EVENTS

Here's what's up for the next 3 months!



Tuesday November 15th at 6PM will be the CBA Membership meeting. Light dinner, snacks and drinks will be provided and the 7PM bridge game will be a Unit Championship game with lots of Master Points available. **BEST PART: The bridge game is FREE!!!** I expect a large turnout. [Click for the Flyer.](#)

Tuesday Evening November 22nd at 7PM. ACBL-Wide charity game. NLM and Open (If attendance warrants). The spirit of giving is always in season. These games support the ACBL Charity Foundation.



Masterpoints: 81.8% sectional-rated black (2X)
Overall Awards: 1st, 20; depth of awards, 10 places
District Winners: 1st, 10; depth of awards, 5 places
Winners recognized on website and in the Bridge Bulletin. Hand records and analyses provided



Sunday December 11th at Noon will be the CBA's Annual Holiday

Party and Bridge game. Join us for an evening of celebration with Drinks, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, desserts, and a large Unit Championship Game (Extra Master Points of course). Details to follow on the Unit website.



The final **STaC week** of 2016 will be held **Monday December 26 through Saturday December 31**. This is a great time to earn **SILVER POINTS** at the Club and build on your path to your next rank promotion!

Mark your Calendars – **District 11 GNT Finals** moves to a new weekend – **February 25 & 26, 2017**. The Miami Valley Bridge Association will host this annual District competition to choose 3 teams to play in the NABC Championships in Toronto, Canada, in August 2017. Winning teams receive a substantial stipend from the ACBL, District 11 and contributing Units.



DISTRICT 11 NAP FINALS 2017

The North American Pairs is the preeminent grass roots Pairs Competition in the ACBL Zone (Canada, Mexico, and the USA). Here are the District 11 Finalists who will participate in the NAP Finals in Kansas City MO in March 2017.

24.00	Gold	A1	381.99	Russell Shoup Dayton, OH Scott Gates Miamisburg, OH
18.00	Gold	A2	374.47	Peter Whipple Mason, OH♣ Ryan Schultz Dayton, OH
13.50	Gold	A3	351.19	Cliff Pleatman Cincinnati, OH♣ Bob Fisk Cincinnati, OH♣
16.00	Gold	B1	377.90	D Byrnett Oxford, OH♣ P Byrnett Oxford, OH♣
12.00	Gold	B2	377.42	Mike Ma Cincinnati, OH♣ Stephen Moese West Chester, OH♣
9.00	Gold	B3	355.21	Dennis Schultz Harrison, OH♣ Larry Newman Cincinnati, OH♣
6.75	Gold	B4	353.77	Isaac Stephani Cincinnati, OH♣ Tiberiu Ungureanu Columbus, OH
10.00	GJR	C1	381.54	Reeta Brendamour Cincinnati, OH♣ Julian Kurtzman Cincinnati, OH♣
7.50	GJR	C2	372.62	Richard Loveland Powell, OH Daniel Loveland Powell, OH
5.63	GJR	C3	353.87	Kevin Henry Cincinnati, OH♣ Ben Fisk Cincinnati, OH♣
4.22	GJR	C4	346.02	Mary Ann Kanervo Indianapolis, IN Maureen Clerkin Fishers, IN

Photo Gallery:



2016 A1 Russell Shoup & Scott Gates 2016 A2 Peter Whipple & Ryan Schultz



2016 A3 Bob Fisk & Cliff Pleatman 2016 NAP B1 Don & Paula Byrnett



B2 Mike Ma & Steve Moese B3 Larry Newman & Denny Schultz



B4 Isaac Stephani & Tiberiu Ungureanu 2016 C1 Reeta Brendamour & JD Kurtzman



2016 C2 Richard & Daniel Loveland 2016 C3 Kevin Henry & Ben Fisk

There is no Photo for Kanervo & Clerkin.

14 of 22 D11 Qualifiers for The Spring NABC in Kansas City MO are Unit 124 Members!! ♣ = Unit 124 Member

For hands, results summaries, and details see ACBL Live:

Sun	A	M	Summary	Leaderboards	Recaps	Hands
Sun	A	A	Summary	Overalls	Recaps	Hands
Sun	C	M	Summary	Leaderboards	Recaps	Hands
Sun	C	A	Summary	Overalls	Recaps	Hands
Sat	B	A	Summary	Leaderboards	Recaps	Hands
Sat	B	E	Summary	Overalls	Recaps	Hands

1st and 2nd place pairs receive \$700 and \$300 from the ACBL respectively after playing in the NABC Final. Please contact Mr. Kit Overpeck if you choose not to play in the NABC event. kitoverpeck@yahoo.com

For more details about the North American Pairs see:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_American_Pairs

http://www.district11bridge.com/District_11_NAP_FAQ.html

Meet Our New District 11 ACBL Board Member

By Steve Moese & AJ Stephani



AJ Stephani has worked tirelessly for Unit 124 for over 10 years, serving in leadership capacities of increasing scope and import. As Unit President, AJ led the modernization of the infrastructure and a critical analysis of the future of the CBC. He has led the highly successful Cincinnati Flying Pig

Regional for several years. He serves the District 11 as Tournament Coordinator, ensuring that sectional and regional tournaments are scheduled to maximize player participation and eliminate conflicts with surrounding Districts. AJ has also been the 1st alternate to the ACBL BoD for the past two years. Here now is AJ:

I'm honored to serve as your next District 11 Representative to the ACBL Board of Directors! I've gotten to know many of you over the past 10 years, when my "bridge life" began. But here are some interesting tidbits about the prior 38 years (the oblique way of saying you're approaching 50)

I was born in Baltimore, MD but raised in upstate New York in the Washington Irving-esque sleepy environs of the mid-Hudson Valley. My immediate family were not big gamers, but I spent many memorable hours playing gin rummy with my maternal grandmother, Na-Na (everyone should have a Na-Na!). I was introduced to bridge while in college at Yale, where I first

encountered the bridge skills of many Indian and Pakistani players. I'll never forget playing in a par contest (anyone remember them?) when a Pakistani graduate student named Salman returned a completely illogical card as a defender at trick 2. Much to my surprise, the play received the top score. When asked about it, Salman simply said, "Textbook defense against the triple squeeze." Today, I can almost hear Amit's voice adding, "What's the problem?" I didn't understand it then, and still don't get it today, but my early respect for bridge players from that part of the world was born.

I dabbled in bridge a bit after college, but drifted away from the game while raising a young family. My wife, Robin Totsch, and I were married in 1993, and we have three bridge-playing and tournament-caddying children, Zach, Isaac, and Elenya. I returned to the game about a decade later when I discovered that my new church had a small local monthly duplicate. Through that group, I met Sue Sale, who first invited me to play with her at the Cincinnati Bridge Center sometime around 2006 (thanks Sue!). My first regular partner, Vivek Choudhury, was also a member of that church, and together we joined Sue and her partner, Marilyn Beiting, for many enjoyable years of KO and Swiss team play throughout District 11 in Flight C. I'm privileged to have enjoyed some success as a player the last several years, but I'll never forget the thrill of my first KO win and catching a glimpse of the greatness of our game those first few years.

Some top CBA player who I barely knew casually asked me if I would run for the CBA Board back in 2008. Too intimidated to say no, I agreed, and so now you can all blame Barb Levinson! I served as CBA Vice-President under Potter Orr, and then served as CBA President from 2011-2014. Whoa, boy, was that an experience! Do yourself a favor, and thank a former CBA President when you see them – they deserve it. I really appreciate the experience, and (most of the time) it was very rewarding. I've moved more in the direction of bridge teaching and directing the last few years, and have a broader view of the entire ACBL movement because of it. Since 2010, I've also held a number of Unit and District positions: District 11 Tournament Coordinator, CBA Tournament Committee Chair, Unit 124 Disciplinary Chair, Spooktacular Sectional Chair, Flying Pig Regional Chair, District 11 Board member, First Alternate to ACBL Board of Directors, and probably a few others. I have to admit it's been a busy 6 years, but now I'm ready for the challenge for serving on our national Board of Directors.

In coming ALERTs, I hope provide regular updates on my experience on the ACBL Board of Directors. For now, this isn't the place to discuss ACBL policies or developments (you'll be tired of reading about those in time, trust me), but I wanted to just mention a few of my thoughts on where the ACBL is heading and why I chose to stand for election.

I see some of the problems facing the ACBL as falling into 3 areas: (1) being increasingly out of touch with members, clubs, teachers, and the grass roots of our organization; (2) the complete fiasco of the ACBLScore+ and failure to explain what happened; and (3) ignoring the looming demographics cliff and failing to prepare for bridge in 21st century North America. Some of these problems trace back to the growing dysfunctional relationship between the Board of Directors and ACBL management. Some of them are related to our hierarchical structure in North America. And the solutions won't be easy, but that doesn't mean we should ignore the problem and hope it goes away.

Many of you know my son, Isaac, and are familiar with his own bridge journey (I am commonly known among junior bridge players as simply "Isaac's Dad," as he is very active in the USBF Junior Program and was part of the U21 team representing the US in Italy at the World Youth Teams Championship in Italy in August 2016). My involvement in youth bridge programming roughly coincide with Isaac's initial interest in the game. I'm not sure which caused which – kind of a chicken and egg thing – but I'm so grateful that I sometimes get to play the game I love with one of the people I love. It seems so clear to me that the long-term health of bridge in North America is tied to our youth, but sometimes it feels like I'm going to be facing an uphill battle.

ACBL's efforts to create a robust youth bridge movement are – well, it seems they're not even trying. Look, I get that national marketing efforts targeted to recent retirees are more likely to produce a new ACBL member tomorrow, but we are going down a path that leads to a world in which North America is a second-world bridge power in 20 years. Bridge will survive; and it's currently thriving in many European countries, some parts of Asia, and especially in China. But if we want to keep pace, we need to face reality and find a way to systematically introduce our children and grandchildren to our great game.

Now I know that getting bridge integrated into school curriculums is incredibly difficult, and even maintaining partnerships with schools as after-school programs

faces very difficult challenges. Like many of you who have worked to establish a bridge foothold inside schools, Isaac and I both felt frustrated trying to work the internal gears of school administration, pique the curiosity of a generation who has never heard of bridge, and, of course, compete against our national fascination with youth sports. But we know that some local efforts to promote youth bridge are working in places like Atlanta, Silicon Valley, Toronto, and New Jersey. We need to study these programs, fund pilot programs that draw on their experiences, and determine if what works locally can be scaled nationally. This is not an easy task, and the only way it can happen is if the ACBL gets in front of the effort. I hope to be part of that change.

I fly to Orlando in November for my first week of ACBL Board of Directors meetings. I'll be a guest at those first meetings, observing full Board meetings and participating during meetings of Committees to which I've been assigned. Hopefully, I'll even get to play a little bridge. And I'll be sure to report back to you what surprises me, what I've learned, and how you can be part of making a difference.

Calling All Members!!!

By Joanne Earls



If you are NEW to our Unit we are happy to provide you with a Cincinnati Bridge Association Name Tag. (Unit 124 operates as an Ohio Non-Profit Corporation under the name "Cincinnati Bridge Association"). Simply contact Joanne Earls and request your name tag. Lose your name tag? For a \$4 fee we can replace it.

We have a large number of unclaimed name tags. If you have not claimed your name tag please drop by the center to do so. If you know a lapsed member, please help us by contacting them and seeing what it would take to get them back to the club.

NAME TAGS

Your Name Here
Cincinnati Bridge Association

Joanne Earls 513-772-4395 or jolman@fuse.net
Need a CBA Name Tag? Contact Joanne Earls.
\$4 each. (1st one FREE! to New Members).

CBA MENTORING PROGRAM



Thanks to Bob Fisk, Barbara Levinson, and Cordell Coy for their tireless support and the effort they invest to craft the highly touted Mentoring Programs in the CBA. We are very lucky to have such high interest among Mentors and Advancing Players. The final Mentor Game was held at the CBC on Sunday September 11, 2016. Congratulations to Jan Polk and Steve Moese, Reeta Brendamour and Mike Ma, and Joe Muenks and Janet Hansen for their top finishes.



PAIRS IN STRAT A=12/B=7

#	Name	Name	Flt	OAA	OAB	SA	SB	Score	Pct	MPs
1	Stephen Moese	Jan Polk	A	1	.	1	.	79.8	66.50	2.33(OA)
5	Mike Ma	Reeta Brendamour	A	2	.	2	.	78.8	65.67	1.75(OA)
9	Joseph Muenks	Janet Hansen	A	3	.	3	.	69.4	57.83	1.31(OA)
2	Pam Campbell	Monica Ibarra	B	4	1	4	1	67.9	56.58	1.12(OB)
12	Robert Fisk	Kevin Henry	A	.	.	5	.	64.1	53.42	0.32(SA)
10	Linda Woodham	Carla Runda	B	.	2	.	2	57.8	48.17	0.84(OB)
3	Patrick Lammers	James Barrett	B	.	3	.	3	56.2	46.83	0.63(OB)
8	Paul Pschesang	Judy Barron	A	.	.	.	.	54.8	45.67	
6	Judy Ruehl	Beth Wales	B	.	.	.	.	54.4	45.33	
11	Sharon Koster	Debra Chavez	B	.	.	.	.	48.0	40.00	
7	Patrick Hoffman	Robert Campbell	B	.	.	.	.	45.4	37.83	
4	Robert Roark	Carol Wilson	B	.	.	.	.	43.4	36.17	

IS THERE ANY SUCH THING AS AN ILLEGAL BID?

By Potter Orr

Is any such thing as an illegal bid?

From time to time I hear a player complain that their opponent has made an illegal bid. The reality is that there are very few illegal bids. Keep in mind that with very few limitations a player may decide to violate the agreement they have with their partner, common sense or general human decency when they feel like it. Before getting to the few truly illegal bids, let me describe the majority of bids that cause problems.



Mistakes All of us just make mistakes. Today my partner opened 1 spade because he had a club stuck in with his spades (or so he said). Our convention card clearly shows 5 card majors and he opened with 4.

Illegal, not at all. Most of the time these mistakes work to the disadvantage of the side making the mistake but if we luck out and our opponents get a bad board, that is their bad luck.

Stretching it You are allowed to open light, overcall a 4 card suit, pass a forcing bid or make a unilateral decision because you like or dislike your hand. These bids are different than true “psyches” (see below).

Tactical Bids These bids are made by a player for a purpose even though their hand does not look like what everyone at the table will expect. They are made to deceive the opponents or cause confusion. For example: Partner opens a weak 2 heart bid and the right hand opponent doubles for takeout. You hold 4 cards in partner’s suit but only 4 high card points. For most people at equal or favorable vulnerability a sacrifice bid of 4 hearts seems like a good idea. A bid over the double of 3 NT instead of 4 hearts would be a tactical bid. Since you were willing to go to 4 hearts, you would cheerfully retreat there if doubled. In the process of bidding to a NT game or slam, bidding a suit in which you hold no values with the intent of discouraging the opponents from leading the suit would be a tactical bid.

Psyches These are generally the most controversial. ACBL defines a psyche as “A deliberate and gross misstatement of honor strength and/or of suit length” If I open the bidding 1 spade with 3 spades and 6 points, this is a psyche. No matter how distasteful players find them they are allowed and are a part of the game. Frequent psyches, however, are not allowed. The reasoning is this: if your partner psyches frequently you get used to them and are more likely than your opponents to recognize a psyche. That constitutes an undisclosed partnership agreement and that is illegal. Legality aside, it is very poor sportsmanship to psyche against inexperienced players. You should not need to do this against them. This is a form of behavior that makes them reluctant to return.

Actually illegal The ACBL maintains 3 bidding charts. These charts define which conventions and procedures are allowed in various ACBL sanctioned events. The General Chart describes bids allowed at all ACBL sanctioned events including all club games, sectionals and regionals. The Mid-Chart includes things allowed in events at National Tournaments that have no upper master point limits. Finally, the Super Chart applies only to unlimited games at Nationals that involve play segments of at least 12 boards. Every chart expressly

forbids psyching of artificial opening bids and/or conventional responses. For example: you may not psyche a 2 club opening bid.

NEW FRIENDS

By Dean Congbalay dcongbalay@comey.com

I was grabbing my second cup of coffee when the announcement was made. "We have 13 and a half tables," the director said. "And we have a visitor, Dean, from Florida."

I was in New Orleans for a long weekend; our krewe had its annual crawfish boil on Sunday. Instead of hitting the pool or roaming the familiar streets of the French Quarter on Monday, I decided to play bridge.

The manager of the Louisiana Bridge Center, Sherrie Goodman, graciously picked me up at my hotel and found me a partner for the 10:30 a.m. game at the club, a converted Sizzler restaurant.

Sigurd Nordvoll and I had a great time. During our lunch break -- in which I happily indulged myself to a Krispy Kreme doughnut, countless Bugles (I didn't know they still made them!) and a sliver of king cake -- we had an enjoyable chat.



Dean Congbalay, Sherrie Goodman, and Sigurd Nordvoll
"There's no better game, is there?" I asked the retired sailor from Norway. "Here I am, hundreds of miles away from home, and I sit down with a complete stranger for five minutes and we proceed to have a nice game. Pretty cool!"

When the session was over, we checked our score: 49 percent -- good enough to scratch with 0.32 master points.

"Thanks for playing with me today," I said, shaking his hand. "I had a lot of fun!"

"Me, too," he said. "Thank you. A nice day!"

That night, I had a delightful dinner at Antoine's. As I packed my stuff to get ready for my flight back to paradise, I thought about the fun weekend -- and the cool new friends I made along the way.

RUMINATIONS

by Robert S Brown



For years our club prospered under the reign of a benevolent matriarch -- Nancy Sachs. She dutifully instructed new members aspiring to learn the Game and old members aspiring to improve their Game with grace and consistency. Partnerships bonds were labile¹, interchangeable², and (as a result) in gentle fluxion.

Now, two years after Nancy's passing, a slew of new instructors have emerged seeking to proselytize our members into discordant factions of competing convention cards. Amid this Babelian cacophony roiling our communal concordance³, one messianic instructor⁴ has emerged whose fanatic followers, the "Fiskians"⁵ pose a particular threat to us all.

Recently the Ruminator, at great personal peril, penetrated the arcane adyta of this cult to expose their corybantic rituals. Every Monday its members convene in obscure locations⁶ and engage in synchronized bidding and play orchestrated by the Fiskian impresario himself. Every gesture is precisely controlled including placement of the bid cards⁷, alert notifications⁸, or the contemptuous disuse of stop cards⁹.

¹ Except with the Albatross whose talons seem permanently affixed to my throat.

² Partners were traded with the same abandon as at a swinger's club.

³ Confer Yeats. *The Second Coming* (1919):

"Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world"

⁴ I dare not name him.

Compare Lord Voldemort in J.K. Rowling's
Harry Potter and the Philosophers Stone (1997)
(*passim*)

⁵ Oops -- did I say too much. The membership is also secret and includes one of our Directors and his sister but I will not mention any names.

⁶ E.g. The second floor ladies lounge of a dilapidated country club secured by acolyte Reeta B.

⁷ Beginning precisely one third of a table's width from its left edge.

⁸ Simultaneous to tapping the card on the board in play.

⁹ Scorned as "obsolete and soon to be eliminated."

Fiskians follow the sacred “BwB” bidding conventions accessible only by password to a constantly updated and secret Google drive file. Its seventy six chapters declaim an extraordinary variety of complex bidding conventions and play strategies. As a result the “BwB” convention card employs a four point type legible only to those with microscopic vision or a magnifying glass and leads to alert explanations of interminable length and amphiboly.

Fiskians threaten to destroy the Game as I know it. By precisely describing their hand they would eliminate that wonderful moment of suspense when you wait to see if the dummy will meet Declarer’s expectations. They would deny Defenders the thrill of randomly discovering Partner’s void or his running six card suit against a No-Trump contract.

And yet having gained admittance to this circle of fanatics, I find myself loath to leave them; I’m studying the BwB penetralia; I’m packing a Monday lunch for the next session – OH NO I’m drinking the Kool Aid.

[Ed. Note – We do not opine regarding the proper formal appellation. The reader will decide among *Fiskians, Fiskers, and Fiskophiles*. We are grateful we need not deal with “Trumpers” in this issue 😊].

CELEBRATING GRAND MASTERY – AGAIN



Congratulations Norm Coombs!

Norm achieved 25,000 lifetime master points Friday, finishing first at the half of the 2-session Open Pairs in the Fairborn Regional. Dave Britt partnered Norm. Norman is now 69th on the all time list of Grand Life Masters (73rd on the top 500 list of all

players). Norm has been a mainstay of the Bridge scene in Cincinnati for over 40 years. We congratulate Norm on his lifetime achievement. Norm thanks all his partners for contributing to this milestone. [Lifetime Achievement Grand Masters](#).

CBA EDUCATION COMMITTEE

By Larry Newman, Chair

What goes on in the Education Committee? In the future, we may address training of directors and teachers, but currently our focus is on you, the bridge players. We want to help you get better. And we need more of you!

We currently have classes for those new to the game. We are working on classes for beginners and intermediates hoping to improve.

In the future, I am hoping to see regularly offered classes for players in four separate categories:

- Those totally new to the game.
- People who have played in the distant past and need a quick refresher course to get back in the game.
- Beginners already playing duplicate.
- Intermediate players, hoping to improve their games.

In addition to typical classes, the Cincinnati Bridge Association (CBA) already has two really wonderful programs in place for beginning players.

- For those just learning to play bridge: What should I have bid? How should I have played that hand? Don’t you wish you could have an instructor with you to answer all those nagging questions that come up every time you sit down to play bridge? **Supervised Play** is an opportunity to play with others of your level somewhat informally but accompanied by a more experienced player to give you advice while you play.
- For those already playing duplicate: Wouldn’t it be great to play with a more experienced player, to get a chance to see how you might improve your game? The **Mentor-Mentee Program** pairs newer players with more experienced players for 4-8 duplicate sessions each summer.

Both are great opportunities to get “free instruction” or pick up a few tips.

Our challenge is to get new players to our Bridge Center and to keep our current players stimulated. And **we need you to spread the word.** Please tell your friends and your children about our game. And about our educational opportunities.

So

I have questions for you!

- When would you like to see classes offered?
 - What topics would you like to hear about?
 - Would you like to teach a class?
 - Any suggestions on how I can be of help to you?
- Your feedback is appreciated. Catch me at the Bridge Center, or email me at ljn.newman@gmail.com.

Thanks. See you at the tables!

FLANNERY MAKES IT SIMPLE

By Rob Weidenfeld



I guess I am a little rusty. I still make occasional good bids or plays, but I clearly am not where I want to be. You have read or heard me on multiple occasions talk about the importance of thinking about the hand at trick one, both as declarer and defender. This is absolutely the best time to think about play of the hand. I sometimes get bothered about the lack of time spent thinking at trick one. Then declarers stop and over think what to do later in the hand when often it is too late. But the salient point is that strange and revealing things do happen after trick 1 that should make you think. I can think of no better example than a hand I played not long ago at the club. Here is the hand:

IMPS	♠ Q9	
North	♥ QJ7	
Deals	♦ 62	
	♣ AJ7632	
♠ J854		♠ A732
♥ K93		♥ 108542
♦ J105		♦ AK3
♣ K104		♣ 9

	♠ K106	
	♥ A6	
	♦ Q9876	
	♣ Q85	

known minor suit cards and whether the hand is minimum or maximum.

W	N	E	You
P	P	2♦ ¹	P
2♠	P	P	3♦
All Pass			

could not bid again as West promises less than an invitational hand and could have zero points. Yet she passed holding a 6-card suit, fearing too many of her values were in the majors. But the purpose of this article is not to be critical of partner. Neither am I intending to be critical of opponents who did not give me the best defense.

I got the lucky lead of the ♥3. I played the ♥Q from dummy which held the trick. I led the ♦6 and East played the ♦K. He returned a ♥ won perforce by my ♥A. I wondered why he played the ♦K. I hope he didn't have a singleton. Probably not as West might have

One explanation necessary on the auction is the 2♦ bid. It is Flannery showing 5♥ and 4♠ and 11-15 HCP. This is admittedly a difficult hand to show in standard bidding, thus the reason the artificial bid was invented. Subsequent bidding can reveal the exact distribution of the 4

When my partner held the North hand, she knew that the opponents were in a drop dead auction. In other words, East

found a double with ♦AJ1043. Did he have ♦AK tight? I had to find out.

I had to get to dummy to lead another ♦. I was sure that East held the ♠A, so that meant either playing to the ♠9, finessing the ♠J or the ♣A. I decided that finessing the ♠J was too risky so I led my ♣Q. Sure enough West covered with the ♣K and East played the ♣9. Restricted choice should have told me that by playing the 9, the odds were 2-1 that the ♣10 was in West's hand. But I ignored it. When I then led my last ♦ from dummy East played the ♦3! Totally unprepared for that, I played small from hand thinking maybe his diamond holding was "♦K3" and then lost the contract.

I had 2 major clues which I forgot to think about. Number 1 was West had already showed the ♥K at trick 1 when East did not cover the ♥Q. He then showed up with the ♣K! What else could East have but the ♠A and the ♦AK? Number 2 was who plays the ♦K in second seat holding ♦K3? Nobody. He had to have the ♦A.

Therefore when he played the 3 on the second lead of trump I had to rise with the ♦Q and get out with another ♦ knowing that trumps were 3-3! Further I now know that East can only hold 1 ♣! So when I get back in I can finesse West for the ♣10 and claim the rest of the tricks! If East doesn't cash his ♠A when in with the last ♦ (which he did not at the table), he doesn't get it and I make 4, an absolute top!

By the way, it is imperative that when the ♦ is led from dummy at trick 2, that East holding AK3 must play small and do so in tempo!

Look at the problem you give declarer. Should you rise with the Q thinking East has the A and K? I doubt it. Only if East goes into a prolonged tank and then plays low would you even consider it. If declarer happens to have Q10xxx or even Q10xxxx, he still might put in the ten losing to the jack. Rising with one of your trump honors gains nothing.

Getting back to my issues...I know that I am not too old to play this game. I prefer to think that maybe I was preoccupied with dinner, or politics, or sex. Well maybe dinner or politics.

The Harvest

By Gregory Golden

ripe is
the sun
in God's
harvest

RANK PROMOTIONS

Level	Unit 124 Member
Platinum	William Higgins
Emerald	Yahueni Siutsau
Gold	Ann Zeff
Ruby	Alfred Norwood
Silver	Henry Jackson, John Stoppiello, Elaine Jarchow
Bronze	Barton Jacobs, Mary Latham, Gerri Heinman, Joyce Tedrick
Life Master	Patrick Lammers, Betty Wills, Sylvia Maltz, Charlene Comeaux
Advanced NABC	Albert Venosa, Reeta Brendamour, William Atteberry, Jan Polk, Janet Venosa, Gail Zimmer
NABC	Judith Lubow, Robert Roark, Kwang Cha Hurley, Bhupen Joshi, Martin McTighe, Carl Tollison, Jeanne Dell, Adrienne Freiberg, Sharon Koster
Regional	Pam Preston, Judy Barron, Joan Simon, Helga Tillinghast, Stephen Baldwin
Sectional	Sara Brown, Erin Oblinger, Tim Oppelt, Melissa Hellmann, Betty Murdock, Janet Willenborg
Club	Judy Bratton, Kevin Henry, Stephen Messinger, Kathleen Shepard, Joanne Essig, Frances Hamilton, Daniel Payne, Prakash Wagaj
Junior	James Barrett, Pamela Heckel, Nancy Stagnaro, Ben Fisk, Stephanie Jones, Subodh Wadhwa

ACBL Rank Requirements

Rookie	<5
Junior Master	5
Club Master	20
	20 ² (≥ 5 black)
Sectional Master	50 (at least 5 silver)
	50 ² (≥ 10 black & 5 silver)
Regional Master	100 (≥ 15 silver, & 5 RGP)
	100 ² (≥15 black, 15 silver, ≥5 RGP)
NABC Master	200 (≥25 silver, 20 RGP, [≥5 GP])
	200 ² (≥20B, 25S, & 20 RGP[≥5 GP])
Advanced NABC Master	NA
	300 ² (≥50 B, 50 S, 50 RGP, [≥25 GP])
Life Master	300 (≥ 50 B*, 50 S, 50 RGP,** [≥25 GP])
	500 ² (≤75 B, 75 S, 100 RGP, [≥50 RGP])
Bronze LM	LM w/ 500

LM w/ 750²Silver LM LM w/ 1000 (≥ 200 SRGP)¹Ruby LM LM w/ 1500 (≥300 SRGP)¹Gold LM LM w/2500 (≥500 SRGP)¹Sapphire LM LM w/ 3500 (≥700 SRGP [≥ 350 GP])¹Diamond LM LM w/5000 (≥1000 SRGP[≥ 500 GP])¹Emerald LM LM w/7500 (≥1500 SRGP[≥750 GP])¹Platinum LM LM w/10000 (≥2000 SRGP, [≥1000 GP]), ≥ 100 platinum)¹

GRAND LIFE MASTER -

LM w/10000 (≥2000 RGP [≥1000 GP], ≥100 platinum). This is the highest rank in the ACBL. It requires 10,000 Masterpoints and one victory in a North American Bridge Championship with no upper Masterpoint restriction or an Open Team Trials (includes CNTC) or its equivalent or a Women's Team Trials (includes CWTC) or its equivalent or any of the following WBF events: Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, Rosenblum Cup, McConnell Cup, Open Pairs, Women's Pairs, Olympiad, Women's Team Olympiad, WBF Senior Pairs event, WBF World Swiss Teams, WBF World Mixed Teams, and WBF Senior Teams.

Notes:

Any new Member or player in an unpaid status for six months or more after January 1, 1999, will be required to earn 50 black points to become a Life Master.

A Member who had red masterpoints or a fraction thereof prior to January 1, 1969, is required to possess at least 50 red or gold/platinum masterpoints in any combination to become a Life Master.

¹ A Member who became a Life Master prior to January 1, 1990 will be exempt from the pigmented point requirements for this rank. Each player who has attained the rank of Life Master as of December 31, 2011, will not have to fulfill the pigmented point requirements for their next rank advancement. After attaining their first rank after January 1, 2012, all players will be required to fulfill the pigmented point requirements for subsequent rank advancement (this also applies to the new ranks added in 2015). For example, a current Silver Life Master on December 31, 2011 would retain the current requirements for Gold Life Master, would not have any pigmented requirements for Ruby Life Master, but would need to fulfill the new requirements for Sapphire and Diamond Life Master.

² For any member joining after January 1, 2010 or reinstating their membership after that date.

Interesting Hands

By Steve Moese

Recent tournaments brought interesting hands. The new version of ACBL LIVE makes post mortems even better. This record of tournament play not only lets you research your own results, but you can look up friends and see how they fared on the same hands. The recent D11 NAP Finals and the October Cincinnati

Dir: E ♠ K6
 V: EW ♥ J5
 ♦ AKJ9653
 ♣ 92

♠J975 ♠Q4
 ♥AQ87 ♥432
 ♦Q4 ♦1072
 ♣QJ8 ♣K10765

N			
W	6	E	
		S	

♠ A10832
 ♥ K1096
 ♦ 8
 ♣ A43

Spooktacular Sectional are prime examples of the fun we can have.

Let's start with Board 6 from the 1st session of the Flight B NAP. You sit South with me.

E	S	W	N
P	1♠	P	2♦
P	2♥	P	3♦
P	3N	All Pass	

Opening Lead ♣Q

You might be concerned about the opening 1♠ bid but we play precision, (11-15 HCP). Partner's 2♦ is GF. Our natural auction carries no information from the opponents but tells them a lot about our hands. You survey the NS assets and see 5 Top Tricks, 1 or 2 losers in ♠ and ♥, a possible loser in ♦, and 3+ losers possible in ♣. Whenever losers exceed winners by a large margin, we play safely.

First job is what to do about ♣. On the ♣Q, dummy plays the ♣2 ND East the ♣5. (You ask and learn they play standard or "right-side-up" signals so East has an ODD number of ♣'s. Holding 5 ♣ cards we can gain some extra protection by ducking. The ♣J takes dummy's 9 and East's 7. We duck one more time. Now the opponents cannot use ♣ to communicate if they break 5-3. Sure enough West plays the 3rd ♣. Can we make West pay for that choice?

While we do have 2 entries to dummy, the ♦ finesse is a stronger play than cashing the top 2 ♦ (in this case both plays work – bridge can be funny that way – rewarding bad plays). How do we find the extra trick? Let's play on ♦ and see what we learn. ♦8 to the ♦J draws the ♦4 from West and the ♦2 from East (an odd number). We can trust East's count signal and not West's. When the ♦A draws West's ♦Q, we learn that West started with 2♦ and at least 3♣, leaving room for no more than 8 cards in the majors.

We will run the ♦ Dir: E ♠ K6
 pitching all our ♥ V: EW ♥ J
 Cards! This leaves with West to make a discard. Notice that declarer simply has to watch ♥ to see if the ♥A shows up at trick 10. If not, then the ♠ are good – this is often called a "show-up" squeeze. West was left wishing they had cashed the ♥A before leading the 3rd ♣. 3N +5 was an 86% board.

♠J97 ♠Q4
 ♥A ♥
 ♦ ♣

N			
W	6	E	
		S	

♠ A108
 ♥
 ♦ ♣

West to Play...

While on the topic of squeezes, not all are "true", meaning if the opponents could see all the cards then there is a discard approach that voids the threat. Here is an example from the Open Pairs in the Spooktacular Sectional Tournament.

Sit West with me.

Dir: S ♠ 9875
 V: EW ♥ A2
 ♦ 5
 ♣ J109743

E	S	W	N
	P	1N	P
2♣	P	2♦	P
3N	All Pass		
Opening Lead ♣J			

♠A43 ♠K106
 ♥J93 ♥K864
 ♦AQJ8 ♦10742
 ♣K52 ♣AQ

♠ QJ2
 ♥ Q1073
 ♦ K963
 ♣ 86

We have an uneventful auction to 3N, West denying any 4 card major. We count 6 winners hand have to develop 3 more. We have 1 loser in ♦ and a slow loser in ♠. ♥s look

problematic, missing AQ10 (6 times) in the suit is not good. At least we know North doesn't have 4 or more ♥ (given the ♣ lead). We'll win the ♣Q to suggest we don't have the K, and play on ♦. To avoid having to guess the ♦9 we'll lead low toward the ♦J 1st. This wins and now we can lead the ♦10 using the ♣A as our Dummy entry. We collect 6 tricks in short order. A small ♥ to the ♥8 draws the ♥A from North, Dummy and South following low. North continues with the ♣10 (an error – can you see why?), we choose to pitch a ♠ from dummy. North squeezed South in the majors by failing to switch to a ♠! Now we get an extra overtrick. If South discards the ♥7, we finesse losing to the ♥Q but take the 4 remaining tricks. If South instead discards a ♠, we cash 3♠ tricks and one ♥, losing 1 ♥ trick at the end. Making 5 was worth 94%.

Dlr: S ♠ 98
 V: EW ♥ 2
 ♠ 1097
 ♠A43 ♠K106
 ♥J9 ♥K86
 ♣K ♣
 ♠QJ2
 ♥Q107
 ♣

End positions can be tricky, especially for defense. If we stay alert to the possibilities as declarer, they will show up. Since good players play logically, there are many inferences that can guide declarer along the way. Are you paying attention?

DO YOU WANT TO HELP?

There are many ways you can volunteer to make the Unit run smoothly and keep the quality of the bridge experience at our clubs at a high level. Do you know what the one most important thing is you can do for other members?

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PLAY MORE! That's right – this is no joke.

If we all made an effort to play two more games a month than we do now, our games would be bigger and more fun, and the number of tables per year would grow instead of the steady 1-2% decline we see today.



Do your part – **PLAY MORE BRIDGE!**

Interested in improving your game?
Check out these links (must view on-line):

Learn to Play Software (Free – Windows PC):

[Learn Bridge Basics](#)

[Intermediates: Beyond the Basics](#)

New to Bridge? Check Out these Bridge Resources:

[CBA Unit 124 Bridge Class Schedule](#)

[CBA Unit 124 Newcomers Page](#)

[Improve Your Bridge Page](#)

[CBA Unit 124 Learning Guide](#)

Nov 15 Membership Meeting

The Annual Unit 124/CBA Membership Meeting will be held from **6 PM to 6:45 on Tuesday November 15** at the Cincinnati Bridge Center (CBC) . Come meet the Board of Directors and give us your suggestions for making Bridge more fun and exciting in the Cincinnati

Area. The rules for the Membership Meeting are outlined in our Constitution:

ARTICLE V: Membership Meetings

- The annual meeting shall be on a date during the last three (3) months of the year.
- Board of Trustees shall give notice of the annual meeting at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting date.
- Special meetings of the membership may be called at any time by the Board of Trustees or the President upon ten (10) days notice to the general membership. The notices of any special meeting shall contain an agenda of the matters to be addressed and the meeting shall address only those items which are on the agenda.
- A quorum for the transaction of business at any annual or special membership meeting shall consist of five percent (5%) of the Unit membership.
- Proxy votes at membership meetings are not allowed.

There will be a light dinner and free bridge for everyone in attendance. We want to hear from you!

I am the autumnal sun

by Henry David Thoreau

Sometimes a mortal feels in himself Nature
 -- not his Father but his Mother stirs
 within him, and he becomes immortal with her
 immortality.

From time to time she claims
 kindredship with us, and some globule
 from her veins steals up into our own.

I am the autumnal sun,
 With autumn gales my race is run;
 When will the hazel put forth its flowers,
 Or the grape ripen under my bowers?
 When will the harvest or the hunter's moon
 Turn my midnight into mid-noon?
 I am all sere and yellow,
 And to my core mellow.

The mast is dropping within my woods,
 The winter is lurking within my moods,
 And the rustling of the withered leaf
 Is the constant music of my grief.

The Products of my Farm are these

by Emily Dickinson

The Products of my Farm are these
 Sufficient for my Own
 And here and there a Benefit
 Unto a Neighbor's Bin.

With Us, 'tis Harvest all the Year
 For when the Frosts begin
 We just reverse the Zodiac
 And fetch the Acres in.



Twelfth Annual LOUISVILLE – LEXINGTON

REGIONAL

November 7 – 13, 2016

At HORSESHOE CASINO

11999 Casino Center Drive

Elizabeth IN 47117

(Across the River from Louisville KY)

Smoke Free - Indiana Law

For reservations call:

1-866-766-2671

Specify Group Code S11LLBA

\$92 Double: Sunday – Thursday

\$112 Friday/Saturday

FREE PARKING

Deadline for Bridge Rate October 30, 2016

Additional Motel: Best Western Plus
411 West Spring Street, New Albany IN 47150
(812) 945-2771 \$84.95

Free Breakfast (Group Code SMERF)

Deadline for Bridge rate: October 31, 2016

Monday

Education Fund Stratified Pairs	1:00		
American Pharoah KO (Rd. 1 & 2)	1:00	7:00	
Stratified Swiss		7:00	
Stratified Side Game Series 1		7:00	

Tuesday

Stratified Side Game Series 1	9:00	1:00	7:00
American Pharoah KO (Rd. 3 & 4)		1:00	7:00
Keeneland Bracketed KO (Rd. 1 & 2)		1:00	7:00
Ft. Knox Gold Rush Pairs(100/300/750)		1:00	7:00
Open Pairs (0/1500/3000+)		1:00	7:00
Stratified Swiss (single sessions)	9:00		7:00

Wednesday

AM Compact KO 1 (4 people)	9:00		
(Continue Thursday morning)			
Stratified Side Game Series AM	9:00		
Open Pairs (0/1500/3000+)		1:00	7:00
Ft. Knox Gold Rush Pairs (100/300/750)		1:00	7:00
Barbaro KO (Rd 1 & 2)		1:00	7:00
Keeneland KO (Rd. 3 & 4)		1:00	7:00
Stratified Side Game Series 2		1:00	7:00
IMP Pairs			7:00

Thursday

AM Compact KO 1 (Cont.)	9:00		
Stratified Side Game Series AM	9:00		
Stratified Swiss	9:00		
Stratiflighted Swiss (1500/3000/Open)		1:00	7:00
Ft. Knox Gold Rush Swiss Teams (100/300/750)		1:00	7:00
Barbaro KO 2 (Rd. 3 & 4)		1:00	7:00
Stratified Side Game Series 2		1:00	7:00
Stratified Swiss			7:00

Friday

Stratified Side Game Series AM	9:00		
AM Compact KO2 (4 people)	9:00		
(Continue Sat AM)			
Open Pairs (0/1500/3000+)		1:00	7:00
Ft. Knox Gold Rush Pairs (100/300/750)		1:00	7:00
Churchill Downs KO (Rd 1 & 2)		1:00	7:00
Stratified Side Game Series 3		1:00	7:00
Stratified Swiss			7:00

Saturday

Stratified Swiss	9:00		
Stratified Side Game Series AM	9:00		
AM Compact KO 2 (Cont'd)	9:00		
Churchill Downs Knockouts (Rd 3 & 4)		1:00	7:00
Stratified Side Game Series 3		1:00	7:00
Open Pairs (0/1500/3000+)		1:00	7:00
Ft. Knox Gold Rush Pairs (100/300/750)		1:00	7:00
Compact KO 3 (4 people)		1:00	7:00
Stratified B-A-M			7:00

Sunday

Swiss AXYstratified / BCD Bracketed 5000+,3000-5000,0-3000 / BCD 0-2000 (no player over 2000 mps in BCD)	10:00 & TBA		
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Strats (unless otherwise specified):

A=2,000+; B=750-2000; C=0-750

Pairs & Swiss Teams stratified by average
masterpoints but no one may exceed
the upper MP limit of the event

Top Bracket in all KO's may be handicapped.

199er SCHEDULE

Single Sessions

Monday thru Friday

1:00 PM and 7:00 PM

Stratified at Director's Discretion

New Team Games Start Daily

Gifts – Daily Bulletins

Door Prizes - Hospitality

Tournament Chairpersons

Sondra Holt (Lexington)

(859) 312-7785

seholt44@twc.com

Hannah Davis (Louisville)

(502) 767-5589

Bama426@aol.com

Partnership Chairpersons

Terrell Holt (Lexington)

(859) 351-2023

tholt41@twc.com

Verna Goldberg (Louisville)

(502) 459-3848

docgold123@yahoo.com

**November 8th is Election Day! Remember to Get
Your Absentee Ballot and Vote Before Coming!**



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FREE PARKING

Deadline for Bridge Rate October 30, 2016

Regional Attractions
For Non-Life Masters

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY: 199'er Stratified Pairs ----- 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM

- These are one-session events – Play in one or both. Win RED points!
- No one with more than 199 master points is eligible to play in these events

TUESDAY THRU SATURDAY: Gold Rush Pairs ----- 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM

- These are daily two-session events and award **GOLD** points to top winners
- Stratification – 100/300/750

BRACKETED KNOCK OUTS: You may also wish to try your hand in the Bracketed Knock-Out Team games. In these games your team will consist of four players. The teams with the fewest Master Points play in the lowest brackets so you are very likely to play with other players/teams that are close to you in total points. In these games there are four-sessions. You “advance” after each session that you win and you are “knocked out” once you lose a session. When you start a Bracketed KO you must be prepared to play in all four sessions in case you are successful and continue to advance to the final game. A new Bracketed KO series will start each day, Monday thru Wednesday and Friday at 1:00 PM. If you advance you play again at 7:00 PM and at 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM the following day.

SIDE SERIES GAMES: These are “open” events. You can play in as many of the games in the same series as you wish. You can play in just one game or in several games. If you play in at least two games in the same series, and you achieve a high placement in your stratification, you may be eligible for some **GOLD** points! Just watch the flyer to make sure you are playing in the same side series event. Some go across mornings, some across the evenings, and others may span a couple of days.

November 8th is Election Day! Remember to Get Your Absentee Ballot and Vote Before Coming!

Cincinnati Spooktacular Oct 28-30, 2016[Click here for Masterpoint Winners List](#)**Friday Open Pairs - 20.5 Tables / Based on 37 Tables**

MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score
10.77	1			Kay Mulford, Cincinnati OH; Anton Habash, Oxford OH	62.37%
8.08	2			Sudheer Pimputkar, Galena OH; Vickie Sebastian, Beaver creek OH	61.11%
6.06	3	1		Donald Etson, Hamilton OH; Daniel Koppenhafer, Mason OH	60.76%
4.54	4			Mike Ma - Joe Fisher, Cincinnati OH	60.19%
3.41	5			Jackie Toth, West Chester OH; Peggy Barrett, Cincinnati OH	59.95%
2.54	6/7	2/3	1/2	Gregory Brinker, Crescent Spring KY; Robert Frey, Villa Hills KY	59.49%
2.54	6/7	2/3	1/2	Frank Lichtenberger, Cincinnati OH; Jagmohan Malhotra, Lawrenceburg IN	59.49%
1.69	8			Cliff Pleatman - V Netherwood, Cincinnati OH	59.08%
1.63	9	4		Daniel Hance, Crittenden KY; Donald Duritsch, Florence KY	58.80%
1.69	10			Larry Klein, Cincinnati OH; David Britt, Union KY	57.47%
1.22		5		Potter Orr - Sanderson Orr, Cincinnati OH	57.41%
1.34		6		Sheldon Kushner - Herb Schapera, Cincinnati OH	55.18%
1.22			3	Amy Gerowitz, Cincinnati OH; Pam Campbell, Fairfield OH	54.86%
0.92			4	Nancy Dever - Patrick Hoffman, Cincinnati OH	52.34%
0.84			5	Martin Mc Tighe, Cincinnati OH; Terry Brausch, West Chester OH	49.94%

Fri Morn NLM Pairs - 17.0 Tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score
3.09	1	1		Mike Burns - Charlie Kobida, Cincinnati OH	69.82%
2.32	2			Gail Zimmer, Cincinnati OH; Jan Polk, Southgate KY	59.78%
1.74	3			Mary Ann Marx - Kwang Cha Hurley, Cincinnati OH	58.52%
1.68	4	2		Judy Barron - Sara Brown, Cincinnati OH	55.80%
1.65	5	3	1	Frances Hamilton, Cincinnati OH	55.61%
0.78	6			Annette Kereiakes - Reeta Brendamour, Cincinnati OH	54.99%
1.24	4	2		Kevin Henry - John McHugh, Cincinnati OH	54.73%
0.93	5	3		James Dearwester, West Carrollton OH; Joel Bromley, Cincinnati OH	53.98%
0.53	6			Betsy Coith, Cincinnati OH; Sara Geier, Loveland OH	53.15%
0.70		4		Carol Scovic, Blue Ash OH; Deborah Luongo, Kettering OH	53.10%
0.52		5		Janet Rebman - Linda Silvati, Cincinnati OH	51.83%

Zombie Apocalypse Swiss - 8 Tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score
4.95	1			Suman Agarwal, Columbus OH; Rob Weidenfeld, Cincinnati OH; Marsha Kyle, Louisville KY; Brian Ross, Charlestown IN	147.00
3.71	2			William Higgins - Bob Fisk - Amitabh Raturi, Cincinnati OH; Yauheni Siutsau, Loveland OH	123.00
3.09	3	1		Michael Lipp, Trenton OH; Larry Newman - Susan Wisner, Cincinnati OH; Dennis Schultz, Harrison OH	120.00
2.32	2	1		Thomas Platt Jr, Burlington KY; Harriet Edwards, Cincinnati OH; Philomena Dillhoff, Harbor Springs MI; Linda Woodham, Loveland OH	64.00

Friday Aft Open Pairs - 12.0 Tables / Based on 25 Tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score
8.02	1			A J Stephani, Cincinnati OH; Bill Coombs, Hamilton OH	60.19%
6.02	2			Margaret Young, Cincinnati OH; Judy Ruehl, Batavia OH	58.10%
3.95	3/4			Agnes De Lany, Cincinnati OH; Anton Habash, Oxford OH	57.41%

3.95	3/4	Jackie Toth, West Chester OH; Peggy Barrett, Cincinnati OH	57.41%
2.54	5	Larry Klein, Cincinnati OH; David Britt, Union KY	57.18%
2.68	6 1	Mary Alice Bartish - Joyce Schiller, Cincinnati OH	54.86%
2.01	2 1	Amy Gerowitz, Cincinnati OH; Pam Campbell, Fairfield OH	53.70%
1.32	3/4	Stephen King - Susan King, Bloomington IN	50.23%
1.35	3/4 2	Martin Mc Tighe, Cincinnati OH; Terry Brausch, West Chester OH	50.23%
1.19	5/6	Michiko Natsume, Union KY; Donna Batchelder, Florence KY	49.77%
1.01	5/6 3	Joel Bromley, Cincinnati OH; James Dearwester, West Carrollton OH	49.77%
0.83	4	Adrienne Freiberg - Richard Freiberg, Cincinnati OH	49.54%

Fri Aft NLM Pairs - 13.0 Tables

MPs	A B C	Names	Score
2.64	1 1	Phyllis Mendoza - Linda Pretz, Cincinnati OH	63.64%
1.98	2	Mary Ann Marx - Kwang Cha Hurley, Cincinnati OH	61.36%
1.49	3 2 1	Amy Heilbronner, Ryland Heights KY; Carolyn Murray, Cincinnati OH	60.98%
1.11	4	Reeta Brendamour - Annette Kereiakes, Cincinnati OH	60.61%
1.04	5 3 2	Carol Scovic, Blue Ash OH; Deborah Luongo, Kettering OH	57.01%
0.66	6	Janet Hansen, Loveland OH; Judy Barron, Cincinnati OH	56.82%
0.78	4	Stephen Baldwin, Cold Spring KY; Terry Raulin, West Chester OH	55.87%
0.78	5 3	Marcia Roesch, Maineville OH; Carolyn Williams, South Lebanon OH	53.03%
0.58	4	Betty Murdock, Cincinnati OH; Karen Husky, Cinti OH	51.14%

Saturday Open Pairs - 10.0 Tables / Based on 23 Tables

MPs	A B C	Names	Score
7.56	1	Anita Torrence, Bexley OH; Karen Kendall, Middletown OH	66.90%
5.67	2	Michael Purcell, Loveland OH; Stephen Moese, West Chester OH	65.74%
4.25	3 1 1	Joyce Tedrick, Loveland OH; Barry Wauligman, Hamilton OH	56.94%
3.19	4	Barbara Levinson, Cincinnati OH; Judy Ruehl, Batavia OH	54.40%
2.39	5 2	Donald Etson, Hamilton OH; Daniel Koppenhafer, Mason OH	53.94%
1.79	6 3 2	Martin Mc Tighe, Cincinnati OH; Terry Brausch, West Chester OH	52.31%
1.19	4 3	Henry Jackson, Cincinnati OH; Carl Tollison, Villa Hills KY	51.62%
0.80	5	Howard Ringel, Cincinnati OH; Laura Owens, Loveland OH	50.00%

Sat Morn NLM Pairs - 13.0 Tables

MPs	A B C	Names	Score
2.64	1	Stephen Baldwin, Cold Spring KY; James Eger, Cleves OH	68.37%
1.98	2 1	Mike Burns - Judy Barron, Cincinnati OH	62.12%
1.49	3	Charles Dunn - N David Stern, Charleston WV	60.80%
1.31	4 2	Charlie Kobida - Betty Murdock, Cincinnati OH	54.17%
0.74	5/6	John Boyd - Tom Hassett, Cincinnati OH	53.22%
1.19	5/6 3 1	Beth Wales - Kayla Springer, Cincinnati OH	53.22%
0.74	4	Richard Koch - Joan Mehl, Cincinnati OH	53.03%
0.55	5	Janet Hansen, Loveland OH; Pamela Kennedy, Cincinnati OH	51.33%
0.89	2	James Jacobson, Dayton OH; Leonard Kanterman, Cincinnati OH	49.81%

Black Cat Compact KO-1 - 6 Tables

MPs Rank Names

5.68	1	John Jensen, Maysville KY; Suanne Blair, Morehead KY; Cordell Coy, Lakeside Park KY; Peggy Ammon, Burlington KY
3.98	2	Pam Campbell, Fairfield OH; Reeta Brendamour, Cincinnati OH; Janelle Courtright, Delaware OH; Judy Bogner, Mansfield OH

Sat Aft Open Pairs - 11.5 Tables / Based on 20 Tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score
6.88	1			Bob Fisk, Cincinnati OH; Lorna Davis, West Chester OH	63.43%
5.16	2	1		Herb Schapera - Sheldon Kushner, Cincinnati OH	59.72%
3.87	3			Robert Sulgrove, Centerville OH; Cliff Pleatman, Cincinnati OH	59.26%
2.90	4	2	1	Howard Simon, Florence KY; John Taylor, Burlington KY	56.94%
2.18	5	3		Harriet Edwards, Cincinnati OH; Michael Lipp, Trenton OH	55.73%
1.63	6			Jackie Toth, West Chester OH; Margaret Young, Cincinnati OH	54.69%
1.17		4	2	Howard Schumacher, Loveland OH; Gerri Heineman, Cincinnati OH	48.44%

Sat Aft NLM Pairs - 8.0 Tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score
2.06	1			Martin Gibler - Stacy Vanstone, West Chester OH	60.76%
1.55	2			Mary Ann Marx - Mary Kolb, Cincinnati OH	58.85%
1.65	3	1	1	Judy Barron - Mike Burns, Cincinnati OH	55.87%
0.87	4			Jan Polk, Southgate KY; Gail Zimmer, Cincinnati OH	55.32%
1.24	5	2	2	Brian Van Vliet - Cindy Van Vliet, Xenia OH	55.10%
0.93		3	3	John McHugh - Carol Wilson, Cincinnati OH	54.80%
0.70		4	4	John Diers, Springdale OH; Evelyn McCarthy, Cincinnati OH	48.60%

Sunday NLM Swiss - 4 Tables

MPs	A	B	Names	Score
1.28	1	1	Pattie Jamison - Joel Bromley, Cincinnati OH; Elaine Grever, Terrace Park OH; James Dearwester, West Carrollton OH	52.00

Spooktacular Swiss - 12 Tables / Based on 16 Tables

MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score
7.15	1			Suman Agarwal, Columbus OH; Vijay Vasudevan, Cincinnati OH; Dallas Moore, Trotwood OH; Brian Ross, Charlestown IN	138.00
5.36	2			Robert Sulgrove, Centerville OH; Siraj Haji, Columbus OH; Amitabh Raturi, Cincinnati OH; Scott Gates, Miamisburg OH	131.00
4.02	3			Bob Fisk - Cliff Pleatman - William Higgins, Cincinnati OH; Yauheni Siutsau, Loveland OH	118.00
3.02	4			Anita Torrence, Bexley OH; Patty Eber - Barbara Levinson - Amy Fisher, Cincinnati OH; Karen Kendall, Middletown OH; Lorna Davis, West Chester OH	99.00
3.71	1			Mike Ma - Joe Fisher - A J Stephani, Cincinnati OH; Stephen Moese, West Chester OH	97.00
2.86	2	1		Pam Campbell, Fairfield OH; Reeta Brendamour, Cincinnati OH; Janelle Courtright, Delaware OH; Judy Bogner, Mansfield OH	79.00
2.15	3	2		Michael Lipp, Trenton OH; Ying Peng, Austin TX; Pam Preston, Fort Mitchell KY; Bob Lehmann, Louisville KY	78.00

Sunday Aft NLM Swiss - 4 Tables

MPs	A	B	Names	Score
1.28	1	1	Pattie Jamison - Joel Bromley, Cincinnati OH; Elaine Grever, Terrace Park OH; James Dearwester, West Carrollton OH	61.00

TOP 50 Master Point Winners.

Total master points: 646.76 earned by 192 players.

Total attendance: 161 tables.

1	15.41	Bob Fisk, Cincinnati OH
2	14.72	Anton Habash, Oxford OH
3	12.98	Suman Agarwal, Columbus OH
4	12.30	A J Stephani, Cincinnati OH
5	12.10	Brian Ross, Charlestown IN
6	11.48	Anita Torrence, Bexley OH
7	10.77	Kay Mulford, Cincinnati OH
8	10.59	Lorna Davis, West Chester OH
9	10.59	Jackie Toth, West Chester OH
10	10.15	Cliff Pleatman, Cincinnati OH
11	10.07	Pam Campbell, Fairfield OH
12	9.84	Vickie Sebastian, Beavercreek OH
13	9.84	Sudheer Pimputkar, Galena OH
14	9.80	Robert Sulgrove, Centerville OH
15	9.57	Karen Kendall, Middletown OH
16	9.38	Stephen Moese, West Chester OH
17	9.25	Margaret Young, Cincinnati OH
18	9.21	Judy Ruehl, Batavia OH
19	9.13	Mike Ma, Cincinnati OH
20	9.07	Amitabh Raturi, Cincinnati OH
21	8.73	Reeta Brendamour, Cincinnati OH
22	8.59	Bill Coombs, Hamilton OH
23	8.45	Donald Etson, Hamilton OH
24	8.45	Daniel Koppenhafer, Mason OH
25	8.30	Yauheni Siutsau, Loveland OH
26	8.30	William Higgins, Cincinnati OH
27	8.25	Joe Fisher, Cincinnati OH
28	7.42	Michael Lipp, Trenton OH
29	7.36	Peggy Barrett, Cincinnati OH
30	7.15	Vijay Vasudevan, Cincinnati OH
31	7.15	Dallas Moore, Trotwood OH
32	6.84	Judy Bogner, Mansfield OH
33	6.84	Janelle Courtright, Delaware OH
34	6.72	Mike Burns, Cincinnati OH
35	6.53	Judy Barron, Cincinnati OH
36	6.50	Sheldon Kushner, Cincinnati OH
37	6.50	Herb Schapera, Cincinnati OH
38	6.40	Suanne Blair, Morehead KY
39	6.40	Peggy Ammon, Burlington KY
40	6.40	John Jensen, Maysville KY
41	6.40	Cordell Coy, Lakeside Park KY
42	5.67	Michael Purcell, Loveland OH
43	5.38	Barry Wauligman, Hamilton OH
44	5.36	Siraj Haji, Columbus OH
45	5.36	Scott Gates, Miamisburg OH
46	5.27	Mary Ann Marx, Cincinnati OH
47	5.20	Barbara Levinson, Cincinnati OH
48	4.95	Rob Weidenfeld, Cincinnati OH
49	4.95	Marsha Kyle, Louisville KY
50	4.84	Joyce Tedrick, Loveland OH