

August, 2012



Congratulations to Judy Padgug, John Bacon, Michael Creager & Fred Yellen for winning the National Sheinwold GNT Flight B in Philadelphia! (see picture on page 5)

Tournament Schedule for District 5

AUGUST 2012
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- 3-5 Cleveland Silver Bowl Sectional
- 3-5 Wheeling Sectional
- 24-26 Buffalo 499er Sectional
- 28 - Sep 3 Pittsburgh Roni Atkins Labor Day Regional

SEPTEMBER 2012

- 8-9 Youngstown Sectional
- 15-16 Erie Presque Isle Sectional
- 21-23 Buffalo Fall Sectional
- 21-23 Akron Autumn Sectional

**Deadlines for Columns
And Tournament Information**

October Issue – September 15
December Issue – November 15
February Issue – January 15

Send Items to:

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Whistfully Yours by Bev Carter

The annual Unit 125 Membership Dinner was held recently and many awards were given out. The **Member of the Year Award** is presented to a Unit member in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the Unit, and who continually displays good conduct, ethics and sportsmanship. **Cathy Wolford**, our Unit Treasurer for many, many years, who also served as Hospitality Chair at our Sectionals preparing and serving many delicious meals and refreshments along with her husband Kermit, and who is currently serving as the Unit Tournament Chairperson is the recipient of this year's award. It is truly well deserved.

Other awards presented at the meeting were: The **Bobb Hardies** Trophy went to **Kumar Bhatia** who accumulated the most masterpoints at Sectionals and Regionals in 2011. Bobb Hardies was an outstanding player and supporter of bridge and a bridge columnist for the Cleveland Press newspaper until his untimely death in 1975. The **Marvin Melamed** Award was created to honor the non-Life Master who accumulated the most masterpoints during the Sectionals and Regionals each year. **Larry Boyd** was the recipient of this Award. The **Larry Rock** Award is presented to the female player who wins the most masterpoints in all Unit events during the year. **Pat Chisholm** is the 2011 recipient of this award. Congratulations to all!!! Well done!!!

New Life Masters in 2011 were: **Nancy Fingerhut, Charles Kelley, Robert Lane, Lucille Race, Laura Ross, Lynne Rudolph, Bill Schumann, Vivien Sevin, Steve Vrooman, Doris Weil** and **Charles Wen**. Also recognized at our Annual Meeting were the players who accumulated the most masterpoints in the Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney races. Since there are so many categories and space here is limited, please visit our website, **whistclub.org** and click the button marked Awards and Races to see who the winners were.

Our Summer IMP League is up and running with 18 teams participating. **It is fast approaching time to sign up for our very popular Vichill Team League which begins in September.** It will again be held at St. Michael's Woodside starting on Wednesday, September 12th. There will be 2 matches in both October and November, one in early December, one in March and 2 in April. To register your team, pair or person, or to get more information, **contact Barb Greenspan 216/595-3266** or by email at specialops007@gmail.com

New directories are now available. They contain listings and game schedules for Akron, Canton, Youngstown and Cleveland. See your local club director for your copy. Cost is \$2.00 per directory due to increased production costs. Be sure to check your listing to make sure it is correct. If it is not, please contact ACBL with your updated information as we receive our content from their files.

Our area STaC games were very well attended. The list of local overall winners is way too long to list here, so please check the link on our website (**whistclub.org**) for this information.

We had 20 tables of 6th and 7th graders at our Regional this year. Following are some excerpts from the thank you letters they sent to **Doug Henderson**, the instructor:

- The bridge tournament was the best field trip ever!!!
- Thank you so much for teaching us bridge. It is an amazing game and I love playing it.
- I had so much fun at the tournament and now I'm going to play online.
- I hope to have the same passion for bridge as you do. Thank you for teaching me this wonderful game!
- Thanks for teaching us bridge. I hope I can play next year too.
- I had a lot of fun playing against the other school. I won a lot of hands. I hope I can play with you next year too.
- Bridge is super fun!!! I will continue to play for years to come. I absolutely loved learning about it.

There were over 20 letters, all in the same vein. Hope it inspires you to contact your local schools to consider starting this program, or.....volunteering to teach in the existing ones. Please contact **Doug at 440/356-2825** for information.

An aside: There is a book called *The Card Turner* by **Louis Sachar** that students in the Berea school district read. It is about a young boy that went to a bridge club and turned the cards for his blind uncle and during the process wound up learning to play bridge. It so turned these students on that they asked that a bridge class be started. **Gene** and **Celeste Krejsa** and **Chuck Bisesi** stepped up to the plate and taught 12 6th graders last year. Think about donating a copy or two to your local middle school's library. It may just generate enough interest that more kids become involved.

A little bridge humor:

- A bridge teacher was summoned to a table of beginners by a perplexed player who did not know what to do after partner opened 1S. They were holding 4 spades to the AQ42, a doubleton heart, 4 diamonds and 3 clubs. The instructor said "just bid 2S". The student then asked "which 2 spades should I bid.....the A/Q or the 4/2?"
- Learn from the mistakes of others.....you won't live long enough to make them all yourself
- Your play was much better tonight. So were your excuses
- Two beginners were playing in their first duplicate game. The bidding went:
West: 1C North: Pass East: Double
North realizing they were new gently and mildly said that one could not double partner's bid. In despair East wailed: But how else can I let partner know that I have an opening hand and all the other suits????

Under the Bridge by C. Shanahan

What a nice surprise to open the June Bridge Bulletin and see the smiling face of someone I know. **Jeffrey Tsang** and **Chase Bonnette** won Flight C of the North American Pairs at the Spring NABC in Memphis; they had 54%, 56%, 60%, and 60% sessions. How good to see our District 5 so well represented.

I do not know why I always congratulate the Life Master achievers first; maybe because getting to this first milestone seems to be a more difficult task-everything about bridge is new and it feels like we will never get a gold point. But then you get that first gold point and you think: "that wasn't so hard; maybe I can do this after all." So – congratulations to **Bernadine Bonessa** of Pittsburgh and **Frank Seffrinn** of Canonsburg. Keep up the good work.

Once you get beyond this first step, does it get easier? Maybe I can ask those who have achieved the higher accolades when I see them at the bridge table. Well done to: new Bronze L.M. **Robert Heasley III** of Sewickley and **Joanne Cromo** of Industry; Silver L.M. **Jean Picone** of Pittsburgh, **Ami Elis** of Pittsburgh, **Dorothy Mehoe** of Sewickley, and **Betty Wilkerson** of Murrysville; Gold L.M. **Jean Prior** of Bethel Park and **Henry Nelson** of Zelienople; Diamond L.M. **Robert Quinlan** of Pittsburgh, **Constance Hoechstetter** of Coraopolis, and **Donald Fashow** of Canonsburg.

What is also interesting to me is the column "Ruling the Game" which appears every month in the ACBL Bridge Bulletin. I love to read the problems, the rulings, and the discussion by **Mike Flader** of what was right and wrong according to the laws as determined by the ACBL. I do not always understand why a certain ruling is made but I do appreciate the difficulty that a director faces when a decision must be made "right then and there" especially when there may be some contention among the players at that table.

One of my partners and I were at Gatlinburg in a KO and our opponents called the director because I had taken too long to either bid or pass. I held a difficult hand and was trying to decide to bid or double. We eventually appealed the ruling. When asked by the director if I had hesitated, delayed, bid out of tempo, or whatever it was called, I admitted that I had taken longer due to the difficulty of my situation. The directors at the appeal actually thanked us for admitting that fact. They may have actually stated that it was a rare, if not unprecedented, occurrence.

What I do know is that the director has a difficult job and I try to remember what I heard one say at a tournament: "The opponents are not the enemy; and your partner is your friend."

Before I forget, the summer sectional was a big hit. Thanks to all those who worked so hard to show us all a good time. Everyone with whom I spoke loved that they did not have to stand in line for lunch on Saturday; brown bags rule!

Bridge is cool in Buffalo by Dian Petrov

In the past players from Unit 116 have done well at the National events – particularly at North American Pairs (NAP) and Grand National Teams (GNT). But this year at the Summer NABC at Philadelphia a team with Unit 116 representatives went all the way to **WIN** the 2012 Sheinwold Cup – awarded to winners of Flight B Grand National Teams.



The National champions are **Judith Padgug** and **Fred Yellen**, who playing with **Mike Creager** and **John Bacon** (from Cleveland area), dominated the Flight B field. Their performance culminated at the final where they took the victory with 139-116 over a team from New Jersey. Congratulation to the winners and their supporters!! After second places in 2006 (**Roseberry, Bacon, Tscholl, Overcasher**) and 2008 (Petrov, Steffan, Gullo, Ryan), the Flight B

GNT title belongs to District 5. Judy and Fred were always taking bridge very seriously – putting in many hours of study and analysis and this title is very well deserved!

A great example a fabulous Unit 116 bridge event was the Great American Picnic that just took place at the beginning of July. What a wonderful day! Amazing food, (yes I said amazing food!) Huge thanks to **Paul and Linda Zittel** for fresh, fresh, fresh veggies and awesome corn. Kudos to **Paul Zittel** and **Tova Reinhorn** (chairs) for a job very well done. 19 tables of happy bridge players. That is exactly what the unit board is striving for – great bridge opportunities with happy players at the end of the day. Hats off to **Kathy Pollock**, our director. She handled two sections for two sessions in a smooth, friendly manner.

Winners of the event are:

Morning session:

Penny Shui - Peter Shui, Clarence NY - 67.25%

Linda Zittel - Paul Zittel, Eden NY - 57.40%

Afternoon session:

Ken Meier, Orchard Park NY; **John Kirsits**, East Amherst NY - 61.26%

Prudy Ciminelli - Marian Guglielmi, Hamburg NY - 58.73%

Next Unit events include the **Non-Life Master Tournament** at the end of August and our **Fall Sectional** in the middle of September. Save the dates and make your plans because more fun is on the way.

Bridge milestones:

Laurie Foster and **Judy Zeckhauser** are Club Masters, **Rivona Ehrenreich** and **Leuben Zaykov** are Sectional Masters, **Beena Deshmukh**, **Patricia Lakeman**, **Sandra Marcussen**, **Barbara Multerer**, **Miri Salamone-Burnett**, **Richard Cramer-Benjamin** are Regional Masters, **Gaurang Sheth** and **Linda Zittel** are NABC Masters, **Robert Kaprove** and **Peter Shui** are Life Masters, **Ruth Kozower** is a Bronze Life Master, **Dorothy May** is a Silver Life Master, **Dian Petrov** is a Gold Life Master.

Congratulations to all!

Erie Excitement by Kathy Dammeyer

Our Fall Sectional will be held at the Erie Bridge Center Sept. 15, 16. Please mark your calendars!

These members attained new ACBL rankings:

Club Master

Bruce Swanson

Eileen Nill

NABC Master

Tonia Barbaro

Jane Yusavage

The winners of the June 20 **Gert Mason Trophy Game** were **Jim Duncan and Pat Smith**.

The winners of the July 11 **Ben Scott Trophy Game** were **Lori Benacci and Kathy Dammeyer (70.2%)**.

Congratulations to Erie players Bob Rizzo and Gloria Woodford who were first overall in the June District 5 STAC game with a 71.3% game. **Anne Johnson and Peggy Weibel** were second.

The North American Pairs Qualifying Game winners were:

A----Bob Rizzo and Rose Jaskiewicz

B and C----Joe Sweeney and Eileen Cutri

Our June Players of the Month:

New Deal-**Jim Wise and Al Richardson**

Grand Slam-**Bob Rizzo**

Newcomer-**Josie DeSantis**

Double Trouble-**Bill Schneider**

Apologies for omitting the names of **Bob Rizzo and Rose Jaskiewicz** in the April issue who were District 5 Senior Pairs winners.

Unit 111 News by Mary Alice Baluck

Youngstown - Unit 111 Fall Sectional Bridge Tournament

Come join us for a relaxing weekend of bridge September 8th and 9th. We have a beautiful new facility with ample parking and easy access. Enjoy wonderful hospitality each morning and between sessions. If you do not have a flyer for directions, just E-mail (terencemurray0992@sbcglobal.com).

Saturday - September 8 Morning Session - 10:30 a.m.

Compact Handicap knockout Teams
Single Stratified Open Pairs (A 1500, B 500, C 0-750)
A very nice Novice game

Session II will begin at 3:00 p.m.

Sunday - September 9:

Stratified Swiss Teams (A 1000, B 500 - 1000, 0-500)
Play through begins at 10:30 a.m.

All sessions are \$9:00 for ACBL members, \$10:00 non-members.

Past President's Party

On August 4th at 11:30 a.m. the Southside Bridge Club of Unit 111 will host a party for our past president, **Bill Shaffer**. As the guests arrive they will be greeted with the tangy aroma of barbequed chicken and pork. After dinner, president **Becky Murray** will present Bill with a gift of appreciation and I'm sure that will be followed by some very kind words. No one will come with a partner, so non-Life Master will be paired up with Life Master. I don't have to tell you what comes next.

In case you don't know the man who made this party necessary, Bill Shaffer is a nice looking, tall drink of water, with a pleasant voice and kind smile. Being a very popular president, Bill was elected for a second term and devoted uncountable hours to serving the members of the club. He also directed many of the games and (if you are not aware you should be) playing bridge and also directing takes a toll on a person. This also applies to all of our directors and I felt this needed to be said because most of us do not say enough kind words of appreciation to those who make our bridge game run

smoothly. So, thank you, Bill, for being you. We're blessed to have you and I'm really looking forward to a great party.

CHARITY GAME

Last month the Southside Bride Club held a very successful charity game in honor of the passing of **Chuck Coleman**. The results from that game speak volumes for the man we honored and we are very happy to say that the proceeds from that game and contributions came to \$435.00. Because of the generosity of our members and the wonderful memory of Chuck, Our Unit 111 treasurer, **Sally Veauther**, was privileged to present the ACBL Educational Foundation a check for that amount.

Laurie Kranyak Friendship Award By Barbara Greenspan

The second recipient of the **Laurie Kranyak** Friendship Award is **Brian Ellis** of Beachwood.

This award was established last year by **Dr. Vic Vertes** to honor the memory, the fierce competitiveness, and mostly the loving spirit and kindness of our dear friend Laurie. Throughout Laurie's battle with the cancer which ultimately claimed her life, Laurie exhibited graciousness, humor and an interest in the life of everyone around her.

The Award Committee is made up of: **Gary Sikon, Marty Zinamon and Susan Stark**.

The first recipient of this award was **Ken Kranyak**, Laurie's favorite partner both at and away from the bridge table.



Kranyak



Ellis

Results

Links are provided to provide easy access to the results for all of the district tournaments!

2012

**Lake Cable Sectional, Canton, OH
June 22-24, 2012**

<http://web2.acbl.org/tournaments/results/2012/06/1206020.htm>

**Pittsburgh Summer, Pittsburgh, PA
July 6-8, 2012**

<http://web2.acbl.org/tournaments/results/2012/07/1207046.htm>

