

# The Shuffler

The Newsletter of the Petoskey Bridge Club



Fall 2012

2144 Cemetery Road

Petoskey, Michigan

## President's Message

Greetings and welcome to the inaugural Petoskey Bridge Club newsletter, The Shuffler. We hope you enjoy the newsletter, and we hope you'll contribute to it with ideas and recommendations for Kudos, Highlights, Tips, and others. Mostly we hope you enjoy the club, where you can meet new people, enjoy new and old friends, and keep your brain active. Please help us maintain our player-friendly atmosphere by welcoming new players and being kind to your partners!



## Around the Club.

Grace and Ray Hay bring their lunch to have before the game. A good chance to socialize and maybe check out your convention card. The bridge center is open about 45 minutes prior to game time.

## Duplicate Bridge is a Timed Event

Here are some tips to help everyone maintain an appropriate pace of play:



- Be friendly, courteous and engaging when new players arrive, but save long stories for after the game.
- If you're sitting N/S, have South maintain a personal scorecard while North enters the information into the Bridgemates.
- If you fall behind due to the difficulty of a particular board, make a conscious effort to make up the time on the next board.
- When the round is called, move all completed boards to the next lower table even if you're still playing one. This will allow them to begin on time.

ACBL Tip of the Mitt Sectional Bridge Tournament  
Hosted by the Petoskey Bridge Club

September 28 - 29 - 30

**Volunteers Needed!**

Watch for sign up sheets at the Bridge Center

## Call the Director When . . .

Calling the director is NOT putting someone on report. It's a process that's been developed over the years to ensure everyone enjoys the game and that the game is played consistently across the country. So, please call the director whenever someone is interfering with your enjoyment of the game or whenever an irregularity occurs, no matter how simple or insignificant. And do so with a "**Director, please**" call.



Example: You should call the Director anytime a claim is made and disputed. When that occurs, it's not correct to say "let's play it out."



## Thomas Beukema

Have you noticed on most days that Tom plays he arrives with the "Wonder Bowl" filled with fresh fruits or vegetables to share. Thank you Tom.



**KUDOS**

## Petoskey Bridge Club

Formal management of the club resides with a non-profit corporation. Mike Sears is the president. Pam Ziegel is the vice-president. Bernadette Burkhardt, Jean Carpenter, Peter Cullman, LaVonne Reed and Larry Willis are board directors as are Pam and Mike. 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.

Our Newest Board Member:  
Bernadette Burkhardt



## Masterpoint Awards

The ACBL is organized into Districts and Units. We are in District 12 (all of the lower peninsula and some of northern Ohio) and in Unit 195 (the entire western half of the lower peninsula). Each unit awards those players winning the most masterpoints for a given year. We're proud to have many of those winning Unit 195 2011 awards playing at our club.

## Ace of Clubs



Award winners were: 1st place, Mark Hess and Geoff Goldich. Other winners were: Joe Hollis, Catherine Francis, Don Burkhardt, Betsy Howe, Patsy Riefler, Paul Nelson, and Edward Kukla

## Mini-McKenney

Award winners were: 1st Place, Betsy Howe. Other winners were: Kathi Kan, Catherine Francis, Don Burkhardt, Mark Hess, Bernadette Burkhardt, Geoff Goldich, and Paul Nelson.



**Congratulations All!**

## Continuing Education

Most of the year, Mike Sears gives a mini-lesson on Thursdays from 11:30-12:15. It's an impromptu session, discussing topics and/or hands that attending players would like to discuss . . . and it's free! In the fall, Mike has a class for those who may have played many years ago and now would like to transition to modern bridge, and for those who are just beginning to learn the game. If you know folks who might be interested in this class, please provide their name and contact information to the club so that we can contact them when the schedule for this class is determined.

**Here's a tip from one of Mike's sessions:** When defending a contract, determining the opening lead is quite often difficult. Mike's recommendation on this topic in order is:

- Lead your suit if there's good reason to do so. If not . . .
- Lead your partner's bid suit. If your partner did not bid . . .
- Lead the top of a sequence you have in your hand. Don't have one . . .
- Against a NT contract without reason to do otherwise, lead a major.
- Against a suit contract, if you have 4 trump, lead a singleton or doubleton.
- If none of the above, try to make a "safe" lead (one that does not give the declarer a "free" trick); trump is often ok.
- Do not lead the "ace from space" (A-x-x) unless you're defending a slam contract. Might be ok there.



Susan Trimble and Dave Fowler make a selection from the library

## The Library is Open.

Don't forget we have a library at the Bridge Center. We are building a Bridge Reference Library. If you have any bridge books, that you could donate, they would be greatly appreciated.

The bridge books are to be used while at the Bridge Center. Please do NOT take these books home.

The general library, including books, puzzles, audio disc, and magazines are for our members to enjoy. No time limit. Read them and bring them back when you are finished.

The library is happy to have donated books, audio discs, etc. of all kinds, but please be aware that books will be culled at times and donated to other places in the community.

## Gripes and Growls

Don't snap your cards. Most card snappers probably don't know that they do it. Or they like the sound. Or they don't realize how incredibly distracting it is to others. Or maybe they do realize how distracting it is to others... Whatever the reason, try to stop. It's a bad habit, like chewing with your mouth open.

*...from: Unit 141 Newsletter October 2011  
Philadelphia Contract Bridge Association*







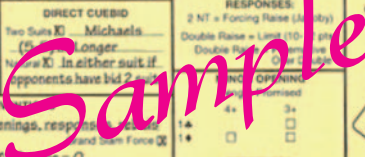
The Petoskey Bridge Club is publishing a cookbook! Yes, it's true! After all the years of eating your delicious treats, we have decided to rollout a cookbook in May/June 2013. And we need your help!

If you don't enjoy using the computer, we will have sheets at the bridge club for you. Fill out one sheet per recipe and turn in to the collection tray or mail to Debbie Sears at 4705 Ellis Road, Boyne City, Michigan, 49712.

We know there are lots of fabulous cooks in our club. We hope to have 300 - 500 recipes in our book, so you may submit more than one recipe. Send us your favorites! Thanks!

## For Newbies and Beyond...*Explaining the ACBL Standard American Yellow Card*

The Convention Card documents are the agreements partners have with each other at the bridge table. In tournaments, each player is required to have one, and it's required to be exactly the same as their partner's. The Standard American Yellow Card (SAYC) was created to provide a simple yet modern set of agreements. Because of this simple, modern approach, it's particularly useful for Novice/Intermediate players, for players who play together only infrequently, and for players meeting to play for the very first time, including on the internet. If you'd like to try using these agreements, let us know and we'll provide you a SAYC.

<b>SPECIAL DOUBLES (Describe)</b> Negative → <b>2♣</b> <b>SIMPLE OVERCALL</b> <b>0</b> → to <b>16</b> HCP Cutoff is: One-Round Force <b>JUMP OVERCALL</b> Preemptive OVER OPP'S TAKEOUT DOUBLE New Suit Force 1-level Other <b>2NT</b> = <b>1st Raised</b> or <b>Better over Majors &amp; Minors</b> <b>OPENING PREEMPTS</b> Sound      Light 3-bids <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Psychics: Very Rare <b>SLAM CONVENTIONS</b> Gerber <b>♠</b> Over: 1NT & 2NT openings, responses Blackwood <b>K</b> 4NT = 10-12 HCP After interference over 4♣ or 4NT = <b>Game &amp; O</b> <b>Pass = 1, Next Suit = 2, Etc.</b> Defenses vs. Opp's Conventions: <b>SOS Redoubles</b>	<b>DIRECT NT OVERCALLS</b> 1NT <b>15</b> to <b>18</b> HCP <b>2♣</b> = Stayman Other <b>Other Suits Off</b> Unusual 2 NT = 2 Lower Unids <b>OVER OPPONENT'S NT</b> <b>2♠</b> shows <b>♠</b> <b>2♣</b> shows <b>♣</b> <b>2♥</b> shows <b>♥</b> <b>2♦</b> shows <b>♦</b> <b>VS. OPP'S OPENING PREEMPTS</b> 1NT is Takeout      Takeout Wk 2♣      Wk 3♣ <input type="checkbox"/> 2 NT / Weak 2 = 16-19 HCP Bal	Names _____ Par # _____ <b>ACBL STANDARD YELLOW CARD</b> <b>Strong Forcing Opening: 2♣</b> <b>NOTRUMP OPENING BIDS</b> 1 NT <b>15</b> to <b>17</b> HCP      2 NT <b>20</b> to <b>21</b> HCP 2♣ Non-Forcing Stayman      3 NT <b>25</b> to <b>27</b> HCP Transfers: Jaccody for majors over 1, 2 and 3 NT (on over bids.) <b>2♣</b> forces <b>3♣</b> (for signoff in either minor) 1 NT - 3♣/♦ = Game Invitational; 1 NT - 3♥/♠ = Slam Invitational <b>MAJOR OPENING</b> Normally Five-Card Majors <b>RESPONSES:</b> 2 NT = Forcing Raise (30-31 pts) Double Raise = Limit (15-16 pts) Double Raise = 17-19 pts 3NT = Game 3NT = Game <b>RESPONSES:</b> Double Raise = Limit (10-12 pts) Double Raise = Preemptive Over Double 1 NT / 4♣ or 1♣ <b>6</b> to <b>10</b> HCP 2 NT / 4♣ or 1♣ <b>13</b> to <b>15</b> HCP 3 NT / 4♣ or 1♣ <b>16</b> to <b>17</b> HCP
		
<b>DEFENSIVE CARD PLAY</b> Opening lead vs. SUITS: 4th best <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd and 5th best <input type="checkbox"/> K Q x Q x J 10 x 10 9 x K 10 x K 10 9 x Q 10 9 x Must mark card lead: x x x x x x x x x x A K x Opening lead vs. NT: 4th best <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd and 5th best <input type="checkbox"/> A K J x A Q J x A J 10 9 x A 10 9 x K Q J x K Q 10 9 K J 10 9 K 10 9 x Q 10 10 x Q 10 9 x J 10 9 x 10 9 8 x Must mark card lead: x x x x x x x x x x A high discard encourages; low discourages. Frequent Count Signals    Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Describe 22+ Balanced Points or 9+ Tricks <b>2♣</b> STRONG Conventional Response    2 Artificial, May be waiting lacking a good suit 5 to 11 HCP      Normally a good 6 card suit 4 WEAK      RONE 2 WEAK      Conventional Response: 2 NT if maximum 2 WEAK      requests feature		



Richard and Lee Culhane leaving the Bridge Center after an enjoyable afternoon.



Judy Knowles, Kathy Snyder, Kathi Kan, Sally Stump, agree every day is a great day for bridge.

### **Newbies and Intermediate Group**

As you all know, we have our Novice/Intermediate games on Tuesday and Friday. Players who have less than 200 masterpoints are encouraged to join us for a relaxed, fun, yet competitive game. We talk, we learn, and we become more confident with our game as we prepare to jump into the Open games on Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday. You can tell it's enjoyable as this year in May/June/July we've had 25% more players per game than we did in 2011. Pass the word about these opportunities to play bridge to your friends and guests who may be slightly intimidated by the thought of playing against experts or haven't yet experienced the world of Duplicate Bridge! See you there!



A Tuesday game at the Bridge Center.



## Sectional and Regional Tournaments

Get Points  
**GOLD RED SILVER**

Our sectional tournament is upcoming . . .  
Sept 28-30 at the fairground. Lots of fun  
and lots of silver masterpoints.

The Traverse City sectional is the weekend  
following Labor Day, Sept 7-9.

Our Swiss team games usually the second  
Sunday of each month, will be held September  
16th.

- Lansing Regional Aug 13-19
- Livonia Sectional Aug 23-26
- Marquette Sectional Aug 23-26
- Traverse City Sectional Sep 7-9
- Midland Sectional Sep 14-16
- St Joseph Sectional Sep 14-16
- Petoskey Sectional Sep 28-30

## 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. There are unlimited ways for using these gifts. 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.



Dr. James Farner and Abigail Nichols

## Make New Friends and Find Amazing Connections

Dr. James Farner of South Bend, Indiana, has been summering at Walloon Lake for more than 55 years, but found the Petoskey Club just this summer.

However, Jim is not new to bridge, as another summer visitor Abigail Nichols of Washington, D.C., learned. During one of those “where are you from” conversations that, so often spring up at the table, Abigail was thrilled to learn that when Jim was a student at Indiana University Medical School after World War II, he’d partnered with fellow med student Tom Nichols to win a national intercollegiate bridge championship. Tom, now deceased, was Abigail’s uncle. Jim continued playing bridge with Uncle Tom when they practiced medicine in towns only forty miles apart. In the 50’s Tom moved to Florida and those bridge games stopped, but they’ve been renewed as Abigail abandons her partner husband Carl Nelson for a reunion game with Jim Farner.

And it is thanks to the friendly conviviality of the Petoskey Bridge Club that this story has come to light. To all the wonderful members of the Petoskey Bridge Club, thank you. **Abigail Nichols**

### *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.*