

June 2012



Tournament Calendar

JUNE 2012

- 11-17 (Various) District 5 Summer STaC
- 22-24 (Canton) Lake Cable Sectional

JULY 2012

- 6-8 (Pittsburgh) Summer Sectional *Date Change*
- 28-29 (Butler) Summer Sectional

AUGUST 2012

- 3-5 (Cleveland) Silver Bowl Sectional
- 3-5 (Wheeling) Sectional
- 24-26 (Buffalo) 499er Sectional
- 28 – 9/3 (Pittsburgh) Roni Atkins Labor Day Regional

**Deadlines for Columns
And Tournament Information**

August Issue – July 15
October Issue – September 15
December Issue – November 15

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Ann McGilvrey Award

This award honors a District 5 player, or in some cases a pair, who epitomize(s) ethical behavior and good sportsmanship at the bridge table. On June 8, 1973 the District V bridge community suffered the loss of Ann Lytle McGilvrey, Ralph Vichill and Lee Coito in a tragic boating accident. In honor of Ann's memory, and her reputation as one who exemplified the highest standards of sportsmanship and ethical behavior at the bridge table, the Board of Directors of District V instituted the Ann McGilvrey Award. It is presented at the May regional each year to a player or partnership who reflects those same positive qualities. These recipients are not chosen on the basis of service or bridge ability. Only past winners are invited to participate in the selection process. Typically the selection committee will look for someone who has established a district-wide reputation for active ethics and good manners

Ron Franck from Pittsburgh was awarded the Ann McGilvrey award for 2011. Ron has shown at the bridge table his adherence to the qualities that make bridge the game that it is. His ethics and his behavior at the table are what is expected of an award winner. His continuous work for Unit 142, both at the club and at the tournament levels, enabled the unit to attract new members and grow.

- *reprinted from All American Regional Bulletin*

Congratulations!

Bridge is Cool in Buffalo - by *Dian Petrov*

District 5 and Unit 116 NAP representatives **Peter and Penny Shui** finished 3rd at the 2012 Nationals at Memphis, competing in Flight C North American Pairs - President's Cup, earning 16.88 gold points. Congratulations!

What a positive experience took place at our Spring Sectional! Great comments about the facility (Main Transit Fire Hall), the food (including hundreds of home-baked cookies), the smoothly run games (**Mike Roberts**, director) and the person in charge (**Judy Kaprove**, chair with the help of co-chair **Fran Kurtz** and many other helpful hands.) Kudos to all of you for a superb job!

The Unit 116 "Barometer" Open Pairs gathered 12 tables. Organizers **Betty Metz** and **Elaine Moon** prepared and executed a memorable experience – topped with food, prizes and terrific atmosphere. This type of game required duplication of multiple boards. All pairs play the same boards at the same time throughout the event. Scores and standing are posted for inspection by the players after each round, so each pair knows where it stands at all times. And the goal as usual is to be at the top after the last round! This event's top three pairs are

Buddy Seidenberg Jr. - Jay Levy	66.48%
Bob Padgug - Gene Finton	63.26%
Brian Meyer - Daniel Gerstman	61.74%.

Bridge milestones

It is not an everyday occurrence to report milestones like crossing 15,000 masterpoints as did **Dan Gerstman** or 7,500 as did **Chris Urbanek**. Dan is a WBF Senior Master. He won a bronze medal in the World Senior Teams in 2007 and he is an ACBL Grand Life Master with two North American Championships. Chris is a well-known and favorite teacher and director and her weekly Thursday Night games are the only evening games gathering significant attendance in Buffalo.

Jan Hasselback and **Joe Miranda** are now NABC Masters. At the Buffalo Spring Sectional, **Barbara Landree** got her gold card Life Master status. Congratulations to all!

Here is a hand Danny Gerstman played at 2007 Senior Trials:



Dan Gerstman

Board 29
 Vul: Both
 Dealer: E

	♠ T6		
	♥ K82		
	♦ AT7		
	♣ KQJ92		
	N		
♠ KJ7532		E	♠ 84
♥ J3	W		♥ T94
♦ KQ95			♦ J6432
♣ A			♣ T73
	S		
	♠ AQ9		
	♥ AQ765		
	♦ 8		
	♣ 8654		

	S Gerstman	W	N Sutherland
Pass	1♥	1♠	2♣
Pass	3♣	3♦	3♥
4♦	4♥	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West might have been warned by the bidding that he needed to cash the ♣A to avoid being end-played, but he chose the ♦K as the opening lead. Danny Gerstman then played double-dummy to bring home the slam: he ruffed a ♦ at trick 2, crossed to dummy with a trump and ruffed dummy's last ♦. He cashed a

top ♥ to extract West's last trump and exited with a small ♣. West was left with a choice of ways to surrender the 12th trick. The end position was:

	♠T6 ♥8 ♦--- ♣KQJ9	
♠KJ7532 ♥ --- ♦Q ♣---	♠AQ9 ♥Q ♦--- ♣865	♠84 ♥T ♦J3 ♣T3

On a ♦return, Dan would ruff in dummy, discarding a ♠ from hand, cross to the ♠ A, pull the last trump and take the last 4 tricks with dummy's ♣s. On the actual ♠ return, he won the Q, pulled the last trump and claimed. This resulted in a well-earned 13-IMP pick-up.

Unit 111 News - by Mary Alice Baluck

Mary Alice Baluck has graciously accepted the challenge of preparing this column for Unit 111. Cathy Marstellar, who has been the author for several years, is ill.

Thank you Cathy for an excellent job, and get well soon. Cathy's mailing address is 503 N. Cedar Street, Niles, OH 44446.

It is so hard to say goodbye. **Charles (Chuck) Coleman**, a loyal and long-standing member of Unit 111, passed away on April 6, 2012, at the age of seventy-six. His wife of fifty years, **Donna**, preceded him in death on December 12, 2007. Both were avid bridge players. He leaves two daughters, Lynne and Lori, a son, Charles, nine grandchildren, one great grandchild, and a very good friend and bridge partner, **Sally Veauthier**. Chuck had a very busy career as a professional civil engineer, but his great love was duplicate bridge. He achieved the rank of Gold Life Master, served several terms as president of Unit 111, many terms as a board member, was a certified Bridge teacher, and was an accredited director. So now we must say goodbye to a friend who had a very fulfilling life: a wonderful family, great career, and a passionate pastime that gave him many friends, and took him to many places to play in tournaments. Whadda guy. He will be missed.

The May Unit Game was held at the Southside Bridge Club In Youngstown on May 4, 2012. Winners for the game were:

1st: **Paul Neidlinger and Dale Fishbeck**

2nd **Brenda Merkich and Carol Beardmore**

3rd **Betty Owens and Robert Carroll**

Great Job, Guys!

Unit 111 holds a monthly Unit Game on a specified Sunday. Bring a dish to share, and be there about noon if you care to eat; the game starts at 12:30. Contact Dale at DWFishbeck@aol.com for dates and information.

The Card Game by Rick Baluck

Shuffle the cards and deal them out.
When it's your bid, just lay it out.
Teamwork is what it's all about.
When my ace is trumped, I want to shout.
Winners laugh and losers pout,
But let's get it on for another bout.
Bridge! So much fun.

Under the Bridge - by *Carole Shanahan*

Hello from your long, lost writer. Many months have passed and there are congratulations due to many in my area who have achieved a milestone in the bridge world. Our new life masters are **Nancy Aquino**-Bethel Park, **Mary Katzmann**-Fayetteville, **Nancy Swenson**-Canonsburg, and **Carol Gibboney**-Latrobe. To me this first milestone was a struggle so I heartily congratulate these achievers for their effort.

The next level, 500 MPs, has been awarded to **James Fox** of Canonsburg; and Silver Life Master, 1000 MPs, goes to **Lessa Finegold & Lynne Colker**, both of Pittsburgh area and **David Rupert**-Zelionople, and **Esther Sain**-Indiana.

Our new Gold LMs are **Fred Schenker** and **Francine Feldman**. Lastly, the best, there are two new Diamond LMs: **Barbara Klein** and **Barbara Bergman**. Maybe I will change my name to Barbara in the hope that I can follow in their footsteps. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL--WHAT AN ACHIEVEMENT!

Regretfully, I do not play bridge everyday but I was at the recent Boyd game when **Judit Bardi** and **Raymond Kramer** had a 71.94 percent game; I remember seeing Judit sitting a couple of tables behind me (we were East/West) and she looked a little wide-eyed; I imagine she realized that they were having a

great day even before the day was over.

Do you realize, as the game is progressing, that you are doing well? Or like me, is it a surprise? I can tell when my partner and I have been communicating well and our game feels “solid” but I cannot predict how well or poorly we stand.

After good news, there is sadness in mentioning that **Jack F. Charles**-Allison Park and **Noel J. Gillette**-Pittsburgh have passed. May we keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

The Gatlinburg Regional has come and gone and it was nice to see many players from my area there; directors, too. Hope you had a good time. I forgot that the drive was over nine hours but the weather was good and spring had arrived there early too. It did seem like attendance was down from previous years but it was still a big event. There was a lot of construction in the town and many businesses were revamped or changed entirely. We did do the circuit of the Glades Run artists' village and bought some things to remember how beautiful that area is.

Since it is spring, I have my traveling bag packed and hope to get to some events that are in driving distance. One of my partners and I are going to the Delaware Regional for the first time and will go to the Hunt Valley Regional, as always, to have a good time. The hospitality at Hunt Valley is great. Although I do not usually go to Nationals, the Philadelphia event is too close to pass up. Someday I am going to have to take a vacation that does not involve bridge.

Recently I was at a game and spoke with a person who was just playing for the second time. I hope I gave her encouragement; she was a little awed and I did not want her to be afraid to come back. It would be nice if there were more players who volunteer to be mentors. In order to keep our games alive and attractive to new and young wannabe “bridgers,” all of us need to be more welcoming and willing to promote new players. We all want to win and get points; as my partner says: “There are no type B’s at the bridge table” but that attitude may keep prospective players from joining in.

In a similar effort, the Pittsburgh Bridge Association board is trying to provide more beginner training and games. There is a possibility of having a day session at a sectional or regional that helps rank beginners get a quick handle on how to bid and play. It would be done to attract those whose work and other commitments keep them from taking an eight week course which is our usual offering.

I hope you will help to promote bridge in our area; call the Mentor Man (Bill S.) at 412-364-0302 to sign up to help a newbie. And, until I see you at a game, remember that the hardest thing to say at bridge is “Pass.”

Let me know if i have missed anything; my email is bridgeplayerx2@verizon.net

Erie Excitement - by Kathy Dammeyer

The Erie Bridge Club welcomes the return of our “snowbirds.”

We are proud to announce that **Mary Listerman** has become a Junior Master.

Our annual meeting was held April 29 and the following officers were announced:

President	Kathy Dobrynski
Vice-president	Maryellen Sullivan
Secretary	Betty Motsch
Treasurer	Duke Orr

A special thank you goes to our former president **Lois DiPlacido** who did an outstanding job keeping our club running smoothly over the past year.

Our club hosted the District 5 Grand National Team games during two weekends in May with our own **Tonia Barbero, Elena Dylewski, Tom Yusavage,** and **Jane Yusavage** finishing 2nd place in Flight C. Congratulations!!

We mourn the loss of three of our members who recently passed away. **Randy Cox, Ron Smith** and **Larry Massey** were avid bridge players who will be greatly missed.

Whistfully Yours - by Bev Carter

Seems like our Unit is living under a black cloud these days. Reminiscent of the Lil Abner comic strip where the little bent over guy whose name I can't recall was always seen with one over his head. A while back we were booted out of our Solon playing site just prior to a Sectional that was scheduled there. A new site was located which was working out quite well and a Sectional was scheduled there for April. Guess what.....this site was turned over to another group 3 weeks before the event even though we had a contract with them. Luckily, one of the owners took pity on us and convinced the city of Garfield Heights to allow us to use their Civic Center for the April Sectional and hopefully those scheduled for August and November as well. Well, our April Sectional is over and everyone is raving (in a really good way) about the **Garfield Heights Civic Center** where it was held. The site is spacious, well lit and has good sound quality. The Hospitality Committee headed up by **Kathy Sulgrove** and **Fleur Howard**, joined by **Barb Greenspan**, and a whole bunch of others did

an outstanding job. There was fresh fruit, cheese and crackers, veggie trays etc. during the playing time on Friday. The players enjoyed sloppy joes, salads and wonderful desserts on Saturday and wraps on Sunday. If you haven't attended one of our sectionals lately, you should sure come to the next one on **August 3rd through the 5th**, which will be held at the same location.

Congratulations to **Chang-Li Lu** who became a Life Master at the April Sectional.

Members of Unit 125 elected 5 new board members at this sectional so we will be saying goodbye to 5 members whose term is ending. Those going off the board are: **Harriet Kitay, Ellen Miles, Roz Sukenik, Frank Scali and Mary Lou Vermerris**. We thank them for their dedication and hard work in making our Unit the best ever. The 5 members who were elected are: **Bev Carter, Mike Creager, Ken Kranyak, and John and Mary Spooner. Jim Bell** was also appointed to the board to fill the term vacated by Chuck Ladiha. Congratulations and best wishes to all of them.

Newly elected officers are: **Barb Greenspan**, President; **Sharon Robertson**, Vice President; **Bev Carter**, Secretary. The new Treasurer will be Harvey Bernstein. Good luck to these new officers in their upcoming term.

Our annual Membership Dinner Meeting was held on Sunday, April 29th with 23 tables attending. Scholarships were presented to:

DUSTIN KLEIS: he carries a 3.983 GPA, received Magna Cum Laude in 2012, is Platinum Level GPA, selected Top of Class in Science and World History; he plans to attend Ohio State, majoring in Biology and biochemistry, leading to pre-med, has caddied many of our tournaments and is related to Rosemary Kleis.

CHARLES MERRIAM: is attending Ohio State, majoring in environmental engineering, hoping to work with "green" energy to find solutions to our environment problems. Spent 2011 studying in London. Has received many honors and awards. Related to Don Southam. Charles also plays bridge.

DIANA MERRIAM: Diana is a junior at Ohio State majoring in mechanical engineering. She is a resident advisor; has interned at General Motors developing a masking method for autos and developed a way to minimize waste in the paint room, saving GM about \$14,500 a year. She also went to Honduras to participate in an engineering study on drinking water. Diana is also related to Don Southam.

ELAYNA NOWAK: is also attending Ohio State where she is studying for her Doctorate in Physical Therapy. She volunteers at various clinics and hospitals and does her clinical rotations at Cleveland hospitals where she has developed an interest in geriatric PT. She is the recipient of the **Laurie Kranyak** Memorial Award and is related to Clare Kromar.

MARISSA PASTORI: will be attending the University of California, majoring in business along with biology /biochemistry leading to pre-med. Marissa is also a bridge player and is related to Diane Wasserman.

BRAD SEVCIK: plans to attend Ohio State and was the first to be accepted at Baldwin Wallace college as a sophomore, which will allow him to graduate college in less than 4 years. He will be a member of the college academic team and hopes to tutor in the work/study program. Plans to major in actuarial science and is a heck of a bridge player, having learned at the early age of 10. Brad now helps teach and direct bridge at the Brecksville Community Center. He hopes to find the time to initiate a competitive bridge club at college. Brad is related to Kathleen LaManna.

SARAH TUBBESING: attends the University of Mount Union, majoring in marketing, minoring in psychology. Has received the highest honors all four years of high school, is on Dean's list at Mt. Union and captain of the women's soccer team. She is related to Doris Tubbesing.

These seven fine young people are very deserving of their awards and are to be congratulated for their achievements. The Scholarship Fund is supported by your donations, the 50/50 raffle at our sectionals and local charity games held at our clubs. Please think of these award winners the next time you participate in one of these events and support the fundraiser as much as you can.

We also want to thank those who are working so hard teaching the 6th and 7th graders in the Cleveland School system the game of bridge. The program is headed by **Doug Henderson** aided by **Kathy Kovacs, Dave Norris, Elaine Zich, Mary Jane Mucalo, Donna Largent, Pat Koberg** and **Steve Vrooman**. They do an outstanding job and hopefully these young people will find that bridge is a game well worth participating in. The bridge world needs young players to keep the game alive and thriving. If you would like to volunteer, contact **Doug at 440-356-2825**. He will be happy to hear from you.

Coming up is our **Summer IMP League**. To be held at St. Michael's Woodside on **June 27th, July 25th, August 1st and 15th at 7:15pm**. If you are interested in forming a team, contact **Fleur Howard 440/423-1009** or fleutie1@aol.com no later than June 15th.

Can't end without a little humor:

Did you know:

- Most free bridge lessons are highly overpriced!!!
- Believe it or not, your partner is trying to play on your side
- Most old bridge players never die.....they just pass away
- Overheard: Partner, every day you play worse and worse, but today you are playing like the day after tomorrow

RESULTS

Seven Cities Sectional

Titusville, PA

March 30 – April 1, 2012

<http://web2.acbl.org/tournaments/results/2012/04/1204093.htm>

Ohio Masters Sectional

Garfield Hts, OH

April 13-15, 2012

<http://web2.acbl.org/tournaments/results/2012/04/1204031.htm>

WNY Unit 116 Spring SectionL

Williamsville, NY

April 20-22, 2012

<http://web2.acbl.org/tournaments/results/2012/04/1204058.htm>

Pittsburgh Spring Sectional

Pittsburgh, PA

April 27-29, 2012

<http://web2.acbl.org/tournaments/results/2012/04/1204082.htm>

2012 Grand National Teams

Erie, PA

May 5 - 6 & 19-20, 2012

<http://www.d5bridge.com/Results/1205GNT.htm>

All American Regional

Independence

May 22-28, 2012

<http://www.d5bridge.com/D5Regionals/CLV1205.htm>