

The Shuffler

The Newsletter of the Petoskey Bridge Club



Spring 2014

2144 Cemetery Road

Petoskey, Michigan



Well, this winter was the worst for many, many years. Not only was it extremely cold but we had over 15 FEET of snow, and there may be a little more yet to come. The calendar says it is spring, but I'm not sure the weather knows that.

Thinking of warmer times, our summer schedule starts on May 1. And that will be a very exciting time at the club because we will be adding several more games. The morning games will start at 10:00, as before, including a brand new Monday game. Games for players with less than 200 masterpoints will continue on Tuesdays and Fridays but there will also be an open game at 2:00 on those days. The Sunday game will still start at 1:30 and there will be a Swiss Team game on the second Sunday of each month. This means that everyone can play bridge on every day of the week except Saturday. Please see the article titled CHANGES FOR 2014 for details of the schedule of games throughout the year.

Thanks to the hard work of Mike Sears we will be hosting a full Regional tournament in August. Please see Mike's article for details. We will also be hosting a NLM Sectional tournament at the bridge club on June 7 and 8. This tournament is open to all players who are not life masters and have fewer than 500 MPs. There will be three strats: 0-50, 50-200, 200-499. All masterpoints will be silver.

We will be holding several ACBL-wide special games this year. The boards are played at clubs across the country and the scores are compared. Any pair in the top 20 nationwide or in the top 10 in our District will receive bonus masterpoints. All masterpoints will be half red and half black.

Happy Spring!

Larry



CHANGES FOR 2014

The governing board of directors of the club met in December to consider a full agenda of items. Among them were the hot topics often heard among club members of "more open games" and "slow play." The board unanimously agreed to institute the following changes beginning in January 2014:

- All games will consist of 24 boards, (except games requiring 5 rounds of 5 boards).
Rarely, a game director may determine that due to slow play the last round will be cancelled.
- Bridgemates: In the interest of speeding up play, the Bridgemates will no longer show previous results or percentages.

Effective May - September (Summer Months)

The summer schedule will be as follows:

Monday - 10:00am Open game

Tuesday - 10:00am 0-199 game

2:00pm Open game

Wednesday - 10:00am Open game

Thursday - 10:00am Open game

Friday - 10:00am 0-199 game

2:00pm Open game

Sunday - 1:30pm Open game (A Swiss game will be held on the second Sunday of the month at the usual time of 1:30)

Effective October-December and January-April (Winter Months)

The Winter schedule will be as follows:

Monday - 12:30pm Open game

Tuesday - 12:30pm 0-199 game and an Open game (running concurrently)

Wednesday - 12:30pm Open game

Thursday - 12:30pm Open game

Friday - 12:30pm 0-199 game

Sunday - 1:30pm A Swiss game will be held on the second Sunday of the month at the usual time of 1:30. **No games will be held on the other Sundays.**

Important dates:

- STaC games will be held Mar 31 to Apr 6 and Nov 17 to Nov 23. An open game will be held on Tuesdays and Fridays
- Pro-Am games will be held on June 20 and October 31.
- A NLM Sectional tournament (open to all players who are not life masters and have fewer than 500 MPs) will be held at the club June 7-8.
- The Petoskey Regional tournament will be held at the Odawa Casino August 11-17. Note that this Regional will not be split with another location.
- Several ACBL-sanctioned special games which offer increased and/or colored Masterpoints will be added to the calendar.

ADJUSTED LOSING TRICK COUNT

From a lesson given by Jack Malstrom Summer 2012 final part



The ALTC is almost infallible if your partnership has a good 9 or 10 card fit. It also works pretty well with a good 8 card fit. I also use the ALTC as a guideline to determine if I should enter the auction over opponents' bidding:

- 8 ½ ALTC overcall the 1 level (with a good suit of course)*
- 7 ALTC overcall the 2 level (with a better suit)*
- 6 ½ ALTC overcall the 3 level (with a better suit)*
- 6 ALTC overcall the 4 level (with a better suit)*
- 5 ½ ALTC overcall the 5 level (with a better suit)*

So non-vulnerable I would over call 5 Diamonds if the opponents open 4 Hearts or 4 Spades. My holdings: xx xx AKJ10xx AQx. This schedule does not guarantee success, but if you enter the bidding with more losers than this it will probably guarantee a poor result.

Qxxxx AKJx Kxx x This hand is a 6ALTC, but of course, we didn't count the J/H for anything. The value is 6 ALTC with a jack left over or 6ALTC w JLO. (this JLO reminds me of Jennifer Lopez.)

Sometimes the leftovers can be substantial.

QJxxx AJxx KJx Q This hand is 7ALTC with 5 HCPLO. The three Jacks and Q/C were not counted at all. Are these leftovers JUNK or do they have some value? A quick rule of thumb says that:

- (A) 2 or 3 HCPLO MIGHT be worth a ½ trick*
-
- (B) 4 or 5 HCPLO MIGHT be worth a full trick*

This is not very scientific but a careful look at each card might shed some light on the question. The Js in S,H, and D's are all accompanied by a higher honor, so they probably have some value. The Q/C is all by itself and it's value is dubious. I would call this hand a 6 ½ ALTC.

KQJ10xx KQJ10x x x These Js are certainly not JUNK. They are an integral part of the hand. I would not want to play this hand without either one of them.

KQxxx A10xx Qx xx This hand is 7ALTC with QLO. We did not count the queen at all for the ALTC. So it is 7 ALTC with 2 HCPLO

QJ Axxxx Jxxx QJ This 11 HCP hand counts 9ALTC – ½ for the extra A = 8 ½ with 7HCP LO (never counted). In this case the these 7 HCP may truly be JUNK.

There are some other holdings that require special treatment, like AQ and KQ doubletons. AKQxx xx AQ KQxx, there is nothing wrong with the AQ/D. The AQ is still 1 ½ QT. The way to count this hand is to remove the Q/D, temporarily so the hand becomes AKQxx xx Ax KQxx, just for the count, which is 4 ALTC. Now bring back the Q/D as the ½ trick that it truly is. So the final count is 3 ½ ALTC.

A10xxx Ax KQ xxxx a doubleton KQ is not quite as good as KQx so count the hand as A10xxx Ax Kx xxxx for 6ALTC with Q/DLO. Q/D certainly is not junk because it is accompanied by a higher honor. (Maybe partner has the A/D or the J/D) (but maybe an opponent's A/D will win it on the first round of D). So give the Q/D some value.

Here is a hand that might give you trouble. KQxxx xx Q10x Axx. The bidding as gone: Partner: 1H You 1S Partner 2H you? You'd like to raise your partner to three hearts because she has shown a six card suit but you can't figure your short heart suit as an advantage (it is not advantageous to be short in the trump suit!). So count your hand as: KQxxx xx(x) Q10x Axx just for the ALTC by adding a phantom heart. Your hand is still 8 ½ ALTC with two QT so raise them to three hearts.

• I previously wrote about the significance of 23 HCP, the number that determines whether or not this is YOUR hand. I should have added that when the 40 high card points of the deck are evenly divided between North - South pairs and East - West pairs like 20/20 19/21 or even 18/22, the partnership with the nine card trump fit can usually play for a nine-trick contract, while the partnership with an eight card trump fit can usually only play for an eight-trick contract. This is part of the Law of Total Tricks which can be translated into the Law of Total Trumps but is now referred to simply as THE LAW or LOTT../

• FYI: Last summer in July and August the Bridge Bulletin featured a two-part article on the ALTC. It is much more complicated than the Jeff Ruben version we are proposing but if we apply Ruben's **methods to their** examples the answers are almost identical.

“Lead from the strong suit, study your partner’s hand, and attend to the score.” Seems like pretty decent advice for duplicate bridge players these days. But the admonitions were written nearly 300 years ago to guide English gentlemen at a London coffee house playing the then-popular game of whist.

Whist was a dominant social and betting game in England and France until around 1900 when it morphed into auction bridge and then into the contract bridge we play today. Understanding its history reminds us of how a few simple rules can transform 52 playing cards into an endlessly fascinating challenge, with outcomes that depend on skill more than on luck.

Sometime in the 16th Century, French peasants developed a game called “Le Triomphe (The Triumph)”. An early mention of it appeared in 1526 in a book published in Rome. The important difference from other common card games was the introduction of a master suit. Any card in that suit could be used to take a trick, by “trumping” or “ruffing” the normal highest card in play. The game crossed the Channel and became, in England, something called “English ruff-and-honours” where a team of two players gained points not just for the number of tricks won but also for the numbers of aces, kings, queens and jacks they held.

It was not a game for the elite peerages but for commoners. One of its attractions was that players could cheat fairly easily; apparently timely revokes were not always caught by unsophisticated players who didn’t count the number of cards outstanding in a suit. A pair of cardsharks could do pretty well, just as a pair of Platinum Life Masters can do against a pair of 299er’s now.

The game continued to evolve as its rules, including the scoring methods became more regular. Serious play began to happen as the game moved from smoke-filled gin mills to smoke-filled coffee houses, where more educated players congregated to test their skills.

The name of the game was apparently intended to emphasize the need for quiet concentration. According to many sources, the word “whist” (it sometimes appears as “whisk”) was similar to our “shush” or “sst.” In the 1734 edition of “Court Gamesters,” the author, Richard Seymour Esq. speaks of “Whist, or the silent game at cards. Talking is not allowed at Whist; the very word implies ‘Hold your Tongue.’”

In the common form that prevailed, the twos were taken out of the pack and the cards dealt out clockwise to the two partnerships. The last card dealt was turned up and became

the “trump” suit – remember “le triomphe.” The player to left of dealer played the first card and whoever took the trick had to lead next, just as in modern bridge.

Originally the game was played so that the first team to gain 9 points was the winner. Then players added the deuces back, allowing for an odd number of tricks, 13, overall

and greatly increasing the need for a more skill-based approach to a game in which luck had predominated.



I inherited this antique whist table from my mother, who used it for decades for rubber bridge. The scooped-out dishes held betting tokens, the rounded corners were for candle holders. -- J.F.

According to John Wurtle Lovell, writing a history of whist in New York in 1880, a party of gentlemen who frequented the Crown Coffeehouse in Bedford Row in London enunciated the formal principle: “Lead from the strong suit, study your partner’s hand, and attend to the score.” Each trick above the “book” of six tricks got you a point, so that, for instance, winning ten tricks gained four points. Games were played to 9 or 10 points and winning two of three games, a “rubber,” made one side the overall winner.

Then Edmond Hoyle came on the scene. We know him by reputation – “According to Hoyle” for his masterly book laying out rules for a wide variety of games – but his first substantial card-play influence came in 1742 when he published his “Short Treatise on the Game of Whist.” He not only detailed the precise rules but explained the sort of strategic thinking that players needed to use. His rules held sway for nearly 125 years. In 1867 they governed the play at the first recorded duplicate whist event but were further codified seven years later at the request of Britain’s de facto governing body for whist and adopted at two major London clubs.

Whist had moved across the Atlantic to the colonies in the 18th Century and was widely popular in America at all

“WHIST” *continued*

levels. According to Black America Web, plantation owners allowed slaves to play on the theory that it would improve their ability to count bales of cotton. It remained deep in black culture and was for many years a favorite of Pullman porters who whiled away the hours while the passengers slept in their berths. The porters adopted the ‘travel game phrases’ used to describe the plays of the game like ‘going all the way’ and ‘running a Boston’ when a team takes all the tricks.

Some forms of whist, particularly in Britain, varied the trump suit in a rotation of hearts, diamonds, spades and clubs with a fifth possibility, no trumps, also allowable.

In 1903, civil servants in India are credited with inventing the practice of bidding to determine the trump suit, a key innovation that transformed whist into auction bridge, the precursor of our current game.

We no longer play whist, but without its rich history and increasing sophistication we would never have gotten to this game that we play and love.



Pictured above is the whist counter or marker from my table. The larger snap-up pieces marked the number of points won; the smaller ones kept track of games won.

NOTES & COMMENTS & OTHER STUFF



A Christmas Celebration



*September Swiss Winners:
Larry Wills, Joe Hollis, Nancy Colbert, Paul Nelson*



*Mentor Game Winners:
Dave Deal, Judy Knowles, Jan Haynes, Dale Freeman*



Hat Day Fun...Some of the Winter Warriors!

Bermuda Regional
Southampton BDA
January 25-31, 2014

**Thursday Morning Side Game
12.0 Tables**

MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score
3.34	1	1	1	Carole Vial - Catherine Francis, Charlevoix MI	66.96%
2.51	2			Ted Kahn, Amherst NY; Dian Petrov, Buffalo NY	59.82%
2.39	3	2		Deborah Crisfield, Summit NJ; Jennifer Feltes, New Vernon NJ	58.93%
1.57	4/5	3/4		Richard Fitton - Elizabeth Fitton, Westport MA	58.33%
1.57	4/5	3/4		Hind Blick - Janet Corkum, Halifax NS	58.33%
1.94	6	5	2	Andrei Reinhorn, Williamsville NY; Penny Shui, Clarence NY	57.74%
1.45		6	3	David Chittick - Jane Chittick, Venice FL	52.08%
1.09			4	Martin Levman - Sandra Pineau, Campbellville ON	51.19%
0.94			5	Lydia Fox - Lloyd Mitchell, Truro NS	50.89%

*Taking top honors in Thursday morning's side game were
Carole Vial and Catherine Francis. Congratulations!*

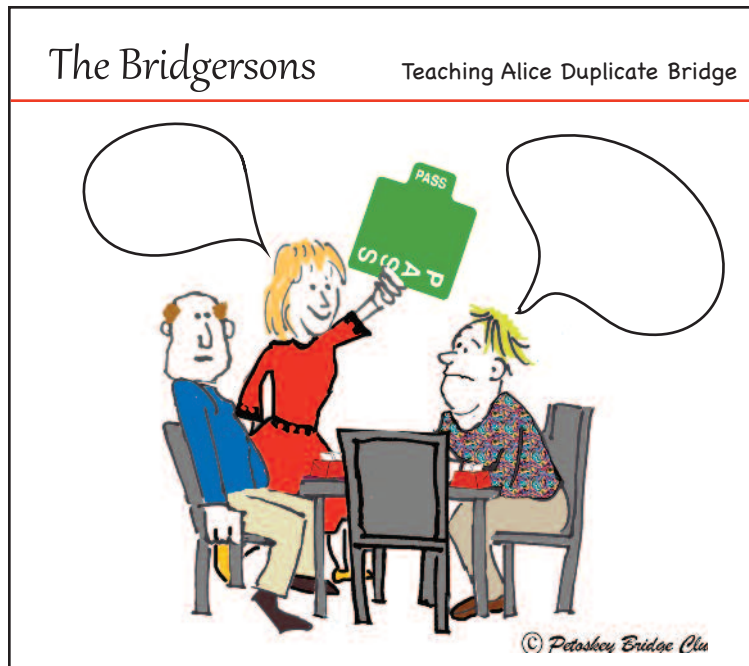
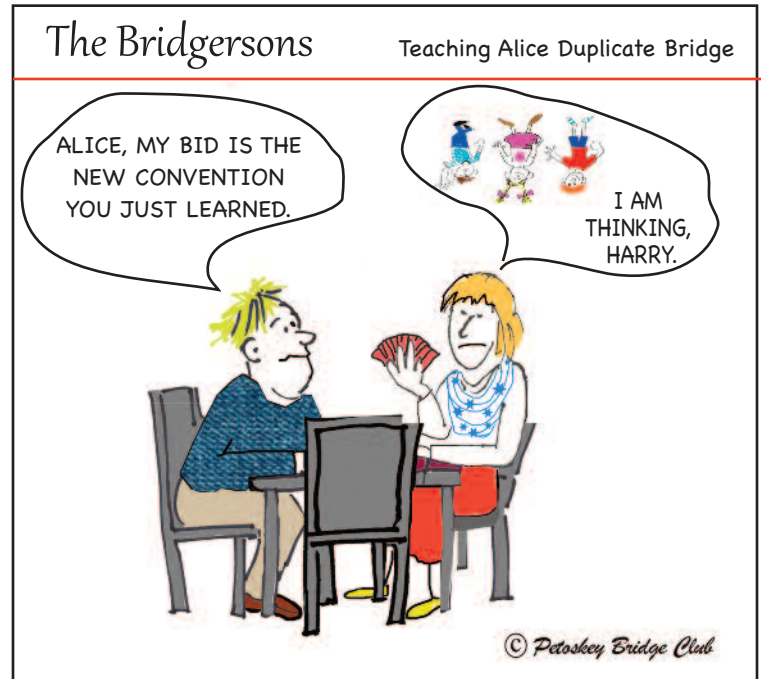
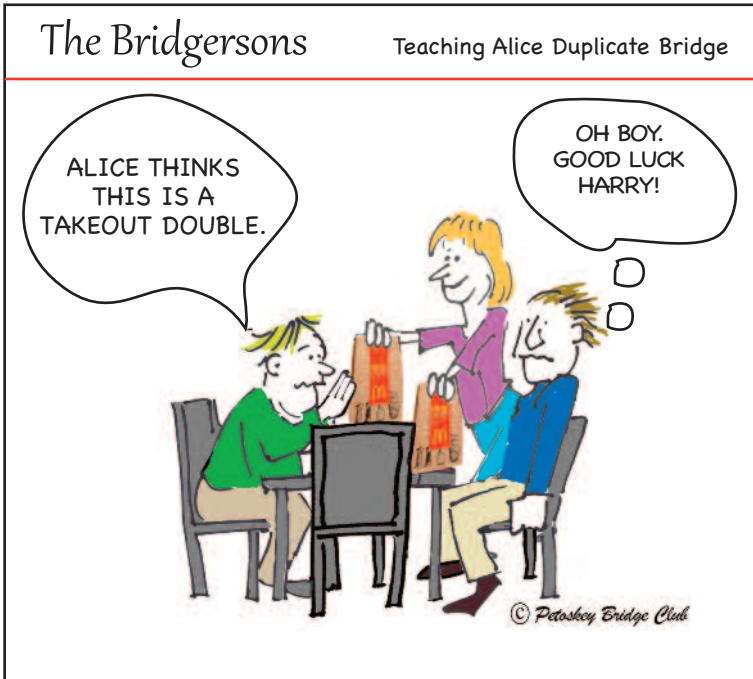


Celebrating Spring in the Color Pink!

*Congratulations
LaVonne and Pam*

80%
game

INTRODUCING THE BRIDGERSONS



WIN A FREE GAME AT THE PETOSKEY BRIDGE CLUB

Suggest a caption or conversation between Alice and Harry for the above drawing or submit an original idea for a Bridgersons cartoon.

Submit to Linda Roberts lroberts@racc2000.com or Jonathan Friendly jfriendly39@hotmail.com or leave them in the office at the Bridge Center with attention to: CARTOON CONTEST.



The Petoskey Regional

August 11 - 17 2014

Following a very successful 2013 regional co-hosted by Kalamazoo and Petoskey, Unit 195 board of directors plans to hold its 2014 regional in Petoskey.

Future regionals will be rotated annually throughout the unit's geographic boundaries which are approximately defined as the entire western half of the state. The tournament will begin on Monday August 11 and run through Sunday August 17. It will include

THREE days of the popular Gold Rush pairs event and a day of a new event . . . Gold Rush Swiss teams. The entire schedule of events is provided below:

Monday, August 11

7:30 pm Bracketed KO #1 - Round 1 of 4
Stratified Charity Pairs - ACBL
Education Foundation

Tuesday, August 12

10:00 am Morning Side Game Series - 1st Session
Bracketed KO #1 - Round 2 of 4
Stratified Choice Pairs - 1st Session
Stratified 149er Pairs - Single Session
2:30 pm Afternoon Side Game Series - 1st Session
Bracketed KO #1 - Round 3 of 4
Stratified Choice Pairs - 2nd Session
Stratified 149er Pairs - Single Session
7:30 pm Bracketed KO #1 - Round 4 of 4
Stratified Choice Pairs - 3rd Session

Wednesday, August 13

10:00 am Morning Side Game Series - 2nd Session
Bracketed KO #2 - Round 1 of 4
Stratified Open Pairs 3000+, 0-3000 - 2 Sessions
Gold Rush Pairs - 300/750 - 2 Sessions
2:30 pm Afternoon Side Game Series - 2nd Session
Bracketed KO #2 - Round 2 of 4
Stratified Open Pairs - 2nd Session
Gold Rush Pairs - 300/750 - 2nd Session
Stratified Swiss Teams - Single Session
7:30 pm Stratified Horizontal Swiss - Concludes Thursday

Thursday, August 14

10:00 am Morning Side Game Series - 3rd Session
Bracketed KO #2 - Round 3 of 4
Stratified Open Swiss Teams - Two Sessions
Gold Rush 300/750 Swiss Teams - Two Sessions
Stratified 149er Pairs - Single Session

Team and Pair Games Stratified by average MP
149er Events Stratified as Attendance Warrants
Knockout Events are Handicapped if only one Bracket
Stratifications: A=3000+, B=750 - 3000, C=0 - 750

2:30 pm Afternoon Side Game Series - 3rd Session
Bracketed KO #2 - Round 4 of 4
Stratified Open Swiss Teams - Second Session
Gold Rush 300/750 Swiss Teams - Second Session
Stratified 149er Pairs - Single Session
7:30 pm Stratified Horizontal Swiss - Second Session

Friday, August 15

10:00 am Morning Side Game Series - 4th Session
Bracketed KO #3 - Round 1 of 4
Stratified Open Pairs 3000+, 0-3000 - T2 Sessions
Gold Rush Pairs - 300/750 - 2 Sessions
2:30 pm Afternoon Side Game Series - 4th Session
Bracketed KO #3 - Round 2 of 4
Stratified Open Pairs - 2nd Session
Gold Rush Pairs - 300/750 - 2nd Session
Stratified Swiss Teams - Single Session
7:30 pm Compact KO Teams - Concludes Saturday

Saturday, August 16

10:00 am Morning Side Game Series - 5th Session
Bracketed KO #3 - Round 3 of 4
Stratified Open Pairs 3000+, 0-3000 - 2 Sessions
Gold Rush Pairs - 300/750 - 2 Sessions
2:30 pm Afternoon Side Game Series - 5th Session
Bracketed KO #3 - Round 4 of 4
Stratified Open Pairs - 2nd Session
Gold Rush Pairs - 300/750 - 2nd Session
7:30 pm Compact KO Teams - Second Session
Stratified Local Charity Pairs

Sunday, August 17

10:00 am Stratified Open Swiss Teams - Play through
Break for lunch after the fourth round

Tournament Chair: Mike Sears
231-582-0604
mmsears@sprynet.com

Partnerships: Pam Ziegel
231-881-0829
pamziegel@gmail.com

REGIONAL continued

Host Hotel Information:

Odawa Hotel
1444 US 131 South
Petoskey, MI 49770
877-442-6464 or 231-347-6041
\$85.00+tax per night Sun-Thurs
\$125+tax per night Fri - Sat.
Deluxe Continental Breakfast Included
Free Wireless Internet & Refrigerators
Casino Package includes \$10 food comp
at the casino, \$10 in slot play,
and \$5 in blackjack match play
each day for guests 19 years and over.
(Limit two per room.)

Other Hotels/Motels in the area

Americas Best Value Inn
1300 Spring Street
Petoskey, MI 49770
Phone: (231) 347-3925

Apple Tree Inn
915 Spring Street
Petoskey, MI 49770
(231)348-2900

Bay Inn of Petoskey
2445 Charlevoix Rd. (US 31 S.)
Petoskey, MI 49770
(231)347-2593

Bay Harbor Village Hotel
4000 Main St
Bay Harbor, MI 49770
Phone: (231) 439-2400

Boyne U.S.A. Resorts
(231)549-6000
Toll Free: (800)GO-BOYNE

Comfort Inn
1314 US 31 North
Petoskey, MI 49770
231-347-3220

Econo Lodge
1858 US 131 South
Petoskey, MI 49770
(231)348-3324

Hampton Inn & Suites
920 Spring St. (US 131 S)
Petoskey, MI 49770
(231)348-9555

Holiday Inn Express Hotel
1751 US 131 South
Petoskey, MI 49770
231-487-0991

Inn at Bay Harbor
3600 Village Harbor Dr.
Bay Harbor, MI 49770
(231)439-4000

Michigan Inn & Lodge
1420 S. US-131 (Spring St.)
Petoskey, MI 49770
Phone: (866) 263-2819

Stafford's Bay View Inn
2011 Woodland Ave.-U.S. 31 N
Petoskey, MI 49770
(231)347-2771

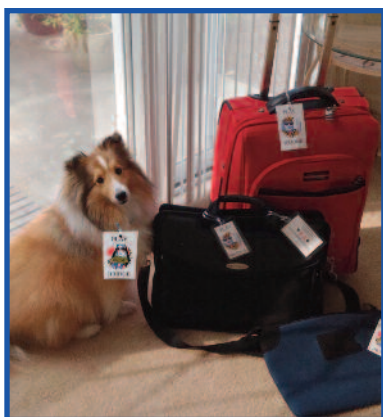
Stafford's Crooked River Lodge
N Us Highway 31
Alanson MI
1-855-201-7819

Stafford's Perry Hotel
100 Lewis Street
Petoskey, MI 49770
(231)347-4000

Super 8 Motel of Petoskey
2645 Charlevoix Avenue
Petoskey, MI 49770
(231)439-800

Terrace Inn
1549 Glendale
Petoskey, MI 49770
Phone: (231) 347-2410

For further information:<http://web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2014/08/1408039.pdf>



Fancy Pants supports playing Bridge and The Petoskey Bridge Club. You too can show your support for our bridge center by attaching a bag tag to your luggage or cases. The free bag tags will be available mid-May at the bridge center.

Michigan Regional and Sectional Tournaments through early Fall

Apr 24-26, Grand Rapids Sectional
May 2-4, Frankfort Sectional
May 12-18, Farmington Hills Regional
May 23-25, Davison Sectional
May 30-Jun 1, Kalamazoo Sectional
Jun 7-8, Petoskey Sectional I/N
Jun 19-22, Livonia Sectional
Jun 27-29, Lansing Sectional
Jul 12-13, Kalamazoo Sectional I/N
Jul 25-27, Freeland [Saginaw] Sectional
Aug 11-17, Petoskey Regional
Aug 21-24, Livonia Sectional
Sep 5-7, Traverse City Sectional
Sep 13-13, Lansing Sectional I/N
Sep 26-28, St. Joseph Sectional

We all play duplicate bridge for our own reasons. Could be that we enjoy spending some time with our bridge-playing friends. Could be that we want to keep our brain active. Could be that we enjoy card playing. Could be that we want to get out of the house. Could be that we enjoy competition. Could be . . . ? Could be all of the above. In any event, if you want to place higher on the game ranking list, here are some simple thoughts to help you accomplish that.

First and foremost, recognize that it's the score on each board that counts. Your objective is to maximize a positive score for you, or minimize a positive score for the opponents. Scoring 450 is better than scoring 420 or 170. Allowing the opponents to score 100 or 200 (e.g., going set 1 or 2 vulnerable) is better for you than allowing them to score 420 (e.g., making a game in a major). Obviously, the starting point for this is your knowing how to score!

Take the test:

- They're vulnerable and we're not. Is it better to let them play/make game in a major, or for us to go down 3 if we were to be doubled?
- We're vulnerable and they're not. Is it better to let them play/make game in a major, or for us to go down 2 if we were to be doubled?
- We're vulnerable and they're not. Is it better to let them play/make 2 of a major, or for us to go down 2 playing 3 of a minor?
- They're vulnerable and we're not. They're bidding a major. We're bidding a minor. They end up bidding a small slam. How many can we go down if we were to bid a grand slam in our minor (yes, we'll be doubled!)?

If you're struggling with these answers, you should review "how to score." You can't make good competitive decisions without being able to score.

The bidding process is the next important element. Any bidding system will work just fine (Standard American, 2 over 1, etc.) as long as both partners are on the same page. And when it's just you and your partner bidding, life is relatively simple and straightforward. It's during competition that life becomes difficult, and it's here that we need a few tools/concepts to improve our ranking. Here's a list of my "must have" tools for the competitive bidding process:

- Aggressive first overcalls – it's our first and potentially only time to start to describe our hand to our partner. Be aggressive in bidding your 5-card suit.
- Negative double – after your partner opens the hand and your right-hand opponent overcalls, now is your first opportunity to describe your hand to your partner. If, without interference, you were going to bid a major, following interference is the time to use this bid to let your partner know that.

- No-trump interference – shape is one of the features that makes our hand stronger than our high-card points. Following the opponents 1 NT bid, a natural bid of your long suit or the use of one of the 2-suit conventions (DONT, Capeletti, etc.) needs to be in your bidding tool kit.

- Balancing – in the pass out seat following the opponents' bidding sequence of 1H – 2H or 1S – 2S or 1D – 2D, NEVER pass the hand out. Bid your 5 card suit. If you don't have one, Double. Your partner will then bid his/her longest suit which you will ALWAYS pass. If the opponents choose to bid again, so be it. Let them now have the bid which is one level higher than had you passed the hand out.

We typically spend a lot of time "learning" the process and art (yes, "art") of bidding. Learning the tricks of the play (no pun intended) is certainly important and not easily done. Here are some of the thoughts/processes that should be helpful to maximize your score. Do these things PRIOR to calling for ANY card from dummy:

- Make a plan. Count your tricks. Do you have enough to make your contract?
- If you need to generate tricks, how might you do that? Develop a long suit? Take a finesse? Take a double finesse? Take a deep finesse? Trump in the short trump suit hand PRIOR to drawing trump? (Recommend you not try to "generate" tricks that risk your making your contract.)
- How will you get back and forth between your hand and the dummy? Identify the opportunities for the transportation needed to execute your plan.
- Recall any bidding done by the opponents. It will provide insight into the missing high card points and distribution. An opening opponent has at least 12 high card points. That leaves how many for his partner? If an opponent has bid 2 suits, best guess is that he's relatively short in the other 2 suits. Use this information to execute your plan.
- Finally, do you risk having one of the opponents on lead vs the other? Example: I don't want my right-hand opponent on lead such that he can lead thru my Kx of spades. Hence, if I have to lose tricks, I should try to keep my left-hand opponent on lead. Can't always, but often it's possible.

So, there you have it. A few simple ideas to help you move up the game ranking list. None of them will work all the time. But all of them will work some of the time, and using them will improve your score. Good luck. And remember, it is just a game!



The Petoskey Bridge Club will forever miss our dear friend and founding member, Jinny Cullman.

Virginia Cullman (Jinny), of Naples, FL, and Walloon Lake, MI, passed on Tuesday, December 17th, 2013, a peaceful ending to a life lived bravely and fully following a diagnosis of cancer in February 2013. She was 73. Jinny was born and raised in Grand

Rapids, MI, along with her sister Joan, by adoring parents, Fremont D. Pace and Josephine Gehrig Pace. She earned a Bachelor's Degree from the Honors College at Michigan State University where she was a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. She completed one year of post-graduate studies in psychology and later in mid-life, earned her Juris Doctor (J.D.) from the University of Detroit and was admitted to both the Michigan Bar and the Florida Bar. Jinny lived, and raised her children in, Rochester and Birmingham, MI. She and husband, Peter Cullman, the love of her life whom she met on a blind date, began vacationing in Naples in 1987. They moved to Naples in 1997 as their full-time winter residence while spending summers on Walloon Lake in beautiful Northern Michigan. In addition to their shared love of tennis which originally brought them together, Jinny and Peter forged a formidable duplicate bridge team and both achieved Life Master status. They were members and active bridge players at both the Royal Poinciana Country Club in Naples and the Walloon Lake Country Club in Petoskey, MI. Jinny's interests included reading, sewing, the arts, and cooking. She loved to bring people together through the magic of good food and everyone relished her culinary flair. She was also greatly admired for her talent in designing beautiful and colorful interiors for family and friends to enjoy. No boring beige for Jinny!

Our beloved Jinny will be greatly missed by her loving and devoted husband, Peter; her children, Sam Warwick, Joanne Warwick, and Susan Considine of Michigan, and Abigail and her husband, Sacha DuBéarn, and Beth Ann Cullman of Florida; two sweet granddaughters, Alexandra DuBéarn and Tamsin Considine; and many dear nieces, nephews, siblings-in-law, and loving friends.

She was preceded in death by her sister, Joan Sailer; her father, Fremont (Monty); and her mother Josephine, who lived to be an impressive 100 years old.

(the above is a reprint of Jinny's obituary)

Formal management of the club resides with a non-profit corporation. Larry Willis is the president. Pam Ziegel is the vice-president. Bernadette Burkhardt, Dave Deal, Joe Hollis, LaVonne Reed, and Mike Sears are board directors as are Larry and Pam. The board has regular and special meetings to conduct its business, and is elected annually at a July meeting of members of the non-profit corporation. Any ACBL member may be a member of the non-profit corporation and participate in the July meeting. Annual dues is \$50 payable prior to July 1.

All who play at the club are considered club members. No annual dues is required.

The top twenty players earning the most points while playing at regular games at the Petoskey Bridge Club during 2013.

		POINTS	GAMES
1	Paul Nelson	105.11	126
2	Joe Hollis	77.96	119
3	John Kreag	70.93	87
4	Geoff Goldich	67.97	89
5	Carol Bertschinger	64.6	99
6	Edward Kukla	64.48	104
7	Larry Willis	53	71
8	Don Burkhardt	52.8	82
9	Clair Waterson	52.54	84
10	Bernadette Burkhardt	51.08	81
11	Thomas Beukema	45.76	64
12	Jean Carpenter	45.38	91
13	Norm Nasson	45.32	86
14	Dave Williamson	45.17	62
15	Jerry Kaiser	44.93	72
16	David Muzzall	42.49	87
17	Lynne Parker	42.45	82
18	Jack Malstrom	41.18	58
19	Pamela Ziegel	37.84	77
20	Mark Hess	36.99	71

Give the Gift of Bridge

Bridge Bucks Gift Certificates are available at the Petoskey Bridge Club. Each Bridge Buck is good for one game at the Petoskey Bridge Club. For birthday and special occasions, for a thank you, for apologies, are but just a few. To purchase ask the director. Price is \$8.00 comes with an envelope and card with room to include a note.



Change of Rank



Christie McGue Life Master



Bob Calt Life Master



Linda Roberts Silver Life Master

-
- NABC MASTER:** *Nancy Fowler*
 - NEW REGIONAL MASTERS:** *Kathy Henricks, June Jackson*
 - NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS:** *Barb Harbaugh, Bob Smith*

- NEW CLUB MASTERS:** *Carol Stroud, Joyce Herbert, Nancy Kohler, Bruce Herbert, Cynthia Ottaway, Ruth Rizzo, Kathy Thompson*
 - NEW JUNIOR MASTERS:** *Jim Stroud, Linda Dawson, Paul Dawson, Sandra Gay, Sally Stevens*
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2013 HELEN SHANBROM ACE OF CLUBS AND 2013 MINI-MCKINNEY AWARDS

Members who placed in the top ten of our unit and unit 200 in the Ace of Clubs competition for the 2013.

Dave Williamson	Eva Walker
Linda Roberts	John Hastie
John Kreag	Arlene Loca
Mark Hess	Amelia Musser
Lynne Parker	Ginny Braidwood
Bernadette Burkhardt	Dale Thayer
Don Burkhardt	Ann Hart
Margaret Halbrook	John Burleson
Janice Haynes	Grace Thayer
Nancy Kohler	Nita Widell
Joel Scheitler	Ann Hyndman
Leslie Allen	Norvin Holm
Joan Henderson	
James Stroud	

Members who placed in the top ten of our unit 195 and unit 200 in the Mini McKinney competition for the 2013.

Lynne Parker	John Burleson
Joseph Hollis	Grace Thayer
Robert Smith	Nita Widell
Janice Haynes	Ann Hyndman
Joel Scheitler	Norvin Holm
Leslie Allen	Joan Henderson
Dale Thayer	James Stroud
Eva Walker	
John Hastie	
Arlene Loca	
Amelia Musser	
Ginny Braidwood	
Ann Hart	

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide individuals opportunities to enjoy the competition of an ACBL sanctioned game of duplicate bridge, and opportunities to improve their own skill via play and lessons, while socializing with one another in a welcoming, friendly environment. We recognize the various levels of skill and confidence of our players, and agree that this mission statement applies to the novice/intermediate level players as well as the more experienced.

Please send your comments, corrections, suggestions concerning the newsletter to: lroberts@racc2000.com

Be sure and check online for the latest news.
at the Petoskey Bridge Club. <http://www.petoskeybridgeclub.com>